

# THE JERSEY BOUNCE

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

[WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG](http://WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG)

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President: Bob Dingman      Vice President: Leon Tucker



Oklahoma City, Site of the 2021 Reunion

# OKLAHOMA

Although it is one of the newest states in the union, Oklahoma has one of the oldest records of human occupation. Its abundant resources attracted early hunting and gathering peoples by about 9500 BC. Beginning about 700 BC people in what is now eastern Oklahoma developed a variety of exquisite pottery, textiles, sculpture and metalware.

The expedition of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado in 1541 claimed the area for Spain. In 1714 Louis Juchereau de Saint-Denis visited Oklahoma and other Frenchmen subsequently followed establishing a fur trade with Native Americans. France and Spain struggled for control until 1763, leaving only the natives to contest Spanish authority until the return of the French flag in 1800. Three years later, the United States acquired most of Oklahoma through the Louisiana Purchase. The region, as one of the purchase's most attractive parts might well have become one of the first states but in fact it was one of the last. Because of pressure to remove Native Americans from the settled east, in 1828 the US Congress reserved Oklahoma for Native Americans and required all other to withdraw. By 1880 more than 60 tribes from, other areas of the country – in the 1830's the Creek, Cherokee, and Choctaw, and in the 1870's such Plains Indians as the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa, and Comanche – had been forcibly removed to Indian Territory where they joined local groups including the Wichita and Kansa. Later as the country expanded westward, pressure grew to open the territory to settlers of European ancestry. By 1879 organized bands, who became known as "Boomers" so named because of an economic boom were moving in despite Federal law. Pressure continued until Congress opened some 3,100 square miles of western Indian Territory bringing on a famous land run that began with a signal from a cavalry bugle. Known as Oklahoma Territory, the new area came to include about half the former Indian domain. Then the settlers, many of whom earned the name "Sooner" for entering the area before receiving official permission, sought statehood which was granted in 1907.

Later devastated by the Dust Bowl, the Sooner State parlayed "bubblin crude" beneath its red soil into modern prosperity.

## Little Known Facts

- ▶ The supermarket shopping cart, the parking meter, the electric guitar and the yield sign were all invented in Oklahoma.
- ▶ With more than 200 reservoirs, Oklahoma boasts more man-made lakes than any other state.
- ▶ Oklahoma is home to 38 federally recognized Indian tribal nations, more than any other state except California.
- ▶ Hugo, Oklahoma was once served as the winter quarters for numerous circus acts. Many bygone performers are buried in the town's Showman's Rest cemetery. Hugo is located in the southeast corner of Oklahoma near the border with Texas. Hugo was named for the French novelist Victor Hugo
- ▶ Claremore, Oklahoma in the northeast part of the state near Tulsa was the birthplace of Will Rogers. He was actually born on a ranch near Oologah which is nearby but always claimed to be from Claremore "because nobody but an Indian can pronounce 'Oologah'". It also is celebrated as the town where Rodgers and Hammerstein set the musical *Oklahoma!*



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings to all,

I sincerely hope that this message finds everyone in good health, both physically and emotionally. It's been a very unusual spring and summer. This is normally the message where I'd be reminiscing about our recent reunion, but not this fall. The COVID19 pandemic has changed the plans of ours and many other veterans' associations. Our 2020 reunion was cancelled and is rescheduled for 2022. The June 2020 letter that was issued for the cancellation and the March 2020 letter about the status of the reunion at that time, can both be found in this issue. Needless to say, the cancellation was a very hard decision for the Directors to make.

The 2021 reunion remains on schedule for September 29<sup>th</sup> - October 3<sup>rd</sup> in Oklahoma City, OK. Our reunion hotel will be the Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown Hotel. The Sheraton is located in downtown OKC, a few blocks from the popular Bricktown entertainment area. This area is similar to San Antonio's Riverwalk area, with many restaurants, lounges, craft breweries, bars, shops, a water taxi and other attractions. Hotel reservation information is in this issue and reservations can be made now by telephone or online via the link on our website. The complete reunion information package will be in the 2021 Spring issue.

