# THE JERSEY BOUNCE

## USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG

**Volume XL No. 1 Spring 2025**

**President: Michael Holmes Vice President: Hector Tellez**

# USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) – AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

| Date | Decoration |
|---|---|
| **1945** | **WWII AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL** |
| **1945** | **WWII ASIA-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL** |
| January 1944 - March 1944 | Marshall Island Operations |
| February 1944 – May 1944 | Asiatic – Pacific Raids |
| April 1944 – May 1944 | Hollandia Operations |
| June 1944 – August 1944 | Marianas Island Operations |
| September 1944 – October 1944 | Western Caroline Operations |
| October 1944 – December 1944 | Leyte Operations |
| February 1945 | Iwo Jima Operations |
| March 1945 – April 1945 | Okinawa Operations |
| **OCTOBER 1944 – SEPTEMBER 1945** | **WWII PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL** |
| **1944 – 1945** | **WWII PHILIPPINE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION** |
| **1945** | **WWII WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL** |
| **OCTOBER 1945 – JUNE 1946** | **NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE MEDAL** |
| **1951** | **NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)** |
| **1951** | **KOREA SERVICE MEDAL** |
| May 1951 – July 1951 | Communist Chinese Summer Offensive |
| July 1951 – November 1951 | United Nations Summer/Fall Offensive |
| April 1953 | Third Korea Winter Campaign |
| May 1953 – July 1953 | Korea Summer/Fall Campaign |
| **1951** | **UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL (KOREA)** |
| **1951 – 1952** | **KOREA PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION** |
| **AUGUST 1953** | **CHINA SERVICE MEDAL** |
| **1968** | **NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (VIETNAM)** |
| **SEPTEMBER 1968 – APRIL 1969** | **NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION** |
| **SEPTEMBER 1968 – APRIL 1969** | **VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL** |
| September 1968 – November 1968 | Vietnam Counter Offensive Phase V |
| November 1968 – February 1969 | Vietnam Counter Offensive Phase VI |
| February 1969 – November 1969 | TET 1969 Counter Offensive |
| **SEPTEMBER 1968 – APRIL 1969** | **REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL** |
| **SEPTEMBER 1968 – APRIL 1969** | **REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CROSS OF GALLANTRY** |
| **OCTOBER 1968** | **COMBAT ACTION RIBBON** |
| **JUNE 1983 – DECEMBER 1984** | **NAVY "E" RIBBON** |
| **JUNE 1983 – MAY 1984** | **NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION** |
| **SEPTEMBER 1983 – APRIL 1984** | **ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL** |
| **SEPTEMBER 1983 - JANUARY 1984** | **NAVAL EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL** |
| **SEPTEMBER 1983 - JANUARY 1984** | **SEA SERVICE DEPLOYMENT RIBBON** |
| June 1983 – December 1984 | Western Pacific, Central America, Beirut |
| May 1986 – August 1986 | Western Pacific |
| July 1988 – November 1988 | Korea/Australia |
| September 1989 – February 1990 | Persian Gulf |
| **JANUARY 1985 – JUNE 1986** | **NAVY "E" RIBBON** |
| **DECEMBER 1989** | **ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL** |
| **1990** | **NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL (PERSIAN GULF)** |

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings Shipmates,

First, I would like to thank everyone for the honor you have given me to serve as your President. I hope to continue the legacy of our previous Presidents who have established this great organization of shipmates to serve each other and our great warship, "The Battleship". After a wonderfully successful reunion on the ship last fall, we are in full preparation for this year's reunion in San Antonio Texas! Its central location will avail itself to everyone from the east and west coasts and the city has much to offer us during our reunion. Come join us and tell your shipmates!

What have we been working on you might ask, well the list is quite long. Besides the San Antonio Reunion effort, we have already started work on the 2026 Reunion in Omaha, home of our WWII Shipmate Paul Robbins! Paul just celebrated his 100th birthday and we look forward to our time with him in Omaha. We are engaged in the 250th Navy Birthday Celebration coming in October 2025 in Philadelphia, where the NEW JERSEY will be a focal point for the celebration. We are reworking the organizations Ship's Store with new offerings under Roy Christopher. We continue to have meetings with the Battleship Staff on ways we can further strengthen the support for each other's organizations. We are increasing our former crew member volunteer program to support shipboard maintenance on the ship. Many of us have been volunteering annually for a few days every year to do work projects aboard our ship. Our next work period is scheduled for the week of 27 April under Glenn McCurdy. Join us! Have pictures? Why not upload them on our website @ WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG.

One of our challenges this year is to find our shipmates who are not currently members and offer them the opportunity to join and become more involved with our ship and organization. **Accept the challenge!** Reach out on social media, by phone or email and highlight how our organization supports the ship, its maintenance/updates and our scholarship program for former crewmember family members. Our monetary and political support of our ship on the waterfront in Camden is critical. We have nearly 4000 crew members who served during the 4th commissioning period that are not members of our organization. Let's work on bringing them into the group to add expanded support to this organization and the Battleship!

On a personal note, I would like to thank Bob Dingman for his superb service as the former President of our organization, Mike Schappaugh for his management of the Ship's Store over the past countless number of years, Marvin Williams for his Reunion Seating Coordination, Joe Dimaria for his efforts in Veterans Affairs, Ray Kehoe's service as Master at Arms, Leon Tucker as Vice President (now the 80's Era Coordinator) and Danny Fiedler as our dancing machine and Secretary.

Your service and dedication will long be remembered for all your accomplishments in this organization. I would be remiss if I didn't also thank those who continue to serve the organization including the work of Phil Tasker who keeps our funding straight as Treasurer and manages The Bounce, Chuck Oehme who manages the Membership Rolls and "Taps", Bob Williams our Webmaster Liaison, Felix Batista as our Chaplain, Dave Wassmer for all his work as Reunion Planning Coordinator, Mike Goins as USMC Rep and Tom Gallucci as the Vietnam Era Coordinator. Thanks are also in order for to those of you that have stepped up and volunteered to serve this year including Hector Tellez as Vice President, Mile Ales as Seating Coordinator, Randy Bergman Master at Arms, Jim Davy and Steve Sheehan Co- Veteran Affairs support, Mike Murphy our Secretary, Max Sharff as the Korea Era Rep and Paul Robbins (with the aid of his #1 Jack Robbins) as the WWII Era Rep. Thank you all for stepping up to fill these roles.

One of our shipmates, the former 1984 Main Engines Officer RADM (Ret) Mike Shatynski, is CEO of the new Museum of the Surface Navy starting construction in San Pedro CA this fall. The website is online and all classes of ships in the Navy will have a 3D generated silhouette with sponsors. The goal is to raise $2500 so we become an IOWA Class ship sponsor that will be visible right below the battleship silhouette. The 3D graphics for this will be incredible. Mike and I have both donated $250 as a starter for the fund. If you are interested in donating to this cause let me know. Check out their website at https://surfacenavymuseum.org.

