

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.



“The Jersey Bounce”

Volume XXXII No. 2 Fall 2017

WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG



President: Bob Dingman

News Editor: Len Jablon

Return to Great Lakes Naval Station



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WWII Era Vets & Ladies



Korean War Era Vets & Ladies

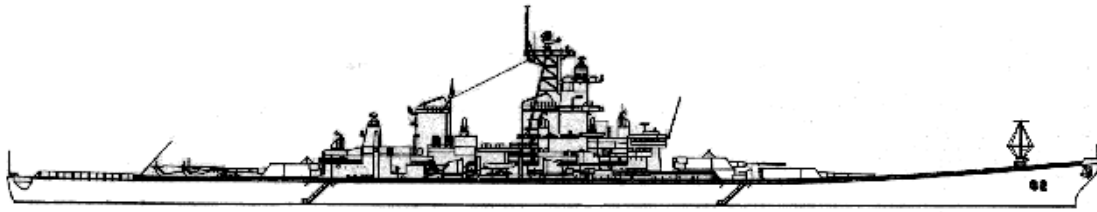


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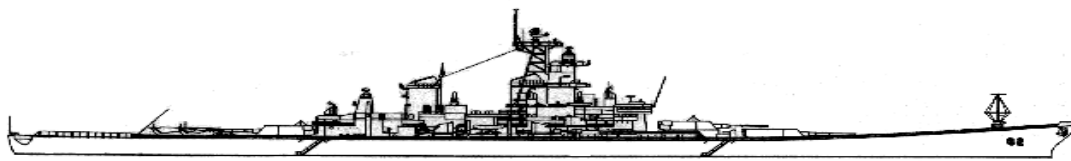
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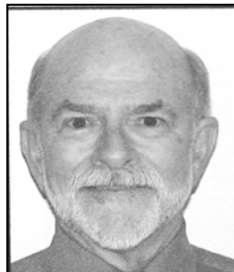
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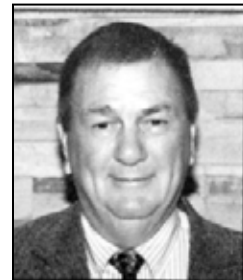
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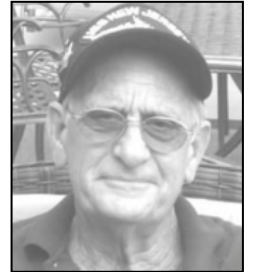
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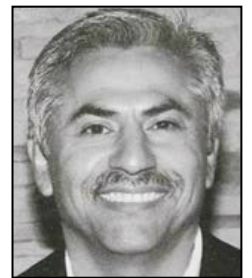
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Message from the President

Greeting,

Looks like those who attended the 2017 reunion in Deerfield, IL, had a great time. I received positive feedback from many members. Steve Sheehan did great coordinating the reunion. He's now working on finalizing events for the 2018 reunion in New Orleans (NOLA). Our visit to the National WWII Museum will be the highlight of this reunion. The reunion committee visited the museum when we were in NOLA looking at hotels and tours. We instantly knew it had to be our primary tour! It's a "must see" for every American. The WWII museum is the #1 attraction in New Orleans, the #4 museum in the US and the #11 museum in the world. I hope all of you will join us in New Orleans to visit this moving tribute to all WWII Vets and the Greatest Generation.

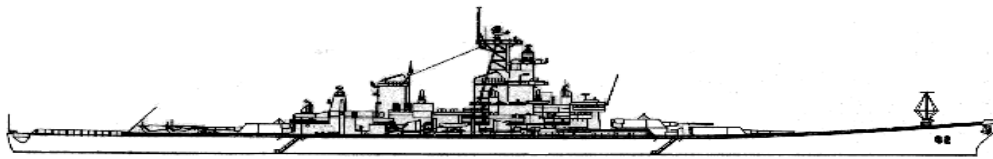
At the 2017 general meeting, San Pedro, CA, home of the Battleship Iowa Museum, was selected for our 2019 reunion. We will be planning a tour of the Iowa and hope to have our memorial service onboard, similar to what we do on the New Jersey. Steve has already contacted the Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB) in San Pedro and the CVB in Long Beach, to get our Request for Proposal (RFP) out to the local hotels.

It takes a lot of hard work, by some very dedicated people, to make a reunion successful. I want to recognize those who helped this year. As I mentioned before, Steve did a great job with all the organizing. Phil Tasker, (with Helen's help, of course) handled all the financial tasks associated with the reunion. For the past few years, the registration table has been staffed by a great group of ladies; Mickie Sheehan, Judy Dingman, Carol Cusumano, Helen Tasker and Hilda Tucker were at the registration table this year, from 9 AM to 4 PM, on Wednesday. Louise Blaylock, with help from Garry, was also at the registration table, ready to update our members contact information and also accept dues payments. For many, these wonderful ladies are the first to welcome our shipmates. Mike Schappaugh, with a LOT of help from Beverly, handled the small store and transported the inventory to the reunion. They did a great job and are already making plans for New Orleans. Bill Myers has the unenviable job of organizing the seating at the dinners. This is a task that never goes as planned. Bill has always done a great job of fitting people in, sometimes, just minutes before the food is served. Vice President Leon Tucker coordinated and conducted our memorial service on the Naval Base Great Lakes. Thanks to the many others who don't have specific positions, but just jump in when help is needed.

As many of our shipmates have aged, we have lost them as members. Recently we heard from a WWII member with a sad request. He wrote "I don't get out much anymore, so please take me off the roster". Garry Blaylock contacted me about this when he received it in the mail, with a returned dues invoice. I believe that we shouldn't let this happen. We should do all we can to keep our older members, even if all they enjoy from the organization is a copy of the Jersey Bounce, twice a year. At next year's general meeting, I am going to propose that we start a list of members who would be willing to "Adopt a Shipmate". If we hear that a shipmate is leaving the organization because he cannot afford to continue to pay for his membership, we'll go to the list and ask the member at the top of the list to help the shipmate remain a member by paying his membership for as long as he can. We'll only do this if someone contacts us with a financial problem and needs assistance. Many members are living on fixed incomes and need their dues money for more important issues in their lives. A Vietnam Veteran has already offered to adopt the WWII shipmate noted above and will pay his dues for this year and in the future.

As I finish my first year as President, I want to thank everyone who has works to keep our organization alive and well. We still need more members. Please reach out to your shipmates and spread the word about the reunions. With today's technology, it's easier than ever to locate a BB62 sailor. Our reunions are a perfect time to renew old friendships and make new ones. Get a buddy to join us in NOLA next September.

Sincerely,
Bob Dingman, EM2
E Division, '67 - '69



Message from the Vice President

Ready set go:

First, and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and thoughtfulness. Most of you know that I had an open heart surgery, and I am still dealing with the healing process. My youngest daughter also had a gallbladder removal, and I also lost my mother last July. Moving on with our grief, and thanking GOD for his faithfulness. Now that I am settled in this position, this should be a smooth and more comfortable transition. As my retirement date is approaching, I'm blessed and fortunate to make it through many years of service in the Jersey city police department. It brought adventurous experience in my life. With all this behind me I will continue to move forward and solidify my position as vice president. I'll try my best to locate and reach out to former shipmates. Peace lies at the end of a long harsh road!

GOD bless
Leon Tucker, Jr.
U.S.N. Retired



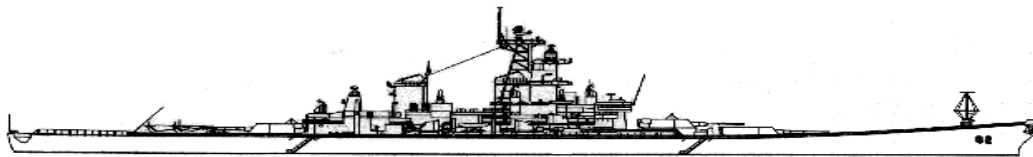
(Excerpt from Personal Order (10-30-2017), issued and signed by Deputy Chief Joseph Connors. Operations Division Commander, Jersey City Police Department.

“Police Officer Leon Tucker Jr. was appointed to the Jersey City Police Department on July 18, 1994. Upon completion of training, Police Officer Leon Tucker Jr.

was assigned to the West District. Police Officer Leon Tucker Jr.’s other assignments included the Ant-Gang Task Force, Hudson County Prosecutor’s Office and the Municipal Task Force. At the time of his retirement, Police Officer Leon Tucker Jr. was assigned to the West District.

“During his tenure, Police Officer Leon Tucker Jr. was the recipient on one (1) Combat Cross, seven (7) Commendation awards, eight (8) Excellent Police Service awards, two (2) Unit Citation awards, one (1) POBA Valor award, one (1) POBA Distinguish Service award and one (1) World Trade Center award.”

Leon will complete his police department career on Oct. 31, 2017. A resounding “bravo zulu” to the man and the woman that helped to steady his course.



Message from the Secretary/Era Director



Lebanon/Persian Gulf Era

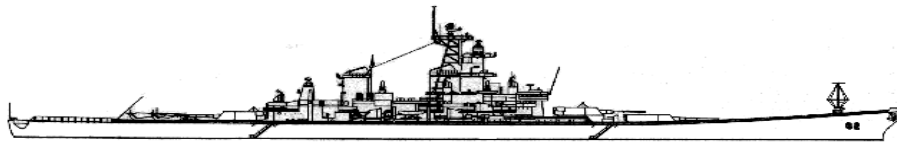
Hello Shipmates:

The light house is still burning and we have had some new members find their way. We had a really good time in Chicago this year. The tour of the city was great, and the recruit graduation was really great to see. Things have definitely changed in boot camp since I was there; it was surely impressive to watch. Next year, we will be in "THE BIG EASY," - New Orleans. Dates will be September 26th - 29th, 2018. Tours: New Orleans and the French Quarter. Friday, of the reunion, will be a full day, at the National WWII Museum. My wife, Sheila, and I, have both been there, and it is probably the most impressive military museum, that we have ever been to. Lunch will be at the museum, as well as our annual Memorial Service. Our organization is staying around 600 members, but we could use some more. There are a lot of you from the Lebanon/ Persian Gulf era, that we would like to get on board; these reunions are really fun and everybody has a great time. Guess I will sign off - happy sailing for now.

Hope to see you in New Orleans,

MM3 Daniel(Danny) Fielder
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(601) 892-2469 - Home
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Crystal Springs, MS 39059





**Minutes: USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.
Business Meeting Saturday 8/12/17 10:00 am.**

Officers and Advisor's Present: President-Bob Dingman, Vice President- Leon Tucker
Treasurer- Phil Tasker, Secretary- Danny Fielder
Membership Chairman- Garry Blaylock
News Editor-Len Jablon, Small Stores- Mike Schappaugh
Reunion Coordinator- Steve Sheehan
Web Master- Bob Williams
V.A. Liaison- Ralph Millemon
Seating Coordinator- Bill Myers, Historian-Jason Hall

Reading of past minutes was dispensed to the 2016 Fall issue of the Bounce. Motion by Ralph Millemon to accept, motion carried.

Opening Prayer: Danny Fielder

Meeting Opening and Pledge of Allegiance: Bob Dingman

Historian Jason Hall had floor to update and give progress report on the New Jersey.

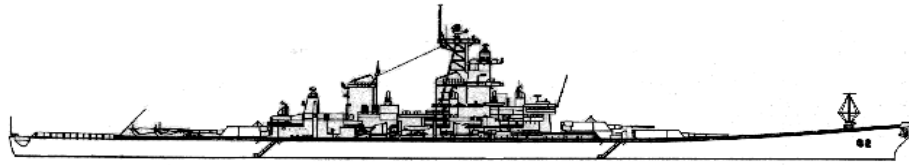
11:00 am. Start of Business Meeting, Motion by Ralph Millemon and 2nd by Bob Williams. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report: Phil Tasker opened with general information. Ending balance: 2016 - \$43,561.00. With disbursements, ending balance as of July, 2017 was \$38,255.00. Motion by Jim Barnett to accept, 2nd by Bob Williams. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Garry Blaylock reported that we currently have 604 members and Taps list for past year is 29. Need to really try and get membership up. 2012 the organization had approximately 900 members. Garry explained procedure: he receives funds and then forwards to Phil Tasker for deposit. There was a lot of discussion on various aspects of membership. Lifetime Membership was also brought up, but that is being tabled for now. Garry said dues would be going up from \$20.00 a year to \$25.00 a year. Motion by Bill Myers to accept membership report, 2nd by Len Jablon. Motion carried.

Editors Report: Len Jablon gave general discussion on process of getting Bounce printed up. Mentioned that in his process, he has saved about \$3000.00, to get each issue out. Went over the possibility about getting the Bounce on line.

VA Report: Ralph Millemon brought up the fact that there are several veterans that have not registered with the VA. He has also mentioned that there are 8 categories that can be listed. Medical records can go through DAV, VFW, American Legion, Fleet Reserve, etc.. Various topics of discussion from several members on VA benefits. This concludes VA report.