With the cancellation of the 2020 reunion, we also had to cancel our elections. We will be holding our elections at the 2021 reunion in Oklahoma City. The term of office for those elected next year will be for three years so that our election year will be back in sync with our ship reunions. Our By-Laws require anyone wishing to be nominated for an office to be in attendance at the general meeting where the nominations and elections take place. The memorial service in OKC will include the names of all our Shipmates who have passed since the memorial service in San Diego. Unfortunately, it will be a long list as we lose many of our older members every year.

It's been a very tough year for the Battleship New Jersey. The ship was closed when the State of New Jersey shut down in March to help control the spread of the COVID19 virus. When it did reopen, the attendance was much lower than normal. The Battleship New Jersey's Board of Trustees made the decision to close the ship after Labor Day and reopen in the Spring of 2021. (UPDATE: The State of New Jersey has reinstated a \$1,000,000 in direct state aid for the Battleship New Jersey in the state budget that was just signed by the Governor. The Battleship will be reopening on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.)

As we have done for many years, the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. once again offered three \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors from the Class of 2020. Unfortunately, we received no applications for the 2020 scholarship awards. The scholarships are open to all graduating high school seniors whose father, or grandfather, served on the New Jersey and are current members of our organization. Please encourage your child or grandchild to apply next year.

I hope the virus will be well under control and behind us by this time next year. We all will miss our week together this Fall. Please stay safe and healthy till we gather in Oklahoma City.

Sincerely,

***Bob Dingman, President***

***EM2, E Division, Sept '67 - Dec '69***

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings:

As our 2020 reunion drew closer disaster struck in the form of a national pandemic. My wife and I had our hearts set for Cherry Hill. Unfortunately, this was not to be the case. I had opened the invitation to several naval members of my Veterans of Foreign War post. The reunion in Cherry Hill would have been an ideal location and those visiting were planning to become associate members. Knowing this now we have look ahead to Oklahoma City. I think this site will prove to be an excellent venue for those who can attend. Hope to see all of you there.

Sincerely:

***Leon Tucker Jr. GMG1(SW)***  
***G1 Division 87-90***

# SECRETARY/LEBANON PERSIAN GULF ERA DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Hello again shipmates, well this has just been a bad year or maybe just very unusual. It was hard to cancel reunion but a no brainer in a different aspect. The board did not want to put anyone at risk so that is why we did a Zoom meeting to discuss and we really looked at all options. Hopefully by reunion time next year all of this will be out of the way, and we can all enjoy Oklahoma, City. Not many details right now on reunion for next year but it will be in the Spring Bounce. I hope some more of our 80's era guys can make next year. It is sad as each year passes by, we lose more of our shipmates. It is of the utmost importance for 80's & 90's to step up so we can keep the light burning in the LIGHT HOUSE. It is not just the fellowship at the reunions but the other things as well such as the Scholarship program and helping the ship with funds to keep maintenance up and restoration support to families who have lost loved ones that were members. Signing off for now.

Hope to see you in Oklahoma City next year.



***Danny Fielder/ MM3 Lebanon, Secretary***

E- mail address [dfielder@gsengr.com](mailto:dfielder@gsengr.com)

(601) 955-8233 Cell

(601) 892-2469 Home

22011 Hwy 51 Crystal Springs, Ms. 39059

## SHIP'S STORE ADVISOR'S REPORT



Greetings:

The Ship's Store is moving along with preparations for Oklahoma City. The unfortunate virus situation made some changes in our ordering of merchandise for this last September necessary.

Plans are still on for a full line of shirts, pins, coins, hats, decals for shipmates and the ladies.

We are looking at a couple of new items for everyone before Oklahoma City. We now have an expanded line of jacket patches along with key chains, belt buckles, etc.

The full line of merchandise is on our website.

The store can be reached at:

727-415-5798

[Sixpaca12@yahoo.com](mailto:Sixpaca12@yahoo.com)

Thanks, and we will see everyone in Oklahoma City.

*Mike Schappaugh – Ship's Store Advisor*





## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Shipmates,

Wow! What a year we are all having! Louise and I hope that all of you are safe and well!

We wish that all of us could have gotten together in Cherry Hill this year, but we are all safer for not going. We're looking forward to next year when we go to Oklahoma City. It will be our first time to hold the reunion in Oklahoma. Everything is

going to be close to where we will be staying. Maybe there will be a rodeo going on while we are there if we are lucky!