Lastly, let me just say how important our organization is in its monetary and political support of our ship on the waterfront of Camden and how indebted we are to those that care for our ship. Join us in volunteering some of your time on the ship or financially donating to its upkeep and maintenance. Find our shipmates and ask them to join us as we continue to build on the strength of our membership. Let your new leadership know your thoughts and ideas as we move forward in 2025. We are NEW JERSEY, Battleship Sailors All!

***Michael Holmes, President***

***LT, Repair Officer, 1/1981 – 5/1984***

# VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings Shipmates, Families and Friends,

It is an honor to have been chosen as your VP and I will do my best to help out wherever I can to promote our great ship. Many thanks to the previous officers for their hard work, dedication and for setting a great example of how to run our organization. I have been, and will continue to, promote our association and especially strive to recruit shipmates from the 80's era to include all who served on the 4th commissioning of the ship.

Thank you all and looking forward to seeing all of you in San Antonio.

***Hector R Tellez FTG2***

***FA Division 1981-1985***

# SECRETARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hello shipmates.

Spring is finally here, and we can start enjoying the longer, warmer days after a rough winter for many of us. I have assumed the position as Secretary for the USS New Jersey Veterans Inc. Board from Danny Fielder. Danny capably served for nine years as Secretary, and I hope to fulfill the duties as well as he did. I served on the ship in 1986 - 1987 in the S2 Division. There are several new members to the Board, and we will strive to do our best as we become acquainted with our positions. I am pleased to see several members of the 1980's - 1990's step up to take on roles for the organization.

We can start thinking about the 2025 reunion in San Antonio, Texas which is September 15th – 19th. I have never been to San Antonio but have read many positive reviews of what to see and experience. A benefit of attending USS New Jersey reunions is the chance to visit many cities you might not have been to before.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to proudly wear their USS New Jersey items when out and about. Wearing New Jersey hats, shirts, jackets, sweatshirts, etc. is a way to meet up with former crew members who do not know about our organization, and you can encourage them to join. I have met several former crew members while wearing a USS New Jersey item while traveling.

***Michael Murphy, Secretary***
***LT, S2 Div, 1986-1987***
***E- mail address: midsommardagen@comcast.net***
***(541) 754-6395***

# SHIP'S STORE ADVISOR'S REPORT

*SHIPS STORE REPORT:*

Happy to report that the ships store is up and running and open for business. My respiratory event last Sept has past and I am fully recovered.

On another note, I must report that I will not be bringing the store to the next reunion. I have been asking for the past 5 years for someone to take over the responsibility of the position. There is the possibility that someone will but, as of this writing, that has not happened.

Until there is a change, the store will remain open for online orders.

My team and I have enjoyed serving everyone for the past 10yrs and we will be seeing everyone in the future. I have many other projects and obligations that I would like to complete. I will be open for any online orders until a new storekeeper steps forward.

It has been a pleasure serving the organization and all its members. I will not be attending the next reunion.

***Mike Schappaugh – Ship's Store Advisor***

USS NEW JERSEY VETS SHIPS STORE
3540-16th St. No.
St. Petersburg, Fla 33704
sixpaca12@yahoo.com

**LATE BREAKING NEWS:** Roy Christopher (80's Era) has volunteered to take over the Ship's Store from Mike and is in the process of scheduling the transfer of the remaining goods later this Spring. Roy is also starting to look at new offerings for the store along with support of his graphic designer wife so stay tuned. Roy can be reached at royce1961@gmail.com. Once the transfer is complete, we will update everyone on the www.ussnewjersey.org website and via email.

# MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow shipmates,

Dues payments for 2025 came in very well last fall and we are now waiting for those members who still haven't sent in their 2025 dues.

When we find out about a shipmate that has passed away, I look in the cruise books and other sources to find out when they served, what division they were in and what their rating was when they were on New Jersey. To my surprise, I couldn't find anything out about a number of them. Sometimes we get lucky and can contact the family to find out more information about when they served.

Here's what I have learned:

**World War II era**

Finding out about our World War II shipmates is a real problem for a number of reasons:

- Many of our WWII veteran's obituaries never got posted on the internet.
- The World War II book didn't list very many junior officers and enlisted men. Fortunately, that was corrected in future cruise books.
- Their obituaries often just say "served in the Navy in the Pacific during WWII". There were so many famous ships in WWII that they just didn't mention which one their loved one was on. As New Jersey's fame grew after participating in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Lebanon/Persian Gulf War, right up through 1991, their obituaries now will certainly note that our shipmate served on New Jersey. Ever notice that a WWII army veteran's obituary will say "Proudly served in the U.S. Army during WWII". But if they served in General George Patton's 3rd Army, they will note that.

**Korean War Era**

- It would appear that there was a big turnover of shipmates after the 1955 cruise and decommissioning in 1957 and the crew back then had very little documentation.

**Vietnam War Era**

- There was a big turnover of shipmates right after our return from Vietnam and through the announcement of decommissioning that never got well documented. By the time we marched off the ship in Bremerton on December 17th, only the names from that day were recorded.

  If you know of any shipmates that came on board New Jersey after crossing the equator in 68 and didn't stay until decommissioning, please let me know so we can get them documented. I also noticed that some of our shipmates were promoted yet not recorded. Once again, please let me know so we can get them documented.

**Lebanon and Persian Gulf War, right up through 1991**

- This was the longest period of time that New Jersey was in commission and naturally has more gaps in documentation. If you know of anyone that didn't get recorded in any one of our cruise books, let one of our officers know.

**If you are driving to San Antonio for the reunion and want to take in a couple interesting places along the way.**

- Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center – Southeast Houston
- Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library – University of Texas, Austin
- George HW Bush Presidential Library – Texas A&M University, College Station

**If you like Texas Barbeque**, you'll love these places

- Coopers in Llano – Recommended by Former Texas Governor Rick Perry to my wife Elaine as his favorite. We think it's Great…
- Salt Lick in Driftwood – My favorite

**New Braunfels tubing**

- Crystal clear spring water on the Comal River. Great thing to do on a hot September day. Bring a cooler, float down the river and enjoy a beer or two. Just put your empties back in the cooler! There's a tube shoot and a small waterfall to go over. The kids love it. It will get your heart a pumpin'. Elaine has been known to take the by-pass around them. Great sight-seeing, especially in July and August.

Send me an email, and I will tell you all about it.

**Photo Swap at the reunion.**

This year we are going to display your New Jersey related photos. Bring your favorites on a USB flash drive and we will display them. The idea being that if you see some that you like, we will copy them to your flash drive for you. We'll send out a reminder before the reunion.

**From the Mail Box**

I am a member of the Washington Crossing National Cemetery Honor Guard. We provide all veterans Military Honors. Served on the BB62 from Philly to Bremerton and escorted her up the Delaware when she came home to be a museum. We are always looking for volunteers to assist in providing honors for our veterans. If you live near Trenton, NJ and are interested, send me an email.

Bill Paradiso MMFN Eng #4. **wparadiso62@gmail.com**

God Speed,

Sincerely,

***Chuck Oehme – Membership Chairman***
***ETR2, OE Division, 67-69***
***chelaine@comcast.net***

# TREASURER'S REPORT

This is our first edition of the Bounce with our new and revised management team installed. I look forward to working with this outstanding group of shipmates.