Reunion Coordinator: Steve Sheehan spoke about 2018 reunion in New Orleans, LA. Reunion dates are September 26th - 29th, 2018; it is being held a little later, hoping to dodge some of the South's hot weather, as well as hurricanes. The organization always tries to look out for the best interests of its members. Hotel accommodations will be at the Best Western Landmark Hotel, in Metairie, LA., which is located in Jefferson Parish. Room rates are \$110.00 per night and suites are \$130.00 per night, with breakfast included. Thursday will be a tour of the New Orleans French Quarter, and 9th Ward. Friday will be a full day at the National WWII Museum, with lunch and memorial service at the museum. Steve also wanted to make special recognition to the following gentlemen, who have played major rolls in the success of the revived life of the New Jersey. Mr. Phil Rowen, Mr. Clark Perks, Mr. Jack Willard, and our Historian, Mr. Jason Hall. This concludes Reunion Coordinator report.

Small Stores: Mike Schappaugh reported all is going well, but it can be a challenge at times. There are additional items being added to the small stores. Mike appreciates any suggestions or recommendations any of the members may have. Biggest challenge is shipping orders and postal rate, but he is working on that. This concludes Small Stores report.

President Bob Dingman said there is no unfinished old business.

Bob Dingman received a letter from Mr. Clark Perks, dated January 5, 2017, thanking the organization for the \$4,310.00 donation to the Battleship New Jersey restoration, which they received November 25, 2016. The above donation, combined with other donations of \$2,325.00, made a total of donations for 2016, in the amount of \$6,635.00 from USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. Well done shipmates.

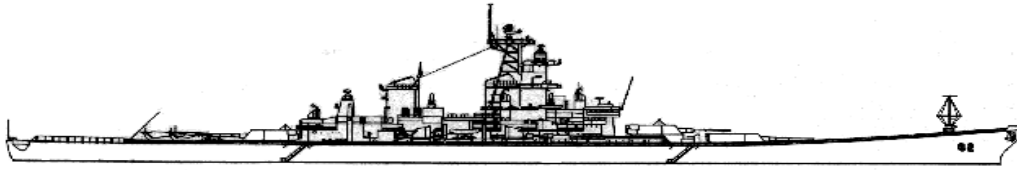
Letter from Clark Perks, dated February 22, 2016, explaining about the Quad 40, and fund raiser, "40 for 40." The organization donated \$5,000.00. Donation was received March 3, 2017, and a letter to follow, thanking us. They would like as many members present on the day of the dedication - date and time will follow.

Bob Dingman received a phone call from Susan Brown Warren, daughter of Russ and Marge Brown. Russ was founder of our organization and passed away in 2005. Marge had recently passed away, and Susan would like to continue to receive the Bounce. Susan relayed to Bob the past memories, growing up and going to the reunions, and the work towards those reunions, that took place in the family home. Bob thought it would be a good gesture to let her have her moms lifetime membership. Motion was made to this effect by Steve Sheehan, and 2nd by Ralph Millemon. Motion carried.

Scholarship Recipients:

Ryan Kennedy from Schellsburg, Georgia
Luke Stager from Fort Laramie, Ohio
Cole Roberson from Centreville, Virginia

2019 reunion suggestions that were brought up: San Pedro or L.A. area (California) and Las Vegas, Nevada. San Pedro, L.A. area carried the majority of votes.



Points of information:

Bob Dingman has mentioned that the bi-laws need to be updated and that he is working on Them. Steve Sheehan mentioned about being able to shop on line at the Navy Exchange. Bill Meyers pointed out this would be his last term as Seating Coordinator. Airing September 17, 2017, P.B.S. documentary on the Vietnam War, by Ken Burns.

This concludes the 2017 business meeting. Motion to adjourn made by Garry Blaylock and 2nd by Bob Williams, meeting adjourned.

Recorded Minutes

Danny Fielder: Secretary, USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.

Message from Small Stores Advisor

Our first reunion with the new store layout was very successful. New items sold very well, and we are looking to add new selections for the next reunion.

The Christmas season is coming upon us, so anyone wishing to purchase from the store should do so before mid November, at the latest.

We have a great selection of jackets, shirts (men's & ladies), along with sweatshirts, hooded and plain, hats and other small items. We are looking into the possibility of tote bags, low rise ball caps and USS New Jersey golf balls (for "those" who golf), visors for the ladies and men, and t-shirts for both boys and girls.

Finally, we'll be working with Bob Williams to update the store lineup on the website, with pictures of the items we offer. Suggestions are always appreciated.

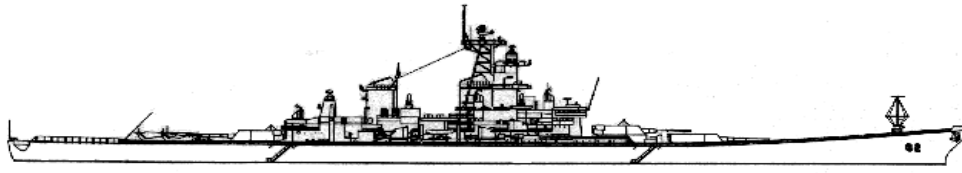
Many thanks to all who helped with the store at this years reunion. We will be in New Orleans!

Thanks,

Mike

727-415-5798
sixpaca12@yahoo.com





Message from the Membership Chairman

Hi Shipmates,

Hope all of you are doing well and enjoying yourselves this fall. We are here in the Chattanooga area. Louise and I had a fun time in Great Lakes. If you missed it, you passed up one of the best reunions that we have ever had. The hotel was great and the tours were outstanding except for the Chicago traffic on Thursday. We went to the Naval Station on Friday to see the recruits graduate. It was very impressive!!! The Naval Station has changed so much since I was there in November and December 1965.

Next year we will be in Metairie, LA for our reunion. Metairie is very close to New Orleans. This has all the makings of another great time. The information will be in the Spring Bounce. We haven't received the Fall Bounce yet so I'm not sure if any information about it will be in there or not. Two years ago, John Garrison joined our membership. John is a veteran of WWII. He got out of Boot Camp and went straight to a brand new ship in Philadelphia which was the USS New Jersey BB62. I have had many talks with John over the phone. He always has something interesting to talk about. Our conversations are about the Jersey and always very interesting. He saw a lot of history in the making! John has donated 15 copies of the book, Memphis Pete and the USS New Jersey BB-62 WWII. John told his story to a writer and she and her husband put his words into a book. We will have these books in Metairie for the auction. He sent me a copy and I was really amazed with his story!! It was very interesting to read the history of that war from someone who lived through it. Some of his story will surprise you. It did me.

If I can help with any problems about membership, please contact me. If I don't answer the phone, please leave me a message and I will call you back.

Have a warm and safe winter everyone!!

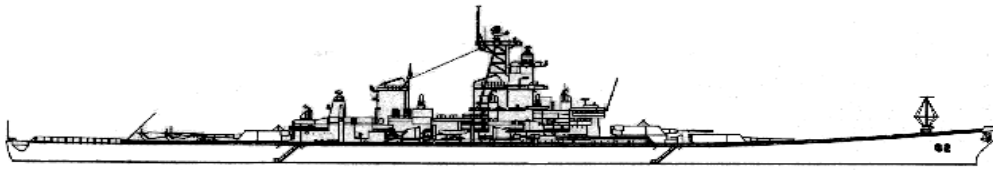
Garry Blaylock – EM2 Vietnam

Membership Chairman

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Message from the Treasurer

We enjoyed a very pleasant reunion in Deerfield, Illinois, in August, that included a visit to Naval Station Great Lakes. Naval Station Great Lakes first opened in 1911, so obviously there have been many, many, changes over the years. That said, I could barely recognize the facility from my basic training, and “A” School tour, in 1967. It is still an impressive naval installation.

Attendance was in line with recent reunions, not held in conjunction with a visit to the ship. We had 105 people participate in one or more events during the reunion, and the host hotel, the Hyatt Deerfield, was an excellent venue and an exceptional value for those attending. The Reunion Coordination Team did a great job in planning and organizing this event.

There will be final accounting and financial statements in the Spring Bounce once the “books” are closed out on 2017, but year-to-date, our financial position remains stable and is consistent with recent experience. We ended October, 2017, with approximately \$48,000 in the bank. That figure includes about \$4,200 in the Scholarship Fund and \$5,300 in donations to the ship, for maintenance and restoration. Net of those amounts, we had about \$38,500 in unrestricted funds available for organizational activities and usage. The funds donated to the ship, will be forwarded to the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial, prior to year-end.

I look forward to visiting with all again, in the New Orleans area next September, and having another great reunion experience.

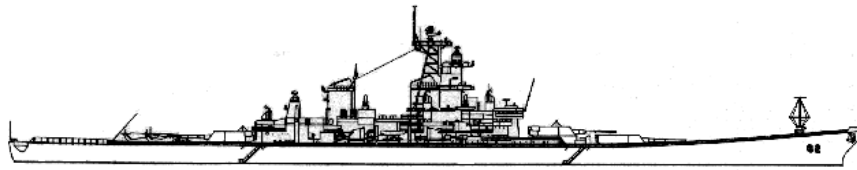


Phillip Tasker
Treasurer
Phillip@phtasker.net



Lakeside Architecture Tour
of Great Lakes, on the Tall
Ship “Windy.”





Message from the News Editor

Greetings Shipmates:

I hope those of you who made it to the reunion in Deerfield, IL, had a wonderful time. Stacie and I enjoyed reminiscing with those we have seen at past gatherings, and new folks making it to their first reunion.

Sorry for not getting the “Bounce” out sooner; I had a couple of medical set backs, but am doing much better now. I am really looking forward to the New Orleans reunion, because it is a wonderful city, has great jazz music, loads of activities and friendly people. Also, as a bonus, I have relatives who live in Metairie, that I haven’t seen for years! Hopefully the weather will cooperate and be cooler in September, preferably with a lack of hurricanes...lol...Ahhhh! “The Big Easy”...here we come.....

I have received a request from Mike Schappaugh, our small stores advisor, to include color pictures of what is available to purchase from our organization. They will be on the inside back cover.

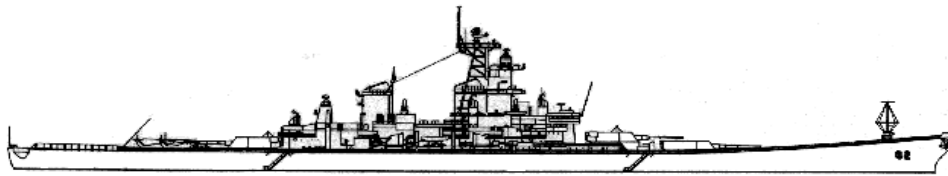
Finally, I’ve had a bit of difficulty trying to come up with a theme for this issue. After much thought, and the installation of Ralph Millemon as our new V.A. Liaison, I’ve decided to deal with the issue of veterans who need help and assistance for a myriad of problems: disabilities, homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction, P.T.S.D., and the difficulties of navigating the Veterans Administration, to get the services veterans were promised, and desperately need. For the Spring issue of the “Bounce,” if you have any advice or input on these important issues, don’t hesitate to email or phone Ralph, myself, or any of the officers of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

Finally, I would very much like all of you to submit some stories of what you did at the reunion, with pictures, if possible. Bob Dingman thinks this would help attract more people to our beloved organization, and it would also make my job a little easier as well.

God Bless all of you,

Len Jablon
Ljablon@hotmail.com
562-810-5101





Message from the Seating Coordinator

Another successful reunion is now in the books. Several of us gathered at the Deerfield Hyatt in Deerfield, IL, in August, for the 31st annual reunion of the USS New Jersey Veterans. This was a relatively small group of Shipmates, representing all eras of USS New Jersey Vets service. This was great, seeing old friends and making new ones. As our WWII and Korean era Shipmates numbers are dwindling, it is good to see increasing numbers from the Lebanon era joining us, for they are the future of our organization.

The Deerfield Hyatt was a beautiful facility and the staff was excellent. They were able to provide us with whatever we needed. Food was also excellent, both at our catered dinners and in their restaurant. The Welcome Aboard Party on Wednesday, was well attended, and enjoyed by all. After dinner, we had a live auction, conducted by our “auctioneer” Ray Kehoe. We were able to raise a sizeable amount for our organizations scholarship fund, and had a good time doing so.

The Saturday Banquet was also a good time by all, starting with a delicious dinner and followed by an evening of dancing. However, soon it was time to start saying goodbye, as many would be leaving early the next day.

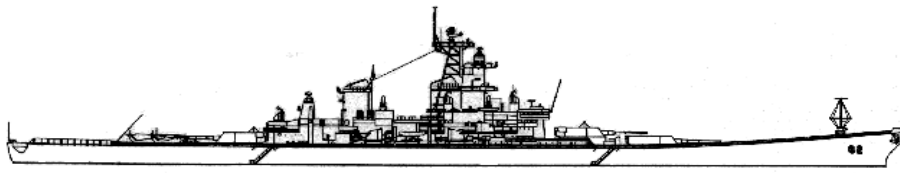
This is the hard part of a reunion, saying goodbye to old friends and new ones. I for one, am looking forward to next year’s reunion in New Orleans. Number one, I’ve never been there and have always wanted to go. But best of all, we’ll be once again seeing all our friends, and hopefully making some more new ones. If you are one of the old friends, I can’t wait to see you again. If we have yet to meet, I can’t wait to add you to my to my fold of friends, regardless of when you served.

I’m looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans and taking care of your seating needs. Gather your friends and join us in New Orleans next September.