It has been a semi-busy year here. There haven't been too many opportunities to visit with friends or dine out because of the ongoing Coronavirus and social distancing. Luckily, most of our family live within 40 miles of us, so we were always seeing the grandkids and babysitting them when needed. We haven't been hit as hard with COVID19 as were the larger cities north of us. Nashville has had a lot of cases.

I agreed to stay on as your membership chairman for 1 more year because of the virus. It has been my pleasure to serve this Association for the past 8 years. It's always fun talking with shipmates and helping you guys get what you need. Louise has been right here with me helping. I couldn't have done it without her help as is the case with all of us that hold office in the Association.

We hope to see all of you that can come next year in Oklahoma City.

Thank You,

***Garry Blaylock – Membership Chairman***

## TREASURER'S REPORT

It was extremely disappointing that we were forced to cancel this year's reunion especially since it was scheduled on the ship. We can look forward to another ship visit in 2022.

Our fiscal year ends December 31<sup>st</sup> so interim financial discussions should take into consideration that the numbers will change rather significantly by year end.

During 2020 through September 30<sup>th</sup> we have received total net funds of \$5,101 and have disbursed a total of \$11,334 leaving us with \$32,054 in bank balances. By way of comparison, on September 30, 2019 we had \$35,465 in bank balances.



Major disbursements year to date in 2020 were the Jersey Bounce expenses, 2021 Reunion expenses and Ship's Store inventory purchases. Our major source of revenue are the annual dues which are not billed until the fourth quarter. The fourth quarter also includes this edition of the Bounce which is the major expense of the quarter.

The Spring 2021 Bounce will have the complete annual financial report.

If there any questions concerning the financials, please contact me and I will try and address them.

Hopefully we can all meet again next year in Oklahoma City which promises to be an excellent reunion venue.

*Phil Tasker - Treasurer*

*ETR2, OE Division, Sept '67 - Dec '69*

### 50/50 Raffle

Since the Reunion had to be cancelled, we did not hold the 50/50 drawing. All tickets received are being retained and will be added to next year's drawing which should tend to increase the prize fund.

## SEATING COORDINATOR'S REPORT



### **William J. "Bill" Myers**

April 30, 1948 – October 6, 2020

We are all deeply saddened by the passing of our friend and shipmate, Bill Myers. Bill passed away on October 6, 2020, as a result of complications due to COVID19. He is survived by his loving wife Rebecca Greer Myers, his daughters, Stephanie and Barbara, brothers, Robert and David, and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, family and friends. He was preceded to our Lord by his first wife, Mary.

Bill joined the US Navy just one month after graduating from high school in 1966. He attended boot camp and Electricians Mate 'A' school in San Diego and was then assigned to his first ship, a minesweeper, out of Charleston, SC. Nine months later, he received orders to the soon to be recommissioned, USS New Jersey. He was an EM2 in E Division, working out of the Power Shop. Bill served on the New Jersey until his discharge on December 4, 1969. He returned to Kansas and eventually wound up in Omaha, NE. There he worked for the Omaha Public Power District, married and raised his family.

Bill discovered the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. online and attended his first reunion in Washington, DC, in 2004. From then on, he never missed a reunion and looked forward to them every year. He was instrumental in helping to locate over 100 Vietnam era, E Division shipmates that he worked with on the New Jersey. He tirelessly searched the internet, wrote letters and made phone calls to reconnect E Division after nearly 35 years. Many joined our organization and attend reunions regularly. In 2008, Bill volunteered to be our reunion Seating Coordinator and served in that position until his passing.

We will all miss Bill's enthusiasm and friendship at our reunions. He was dedicated to his God, his family, his country and his many friends. May he have Fair Winds and Following Seas on his journey to our Lord.



## LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

Shipmates,

By the time you're reading this, we will be anticipating the arrival of winter and have added the Fall Bounce to the webpage. I hope that all are doing OK during the Covid-19 times.

We have gained several new members since our last Bounce, which can be attributed to our website, membership chairman, and several of our current members who are constantly contacting prospective members to join our organization.



Thanks to all of you who are active members and we look forward to your continued support. If you know someone who used to be a member, but is no longer, maybe give them a call and give them a nudge in the right direction. Also, if you have any changes in your contact information, please contact me, Garry Blaylock, or any of the other officers in the organization, so we can keep your information current.