Accompanying this Report are the 2024 financials and I will try and provide a summary of the monetary results of last year. We began the year with $39,739 in cash on hand. Net funds received during the year were $67,919 and net funds disbursed were $58,769.

Monies received were primarily from *2024 Reunion Registration Fees* (52%), *Scholarship Fund Receipts* (15%), *Membership Dues* (15%), *Ship Restoration Donations* (10%), and *Ship's Store Sales* (8%)

Disbursements were mainly for *Reunion Expenses* (52%), *Ship Restoration Funds and Donation Payments* (19%) *Bounce Publication Expenses* (14%), *Ship's Store Expenses* (5%), and *Scholarship Awards* (5%).

We ended the year with $48,889 in cash balances. Of that amount $17,250 is committed to the Scholarship Fund.

If there are any questions or comments, please let me know.

I look forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio this September.

***Phil Tasker – Treasurer***
***ETR2, OE Division, Sept '67 – Dec '69***
***phillip@phtasker.net***

# USS New Jersey Veterans Association
## 2024 Financials
## Summary

| Bank Balances | Operating Accounts (Including PayPal) | Savings Account |
|---|---|---|
| Adjusted Balances at January 1, 2024 | $ 26,563.94 | $ 13,175.19 |
| Total Net Funds Received in 2024 | 67,915.73 | 2.96 |
| Total Net Funds Disbursed in 2024 | 58,768.65 | - |
| Funds Transfers | - | - |
| Net Balances at December 31, 2024 | $ 35,711.02 | $ 13,178.15 |
| Net YTD Change in Bank Balances | $ 9,147.08 | $ 2.96 |

| | Available Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Cash Funds |
|---|---|---|---|
| CASH ASSETS | $ 31,288.72 | $ 17,600.45 | $ 48,889.17 |

### 2024 Operating Results

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Reunion Activities** | | |
| 2024 Reunion Registrations/Funds | $ 35,410.00 | |
| 2024 Reunion Expenses | 27,595.15 | |
| 2025 Reunion Expenses | 2,760.34 | |
| Net Reunion Revenue | | $ 5,054.51 |
| **Ship's Store Operations** | | |
| Ship's Store Sales | $ 5,280.05 | |
| Ship's Store Inventory Purchases | 2,675.81 | |
| Ship's Store Postage and Supplies | 279.54 | |
| Net Ship's Store Revenue | | $ 2,212.10 |
| **General Operations** | | |
| Funds Received | | |
| Dues Received | $ 8,935.00 | |
| PayPal Credit Card Rebates | $ 134.01 | |
| Bank Interest Received | 2.58 | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue Received | 546.62 | |
| Total Funds Received | 10,648.19 | |
| Funds Disbursed | | |
| Jersey Business (Including Postage) | $ 8,450.81 | |
| Postage (General) | 567.01 | |
| Office and Other Supplies | 603.68 | |
| PayPal and Square Fees | 492.24 | |
| Web Hosting and Internet Services | - | |
| Miscellaneous | 5,855.27 | |
| Total Funds Disbursed | 16,166.81 | |
| Net General Operating Revenue | | (5,518.62) |
| Net Operating Results | | $ 1,758.09 |

### 2024 Scholarship Fund Activities

| | |
|---|---|
| Scholarship Fund Balance Forward From 2023 | $ 10,158.50 |
| 2024 Fund Raising Activities: | |
| Reunion Auction Proceeds | 7,110.00 |
| 50/50 Proceeds (Net of Payouts) | 833.50 |
| Banquet 50/50 (Net of Payouts) | - |
| Scholarship Donations | 2,148.45 |
| 2024 Scholarships Awarded | (3,000.00) |
| 2024 Scholarship Fund Ending Balance | $ 17,250.45 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Unpaid Balance Due 50/50 Winners | $ - |

### 2024 Ship Restoration Fund Activities

| | |
|---|---|
| Fund Balance Brought Forward from 2023 | $ 50.00 |
| 2024 Ship Restoration Fund Donations | 6,488.00 |
| 2024 Ship Restoration Fund Disbursements to Battleship New Jersey | (6,188.00) |
| 2024 Ship Restoration Fund Ending Balance | $ 350.00 |

# REUNION COORDINATOR'S REPORT

***SHIPMATES,***

As I'm writing, it is a sunny day with an expected high of 40 degrees and yet last week we woke up to -20 and -30 degree wind chills. I am looking forward to Spring arriving for good.

Our 38th Annual Reunion will be starting with registration on Monday, September 15th, and finishing with our Dinner Dance Banquet on Thursday, September 18th.

The Holiday Inn Riverwalk, San Antonio has reserved the entire 7th floor for all of our activities; Hospitality Room, Ship Store, meetings and dinners.

Our Memorial Service is scheduled on Tuesday morning, following will be a free day for all to enjoy San Antonio as you wish. San Antonio has so much to see and do; entertainment, restaurants, sightseeing tours, the famous Alamo, and so many more wonderful things to see and do.

The reunion events are scheduled and buses reserved for our Tour of Admiral Nimitz and National Museum of the Pacific War.

It is very important to complete your Reunion Event Registration Form and send it to Phillip Tasker as soon as possible. **The FINAL cutoff date is August 10th, 2025.** It is very important to send your registration in timely as we are not able to hold a seat on the bus or include you with the tickets for the Museum.

We hope to see you all at the 38th Annual Reunion in San Antonio in September.

***Dave Wasmer – Reunion Coordinator***
***IC2, E Division, Sept '67 – Jun'69***

# LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

Shipmates,

Last year Members had a great reunion in Cherry Hill, NJ, lots, and lots of fun, by the time you receive this bounce there are many pictures posted on the web page. I have posted a lot of 2024 dry dock pictures on our web page. Also, as webmaster I keep all era Tap's list updated daily thanks to our very active Membership Director.

I work with our membership director on keeping the era excel roster up to date. If you know of anyone who has passed away, if you have changed your address, email address or phone number please contact me so that our database can be updated.

If you know of anyone who served on the USS New Jersey that isn't a member, any era, please contact me with their name and info. I keep a list of all USS New Jersey crew members that I'm aware of. Sadly, we also need to know if any member or crew member has passed away, please let us know.

Finally, the hotel information for this year's reunion in San Antonio TX is on the web site, rest of the details will be in this bounce edition.