Bill Myers
Williamjmye@msn.com
(402)676-0082





Message from Liaison Officer

Shipmates,

Here's just a little information to log away! Most of the Vet Center therapists are highly trained mental health specialists, with unique skill sets in very specific areas. For instance, all Vet Centers have a designated Military Sexual Trauma Therapist, whose job it is to work with those veterans affected by military sexual trauma, such as rape, sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Many Vet Centers also have a designated Family Therapist, whose job it is to work with entire family systems. Additionally, many Vet Centers are assigned mental health specialists who are former veterans and bring a unique perspective to the counseling setting. Most of the mental health professionals in Vet Centers are licensed therapists, who must comply with VA standards of practice and the state in which they are licensed. You'll find Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW), Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC), Licensed Marriage Family Therapists (LMFT), and licensed Psychologists in many Vet Centers. Therapists who can easily command \$200/hr., but instead, offer their excellent services to veterans, free of charge.

Stay well,

Bill Meredith – Liaison Director

USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS ASSOCIATION

ERA REPRESENTATIVES

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KOREA---1950's

Donald Eggleton
P.O. Box 362(29 Riverside Dr.)
Roscoe, NY 12776
607-498-4507
noleggie@yahoo.com
R-Div.

VIETNAM ---1960's

Robert Williams 1967-69
P.O. Box 280 / 9 Whittier St.
Newton Jct., NH 03859-0280
603-382-5018
williams382@comcast.net
B-Div.

LEBANON /PERSIAN GULF 1980's

Daniel "Danny" Fielder 1982-1984
5198 Bethesda Road
Crystal Springs, MS 39059
601-892-6086
dfielder@gsengr.com

DISTRICT VOLUNTEER: Non-Director

**W.W.II
EAST:**

Henry B. Pierce

**KOREA
EAST:**

Donald Eggleton

**VIETNAM
EAST:**

Bob Williams

**LEBANON – PERSIAN GULF
EAST:**

Vacant

CENTRAL:

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

CENTRAL:

Bill Meredith

CENTRAL:

Bob Williams

CENTRAL:

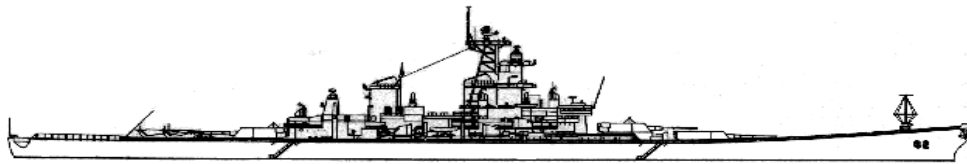
Vacant

**WEST:
Vacant**

**WEST:
Bill Meredith**

**WEST:
Bob Williams**

**WEST:
Vacant**



Message from the VA Liaison

Hello Shipmates,

When I retired from active duty in 1989, I went to my local VA Hospital with back pain, service-connected, to falling into a 16" gun pit aboard the New Jersey. I was surprised to learn that the VA was not set up for out-patient care. With that, I didn't go back to the VA for nearly 20 years. A lot has changed with the VA since then.

VA Hospitals now have Emergency Care. However, other facilities such as Clinics and Specialists are set up by appointment only. I usually receive a reminder of an appointment from the VA, either by phone, mail or both.

During our 2017 Reunion, a few members expressed concern about providing Net Worth and income information to the VA. As of January 2015, Net Worth info is no longer required to determine eligibility for VA services. The VA will, however, use the previous year's income to help determine your eligibility and Priority Group.

I have also received some questions regarding Co payments:

- *There is no co payment for the treatment of service-connected conditions.
- *There is no co payment for Preventive Care Services, such as immunizations or screenings.
- *Veterans in Priority Group One do not pay for medications.
- *Priority Groups other than Group One may have a \$15.00 co pay for Primary Care services.
- *Depending on your Priority Group, there could be a \$50.00 co pay for Speciality Care services such as surgery, MRI or CAT scans.

In closing, just a reminder: If you have not applied for eligibility, visit your county VA Rep. They can help you with any paperwork for eligibility/filing claims. Remember to take with you, a copy of your DD-214, and any other documents you have.

God Bless and hope to see you all in NOLA in 2018!

Respectfully,

Wm. Ralph Millemon
GMC (SW) Retired
641-895-5953





CITY HISTORY STRING

Mark Your Required History String(s)
 Indicate your required reunion history string by placing a quantity in the appropriate column next to your choice.

City	Year	Quantity
Plankowner	1943	___
Plankowner	1950	___
Plankowner	1968	___
Plankowner	1982	___
Long Beach, CA	1982	___
Atlantic City, NJ	1984	___
Indianapolis, IN	1986	___
New Orleans, LA	1988	___
Dayton, OH	1990	___
Nashville, TN	1992	___
Cherry Hill, NJ	1993	___
San Diego, CA	1994	___
Norfolk, VA	1995	___
Fort Mitchell, KY	1996	___
Danvers, MA	1997	___
Colorado Springs, CO	1998	___
Seattle, WA	1999	___
Daytona Beach, FL	2000	___
Branson, MO	2001	___
Cherry Hill, NJ	2002	___
Las Vegas NV	2003	___
Washington, DC	2004	___
Valley Forge, PA	2005	___
San Antonio, TX	2006	___
San Diego, CA	2007	___
Cherry Hill, NJ	2008	___
Jacksonville, FL	2009	___
Nashville, TN	2010	___
Hilton Head, SC	2011	___
Cherry Hill, NJ	2012	___
Virginia Beach, VA	2013	___
St. Louis, MO	2014	___
Portland, OR	2015	___
Philadelphia, PA	2016	___
Deerfield, IL	2017	___
New Orleans, LA	2018	___

USS NEW JERSEY BB-62 REUNION NAME PLATE FORM

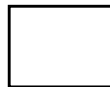
Name Plate will be attached to your envelope at the Welcome Aboard Table.



Complete this section by selecting the designed name plate for crew member, associates, spouse or guest.



Crew Member Plate 2.0 x 3.0 inches (white with blue letters)



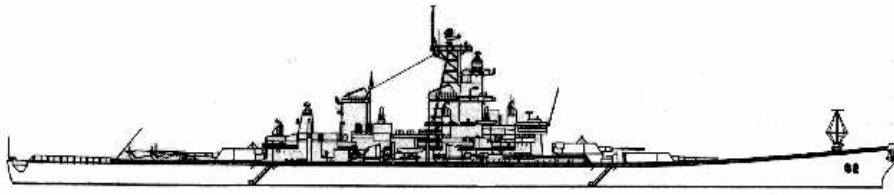
Associate Member, Spouse, or Guest 1.0 x 3.0 inches (white with blue letters)

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

Pricing

Each name tag is \$10.00 each (2x3 inch or 1x3 inch)
Make checks payable to USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
Mail this complete order form and check to:
 Mike Schappaugh, 3540 16th ST N
 Saint Petersburg, FL 33704
 Phone: 727-415-5798
 Email: sixpaca12@yahoo.com

Total Strings Selected ___ X \$3.00 = ___ Total



SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES, ELIGIBILITY, AND APPLICATION INFORMATION

The organization will continue to award two \$1000.00 scholarships in addition to the \$1000.00 Dick Esser Scholarship. A committee appointed by the President will review the applications and make the selection. This listing will then be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval. These selections will then be forwarded for final approval by the members at the formal business meeting.

Applications for the Scholarship must be mailed and postmarked NO later than June 1, 2018.

GUIDELINES:

- a. No Committee member's family or relative is eligible for the award.
- b. Scholarships will be awarded to deserving students who have maintained a 'B' or '3.0' GPA
- c. Students must be a graduating senior, attending an accredited high school/vocational technical institution graduating in the class of 2018.
- d. Applicants must be recommended by their high school guidance counselor.
- e. Awards must be used at an accredited educational/technical institution for undergraduate studies.
- f. Awards are not available for graduate studies.
- g. The award will be paid directly to the institution selected.

Additional information and forms are only available on the internet at WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG

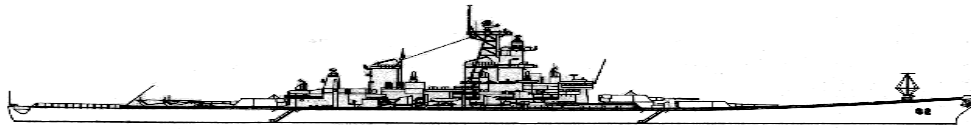
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Any child, or grandchild of a member in good standing, including children of a member in good standing who passed away during the current membership year is eligible.
- b. Must be a high school senior graduating in the class of 2018.
- c. Official transcripts for the 11th grade and the available marking periods of 12th grades completed by June 1, 2018, must be submitted with the applications.
- d. Must have two (2) academic references.
- e. Student's personal resume.
- f. Student's complete essay.
- g. Name and address of educational/technical institution to be attended.
- h. Graduation picture.

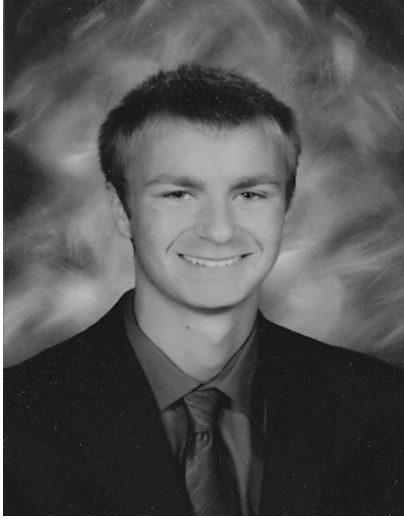
APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Eligibility requirements b, c, d, e, f, g, and h must be postmarked by June 1, 2018. Mail application to:
Robert Dingman, 1215 Old North Main St., Laconia, NH 032462690

**THE PRESIDENT WILL NOTIFY THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS BY
PHONE AND A LETTER OF CONFIRMATION.**



2017 Scholarship Recipients



Luke Stager



Ryan Kennedy



Cole Roberson

Luke is the grandson of Mathias Zimmerman, and is from Ft. Laramie, OH.

Graduate of Ft. Laramie High School.

As a Junior, he took 1st place in the Science Olympiad Regional Competition. As a Senior, he took 1st, 2nd and 5th place at the Science Olympiad Regional Competition. He went on to the State Competition both years.

2017 Outstanding Science Student of the Year, Academic Achievement Letter & Scholar Athlete (4 years), Sophomore Class President, Honor Student (National Honor Society - 4 years).

Plans to attend the University of Toledo, majoring in Biochemistry, and hopes to work with a cancer medical research team.

Ryan is the grandson of George R. Komer, and is from Sharpsburg, GA.

Graduate of East Coweta High School.

Member of Chess Club, Robotics Club, and attended the Experiential Leadership Institute. Also was a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.

Plans on attending Gordon State University, majoring in Engineering, and then transferring to Georgia Southern University.

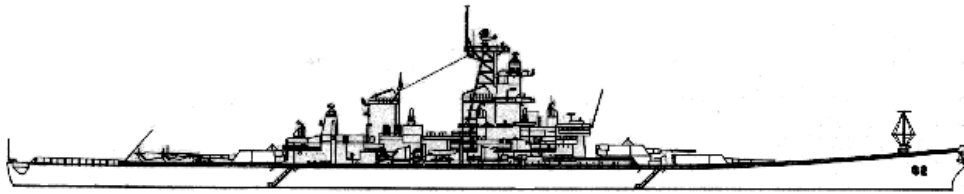
Cole is the grandson of Ward Odom, and he is from Centreville, VA.

Graduate of Westfield, High School.

He graduated with a 4.22 GPA, was an 8 time Scholar Athlete, 3 year Academics Letter, Captain of football team, All - Conference Football, 4 years football and Lacrosse, and Math League.

Plans to attend the University of Southern Carolina, majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

These three deserving students, each received a \$1,000 Scholarship for their educational endeavors.



Health Care Benefits Eligibility

If you served in the active military, naval, or air service and separated under conditions other than dishonorable, you may qualify for VA health care benefits. Find out if you can get VA health care.

Can I get VA health care benefits?

You may be able to get VA health care benefits if you served on active duty and separated under conditions other than dishonorable. You should know:

If you enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered active duty after October 16, 1981, you must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which you were called to active duty. This minimum duty requirement may not apply if you:

Were discharged for a disability that was caused—or made worse—by your active-duty service, or were discharged for a hardship or “early out,” or served prior to September 7, 1980

If you’re a current or former member of the Reserves or National Guard, you must have been called to active duty by a federal order and completed the full period for which you were called or ordered to active duty. If you had or have active-duty status for training purposes only, you don’t qualify for VA health care.

If you separated under conditions other than honorable:

You can use VA’s Health Benefits Explorer to find out if any exceptions apply to you. Go to the Health Benefits Explorer. Or, you can visit healthcare.gov to find out if you qualify for health insurance. Go to healthcare.gov.

Enhanced Eligibility Status

You may qualify for enhanced eligibility status (meaning you’ll be placed in a higher priority group, which makes you more likely to get benefits) if at least one of these applies to you:

You receive financial compensation (payments) from VA for a service-connected disability, or you were discharged for a disability resulting from something that happened to you in the line of duty.

You were discharged for a disability that got worse in the line of duty. You’re a recently discharged Combat Veteran.

You get a VA pension, you’re a former Prisoner of War (POW), and/or you’ve received a Purple Heart.

You get (or qualify for) Medicaid benefits

You served in Vietnam between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975

You served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War between August 2, 1990, and November 11, 1998

You served at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953, and December 31, 1987

If none of the above apply to you, you may still qualify for care based on your income. Learn more about how the amount of money your family makes can affect whether you qualify for VA benefits. Learn more about income limits.