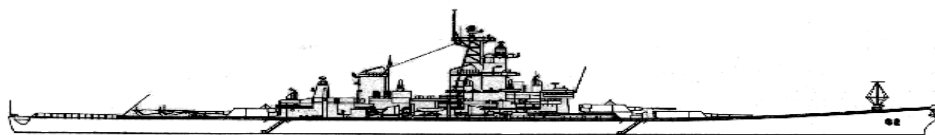
As Liaison director I have a data base of all who have served on the USS New Jersey by ERA's, I continue to add shipmates who are found and were not in the list and unfortunately deceased ship mates.

Hope that everyone enjoys our ship web page. I have updated the ship store for Mike since our last reunion. If you see anything on our webpage that is not right, please let me know.

***Bob Williams, Liaison Officer/Web Master***

### ERA REPRESENTATIVES

<u>WW II - 1940'S</u>	<u>KOREA - 1950'S</u>	<u>VIETNAM - 1960's</u>	<u>LEBANON</u> <u>PERSIAN GULF - 1980'S</u>
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## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

### 2020 was our election year, but then COVID cancelled our reunion

I hope that no one from our ship or their families had to deal with this terrible virus.

At our 2021 General Meeting, we will be holding Election for Officers for our organization. As a Director or Advisor, you have the opportunity to serve on behalf of the greatest group of sailors Davy Jones has ever spit back from the deep. While many of the current directors and advisors will be running for re-election, all positions are open for active campaigning and nomination. Some positions will be vacant and a need for a fellow shipmate to step up and bring each of these areas up to the next level.

Listed below are the positions along with the current candidates as of this issue of the Bounce.

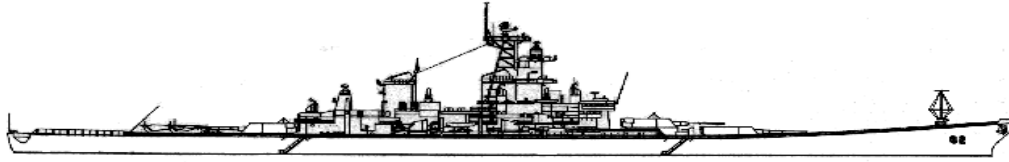
<u>Position</u>	<u>Candidate 1</u>	<u>Candidate 2</u>	<u>Candidate 3</u>
President / Director	Bob Dingman		
Vice President / Director	Leon Tucker, Jr.	Tim Flynn	
Secretary / Director	Danny Fielder		
Treasurer / Director	Phil Tasker		
Membership Chair / Director	Chuck Oehme Fred Potter		
Liaison Officer / Director	Bob Williams		
Reunion Coordinator / Director	Dave Wasmer		
Master at Arms / Advisor	Ray Kehoe		
Small Stores / Advisor	Mike Schappaugh		
Web Master / Advisor	Bob Williams		
Newsletter Editors / Advisor			
Veterans' Affairs / Advisor	Joe Dimaria		
Seating Coordinator / Advisor	Marvin Williams		
WWII Era / Advisor	Henry Pierce		
Korean Era Rep / Advisor	Donald Eggleton		
Vietnam Era Rep / Advisor	Bob Williams	Tom Gallucci	
1980's Era Rep / Advisor			
Marine Detachment Rep / Advisor			

Job descriptions for the above positions can be found in our By-Laws which are available at [www.ussnewjersey.org](http://www.ussnewjersey.org).

If you're interested in running for any position, please contact me by September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. At that time, I will print up the ballots used for voting with all the candidates and positions. The ballot will also include write-in room for any floor nominated candidates.

God Speed,

*Chuck Oehme, Chairman, Nominating Committee*



## USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

March 20, 2020

To all Members,

We are all being affected, in one way or another, by the COVID19 virus outbreak. I hope all of you and your family are healthy and following the safe practices that have been outlined by our local, state and federal governments. We are sailing in uncharted seas, but common sense will get us all through this.

I want to update everyone on the status of our 2020 reunion. We currently have no plans to cancel or postpone the reunion. The reunion is still scheduled for September 16-20. I have been in contact with the hotel, the tour company, the bus company and the Battleship New Jersey. They have all established protocols to address the issues caused by the virus. As you can imagine, their current concerns are with their guests and groups that are scheduled for the next month or two. I will remain in constant contact with the hotel and others as the situation changes and as our reunion dates get closer.