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

## ERA REPRESENTATIVES

**WW II – 1940's**

Paul Robbins 1942-44
(402) 979-1946
Jrobb16715@gmail.com

**KOREA – 1950's**

Max Sharff
(304) 229-8555
mddomenico3@aol.com

**VIETNAM – 1960's**

Thomas Gallucci
(609) 220-5590
tomgallucci4049@yahoo.com

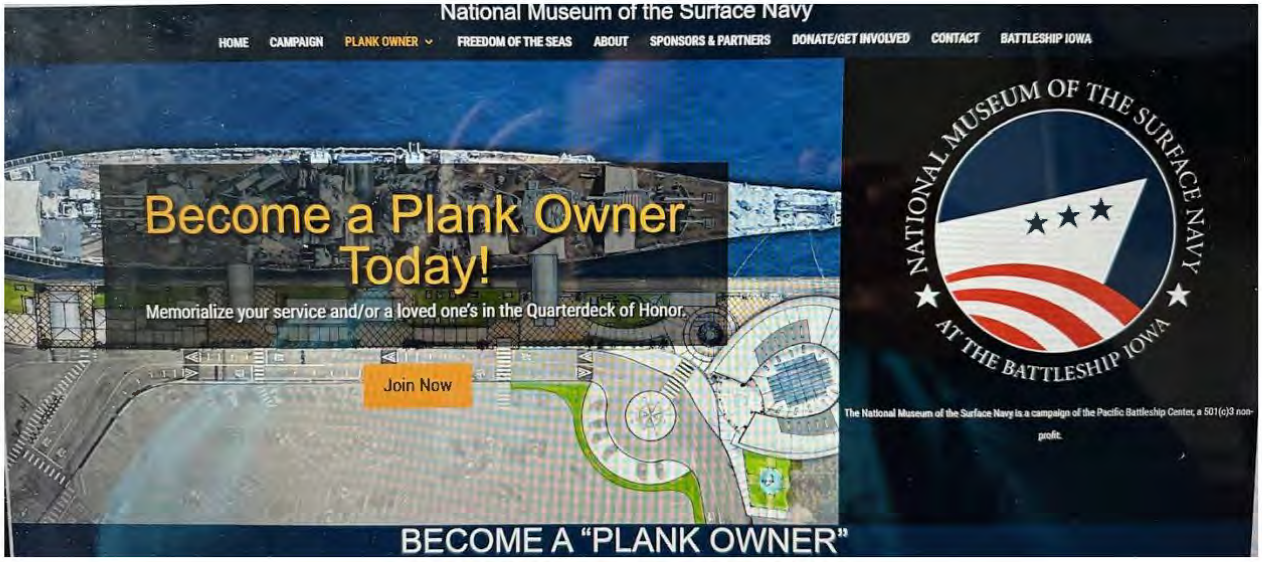
**LEBANON/PERSIAN GULF - 1980'S**

Leon Tucker
(551) 998-6295
ltucker04104@gmail.com

**US MARINE CORP REP**

Michael Goins
(310) 497-5742
usmcmg@aol.com

# National Museum of the Surface Navy




The recently established National Museum of the Surface Navy is starting construction alongside our sister ship the IOWA in San Pedro CA this fall. The website, https://surfacenavymuseum.org provides a complete overview of the museum and its interactive displays from a sailor's life aboard ship to the various ship classes of our Navy over its history. The Museum is offering the opportunity to become a Plank Owner for **FREE** simply by registering on the website. A certificate as a Plank Owner is also provided. Come join with your fellow Surface Navy shipmates and become a Plank Owner of the Museum of the Surface Navy.

# Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

**The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration** was authorized by Congress, established under the secretary of defense and launched by the President in 2012. Its primary purpose, "to thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices".

Truly, we are proud partners with **The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration** and are privileged to honor Vietnam veterans and their families.

We will be holding our last official Vietnam Veterans Commemoration Lapel Pin Ceremony at the reunion in September 2025.

The Vietnam Veteran Commemoration Recognition Committee as organized under the D.O.D. is coming to an end in March of this year, 2025. This was unexpected when announced late last year. Bob Dingman, as committee chairperson, and I, as committee member, were surprised.

Our National Commemoration honors everyone who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces **from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975**. No distinction is being made between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or who were stationed elsewhere during the Vietnam War period**. All were called to serve, none could self-determine where they were stationed, and all were seen in the same way by a country that could not separate the war from the warrior.** Each person who served during this period earned and rightly deserves our profound thanks.

If you served in the military anywhere from **November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975** and plan on attending our reunion in San Antonio TX, you are eligible to receive the **Vietnam Veterans Lapel Pin and Certificate**. Please email me at wbendelow@gmail.com with your name as you want it to appear on your certificate.

I look forward to seeing you at the reunion.

***Wayne Bendelow***
***United States of America***
***Vietnam War Commemoration Partner***
***Committee Member***

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

# VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION

## Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

*"A lasting memento of the Nation's thanks!"*

**Eligibility:**

**Presented to living U.S. veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin.**

**Symbolism:**

- **Eagle** - The eagle represents courage, honor, and dedicated service to our Nation. As one of the most recognizable and notable American symbols, it is emblazoned on numerous military insignia.
- **Blue Circle** - The color blue matches the canton of the American flag and signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice.
- **Laurel Wreath** - A time-honored symbol representing honor and victory.
- **Stripes** - The stripes behind the eagle represent the American flag.
- **Stars** - The six stars represent the six allies who served, sacrificed, and fought alongside one another: the Commonwealth of Australia, the Kingdom of Thailand, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea and the Republic of the Philippines.
- **Message** - "A Grateful Nation Thanks and Honors You" is embossed on the back, closest to the heart of the wearer. The official name of the Commemoration is included to remind each veteran that this is a national initiative.

**August 2023**

*Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!*

vietnamwar50th.com

# State of the Museum Report

Shipmates,

As I write this in mid-February, we are almost through the winter slow season, although they are calling for another big snowstorm later this week. In March the museum has more than 50 guided group tours scheduled, the first month with that many since mid-2019. April and May already look busy too. While things are extremely lean around the museum right now, we are expecting high levels of visitation later this year, especially since the national celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Navy and Marine Corps is happening across the river in Philadelphia this fall.

We have been preparing for the Navy and Marine Corps 250th celebrations for five years now. All our major restoration projects including replacing the teak deck, drydocking, and painting the freeboard have all been done with the intention that the ship will look her best and not need any major maintenance projects during the Fall 2025 celebrations or the summer 2026 national celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the country which will also take place in Philadelphia. We are expecting millions of tourists to be visiting our area and are dedicated to having the ship look her best while they are here.

The museum's most successful marketing has always been word of mouth, that is people excited about their visit posting about what they saw online. Having the ship look her best in 2025 and 2026 when we have increased visitation will help propel our visitation to new heights even after the celebrations are over and will help us fund the next set of projects the museum has to complete.

# State of the Museum Report

Last year was incredibly successful for the restoration of the ship and while we don't want to start any major restoration projects over the next year, we are still looking for ways to continue improving the ship and make her more complete. To this end the Navy let us get on a couple of the mothballed ships at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, USS Whidby Island, USS Fort McHenry, USNS Grapple, and USNS Apache. We removed about 2-tons of equipment valued at $250,000 from those ships but probably the most exciting thing we recovered were 4 MK26 soft mounts for .50cal machine guns. The museum has long had 2 on display at the bow but we wanted to add more. Navy History and Heritage Command shipped us seven demilitarized guns and we had an extra soft mount around so now we have guns on seven of the ship's eight .50cal positions. We just need to find one more $2,600 soft mount to put in the last position. We will still have another gun left over for future use. The next piece we are looking for to display on the ship is one of the late 80s era Pioneer RPV's.