Applying for VA Healthcare Benefits

For applying online, go to:

<https://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFITS/vhbh/index>.

Follow the steps below to apply for health care benefits:

Step 1: Prepare:

To fill out this application, you'll need your:

Social Security number (required), a copy of your military discharge papers (**DD-214** or other separation documents), **financial information—and your dependents' financial information, along with your most recent tax return.**

Account numbers for any health insurance you currently have (such as Medicare, private insurance, or insurance from an employer).

What if I need help filling out my application? An accredited representative with a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) can help you fill out your claim. Find an accredited representative.

Vision and dental benefits - You may qualify for vision and dental benefits as part of your VA health care benefits.

Vision benefits: VA health care covers routine eye exams and preventive tests. In some cases, you may get coverage for eyeglasses or services for blind or low-vision rehabilitation. Learn more about vision care through VA.

Dental benefits: In some cases, you may receive dental care as part of your health care benefits. Learn more about VA dental services.

Health care priority groups

When you apply for VA health care, we'll assign you 1 of 8 priority groups. This system helps to make sure that **Veterans who need immediate care can get signed up quickly. We assign Veterans with service-connected disabilities the highest priority.** We assign the lowest priority to Veterans who earn a higher income and who don't have any service-connected disabilities. Learn more about priority groups.

Step 2: Apply:

Complete a health care benefits form. After submitting the form, you'll get a confirmation message. You can print this for your records.

Step 3: VA Review

We process health care claims within a week. If more than a week has passed since you submitted your application and you haven't heard back, please don't apply again. Call us at 1-877-222-8387.

Step 4: Decision:

Once we've processed your claim, you'll get a notice in the mail with our decision.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING ENROLLMENT APPLICATION FOR HEALTH BENEFITS

Please Read Before You Start . . . What is VA Form 10-10EZ used for?

For Veterans to apply for enrollment in the VA health care system. The information provided on this form will be used by VA to determine your eligibility for medical benefits and on average will take 30 minutes to complete. This includes the time it will take to read instructions, gather the necessary facts and fill out the form.

Where can I get help filling out the form and if I have questions?

You may use ANY of the following to request assistance:

- Ask VA to help you fill out the form by calling us at 1-877-222-VETS (8387).
- Access VA's website at <http://www.va.gov> and select "Contact the VA."
- Contact the Enrollment Coordinator at your local VA health care facility.
- Contact a National or State Veterans Service Organization.

Definitions of terms used on this form:

SERVICE-CONNECTED (SC): A VA determination that an illness or injury was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, in the active military, naval or air service.

COMPENSABLE: A VA determination that a service-connected disability is severe enough to warrant monetary compensation.

NONCOMPENSABLE: A VA determination that a service-connected disability is not severe enough to warrant monetary compensation.

NONSERVICE-CONNECTED (NSC): A Veteran who does not have a VA determined service-related condition.

Getting Started: ALL VETERANS MUST COMPLETE SECTIONS I - III.

Directions for Sections I - III:

Section I - General Information: Answer all questions.

Section II - Military Service Information: If you are not currently receiving benefits from VA, you may attach a copy of your discharge or separation papers from the military (such as DD-214 or, for WWII Veterans, a "WD" Form), with your signed application to expedite processing of your application. If you are currently receiving benefits from VA, we will cross-reference your information with VA data.

Section III - Insurance Information: Include information for all health insurance companies that cover you, this includes coverage provided through a spouse or significant other. Bring your insurance cards, Medicare and/or Medicaid card with you to each health care appointment.

Directions for Sections IV-VI:

Financial Disclosure: ONLY NSC AND 0% NONCOMPENSABLE SC VETERANS MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY AND COPAY RESPONSIBILITY FOR VA HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT AND/OR CARE OR SERVICES.

Financial Disclosure Requirements Do Not Apply To:

- a former Prisoner of War; or
- those in receipt of a Purple Heart; or
- a recently discharged Combat Veteran; or
- those discharged for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; or
- those receiving VA SC disability compensation; or
- those receiving VA pension; or
- those in receipt of Medicaid benefits; or
- those who served in Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975; or
- those who served in SW Asia during the Gulf War between August 2, 1990 and November 11, 1998; or
- those who served at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987.

You are not required to disclose your financial information; however, VA is not currently enrolling new applicants who decline to provide their financial information unless they have other qualifying eligibility factors. If a financial assessment is not used to determine your priority for enrollment you may choose not to disclose your information. However, if a financial assessment is used to determine your eligibility for cost-free medication, travel assistance or waiver of the travel deductible, and you do not disclose your financial information, you will not be eligible for these benefits.

Continued ...

Section IV - Dependent Information: Include the following:

- Your spouse even if you did not live together, as long as you contributed support last calendar year.
- Your biological children, adopted children, and stepchildren who are unmarried and under the age of 18, or at least 18 but under 23 and attending high school, college or vocational school (full or part-time), or became permanently unable to support themselves before age 18.
- Child support contributions. Contributions can include tuition or clothing payments or payments of medical bills.

Section V - Previous Calendar Year Gross Annual Income of Veteran, Spouse and Dependent Children.

Report:

- Gross annual income from employment, except for income from your farm, ranch, property or business. Include your wages, bonuses, tips, severance pay and other accrued benefits and your child's income information if it could have been used to pay your household expenses.
- Net income from your farm, ranch, property, or business.
- Other income amounts, including retirement and pension income, Social Security Retirement and Social Security Disability income, compensation benefits such as VA disability, unemployment, Workers and black lung, cash gifts, interest and dividends, including tax exempt earnings and distributions from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) or annuities.

Do Not Report:

Donations from public or private relief, welfare or charitable organizations; Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and need-based payments from a government agency; profit from the occasional sale of property; income tax refunds, reinvested interest on Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs); scholarships and grants for school attendance; disaster relief payments; reimbursement for casualty loss; loans; Radiation Compensation Exposure Act payments; Agent Orange settlement payments; Alaska Native Claims Settlement Acts Income, payments to foster parent; amounts in joint accounts in banks and similar institutions acquired by reason of death of the other joint owner; Japanese ancestry restitution under Public Law 100-383; cash surrender value of life insurance; lump-sum proceeds of life insurance policy on a Veteran; and payments received under the Medicare transitional assistance program.

Section VI - Previous Calendar Year Deductible Expenses.

Report non-reimbursed medical expenses paid by you or your spouse. Include expenses for medical and dental care, drugs, eyeglasses, Medicare, medical insurance premiums and other health care expenses paid by you for dependents and persons for whom you have a legal or moral obligation to support. Do not list expenses if you expect to receive reimbursement from insurance or other sources. Report last illness and burial expenses, e.g., prepaid burial, paid by the Veteran for spouse or dependent(s).

Section VII - Submitting your application.

1. You or an individual to whom you have delegated your Power of Attorney must sign and date the form. If you sign with an "X", 2 people you know must witness you as you sign. They must sign the form and print their names. If the form is not signed and dated appropriately, VA will return it for you to complete.
2. Attach any continuation sheets, a copy of supporting materials and your Power of Attorney documents to your application.

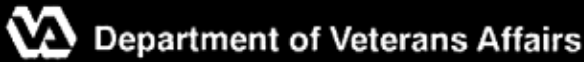
Where do I send my application?

Mail the original application and supporting materials to the Health Eligibility Center, 2957 Clairmont Road, Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30329.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT AND PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires us to notify you that this information collection is in accordance with the clearance requirements of Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. We may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. We anticipate that the time expended by all individuals who must complete this form will average 30 minutes. This includes the time it will take to read instructions, gather the necessary facts and fill out the form.

Privacy Act Information: VA is asking you to provide the information on this form under 38 U.S.C. Sections 1705, 1710, 1712, and 1722 in order for VA to determine your eligibility for medical benefits. Information you supply may be verified from initial submission forward through a computer-matching program. VA may disclose the information that you put on the form as permitted by law. VA may make a "routine use" disclosure of the information as outlined in the Privacy Act systems of records notices and in accordance with the VHA Notice of Privacy Practices. Providing the requested information is voluntary, but if any or all of the requested information is not provided, it may delay or result in denial of your request for health care benefits. Failure to furnish the information will not have any effect on any other benefits to which you may be entitled. If you provide VA your Social Security Number, VA will use it to administer your VA benefits. VA may also use this information to identify Veterans and persons claiming or receiving VA benefits and their records, and for other purposes authorized or required by law.



APPLICATION FOR HEALTH BENEFITS

SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

1A. VETERAN'S NAME (Last, First, Middle Name)		1B. PREFERRED NAME		2. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME	
3A. BIRTH SEX <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	3B. SELF-IDENTIFIED GENDER IDENTITY <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	4. ARE YOU SPANISH, HISPANIC, OR LATINO? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	5. WHAT IS YOUR RACE? (You may check more than one. Information is required for statistical purposes only.) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER		6. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.
7. VA CLAIM NUMBER	8A. DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy)	8B. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State)		9. RELIGION	
10A. PERMANENT ADDRESS (Street)		10B. CITY	10C. STATE	10D. ZIP CODE	10E. COUNTY
10F. HOME TELEPHONE NO. (Include area code)		10G. MOBILE TELEPHONE NO. (Include area code)		10H. E-MAIL ADDRESS	
11A. RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (Street)		11B. CITY	11C. STATE	11D. ZIP CODE	11E. COUNTY
12. TYPE OF BENEFIT(S) APPLYING FOR (You may check more than one) <input type="checkbox"/> ENROLLMENT/HEALTH SERVICES <input type="checkbox"/> DENTAL		13. CURRENT MARTIAL STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> NEVER MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> SEPARATED <input type="checkbox"/> WIDOWED <input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED			
14A. NEXT OF KIN NAME		14B. NEXT OF KIN ADDRESS		14C. NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP	
14D. NEXT OF KIN TELEPHONE NO. (Include Area Code)	14E. NEXT OF KIN WORK TELEPHONE NO. (Include Area Code)	15. DESIGNEE - INDIVIDUAL TO RECEIVE POSSESSION OF YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY LEFT ON PREMISES UNDER VA CONTROL AFTER YOUR DEPARTURE OR AT THE TIME OF DEATH (Note: This does not constitute a will or transfer of title)			
16. I AM ENROLLING TO OBTAIN MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE UNDER THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		17. WHICH VA MEDICAL CENTER OR OUTPATIENT CLINIC DO YOU PREFER? (for listing of facilities visit www.va.gov/directory)		18. WOULD YOU LIKE FOR VA TO CONTACT YOU TO SCHEDULE YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

SECTION II - MILITARY SERVICE INFORMATION

1A. LAST BRANCH OF SERVICE		1B. LAST ENTRY DATE		1C. FUTURE DISCHARGE DATE		1D. LAST DISCHARGE DATE	
1E. DISCHARGE TYPE				1F. MILITARY SERVICE NUMBER			
2. MILITARY HISTORY (Check yes or no)		YES	NO			YES	NO
A. ARE YOU A PURPLE HEART AWARD RECIPIENT?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. DO YOU HAVE A VA SERVICE-CONNECTED RATING?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
B. ARE YOU A FORMER PRISONER OF WAR?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IF "YES", WHAT IS YOUR RATED PERCENTAGE _____ %				
C. DID YOU SERVE IN A COMBAT THEATER OF OPERATIONS AFTER 11/11/1998?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. DID YOU SERVE IN VIETNAM BETWEEN JANUARY 9, 1962 AND MAY 7, 1975?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
D. WERE YOU DISCHARGED OR RETIRED FROM MILITARY FOR A DISABILITY INCURRED IN THE LINE OF DUTY?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. WERE YOU EXPOSED TO RADIATION WHILE IN THE MILITARY?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
E. ARE YOU RECEIVING DISABILITY RETIREMENT PAY INSTEAD OF VA COMPENSATION?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. DID YOU RECEIVE NOSE AND THROAT RADIUM TREATMENTS WHILE IN THE MILITARY?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
F. DID YOU SERVE IN SW ASIA DURING THE GULF WAR BETWEEN AUGUST 2, 1990 AND NOVEMBER 11, 1998?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. DID YOU SERVE ON ACTIVE DUTY AT LEAST 30 DAYS AT CAMP LEJEUNE FROM AUGUST 1, 1953 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1987?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