Unbridled American ingenuity will conquer this virus and life will return to normal. My advice is to maintain caution and take a pause. Let things develop and make informed decisions based on scientific evidence and the advice of medical experts. While the safety and well-being of our members must clearly be the Board of Directors top concern, if our nation's medical leaders determine that we are safe to travel then please consider supporting our economy and the hard workers in the hospitality industry who have faithfully served our organization year after year.

The Reunion Committee and the Board will do everything we can to make our 2020 reunion happen, but it won't be a success if our members don't attend. If government regulations force a cancellation, we will be able to get all deposits returned, but if we cancel due to low attendance, we will most likely have to pay liquidated damages to the hotel. This could cause a substantial financial hardship to the organization. Please plan on attending if the situation normalizes by September.

Sincerely,

Bob Dingman, President  
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.



## USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

June 8, 2020

Subject: Cancellation of 2020 Reunion

To all Members,

On Sunday, June 7th, the Board of Directors met via an online Zoom meeting to evaluate the current situation. The result of our meeting was a unanimous vote to cancel and reschedule the 2020 USS New Jersey Veterans Reunion. This was not an easy decision. We discussed a number of options and weighed the pros and cons of holding our reunion this year. The safety and well-being of our membership was our primary concern. We determined that there are just too many unknowns as to what the conditions will be like in September.

The classification of the COVID19 pandemic as a national emergency enabled us to cancel all the 2020 reunion contracts, with no financial damages to the organization. Anyone who has already mailed your registration form for the reunion events will receive a refund in the mail soon. Anyone who has made hotel reservations at the Crowne Plaza should cancel them.

My hope was to just move both upcoming reunions, 2020 and 2021, ahead one year to 2021 and 2022, respectively. The 2021 reunion is scheduled for Oklahoma City at the end of September. I contacted the OKC hotel and discussed our options. They do not look at the postponement, of an event scheduled for 15 months from now, as being a result of the current national emergency. Rescheduling the OKC reunion would require us to pay a non-refundable change of date fee and there would also be an increase to our nightly room rate. As a result of this, the decision was made to hold our 2021 reunion in OKC, as scheduled, and then reschedule 2020 to 2022, back in the Philadelphia area. We know everyone looks forward to visiting the ship and we wanted to offer that event as soon as possible. We will vote on a location for 2023 at the OKC reunion, and to get our reunions back on our required schedule, the 2024 reunion will be in the Philadelphia area, where it would have been before the COVID19 pandemic upset our plans.

The Election of Officers, scheduled for this year, will take place at the 2021 reunion in OKC. All current Directors have agreed to stay on until that election. The term of those elected in 2021 will be for 3 years and the elections will return to their normal 4-year cycle at the 2024 general meeting.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Bob Dingman, President  
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.  
bdingman@metrocast.net



## Battleship Veterans Memorial Flag Program

The staff and volunteers of the Battleship New Jersey have long enjoyed the visits of the many former crewmembers who have traveled to Camden to connect with their past. To honor the memory of the former crewmembers, the staff of the Battleship New Jersey has instituted the Battleship Veterans Memorial Flag Program. Through the generosity of an anonymous benefactor, the Battleship New Jersey is offering to fly an American Flag from the ship's foremast in honor of any USS New Jersey Veteran who has passed away. The flag will then be mailed to the spouse, or other family member.

To receive this honor, a request must be made by the family or a friend. The staff would like the following information to successfully fill the request:

1. Name of the former crewmember who has passed away.
2. Era when served on the USS New Jersey. (I.e. WWII, Korea, Vietnam, 1980's)
3. Date of passing and copy of Veteran's obituary, if available.
4. Name and address of spouse and/or family member where flag should be sent.
5. Request should be sent to Jack Willard, Battleship New Jersey, 62 Battleship Place, Camden, NJ 08103, 866-877-6262 x144, J.Willard@battleshipnewjersey.org



Flag flies at half-mast for a USS New Jersey veteran, Ken Hobbs, Korea



son Ethan and Kay, wife of CPO Jack Weaver (Vietnam) with flag flown in his honor on Battleship New Jersey.