We are also looking for Marine artifacts for a new MARDET exhibit which will be in one of the MARDET berthing spaces at the aft end of Broadway. We have some great collections already and are always looking for more. For that matter, if you have any objects from your time on board the ship be sure to reach out. We would love to add them to the collection for possible inclusion in future exhibits.

Be sure to check the museum's website and various social media accounts for the most up to date information on the ship. We are still posting videos every night at 7pm Eastern on the YouTube channel, YouTube.com/BattleshipNewJersey.

I will see you all on board soon,

Ryan

***Ryan Szimanski***
***Deputy Executive Director of Curatorial and Educational Affairs***
***Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial***
***R.Szimanski@BattleshipNewJersey.org***

# Captain Snyder's Orderly

**(A first-person narrative as told to Wayne Greenleaf)**

Off the coast of Vietnam on 8 October 1968; ***New Jersey's* (BB-62)** Capt. J. Edward Snyder, Jr. (second from left) greets SECNAV Paul R. Ignatius (left) and VADM William F. Bringle (third from left), Com 7th Fleet. Our intrepid hero stands behind VADB Bringle.

I felt very fortunate to be Captain Snyder's orderly for almost 2 years. Here is my story.

One day in late 1967, while we were in Philadelphia, one of the Chiefs in the 4th Division gathered all of the GMs and GM strikers together, saying that he needed two volunteers, one to be the Captain's orderly and one the XO's orderly. Since there were no Marines on board, and the orderly was required to carry a .45, a GM was the best bet. Although I knew better than to volunteer for anything, I was really tired of chipping paint and was willing to listen. The more I heard, the more I liked. When I asked if it involved chipping paint, and the answer I got was "no," I quickly volunteered as the Captain's orderly. When the Chief pointed at me, I knew I got the job. I was told to report to the Captain's cabin Monday morning, in dress blues.

With some trepidation, I reported to the Captain, and we discussed what my duties would be if I were to become his orderly. He explained that I was to follow him around and do what he told me to do. Both I and the Captain liked what we heard, and the Captain appointed me as his orderly - the beginning of an adventure. He pointed to a desk in his cabin and said, "That is your desk." It came equipped with a dial phone with many buttons, with which he or I could ring the office of anyone on the ship. He told me my first task was to get familiar with the ship, which I did. As we began to work together, after I once responded to him saying "Very good, sir," the Captain let me know, very quickly, that in the future, my response to any order he gave me was either, "Aye, aye, sir," or "Yes, sir." As his orderly, I wore a white garrison belt and white lanyard across my chest, attached to my belt, and my .45, and an ammunition pouch.

At first, I was very intimidated – he was the "Lord and master" and was old enough to be my father. He trained me in everything I needed to know. I quickly understood that the job required me to be at the Captain's beck and call. Besides getting tea from the steward assigned to the Captain's cabin (the Captain drank tea by the gallon), I had a myriad of other duties. For example, when the Captain wanted to summon one of the officers to his cabin, I would attempt to find that officer. Once I found, him, I would say, "The Captain sends his compliments and requests your presence in his cabin." Often, that invitation caused concern and trepidation on the part of the officer involved...!

One time I came to the Captain's cabin in dungarees that were a little wrinkled. The Captain told me that I represent him and from now on, I would deliver all of my uniforms to the laundry. It was great – I'd send my uniforms down, and later find them clean, folded, and laying on my bunk. Another time, when I left his cabin for chow, he felt it took me too long to finish and asked me why. I told him that the chow line was very long. He told me, "You're my orderly; you don't stand in line...!" So, from then on, I would go to the head of the line. I'm not sure what my petty officer shipmates thought of that…

We all recall steaming through the Panama Canal and arriving at our homeport of Long Beach. We continued to train, most especially firing the main battery at San Clemente Island for the first time since the ship was commissioned. It was decided

that turret two would be the first to fire. I was on the bridge with the Captain. He was asked whether he wanted the bridge windows up or down. Some discussion followed, the Captain saying, "I don't know; roll them down." So, we rolled them down. When they turret fired, it knocked my hat off, and heavy smoke came into the bridge, causing coughing and sputtering by all on the bridge. The Captain immediately ordered the windows rolled up...!

The ship departed Long Beach on 2 September 1968, sailing later from Subic Bay on 25 September. We arrived off Da Nang on 30 September 1968. Less than one month later, on 26 October, we were attacked by North Vietnam. Thought at first to be dolphins in the water, it was quickly clear that the ship was being bracketed, by, what we found out later, were 155-millimeter shells. The ship came up to speed, unmasked its main battery and fired multiple nine-gun salvos. I remember being on the bridge with the Captain at the time, hearing a spotter exclaim that half of Tiger Island had just fallen into the Gulf of Tonkin…! The Captain encouraged me to look through the "big eyes" on the bridge and see the result of our destruction on the island...it was extensive. I was then ordered to summon the two officers who were on watch in the gun directors at the time of the attack - Ensigns Migrala and Greenleaf - to the Captain's cabin. When they arrived there, the Captain asked how close the fall of shot was to the ship. They answered it was between 25 and 50 yards. The Captain then thought for a minute, and said, "Those rounds didn't come any closer than 500 yards. Do you understand that? 500 yards." They understood…! The Captain wanted to ensure that neither the families of the crew, nor the public, were aware the rounds came as close as they did.

An event that I recall well was the crossing of the equator, on 15 December, and the transformation of a large percentage of the crew - those who weren't already Shellbacks - from pollywogs to Shellbacks, members of the Ancient Order of the Deep. A great day was had by all. I was especially happy about a member of my former division, the 4th Division, becoming Miss New Jersey in King Neptune's Court's beauty contest. Characteristic of Captain Snyder and his love for the New Jersey, at the end of a long day of Shellbacks' high jinks, still in his dress (choker) whites, he was seen personally cleaning some of the debris from the ship's gunwales with his bare hands.

And he loved the crew as much as he loved the ship. Though on most ships, junior officers are assigned to sample the crew's mess, Captain Snyder felt it important enough to take on that duty himself, and he visited the mess decks regularly.

And we all know about the events of 25 December 1968… Bob, Hope, Ann-Margaret, Rosie Grier, Les Brown and his band, and the Golddiggers came aboard to entertain us for Christmas. What a great event. We were fully entertained, despite Bob Hope's being ill during the whole performance. Being with the Captain, I got to shake hands with Bob Hope and actually kiss Ann-Margaret (on the lips…!). Because he was feeling ill, Bob Hope remained on the ship overnight, in the admiral's cabin.

It was very common for very senior officers - admirals and generals - to visit the ship and be awed by its size and firepower. The Captain would greet these visitors, representing many countries in addition to ours, and I would be designated the duty tour guide, since the Captain often wasn't up to it. We toured medical spaces, the mess decks, Broadway, and a turret, among other tourist attractions... The Captain once admonished me to be less nervous around these officers, but it was often intimidating to be touring such senior officers around the ship.