APPLICATION FOR HEALTH BENEFITS <i>Continued</i>		VETERAN'S NAME <i>(Last, First, Middle)</i>		SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
SECTION III - INSURANCE INFORMATION (Use a separate sheet for additional information)					
1. ENTER YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER <i>(include coverage through spouse or other person)</i>					
2. NAME OF POLICY HOLDER		3. POLICY NUMBER	4. GROUP CODE	5. ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	6A. ARE YOU ENROLLED IN MEDICARE HOSPITAL INSURANCE PART A? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
					6B. EFFECTIVE DATE <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i>
SECTION IV - DEPENDENT INFORMATION (Use a separate sheet for additional dependents)					
1. SPOUSE'S NAME <i>(Last, First, Middle Name)</i>			2. CHILD'S NAME <i>(Last, First, Middle Name)</i>		
1A. SPOUSE'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER			2A. CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i>	2B. CHILD'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	
1B. SPOUSE'S DATE OF BIRTH <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i>	1C. SPOUSE SELF-IDENTIFIED GENDER IDENTITY <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE		2C. DATE CHILD BECAME YOUR DEPENDENT <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i>		
1D. DATE OF MARRIAGE <i>(mm/dd/yyyy)</i>			2D. CHILD'S RELATIONSHIP TO YOU <i>(Check one)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> SON <input type="checkbox"/> DAUGHTER <input type="checkbox"/> STEPSON <input type="checkbox"/> STEPDAUGHTER		
1E. SPOUSE'S ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER <i>(Street, City, State, ZIP if different from Veteran's)</i>			2E. WAS CHILD PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED BEFORE THE AGE OF 18? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
			2F. IF CHILD IS BETWEEN 18 AND 23 YEARS OF AGE, DID CHILD ATTEND SCHOOL LAST CALENDAR YEAR? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
3. IF YOUR SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD DID NOT LIVE WITH YOU LAST YEAR, DID YOU PROVIDE SUPPORT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			2G. EXPENSES PAID BY YOUR DEPENDENT CHILD FOR COLLEGE, VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OR TRAINING <i>(e.g., tuition, books, materials)</i>		
SECTION V - EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION					
1A. VETERAN'S EMPLOYMENT STATUS <i>(Check one)</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> FULL TIME <input type="checkbox"/> PART TIME <input type="checkbox"/> NOT EMPLOYED <input type="checkbox"/> RETIRED				1B. DATE OF RETIREMENT	
1C. COMPANY NAME. <i>(Complete if employed or retired)</i>		1D. COMPANY ADDRESS <i>(Complete if employed or retired -Street, City, State, ZIP)</i>		1E. COMPANY PHONE NUMBER <i>(Complete if employed or retired) (Include area code)</i>	
SECTION VI - PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR GROSS ANNUAL INCOME OF VETERAN, SPOUSE AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN (Use a separate sheet for additional dependents)					
1. GROSS ANNUAL INCOME FROM EMPLOYMENT <i>(wages, bonuses, tips, etc.)</i> EXCLUDING INCOME FROM YOUR FARM, RANCH, PROPERTY OR BUSINESS	VETERAN	SPOUSE	CHILD 1		
2. NET INCOME FROM YOUR FARM, RANCH, PROPERTY OR BUSINESS	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		
3. LIST OTHER INCOME AMOUNTS <i>(e.g., Social Security, compensation, pension interest, dividends)</i> EXCLUDING WELFARE.	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____		
SECTION VII - PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR DEDUCTIBLE EXPENSES					
1. TOTAL NON-REIMBURSED MEDICAL EXPENSES PAID BY YOU OR YOUR SPOUSE <i>(e.g., payments for doctors, dentists, medications, Medicare, health insurance, hospital and nursing home)</i> VA will calculate a deductible and the net medical expenses you may claim.					\$ _____
2. AMOUNT YOU PAID LAST CALENDAR YEAR FOR FUNERAL AND BURIAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING PREPAID BURIAL EXPENSES) FOR YOUR DECEASED SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD <i>(Also enter spouse or child's information in Section VI.)</i>					\$ _____
3. AMOUNT YOU PAID LAST CALENDAR YEAR FOR YOUR COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES <i>(e.g., tuition, books, fees, materials)</i> DO NOT LIST YOUR DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES.					\$ _____

APPLICATION FOR HEALTH BENEFITS <i>Continued</i>	VETERAN'S NAME <i>(Last, First, Middle)</i>	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
SECTION VII - CONSENT TO COPAYS AND TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS		
By submitting this application you are agreeing to pay the applicable VA copays for treatment or services of your NSC conditions as required by law. You also agree to receive communications from VA to your supplied email or mobile number.		
ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS		
<p>I understand that pursuant to 38 U.S.C. Section 1729 and 42 U.S.C. 2651, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is authorized to recover or collect from my health plan (HP) or any other legally responsible third party for the reasonable charges of nonservice-connected VA medical care or services furnished or provided to me. I hereby authorize payment directly to VA from any HP under which I am covered (including coverage provided under my spouse's HP) that is responsible for payment of the charges for my medical care, including benefits otherwise payable to me or my spouse. Furthermore, I hereby assign to the VA any claim I may have against any person or entity who is or may be legally responsible for the payment of the cost of medical services provided to me by the VA. I understand that this assignment shall not limit or prejudice my right to recover for my own benefit any amount in excess of the cost of medical services provided to me by the VA or any other amount to which I may be entitled. I hereby appoint the Attorney General of the United States and the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs and their designees as my Attorneys-in-fact to take all necessary and appropriate actions in order to recover and receive all or part of the amount herein assigned. I hereby authorize the VA to disclose, to my attorney and to any third party or administrative agency who may be responsible for payment of the cost of medical services provided to me, information from my medical records as necessary to verify my claim. Further, I hereby authorize any such third party or administrative agency to disclose to the VA any information regarding my claim.</p>		
ALL APPLICANTS MUST SIGN AND DATE THIS FORM. REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS WHICH DEFINE WHO CAN SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE VETERAN.		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT <i>(Sign in ink)</i> _____	DATE _____	

Veterans Health Benefits Handbook

Understanding Your VA Health Benefits

Veterans Health Benefits Handbook

View Sample Handbook



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is committed to informing enrolled Veterans about VA health benefits and services they have earned and deserve. All new enrollees will receive a personalized Veterans Health Benefits Handbook, generally two weeks after enrollment has been confirmed. The handbooks are tailored specifically for each Veteran and provide detailed, updated information about the VA health care benefits the Veteran may be eligible to receive, such as medications, prosthetics and dental care.

The handbook also provides answers to common questions, contact information for the Veteran's preferred facility, instructions on how to schedule appointments, information regarding the Affordable Care Act, the Veteran's copay responsibilities, if any, and much more.

An online version of the Handbook is available on the AccessVA and MyHealtheVet sites, which provides enrolled Veterans the opportunity to view, print or save a copy of their personalized handbook. Veterans will need a premium DS Login account to access the online handbook

Toll Free Numbers for Contacting VA

Department Name(s)	Toll Free Number(s)
VA Benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Burial ● Death Pension ● Dependency Indemnity Compensation ● Direct Deposit ● Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices ● Disability Compensation ● Disability Pension ● Education ● Home Loan Guaranty ● Medical Care ● Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment 	1-800-827-1000
Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits	1-877-294-6380
Debt Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Debts)	1-800-827-0648
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV) Foreign Medical Program (FMP) Spina Bifida Health Care Program	1-877-345-8179 (or) 1-888-820-1756
Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) CHAMPVA In-House Treatment Initiative (CITI)	1-800-733-8387
Education (GI Bill)	1-888-442-4551
Health Care Benefits	1-877-222-8387
Smoking Cessation Counselors	1-855-QUIT-VET (1-855-784-8838)
Veterans Crisis Line	1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)
Combat Call Center 1-877-WAR-VETS (877-927-8387)	1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)
Life Insurance: Service members and/or Veterans Group Life Insurance Program All other VA Life Insurance Programs	1-800-419-1473 1-800-669-8477
Mammography Helpline	1-888-492-7844
Women Veterans Hotline	1-855-VA-WOMEN (829-6636)
CHAMPVA Meds by Mail	1-888-385-0235 (or) 1-866-229-7389
Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation	1-800-749-8387
Status of Headstones and Markers	1-800-697-6947
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)	Dial 711
For health care services, contact your nearest VA medical facility.	

Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors

For additional information on VA health care, visit: www.va.gov/health as well as VHA's 2015 Health Care Benefits Overview – a guide designed to provide Veterans and their families with the information they need to understand VA's health care system.

Basic Eligibility: A person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable may qualify for VA health care benefits including qualifying Reserve and National Guard members.

Minimum Duty Requirements: Veterans who enlisted after Sept. 7, 1980, or who entered active duty after Oct. 16, 1981, must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty in order to be eligible. This minimum duty requirement may not apply to Veterans discharged for hardship, early out or a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.

Enrollment: For most Veterans, entry into the VA health care system begins by applying for enrollment. Veterans can now apply and submit their application (VA Form 1010EZ), online at http://www.va.gov/vaforms/form_detail.asp?formno=10ez. If assistance is needed for the online enrollment form, an online chat representative is available to answer questions Monday – Friday, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. EST. Veterans can also enroll by calling 1-877-222-8387, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST, or at any VA health care facility or VA regional office. Once enrolled, Veterans can receive health care at VA health care facilities anywhere in the country.

The following four categories of Veterans are not required to enroll, but are urged to do so to permit better planning of health resources:

- Veterans with a service-connected disability of 50 percent or more.
- Veterans seeking care for a disability the military determined was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, but which VA has not yet rated, within 12 months of discharge.
- Veterans seeking care for a service-connected disability only.
- Veterans seeking registry examinations (Ionizing Radiation, Agent Orange, Gulf War/Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND) depleted uranium, airborne hazards and Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry).

Priority Groups: During enrollment, each Veteran is assigned to a priority group. VA uses priority groups to balance demand for VA health care enrollment with resources. Changes in available resources may reduce the number of priority groups VA can enroll. If this occurs, VA will publicize the changes and notify affected enrollees. A description of priority groups follows:

Group 1:

- Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50 percent or more and/or Veterans determined by VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions.

Group 2:

- Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30 or 40 percent.

Group 3:

- Veterans who are former prisoners of war (POWs).
- Veterans awarded the Purple Heart medal.
- Veterans awarded the Medal of Honor.
- Veterans whose discharge was for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.
- Veterans with VA service-connected disabilities rated 10 percent or 20 percent.
- Veterans awarded special eligibility classification under Title 38, U.S.C., § 1151, "benefits for individuals disabled by treatment or vocational rehabilitation."

Group 4:

- Nonservice-connected Veterans and noncompensable service-connected Veterans rated 0 percent, whose annual income and/or net worth are not greater than VA financial thresholds. Veterans receiving VA Pension benefits. Veterans eligible for Medicaid benefits.

Group 5:

- Veterans receiving increased compensation or pension based on their need for regular aid and attendance or by reason of being permanently housebound.

Group 6:

- Compensable 0 percent service-connected Veterans.
- Veterans exposed to ionizing radiation during atmospheric testing or during the occupation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Project 112/SHAD participants.
- Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975.
- Veterans who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations from Aug. 2, 1990, through Nov. 11, 1998.
- Veterans who served in a theater of combat operations after Nov. 11, 1998, as follows: Veterans discharged from active duty on or after Jan. 28, 2003, for five years post discharge;
- Veterans who served on active duty at Camp Lejeune, N.C., for no fewer than 30 days beginning Jan. 1, 1957,

Group 7:

- Veterans with incomes below the geographic means test income thresholds and who agree to pay the applicable copayment.

Group 8:

- Veterans with gross household incomes above VA national income threshold and the geographically-adjusted income threshold for their resident location and who agree to pay copayments. Veterans eligible for enrollment: Noncompensable 0-percent service-connected:**Subpriority a:** Enrolled as of Jan. 16, 2003, and who have remained enrolled since that date and/or placed in this subpriority due to changed eligibility status.
- **Subpriority b:** Enrolled on or after June 15, 2009, whose income exceeds the current VA national income thresholds or VA national geographic income thresholds by 10 percent or less Veterans eligible for enrollment: nonservice-connected and
- **Subpriority c:** Enrolled as of Jan. 16, 2003, and who remained enrolled since that date and/ or placed in this subpriority due to changed eligibility status
- **Subpriority d:** Enrolled on or after June 15, 2009 whose income exceeds the current VA national income thresholds or VA national geographic income thresholds by 10 percent or less Veterans NOT eligible for enrollment: Veterans not meeting the criteria above:
- **Subpriority e:** Noncompensable 0-percent service-connected
- **Subpriority f:** Nonservice-connected

VA's income thresholds change annually and current levels can be located at: <http://nationalincomelimits.vaftl.us/>.

Veterans Choice Program

As directed by the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014, VA implemented the Veterans Choice Program, which will operate for 3 years or until the Fund is exhausted. The program allows certain eligible Veterans to elect to receive care from non-VA health care providers if they cannot receive VA care within 30 days or live more than 40 miles from a VA facility or face excessive travel burdens.

VA will also extend the Assisted Living Pilot Program for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury for 3 years, through October 6, 2017. This program assesses the effectiveness of providing assisted living services to eligible Veterans with traumatic brain injuries to "enhance the rehabilitation, quality of life, and community integration of such Veterans."

Under the Act, Veterans can receive counseling and appropriate care and services required to overcome psychological trauma resulting from military sexual trauma (MST) that occurred while the Veteran was serving on inactive duty training (such as drill weekends for members of the Reserves and National Guard). Such benefits are provided at no cost to the Veteran.

The Choice Act also authorizes VA, in consultation with the Department of Defense (DoD), to provide MST-related care and services to members of the Armed Forces on active duty (including members of the National Guard and Reserves) without the need for a referral from a TRICARE provider or a military treatment facility. VA is working with DoD on implementation of this benefit.

Women Veterans: Women Veterans are eligible for the same VA benefits as male Veterans. Comprehensive health services are available to women Veterans including primary care, specialty care, mental health care, residential treatment and reproductive health care services. VA provides management of acute and chronic illnesses, preventive care, contraceptive and gynecology services, menopause management, and cancer screenings, including pap smears and mammogram's.

Maternity care is covered in the Medical Benefits package. Women Veterans can receive maternity care from an OB/GYN, family practitioner, or certified nurse midwife who provides pregnancy care. VA covers the costs of care for newborn children of women Veterans for seven days after birth. Infertility evaluation and limited treatments are also available.