**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

PCU NEW JERSEY (SSN 796)  
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NEWPORT NEWS, VA 23607-2796

16 Jul 20

Bob Dingman  
President, USS NEW JERSEY Veterans, Inc.  
6 Butternut Lane  
Laconia, NH 03246

Dear Mr. Dingman,

It was great to hear from you. It is an absolute honor to pass along to my crew, the revision of your bylaws. The inclusion of our crewmembers as qualified veterans in USS NEW JERSEY Veterans, Incorporated is truly exciting news.

I also fully understand the difficult decision made to cancel the reunion this year due to the current pandemic we are all experiencing. I have annotated my command calendar with the future expected reunion in the Camden, New Jersey for 2022 and as the year approaches we will touch base to address scheduling as that is an uncertain item at this time.

From me, and on behalf of my Officers, Chiefs, and crew thank you! Thank you for making PCU NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) feel like family as we continue the great legacy and namesake of NEW JERSEY!

  
J. M. SPINKS



"Hi, I'm Ryan Szimanski, curator for Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial." Hopefully you have been following the museum's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/battleshipnewjersey](https://youtube.com/battleshipnewjersey) where I post a new video about the ship almost every day of the week.

I understand many of you cannot come out and visit the ship as often as you'd like. The ongoing travel restrictions and closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic have made it difficult for the museum's visitors to come out to the ship too. In order to continue to fulfill our mission to educate the public on the history of battleship New Jersey, the museum has started to move much of our content online. Our YouTube channel in particular has become a major asset for the museum and those interested in the ship's history.

It's been a rough year for the museum. Last year we did really well. We opened new spaces, expanded the tour route, as well as our program offerings. For the first time in recent memory we were open throughout the winter this year, hoping to break 100,000. Obviously that dream is well behind us. In mid-March we closed when the state shut down. We were able to reopen in mid-June but saw only 10% of last year's visitation over the summer. We have not been able to host events or overnights and those two programs account for much of our operating budget.

In a normal year the state also gives the ship funding, but this year it was vetoed from the budget. As a result, the museum again closed on Labor Day as we went into the slow season and laid off all but a handful of staff including myself. Fortunately, our executive director and board were able to work with the state to ensure we got some money when the budget was eventually passed. Right now, the museum has brought back some staff, is only open on weekends, and is only selling tickets from 1100-1500. After New Years the ship will again close until the Spring like we have in years past. Next year economists are only predicting museums to see 85% of the visitation they did in 2019 and it is unclear if we will be able to host events or overnights.

So how does the museum cater to our audience when most people can't come out the ship? That's where our various digital learning programs come in, in particular our YouTube channel. We started consistently creating YouTube videos about two years ago but when the museum closed in March we went from filming once a week to nearly one every day. The videos fall into several different categories but in general they include information about naval battles, interviews with veterans, how other battleships compare to us, show spaces on the ship not on the tour route, or show how to use shipboard equipment. In one video I tried on an OBA, in another I went from the bilge all the way to the TACAN antenna on top of the mast. My favorite video was where I got to crawl all the way down a 16" gun barrel.

If you want to support the museum and our YouTube channel during these troubling times please consider donating to our GoFundMe campaign at [gofundme.com/f/battleship-new-jersey-youtube-education-fund](https://gofundme.com/f/battleship-new-jersey-youtube-education-fund). Also start watching our videos, subscribe to the channel, and tell friends about us. If you can think about any topics you would like to see in the future let me know.