Helicopter pilots loved to come aboard for a number of reasons, including the hot meals they got to eat, sometimes in the Captain's cabin.... And they were welcome, except for the cowboy who landed his copter on the helo deck late on a Sunday afternoon. With no helo detail in place and many crew members lounging on the fantail, the result was to put lives in danger and send many cards and letters and magazines over the side. Using some choice words, the Captain ordered the helo detail set immediately, then, in no uncertain terms, ordered him off our ship. The Captain was just as direct in telling the pilot's boss to "keep that &*%$^&# guy off my ship."

I have heard it said that the story of the Captain having a pool on board was a myth. But all of us know that not only was there a pool in the forward, port gun tub, but the Captain enjoyed a swim in it on a hot Vietnam afternoon.

The Captain often invited Marines and soldiers to leave the jungle for a few hours and come aboard for a hot meal. I often saw them disembark from helos, still with camouflage on their faces and helmets on their heads, some of whom actually kissing the helo deck, feeling very safe, at least for a few hours. Some of them were able even to sleep overnight on the ship. At one point, the Captain was presented with an AK-47 and a piece of shrapnel from one of our 16-inch rounds. It was about 3 to 4 feet long and was extremely heavy. One of those Marines who came aboard characterized the damage from a main battery shell looking like "the result of 1000 lawnmowers, chopping down trees and bush."

After our being on the gunline since September of 1968, in April 1969, we headed East. Homeward bound...! Then, on April 15, the North Koreans shot down an unarmed Navy EC-121 over the Sea of Japan. So, after steaming 6,000 miles of our 8,000 voyage, I watched the Captain order the OOD to reverse course and head, as we later found out, back to the western Pacific. As we came about, many of us watched the carrier group we were accompanying continue on their journey eastward, homebound. It certainly was extremely disappointing to the whole crew, but thankfully we were able to resume our journey east a few weeks later.

Despite my being only his orderly, the captain was always very good to both me, and, when we were in port, his driver. He was great to work for. Once, when we were still in Philadelphia, the Captain was invited to the Governor's mansion,

where the Governor presented the Captain with the New Jersey's silver service. In a typically thoughtful move, he brought his driver and me to the reception with him, and we were honored to meet the Governor. Similarly, later, upon our arrival in Pearl Harbor, the Captain brought his driver and me to the Admiral's reception. Great food…!

We finally arrived back in Long Beach. The Captain was heading to his next duty station. He told me that he was going to be promoted to Rear Admiral, and he wanted me to come along with him and stay on his staff. Despite my tremendous respect for him, and the fact that I didn't have a bad day in all the time I worked for Captain Snyder, it was time for me to leave the Navy, so I was forced to decline his very humbling offer.

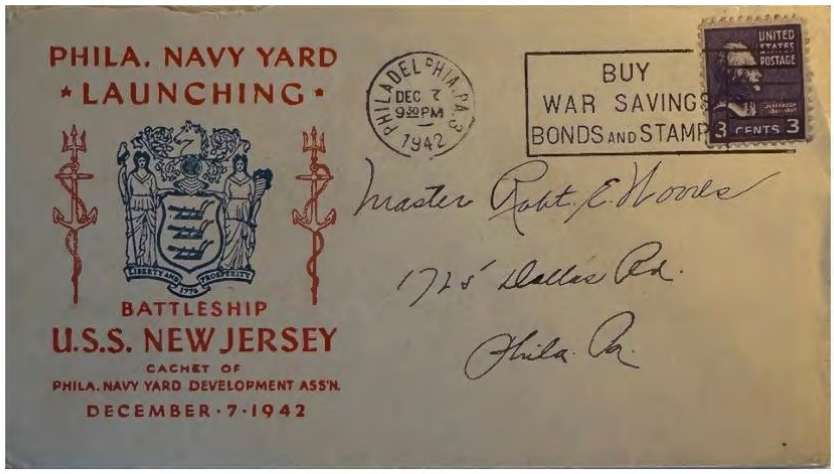
It was truly my privilege to serve the Captain as his orderly for almost two years.

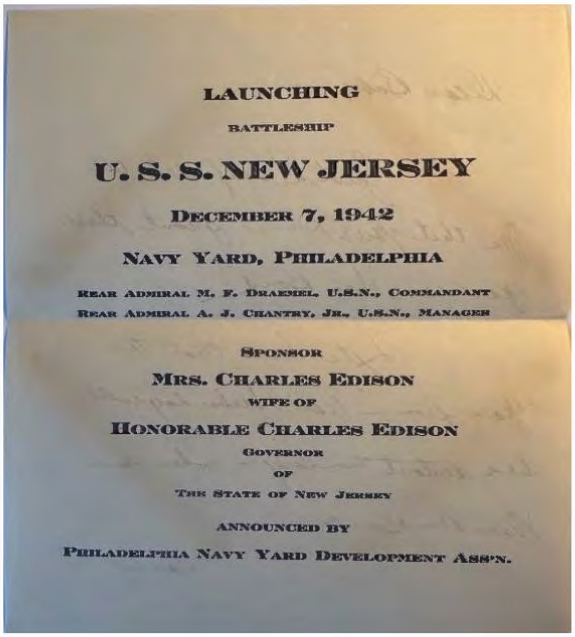
And that's my story...!