Women Veterans Program Managers are available at all VA facilities to assist women Veterans in their health care and benefits. For more information, visit <http://www.womenshealth.va.gov/>.

Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Veterans: LGBT Veterans are eligible for the same VA benefits as any other Veteran and will be treated in a welcoming environment. Transgender Veterans will be treated based upon their self-identified gender, including room assignments in residential and inpatient settings. Same-Sex Couples: VA launched a new website to inform Veterans and beneficiaries of the recent changes in the law and procedures involving same-sex marriages. Veterans can learn more about VA's guidance regarding same-sex marriages at www.va.gov/opa/marriage.

Military Sexual Trauma: Military sexual trauma (MST) is the term that VA uses to refer to sexual assault or repeated, threatening sexual harassment that occurred while a Veteran was serving on active duty (or active duty for training if the service was in the National Guard or Reserve). VA health care professionals provide counseling and treatment to help Veterans overcome health issues related to MST. Veterans who are not otherwise eligible for VA health care may still receive these services. For additional information, visit: <http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/msthome.asp>.

Presumptive Eligibility for Psychosis and Other Mental Illness: Certain Veterans who experienced psychosis within a specified timeframe are to have their psychosis presumed to be service-connected for purposes of VA medical benefits.

Psychosis: Eligibility for treatment of psychosis, and such condition is exempted from copayments for any Veteran who served in the United States active duty military, naval, or air service and developed such psychosis within two years after discharge or release from the active military duty, naval or air service; and before the following date associated with the war or conflict in which the Veteran served:

Mental Illness (other than Psychosis): Eligibility for benefits is established for treatment of an active mental illness (other than psychosis), and such condition is exempted from copayments for any Veteran of the Persian Gulf War who developed such mental illness:

- a. Within two years after discharge or release from the active duty military, naval, or air service; and
 - b. Before the end of the two-year period beginning on the last day of the Persian Gulf War (end date not yet determined).
- Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care don't need to take additional steps to meet the health care law coverage standards.
 - The health care law does not change VA health benefits or Veterans' out-of-pocket costs.
 - Veterans who are not enrolled in VA health care can apply at any time.

Costs of Services

- Primary Care Services: \$15
- Specialty Care Services: \$50

- Veterans rated 30 percent or more service-connected.
- Veterans traveling for treatment of service-connected. conditions.
- Veterans who receive a VA pension.
- Veterans traveling for scheduled compensation or pension. examinations.
- Veterans whose income does not exceed the maximum. annual VA pension rate.
- Veterans in certain emergency situations.
- Veterans whose medical condition requires a special mode of transportation and travel is pre-authorized. (Advanced authorization is not required in an emergency, and a delay would be hazardous to life or health).
- Certain non-veterans when related to care of a Veteran (caregivers, attendants, donors and other claimants subject to current regulatory guidelines)

OEF/OIF/OND Care Management: Each VA medical center has an Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND) Care Management team in place to coordinate patient care activities and ensure that Servicemembers and Veterans are receiving patient-centered, integrated care and benefits. More information for connecting with OEF/OIF/OND Care Management teams can be found at <http://www.oefoif.va.gov>.

Key Information for Veterans about the Affordable Care Act /Health Care Law

For additional information about VA and the health care law, visit www.va.gov/aca or call **1-877-222-VETS (8387)**.

Financial Assessment: Most Veterans not receiving VA disability compensation or pension payments must provide a financial assessment, also known as a means test, upon initial application to determine whether they are below VA income thresholds. VA is currently not enrolling new applicants who decline to provide financial information unless they have a special eligibility factor exempting them from disclosure. VA's income thresholds are located at <http://nationalincomelimits.vaftl.us/>.

As of 2014, VA no longer requires enrolled non-service connected and 0-percent non-compensable service connected Veterans to provide their financial information annually. A means test will continue to be collected from Veterans at the time of application for enrollment. In lieu of the annual financial reporting, VA will confirm the Veteran's financial information using information obtained from the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security Administration.

Medical Services and Medication Copayments: Some Veterans are required to make copayments (copays) to receive VA health care and/or medications.

Inpatient Care: Priority Group 7 and certain other Veterans are responsible for paying 20 percent of VA's inpatient copay, which totals \$243.20 for the first 90 days of inpatient hospital care during any 365-day period. For each additional 90-day period, the charge is \$121.60. In addition, there is a \$2 per diem charge. Copay amounts may change on an annual basis.

Priority Group 8 and certain other Veterans are responsible for VA's inpatient copay, which totals \$1,216 for the first 90 days of care during any 365-day period. For each additional 90-day period, the charge is \$608. In addition, there is a \$10 per diem charge. Copay amounts may change on an annual basis.

Extended Care Services: Veterans may be subject to a copay for extended care services. The copay amount is based on the Veteran's available resources and is determined by a calculation using the financial information from VA Form 10-10EC, Application for Extended Care Services. The copay can range from \$0 to a maximum copay amount of \$97 a day.

Outpatient Care: While many Veterans qualify for free health care services based on a VA compensable service-connected condition or other qualifying factor, most Veterans are asked to provide a financial assessment, to determine if they qualify for free services. Veterans whose income exceeds the established VA Income Thresholds, as well as those who choose not to complete the financial assessment, must agree to pay required copays to become eligible for VA health care services.

NOTE: The copay amount is limited to a single charge per visit regardless of the number of health care providers seen in a single day. The copay amount is based on the highest level of clinical service received. Certain services are not charged a copay. Copays do not apply to publicly announced VA health fairs or outpatient visits solely for preventive screening and/or vaccinations.

Medication Copays: While many Veterans are exempt for medication copays, nonservice-connected Veterans in Priority Groups 7 and 8 are charged \$9 for each 30-day or less supply of medication provided on an outpatient basis for the treatment of a nonservice-connected condition. Veterans enrolled in Priority Groups 2 through 6 are charged \$8 for each 30-day or less supply of medication; the maximum copay for medications

NOTE: Copays apply to prescription and over-the-counter medications, such as aspirin, cough syrup or vitamins dispensed by a VA pharmacy. Copays are not charged for medical supplies, such as syringes or alcohol wipes. Copays do not apply to condoms. Health Savings Accounts: (HSAs) can be utilized to make VA copayments. HSAs are usually linked to High Deductible Health Plans (HDHPs).

Private Health Insurance Billing: VA is required to bill private health insurance providers for medical care, supplies and medications provided for treatment of Veterans' nonservice-connected conditions. Generally, VA cannot bill Medicare but can bill Medicare supplemental health insurance and/or TRICARE for Life (TFL) for covered services. VA is authorized to bill and accept reimbursement from High Deductible Health Plans (HDHPs) for care provided for nonservice-connected conditions. VA may also accept reimbursement from Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs) for care provided for nonservice-connected conditions.

Reimbursement of Travel Costs: Eligible Veterans and non-veterans may be provided mileage reimbursement or, when medically indicated, special mode transport (e.g., wheelchair van, ambulance), when travel is in relation to VA medical care. Mileage reimbursement is 41.5 cents per mile and is subject to a deductible of \$3 for each one-way trip and \$6 for a round trip; with a maximum deductible of \$18 or the amount after six one-way trips (whichever occurs first) per calendar month. The deductible may be waived when travel is; in relation to a VA compensation or pension examination; by a special mode of transportation; by an eligible non-veteran; or will cause a severe financial hardship, as defined by current regulatory guidelines.

Eligibility: The following are eligible for VA travel benefits:

Reporting Fraud: Help VA's Secretary ensure integrity by reporting suspected fraud, waste or abuse in VA programs or operations.

Report fraud to:

VA Inspector General Hotline
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20420E-mail: vaoighotline@va.gov
VAOIG hotline **1-800-488-8244** Fax: **(202) 495-5861**

Veteran Health Registries

Certain Veterans can participate in a VA health registry and receive free evaluations. VA maintains health registries to provide special health evaluations and health-related information. To participate, contact the Environmental Health Coordinator at the nearest VA health care facility or visit www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures to see a directory which lists Environmental Health Coordinators by state and U.S. territory. Veterans should be aware that a health registry evaluation is not a disability compensation exam. A registry evaluation does not start a claim for compensation and is not required for any VA benefits.

Gulf War Registry: For Veterans who served on active military duty in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War, which began in 1990 and continues to the present, and includes Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation New Dawn (OND).

Embedded Fragment Registry: OEF, OIF, and OND Veterans who have or likely have an embedded fragment as the result of an injury they received while serving in an area of conflict.

Agent Orange Registry: Agent Orange is an herbicide that the U.S. military used between 1962 and 1971, during the Vietnam War to remove jungle that provided enemy cover. Veterans serving in Vietnam were possibly exposed to Agent Orange or its dioxin contaminant. Veterans eligible for this registry evaluation are those who served on the ground in Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, regardless of the length of service; this includes Veterans who served aboard boats that operated on inland waterways ("Brown Water Navy") or who made brief visits ashore. Information is also available through VA's Special Issues Helpline at **1-800-749-8387**.

Ionizing Radiation Registry: For Veterans who have received nasopharyngeal (nose and throat) radium irradiation treatments while on active duty and Veterans possibly exposed to radiation. Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry: Unlike other registries, when Veterans complete the online Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry self-assessment questionnaire, they are in the registry. No in-person medical evaluation is required to become registered. Veterans not already enrolled in VA health care should contact an Environmental Health Coordinator at a nearby VA facility by visiting the following link: (<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/coordinators.asp>) or calling **1-877-222-8387**.

Counseling Services

Vet Center Readjustment Counseling Services: VA provides readjustment counseling services, to include direct counseling, outreach, and referral, through 300 community-based Vet Centers located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. Vet Center counselors provide individual, group, marriage, and family readjustment counseling to those individuals that have served in combat zones or areas of hostilities to assist them in making a successful transition from military to civilian life; to include treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and help with any other military-related problems that affect functioning within the family, work, school or other areas of everyday life. Other psycho-social services include outreach, education, medical referral, homeless Veteran services, employment, VA benefit referral, and the brokering of non-VA services.

Bereavement Counseling related to Servicemembers: Bereavement counseling is available through VA's Vet Centers to all immediate family members (including spouses, children, parents, and siblings) of Servicemembers who die while serving on active service. Vet Center bereavement services for surviving family members of Servicemembers may be accessed by calling (202) 461-6530. For additional information, contact the nearest Vet Center, listed in the back of this book, or visit <http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/>.

Vet Center Combat Call Center: (1-877-WAR-VETS) is an around the clock confidential call center where combat Veterans and their families can call to talk about their military experience or any other issue they are facing in their readjustment to civilian life. The staff is comprised of combat Veterans from several eras as well as family members of combat Veterans.

Home Improvements and Structural Alterations: VA provides up to \$6,800 lifetime benefits for service-connected Veterans/Servicemembers and up to \$2,000 lifetime benefits for nonservice-connected Veterans to make home improvements and/or structural changes necessary for the continuation of treatment or for disability access to the Veterans/Servicemembers home and essential lavatory and sanitary facilities. For application information, contact the Prosthetic Representative at the nearest VA medical center.

Special Eligibility Programs: VA provides comprehensive health care benefits, including outpatient, inpatient, pharmacy, prosthetics, medical equipment, and supplies for certain Korea and Vietnam Veterans' birth children diagnosed with spina bifida (except spina bifida occulta).

Services for Blind and Visually Impaired Veterans: Severely disabled blind Veterans may be eligible for case management services at a VA medical center and for admission to an inpatient or outpatient VA blind or vision rehabilitation program.

Mental Health Care Treatment: Veterans eligible for VA medical care may receive general and specialty mental health treatment as needed. Mental health services are available in primary care clinics (including Home Based Primary Care), general and specialty mental health outpatient clinics, inpatient mental health units, residential rehabilitation and treatment programs, specialty medical clinics, and Community Living Centers. For more information on VA mental health services, visit <http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/VAMentalHealthGroup.asp>.

Veterans Crisis Line: Veterans experiencing emotional distress/crisis, or who need to talk to a trained mental health professional, may call the Veterans Crisis Line, **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**. The hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. When callers press "1," they are immediately connected with a qualified and caring provider who can help.

Chat feature: Veterans Chat is located at www.VeteranCrisisLine.net by clicking on the Veterans chat tab on the right side of the web page.

Text feature: Those in crisis may text 83-8255 free of charge to receive confidential, personal and immediate support. European access: Veterans and members of the military community in Europe may dial 0800-1273-8255 or DSN 118. For more information about VA's suicide prevention program, visit: http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention/ or <http://www.veteranscrisisline.net>.

Vocational and Work Assistance Programs

VHA Therapeutic & Supported Employment Services (TSES) Programs: These programs are designed to assist Veterans to live and work as independently as possible in their respective communities. Participation in TSES vocational services cannot be used to deny or discontinue VA disability benefits. Payments received from Compensated Work Therapy Sheltered Workshop and Transitional Work and Incentive Therapy cannot be used to deny or discontinue SSI and/or SSDI payments and they are not subject to IRS taxes.

Caregiver Programs and Services: VA has long supported family caregivers as vital partners in providing care worthy of the sacrifices of America's Veterans and Service members. Each VA medical center has a Caregiver Support Program coordinated by a Caregiver Support Coordinator (CSC). The CSC coordinates caregiver activities and serves as a resource expert for Veterans, their families and VA providers.