I hope to see you back on board soon,

**Ryan Szimanski, Director of Curatorial and Educational Affairs**

Battleship New Jersey Museum & Memorial

62 Battleship Place

Camden, NJ 08103

Office Phone: 856-966-1652 X202

Cell Phone: 443-564-3823

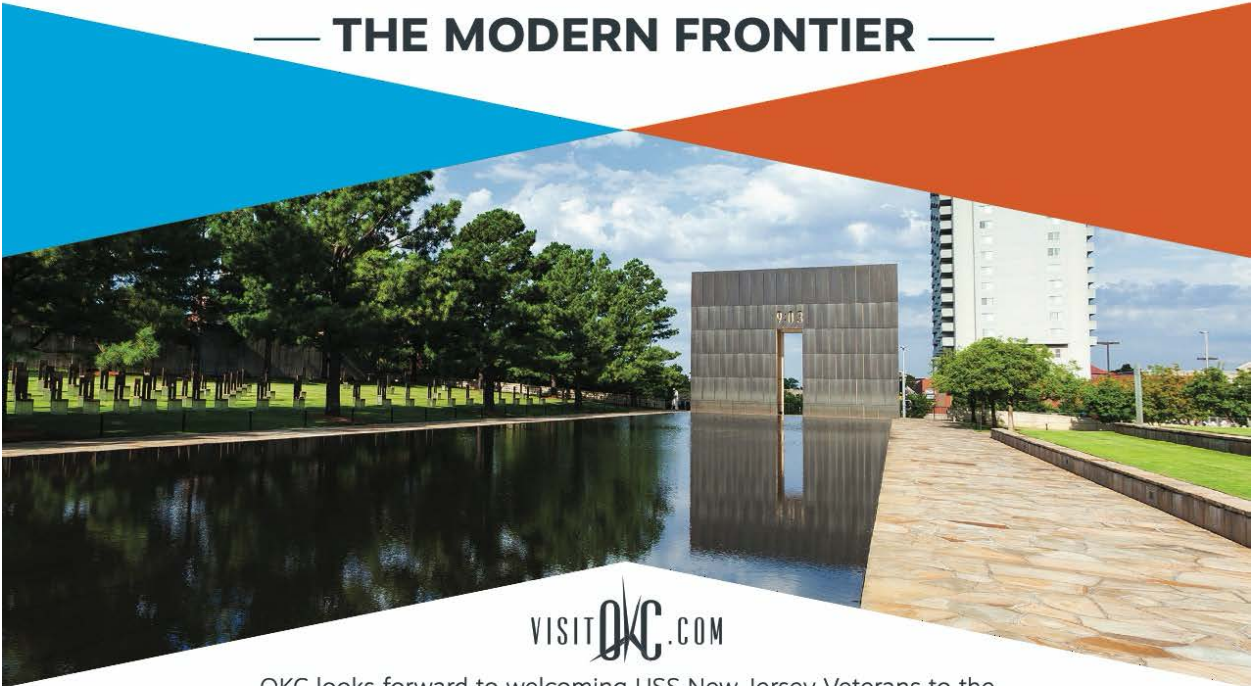
FAX Number: 856-966-5550

[r.szimanski@battleshipnewjersey.org](mailto:r.szimanski@battleshipnewjersey.org)



# OKLAHOMA CITY

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## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

### 34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION #2

- WHERE:** Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown Hotel  
One North Broadway Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
- WHEN:** September 29 – October 3, 2021
- RESERVATIONS:** 1-800-325-3535 (Sheraton Reservations, toll free)  
1-405-235-2780 (Hotel Direct)  
For group rate mention the: USS NEW JERSEY ATTENDEES or group code MR5  
Online reservations can be made at the website:  
  
<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1596482718713&key=GRP>
- Group rate available between Sept 23 - Oct 5, 2021.  
Handicapped rooms are available upon request.  
Reservations received after 11:59PM (CDT), September 3, 2021, may not qualify for the group rate.  
Individuals may cancel reserved rooms up to 2 days prior to arrival without penalty.  
Parking is \$10.00/day. Complimentary WIFI.  
Pets welcomed (Non-refundable \$50 first pet, \$25 each additional pet)
- COST:** One King or Two Double - \$119.00 (plus 14.125% S&O taxes)
- Check In Time: 3:00PM, Check Out Time: 12:00PM

If you stay at this hotel, the rate includes two breakfast coupons per room

# OKLAHOMA CITY SIGHTS



The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is America's premier institution of Western history, art and culture. Founded in 1955, the Museum, located in Oklahoma City, collects, preserves and exhibits an internationally renowned collection of Western art and artifacts while sponsoring dynamic educational programs to stimulate interest in the enduring legacy of the American West.

More than 10 million visitors from around the world have sought out this unique museum to gain better understanding of the West: a region and a history that permeates our national culture. The Museum features a superb collection of classic and contemporary Western art, including works by Frederic Remington and Charles M. Russell, as well as sculptor James Earle Fraser's magnificent work, *The End of the Trail*. The exhibition wing houses a turn-of-the-century town and interactive history galleries that focus on the American cowboy, rodeos, Native American culture, Victorian firearms, frontier military and Western performers.