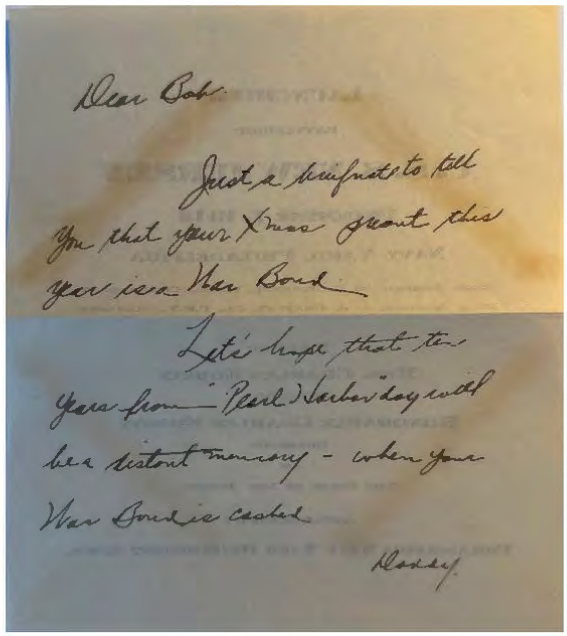
GMGSN Malcolm Drew

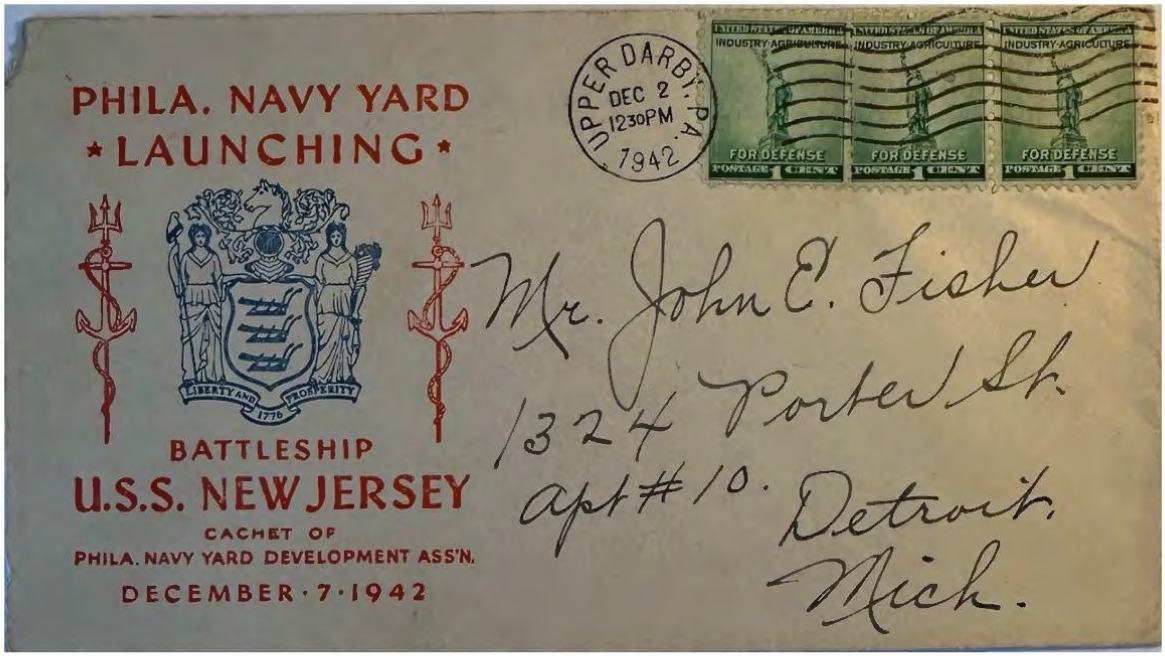
# BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY BB-62 MAIL CALL
## By Michael Holmes

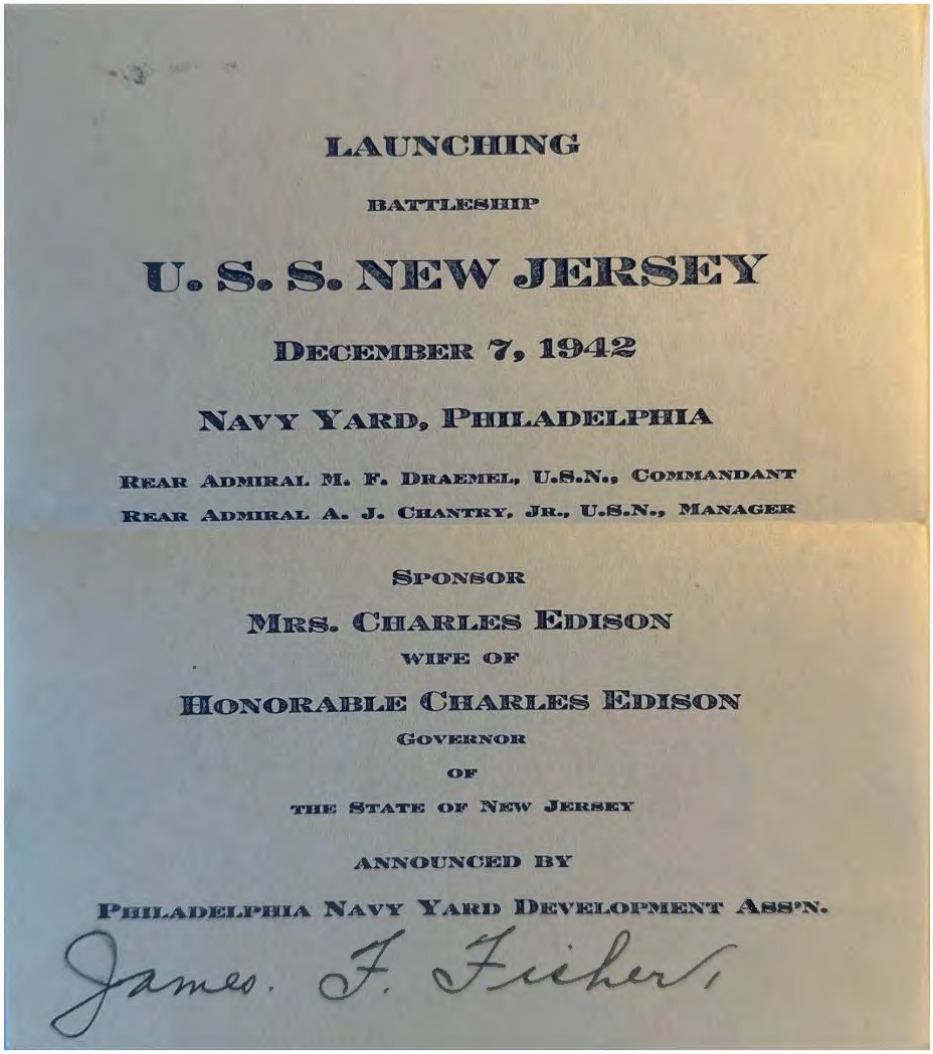
Most people, including veterans and our shipmates, are unfamiliar with postal cachets produced by cachet makers and shipboard postal clerks throughout the ship's years of service to the nation. Having been a stamp collector since my childhood days, it has always been a keen interest of mine as a member of the Universal Ship Cancelation Society. Over the past decade I have been collecting cachets and postmarked mail from USS NEW JERSEY dating from its early launching to its post decommissioning days. My collection now is about 700 strong from 1941 through 1991 but recently I found a priceless artifact from our ships launching quite by accident on eBay. It is a shipmate from the WWII era writing his son on the back of the launching invitation with the letter addressed to his son as "Master". Another letter I uncovered was a son aboard the ship to his father on the same launching invitation where the son signed the invitation. I plan on highlighting some of these rare postal covers in future issues of the bounce. If you are interested in collecting or how you start collecting your era aboard the NEW JERSEY, contact me (Michael Holmes ffg8sailor@gmail.com) for information.





LAUNCHING

BATTLESHIP

U. S. S. NEW JERSEY

DECEMBER 7, 1942

NAVY YARD, PHILADELPHIA

REAR ADMIRAL M. F. DRAEMEL, U.S.N., COMMANDANT

REAR ADMIRAL A. J. CHANTRY, JR., U.S.N., MANAGER

SPONSOR

MRS. CHARLES EDISON

WIFE OF

HONORABLE CHARLES EDISON

GOVERNOR

OF

THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ANNOUNCED BY

PHILADELPHIA NAVY YARD DEVELOPMENT ASS'N.

James. F. Fisher,

# San Antonio

San Antonio - 1886

San Antonio is situated at the headwaters of the San Antonio River on the Balcones Escarpment. Spanish explorers first visited the site, then a camp of the Payaya Indians, in 1691. San Antonio was founded May 1, 1718, when a Spanish expedition from Mexico established the Mission San Antonio de Valero. The mission, later called the Alamo (Spanish for "Cottonwood"), was one of five founded in the area and was named for Saint Anthony of Padua. On May 5 a presidio (military garrison) known as San Antonio de Béxar was established nearby. The site, on the river's west bank, was a stopping place on the trail through the Texas wilderness between missions on the Rio Grande and those in East Texas.