Long-term Services

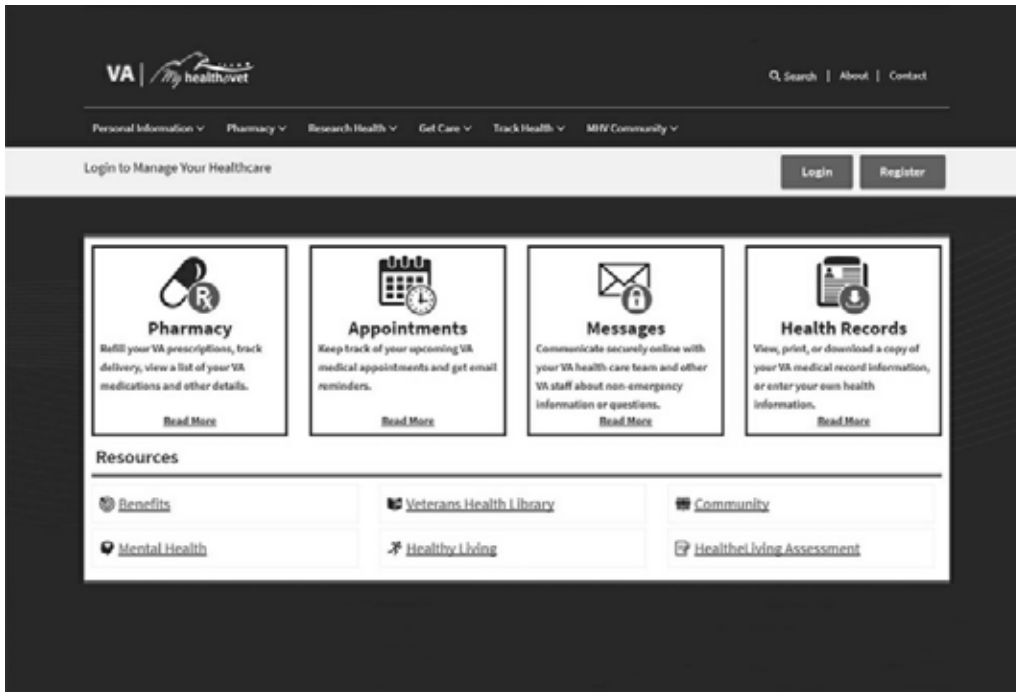
VA provides institution based services (nursing home level of care) to Veterans through three national programs: VA owned and operated Community Living Centers (CLC), State Veterans' Homes owned and operated by the states, and the community nursing home program. Each program has admission and eligibility criteria specific to the program. VA is obligated to pay the full cost of nursing home services for enrolled Veterans who need nursing home care for a service-connected disability, or Veterans or who have a 70 percent or greater service-connected disability and Veterans with a rating of total disability based on individual un-employability. VA provided nursing home care for all other Veterans is based on available resources.

Emergency Medical Care in U.S. Non-VA Facilities: In the case of medical emergencies, VA may reimburse or pay for emergency non-VA medical care not previously authorized that is provided to certain eligible Veterans when VA or other federal facilities are not feasibly available. This benefit may be dependent upon other conditions, such as notification to VA, the nature of treatment sought, the status of the Veteran, the presence of other health care insurance, and third party liability. Because there are different regulatory requirements that may affect VA payment and Veteran liability for the cost of care, it is very important that the nearest VA medical facility to where emergency services are furnished be notified as soon as possible after emergency treatment is sought.

Foreign Medical Program: VA may authorize reimbursement for medical services for service-connected disabilities or any disability associated with and found to be aggravating a service-connected disability for those Veterans living or traveling outside the United States. Veterans calling from within the Philippines may contact the VA office in Pasay City at 1-800-1888-8782. If calling from outside of the Philippines, the number is 011-632-318-8387. Veterans may also register by email at IRIS.va.gov. All other Veterans living or planning to travel outside the U.S. should register with the Foreign Medical Program, P.O. Box 469061, Denver, CO 80246-9061, USA; telephone 303-331-7590. For information, visit: <http://www.va.gov/hac/forbeneficiaries/fmp/fmp.asp>.

My Healthy Vet

My Healthy Vet is a great way to keep track of all your health needs in the VA. It gives you access to your benefits, appointments, pharmacy refills, health records, and messages to and from your physicians (care providers).



To get access to the My Healthy Vet, online, go to:
<https://www.myhealth.va.gov>

Another way to check on all VA facilities nation wide, is to go to:
<https://www.accesstocare.va.gov/ourproviders/>

Find VA Providers Near Me

This will enable you to access the following information:

How Satisfied Are Veterans With Their Care In My Facility? How Does Care Compare In VA and Other Facilities In My Area?

- ▶ Hospital Compare Data ▶ Nursing Home Compare Data ▶ Outpatient Compare Data
- ▶ Patient Experience Compare Data

How Is The VA System Doing With Access Nationally?

- ▶ Review National Data On Wait Times ▶ Review National Data On Access To Specialty Care

How Quickly Can My VA Facility See Me?

- ▶ Access Times At Individual Facilities ▶ Same-Day Service Options At Individual Facilities

The "Our Providers" online directory lists the primary licensed independent practice providers who may be a lead, ongoing member of your treatment team at the respective VA medical center. Providers in the following occupations are listed on this website: physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, physician assistants, chiropractors, certified registered nurse anesthetists, optometrists, podiatrists, and psychologists. By using this tool, you will be able to do a search of providers in the occupations listed above based upon your preferences and needs. For each provider, you will see the following: full name; gender; clinical product line to which they are "assigned"; where they received their medical training; and the school from which they received their medical degree. This information will be "refreshed" on a monthly basis. There may be staff who have been hired or who have departed the medical center since the last refresh of information. For additional information on physicians, we also encourage you to use the "DocInfo" service offered by the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) at <http://www.docinfo.org>. The FSMB website is updated monthly and is a public website to provide information related to any physician who is licensed in any US state, territory, or district.



Lost and Found

In Mount Laurel, New Jersey, at a restaurant called “Scottos Pizza Cafe,” a New Jersey ball cap was found by an employee named Randy Fitch, on or about, August 6, 2017. He wants to find the owner, because he knows the hat means a lot to the crew members; he has posted this on Facebook, but has had no response as of yet. The restaurant is located in South Jersey. So, if this is your ball cap, please contact Mr. Fitch.

2017 50/50 Winners

Reunion Banquet 50/50

Total Proceeds: \$632 (Winner’s Share = \$316.00)
Conchita Sotelo
(Winner Donated Proceeds to the Scholarship fund)

Reunion Dinner 50/50

Total Proceeds: \$2,976.00 (Winners’ Share =\$1,488.00)
First Place (40% = \$595.20)
Frank Lasak
Coatesville, PA
(Winner Donated Proceeds to the Ship)



Second Place (30% = \$446.40)
Jerry Whitlock
Hampton, VA

Third Place (20% = \$297.60)
Henry and Shirley Steel
Timonium, MD
(Winner Donated Proceeds to the Ship)

Fourth Place (10% = \$148.80)
Edwin Bean
Sargent, GA

Other Donations

Mr. William Jay Sweet, Jr. Donated \$500 to the ship, in memory of his father, Commander William Jay Sweet.

Our Carpenter has installed the teak that the ship veterans paid for on the O-3 Aft Starboard side deck. Next step is to caulk and sand the plugs and caulk. We will then complete the port side.

Will the ship veterans be donating additional funds for more teak?

Phil Rowan
Executive Director & CEO Battleship New Jersey

A total of \$6,635.00 was donated from USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. Well done shipmates. Out of this amount, \$4,310.00 was for restoration. (From the secretary’s business meeting report)





Angkor Park



Cambodia

**EXPERIENCE A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TRIP TO SOUTHEAST ASIA
AND SUPPORT THE BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY!**

The Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial has joined forces with Adventure by Disney to offer a unique trip to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. A percentage of every trip reserved will be donated to the Battleship, a non-profit museum and memorial on the Camden Waterfront, NJ.

During this 12 days, 11 nights trip, from July 22, 2018 through August 2, 2018, you'll discover the beauty and magic of Southeast Asia through the splendor of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Filled with history and tradition, these countries offer their own natural beauty, artistic elegance and philosophies of living that permeate everything from their martial arts and religious practices to their regional cuisine.

Adventures by Disney does not merely show you the majesty and beauty of these countries, but their trained Adventure Guides will immerse you in the regional culture and lifestyle.

Study with a Tai Chi Master and Visit Hanoi

Practice the “mediation in motion” with a Tai Chi Master at a local park. Then, explore the Temple of Literature and the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in the bustling city of Hanoi.

Mount Phousi Hike and Organic Rice Farm in Laos

Rise early and greet the monks before hiking up to Mount Phousi – “The Holy Mountain” – to see panoramic views of Luang Prabang. Then visit an organic rice farm and discover how to farm a rice paddy.

Tuk-Tuk Temple Treasure Hunt

Participate in a “treasure hunt” while exploring the temples of Angkor Archaeological Park on a tuk-tuk – an airy covered cart pulled by a motorcycle.

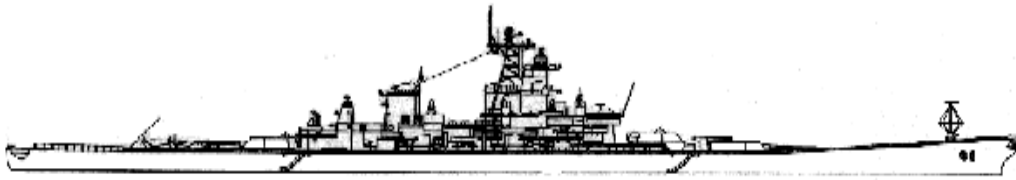
Cooking Class in Hoi An

Visit Hoi An’s vibrant central market with a chef to learn about the regional fresh ingredients you’ll use for your private Vietnamese cooking class!

UNESCO World Heritage Sites

Explore Angkor Archeological Park, Luang Prabang and Hoi An, with their unique beauty and significance to Southeast Asia and the world – all named UNESCO World Heritage Sites!

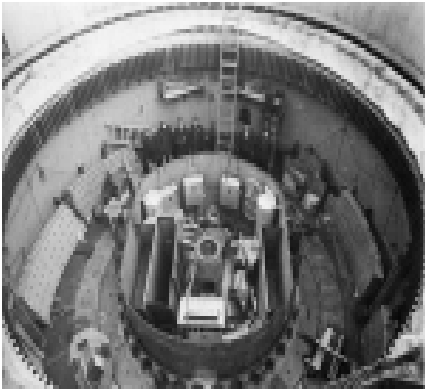
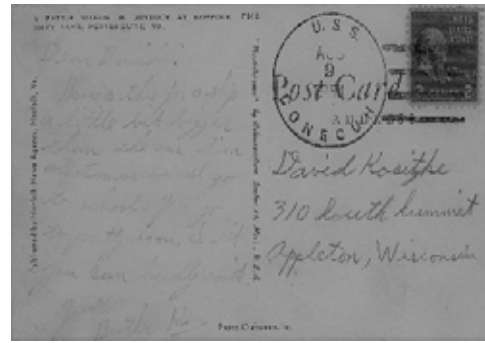
For more information or to reserve your ticket to this exciting Adventures by Disney vacation, call Galaxsea Cruises and Tours at 732-613-8444. The travel professionals of Galaxsea will handle all your travel and accommodations throughout the trip. You just enjoy this amazing experience!



Memorabilia



Above-Bow of USS New Jersey-Below-Herman the German & USS New Jersey BB-62 Portsmouth, VA Photos & Postcard courtesy of Ernest Dalton and Ken Kositske (1954) Ken was an MM2 on the USS Conecuh AOR-110 - Took photos from his ship.

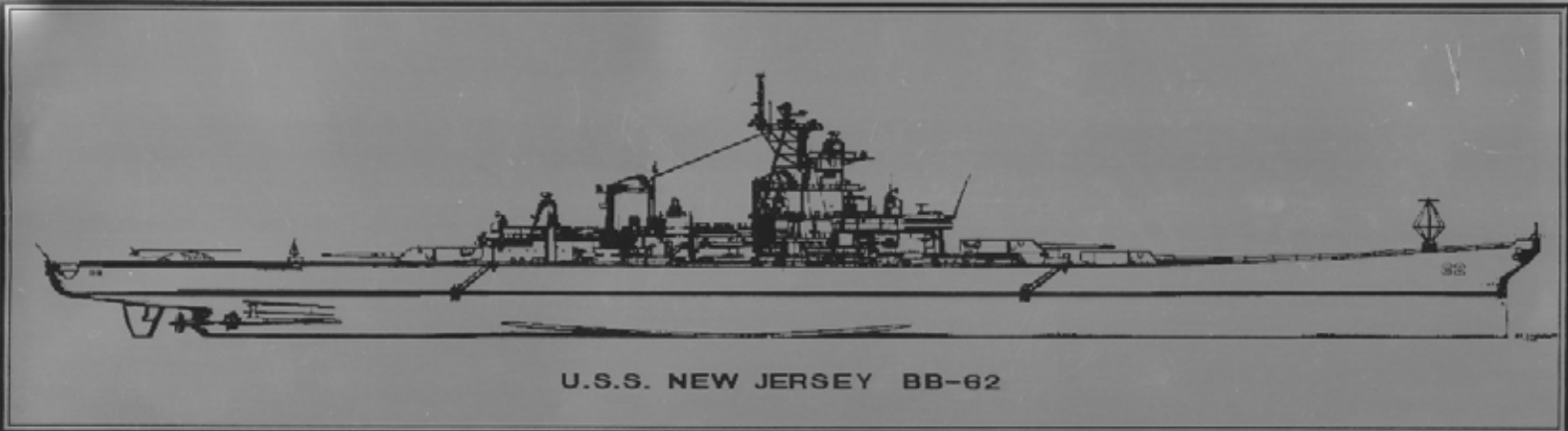


Project Whitehat - Chicago Children's Hospital-1985

IC Patch from Vietnam Era

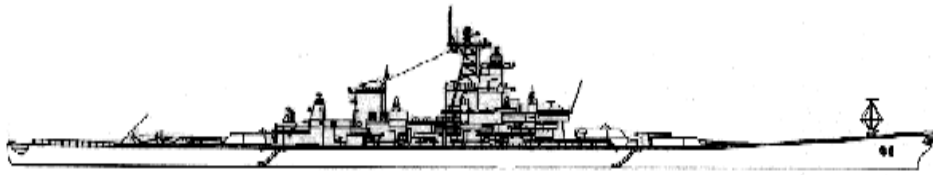
C.I.W.S. - 80's Era - GM Div.