## BRICKTOWN

**Just east of OKC's downtown business district is Bricktown**, the city's original warehouse and distribution center turned entertainment district. Founded just days after the Land Run of 1889, Bricktown was, and still is, a central hub connecting not only railroads and highways, but local citizens and visitors.

This thriving urban district is now home to more than 45 restaurants, bars, and retail shops, along with family-friendly attractions, a plethora of public art, museums, galleries, and even an urban beach for summer fun. The diversity of businesses, educational institutions, housing and leisure activities in this area make it a true 24/7 destination, one of the most distinct and historic in OKC.



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# DECK RESTORATION PROGRESS







## USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Clyde Anderson	A	WWII	North Charleston, SC
Ronald Briggs	1 <sup>st</sup> /X-3/8 <sup>th</sup>	80's	Woodbridge, VA
Frank Carter	FA	WWII	Port Aransas, TX
Alan Joseph Coldwell	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Korea	Denver, CO
Robert Colliton	C	Korea	West Hampton, CT
Paul Crowley	R	Vietnam	Schaumburg, IL
Richard Curtis	R	Korea	Roswell, GA
Burnell Ditch	Unknown	Korea	Glen Burnie, MD
Paul Duffley	S-4	Vietnam	Alvord, TX
Harold Foley	OR	Korea	Wellesley, MA
Victor Girard	4 <sup>th</sup>	Korea	Dover, NH
Ray Guinn	1 <sup>st</sup>	Korea	Nitro, WV
Kenneth Hobbs	K	Korea	Crossville, TN
Thomas Kelsay	E	Vietnam	Norfolk, VA
Larry Knipp	E	Vietnam	Waterloo, OH
Murry Luftglass	C	Korea	Pompton Plains, NJ
Joseph McDonnell	Unknown	Korea	Randolph, MA
Wayne Metz	E	Vietnam	Sharpsville, MD
Robert Moodie	S	WWII	Sheridan, CA
William Myers	E	Vietnam	Omaha, NE
Lawrence Steen	FM	WWII	LeRoy, NY
Richard Weaver	X	Vietnam	Hays, KS



## USS New Jersey BB-62 Welcome Aboard New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Raymond Frank	OI	80's	Everett, WA
Lester Kennady	M	Korea	Barry, IL
Ethan Lantz		Associate Member	Hays, KS
Nicholas Manzo	2 <sup>nd</sup>	WWII	Smithville, RI
Stephen Tarasuk	M	80's	Bethlehem, PA
Carl Wetterling	Deck	80's	Bordentown, NJ

# SHIPS STORE MERCHANDISE

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[www.usnewjersey.org](http://www.usnewjersey.org)



Pick the number(s) you want and add to the order form except #62 (See Below) \$5.00 ea.



**Battleship Hat Pin #62** Gold plated. \$12.00

## The Vietnam Gallantry Cross



Did you serve on the USS New Jersey while we were deployed off the coast of Vietnam? If you did, you know that we all received our Vietnam Service medal and our Vietnam Campaign medal. We proudly wore our National Defense ribbon along with these two Vietnam ribbons when we returned to Subic Bay after our first time on the gun line. For those who don't know, there is a third Vietnam ribbon that we were awarded. That medal/ribbon is the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with the Palm device (VCoG). The USS New Jersey was awarded this unit award by the government of South Vietnam. I never knew about this award, but I'm sure many of you did. It is not on my DD214 because, like the Vietnam Campaign medal, it is an award by a foreign nation. The DD214 does not list foreign awards. I did notice that Captain Snyder's photos includes this ribbon with his ribbons on his uniform. Surprisingly, it appears that Captain Snyder's only Vietnam deployment was as Commanding Officer of the USS New Jersey.

In 1974, former President Nguyen Van Thieu and Congress of South Vietnam awarded the VCoG to all Americans, and other non-Vietnamese nationalities who also served in Vietnam, as an individual award with respect and in gratitude for sacrificial and valorous service trying to protect and preserve the Republic of South Vietnam from communist aggression. Prior to that, the VCoG was primarily a unit award such, as the award to the USS New Jersey BB62. The ribbons shown on the side of the ship's superstructure includes the unit awarded ribbon with the Palm device and in gold frame.

All this means that if you served on the Battleship New Jersey while she was off the coast of South and North Vietnam, you can add this medal and ribbon to your memorabilia wall. Redo your shadow box and include the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.