Pre-com pic of NJ Gun Turret Plaque is from Damage Control Office Door - Decommissioning Day 08FEB91



More Reunion Memories





RETRACTION

Page 26 of the Spring 2016 issue of THE JERSEY BOUNCE

The USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. hereby retracts page 26, titled “NEVER FORGET - - - NEVER FORGIVE”, from the 2016 Spring issue of The Jersey Bounce.

In August, 2017, we received a letter from Joe Ploucha, one of our members. In the letter, Joe brought to our attention that he had sent an email to the association on June 9, 2016, that unfortunately went unanswered. For that, I wish to personally apologize to Joe. There is no excuse for not responding to any correspondence we receive that warrants a response, especially from a member and shipmate.

Joe’s letter included a copy of the original text of his email. In it he stated that he took issue with page 26 of the Spring 2016 issue of the Jersey Bounce, which was titled, “NEVER FORGET - - - NEVER FORGIVE”. The page in question contained a photo of Jane Fonda and John Kerry, allegedly together at an anti-war rally. He informed us that this photo was a “politically motivated hoax” and that someone should have researched the photo prior to publishing it, to ensure that it was legitimate.

In response to Joe’s letter, I researched the history of the photo and found that it has been proven that Jane Fonda was not in the original photo of John Kerry, taken on June 13, 1971, at an anti-war rally in Mineola, NY. The photo of Miss Fonda was taken in August, 1972, at a rally in Miami Beach, Florida. The two images were combined and then further altered to appear as if the combined image was from an old newspaper clipping. The photo was widely distributed and appeared in many major newspapers and media outlets.

In light of our findings, we sincerely apologize to Joe Ploucha, and any other members of the organization, who took offense with the publishing of both the altered photo and associated text in our newsletter. We understand that there are many veterans, particularly Vietnam veterans, who have strong, negative feeling toward Miss Fonda because of her anti-war protests, which included a visit to Hanoi, during the height of the war, that was widely publicized. We respect the right of our shipmates and our members to have their own personal opinions of the anti-war protests, but be that as it may, our newsletter is not the place for political statements of any type. In fact, our By-Laws state that any, “derogatory and political viewpoints pertaining to the Corporation, Directors, Officers, Appointees or Membership.” shall not be published in the Jersey Bounce. We understand that Miss Fonda has apologized to veterans, but acceptance of her apology will have to be left to each individual, as we can only apologize for the publication of incorrect data and political viewpoints in the newsletter, which violates the by-laws of our organization.

We hope that Joe, and other member who took offense to that page, will accept our sincere apology and remain an active member of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. Thank you for your understanding of this issue.

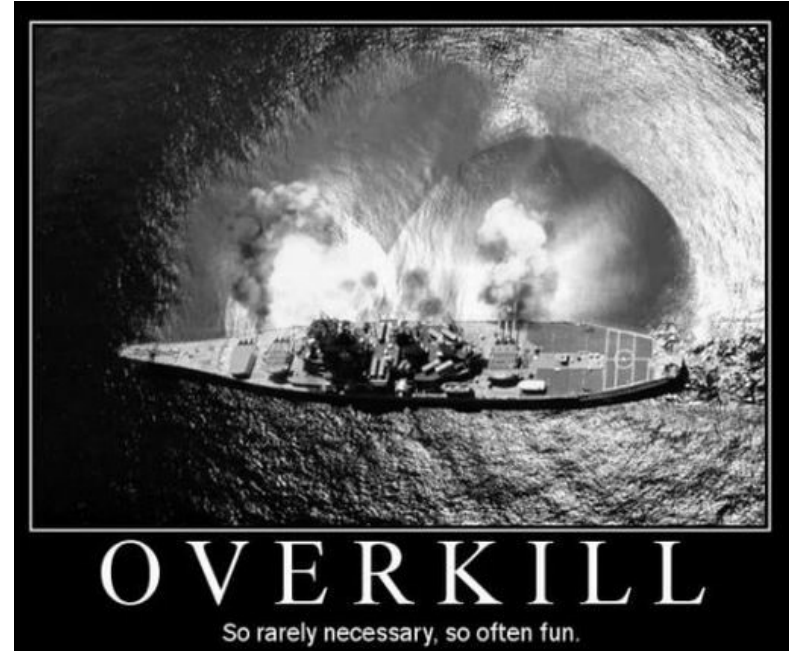
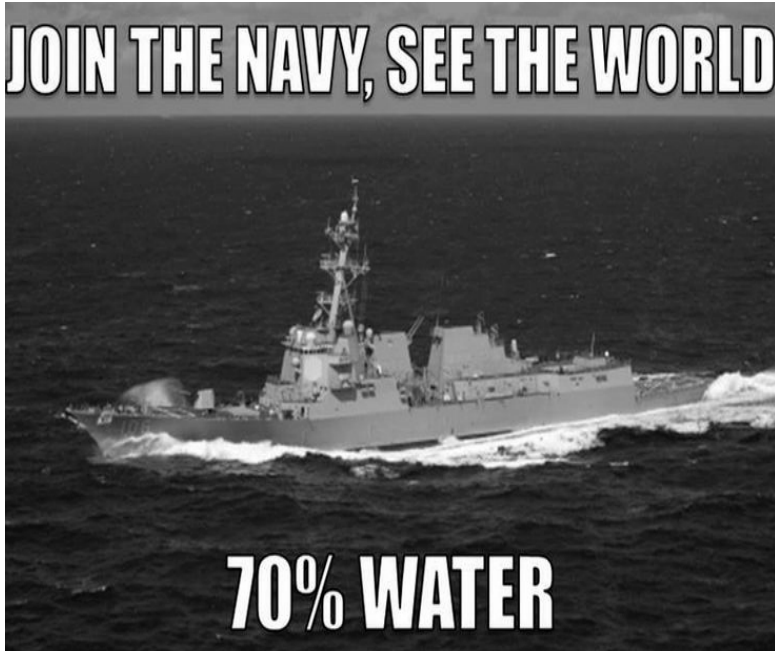
Bob Dingman, President

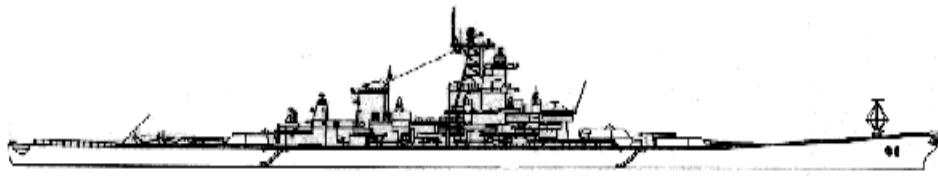
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

Welcome Aboard Dinner, Memorial Lunch, NAVSTA Great Lakes, Navy Pier and Chicago Scenery



Navy Memes/Humor





Restoration of 16 Inch Buckler's

Marty Waltemyer is a familiar face aboard the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial. He has been a volunteer aboard the ship since before the museum's opening, and it was primarily because of Marty's extensive practical experience with USS Iowa-Class big guns, that New Jersey's main, and secondary, battery restoration was completed so quickly and safely. It was also very fortunate that Marty only lives 20 miles from the ship.



Marty Waltemyer

The "bucklers" (sometimes called "bloomers"), are the huge black blast bags attached to each gun at the turret face plate. He was also able to accomplish this major job without access to the shipyard gear normally used for this type of work (ie., heavy duty crane, trained shipyard workers, power tools to work on more than one 16" rifle at a time, etc...) As you read on, you will soon begin to appreciate how difficult it was. **(Buckler's reinstalled on Jan. 31, 2001)**

Marty Waltemyer was employed as a weapons technician, and helped to return all of the Iowa-class main battery turrets, back to full operation. Over this long period, Marty performed the job aboard USS Iowa, USS New Jersey, USS Missouri and USS Wisconsin in Long Beach, California, and in Pascagoula, Mississippi. His extensive battleship turret experience also included the conducting of "Dynamic Accuracy" tests on all 48 hydraulic power drives for the four USS Iowa-class battleships. These are the drives which operate, and train, the mammoth battleship's turrets weighing more than 1,900 tons each.

"I think today, that all the men who helped, can take special pride in having accomplished a very dangerous job. On Turrets 2 and 3, we even had to work with scaffolding – a very dangerous proposition even for young men... and these were not young men. Young in spirit yes, but not very young in years.



Battleship New Jersey's Volunteer buckler replacement team

FRONT ROW (L/R)

John Kelty, Ray Kuehner, Bill Will

MIDDLE ROW (L/R)

Jack Croghan, Harry Schafer, Earl Cargen, Bob Whomsley, George MacCulloch, Turret Captain Marty Waltemyer, Mayer Falk, Ken Hardcassel, Dick Sowers, Harry G. Ruhle, Jr.

REAR ROW (L/R)

Tom Helvig, Andy Roppoli, Rolland Garber, Bill Holmstrom, George Gasper, Charles Weiss, Ken Temme, Carl Holmstrom, Walt Eife, Wayne Schofield

TEAM MEMBERS MISSING... Juan Carro, Frank Goffredi, Dan Farrell, Dave Deiner, Don Beck, Scott Ruhle

(This excerpt is from a story, courtesy of The Jerseyman.) 42





**Welcome Aboard - New Members
In
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.**



Join the Navy and party all the time
Or as we gain maturity

Join the USS New Jersey Veteran's Organization and party at the annual reunion!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>
Paul Benner	OE	Vietnam	Pooler, GA
William J. Bowman	G-3	80's	Crete, IL
Thomas Chelius	B	80's	York, PA
Angel DeJesus	X-2	80's	Waukegan, IL
Robert Fitting	6 th	80's	Pico Rivera, CA
Steve Frazee	G-1	80's	Ironton, OH
John E. Henry	A	Korea	Maryville, TN
David LaGraves	X	Vietnam	Cheektowaga, NY
Aaron Sheets		Associate	Granger, IN
Danny Shields	OS	80's	Columbus, OH
Mary Beth Snyder		Associate	Fairmont, MN



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing



<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Marge Brown	Associate	Korea	Champaign, IL
J.R. Caldwell	3rd	Korea	Waynesville, NC
Russell Cardamone	B	Vietnam	Sewickley, PA
Elliot Cates	4th	Korea	Somer, NY
Gene Clark	Deck	Korea	Lenior, NC
George E. Ford	B	Korea	Levittown, PA
Charles W. Gaines	Admin	Vietnam	The Villages, FL
Charles Gronek	Associate		Deptford, NJ
Fred Hennighausen		WWII	Roswell, NM
Jon Marc Hilwig		Vietnam	East Brady, PA
Kenneth Kochsmeier	B	80's	St. Maries, ID
Jack Landreth	FM, FT, 7 th	WWII	Dallas, TX
Marion McDaniel		Korea	Gettysburg, PA
William W. Morris	CPO		Middleton, PA
Edward Parker	E	Vietnam	Maysville, KY
Roger Petsky	E	Korea	Elmira, NY
David Randall	M	Korea	Washington, GA
George Robinson	2 nd	Korea	Virginia Beach, VA
Walter Ruscan	1 st	Korea	New Canaan, CT
J. Robert Sauppee	FA	Korea	Reading, PA
Arthur Shipe		WWII	Seattle, WA
Richard Stone	CR	WWII	Laurel, DE
William J. Sweet	Chief Engineer	Vietnam	Derwood, MD



	<u>Store Prices</u>
Hat Pins	\$ 4.00
Bumper Stickers	\$ 4.00
Rating Pins	\$ 4.00
Reunion Tags	\$ 5.00
Patches	\$ 4.00
License Frame	\$10.00
Challenge Coin	\$10.00
Ships Gold Pin	\$10.00
Hats (all eras)	\$15.00
Name Badges	\$15.00
Men's/Ladies Polo Shirts	\$28.00
Pocket T-Shirts	\$22.00
Sweat Shirts	\$30.00

Shipping & Handling - Use Example on Website.

Order Info.
See Page 11 for address, phone # & E-mail



USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
c/o Leonard Jablon
2909 Griffin Circle
Corona, CA 92879



Vietnam Era Vets & Ladies



80's Era Vets & Ladies