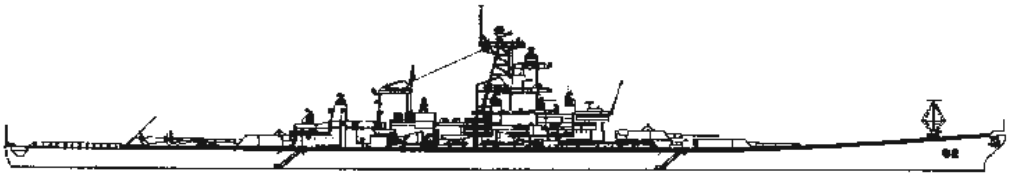
In 1731 settlers from the Canary Islands laid out the town of San Fernando de Béxar near the presidio, where a civilian community had been planned when the presidio and mission were established. During its early years the settlement suffered from frequent raids by Apache and Comanche tribes. San Fernando de Béxar functioned as provincial capital from 1773 to 1824, but in subsequent years its political authority waned. By 1837, when it became a county seat in the Republic of Texas, it had been renamed San Antonio.

At the time of Mexican independence in 1821, San Antonio was, along with Goliad and Nacogdoches, one of three established Spanish communities in Texas. In the summer of that year Stephen Austin arrived in the city—then seat of the Spanish government in Texas—to follow through on a permit obtained by his father for the admission of 300 U.S. families into the territory. In December 1835, at the outset of the Texas Revolution, Texan forces occupied the Alamo. They remained there until March 1836, when they were massacred by Mexican troops under Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna following a 13-day siege. The presidio ceased to exist with the independence of Texas in April.

In 1836 San Antonio was still the foremost city of Texas, with some 2,500 inhabitants. It grew rapidly after independence, led by large numbers of German immigrants. During the last decades of the 19th century, San Antonio, as the starting point for the Chisholm Trail, became a major cattle center, where herds were assembled for the overland drives to the railheads in Kansas.

The city quickly became the commercial hub of the Southwest. The arrival of the first railroad in 1877 brought migrants from the American South, and Mexican immigrants settled there after the start of the Mexican Revolution in 1910. San Antonio was a major military center during World Wars I and II, a factor that continued to dominate its economy in subsequent decades. In 1968 a world's exposition, known as HemisFair, was

held there to commemorate the city's 250th anniversary and to celebrate its cultural ties with Latin America.



**USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

**WHERE:** Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk
217 N. St. Mary's Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

**WHEN:** September 15th – 19th, 2025

**COST:** **One King or Two Queen - $139.00 + tourism fee 1.25%=$141.00 (plus 16.75% taxes)**

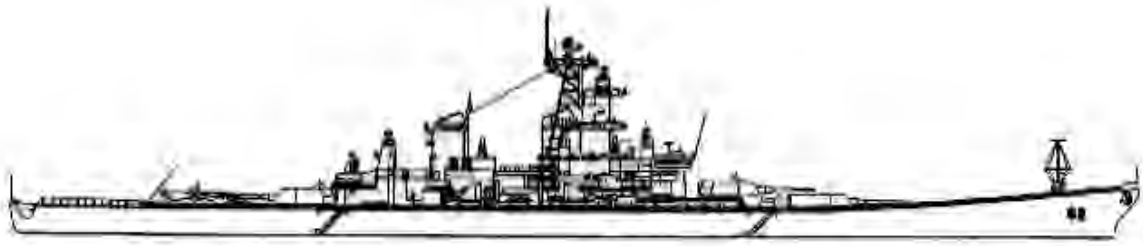
**RESERVATIONS:** 1-210-224-2500 (Hotel Direct)
For group rate reference group code: **NJV**
Online Reservations can be made at the link below which is also available on our website, https://www.ussnewjersey.org

https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&localeCode=en&regionCode=1&hotelCode=SATRW&_PMID=99801505&GPC=NJV&cn=no&viewfullsite=true

**(Once you click on the link it will take you to the hotel website, then enter your arrival & departure dates, and it will automatically populate our group name and discounted group rate $141.00)**

- Reservations received after 11:59PM(CDT), August 17, 2025, may not qualify for the group rate.
- Group rate is available from 9/12 - 9/18, plus 3 days pre and post.
- ADA rooms are available upon request.
- Individuals may cancel reserved rooms up to 48 hours prior to arrival without penalty.
- Full breakfast buffet $20 pp, (discounted from $25.47 pp)
- 10% discount at Windows on the River Restaurant (except alcohol).
- Overnight Parking $20 per day (discounted from $34)
- Complimentary WIFI in guest rooms and meeting spaces.

- Service pets only.
- Check In Time: 4:00 PM, Check Out Time: 11:00AM



# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

## Airport - Hotel Ground Transportation

Upon arrival at the San Antonio Airport, retrieve your luggage at baggage claim and follow the signs to Ground Transportation.

Due to variation in aircraft arrival times, there might be a wait. Van/Limousine services are available. There is a list of companies on the San Antonio Airport website.

**Airport Taxi**
Fares to San Antonio downtown areas start at $24.00 plus tip.
If there are several people in your group using a standard taxi could be a cost savings.

| | |
|---|---|
| Star Taxi – 210-444-1111 | Arrow Cab – 210-444-2222 |
| National Cab - 210-434-4444 | Yellow Cab Taxi – 210-222-2222 |
| AAA Taxi Service – 210-599-1111 | Towne Car Taxi – 210-826-8274 |

If you call ahead, give them your name, arrival date and time and flight number and they can have a cab waiting for you upon arrival. There are not always cabs waiting at the airport at all times of the day and night.

**Super Shuttle**
Fares to San Antonio downtown start at $26.00 plus tip
After claiming your luggage, check-in at the Super Shuttle ticket counter located in the baggage claim areas of both airport terminals. If you require assistance, please call 800-258-3826.

**Uber** and **Lyft** are also available, for those who use these services.

Hotel Address: Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk
217 N St. Mary's Street
San Antonio, TX 78205

# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION - Plan of the Week

**Monday, September 15, 2025 – Check in Day**

| | |
|---|---|
| 0900 | Registration, Hospitality Room (Skyline Atrium, 7th Floor) |
| 1400 | Board of Directors Meeting (Rumba Room, 7th Floor) |
| 1630 | Registration and Hospitality Room closes |
| 1830 | Doors Open for Welcome Aboard Dinner, cash Bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor) |
| 1900 | Welcome Aboard Dinner |
| 2000 | Scholarship Auction commences |

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

| | |
|---|---|
| 0900 | Memorial Service (Tango Room, 7th Floor)<br>Taps played by IC2 John King, Vietnam Era Veteran<br><br>After the Memorial Service ends, Hospitality Room opens (Skyline Atrium, 7th Floor).<br>Free day for everyone. Explore and enjoy the many sites of San Antonio.<br>**Lunch and dinner on your own.** |
| 2200 | Hospitality Room closes |

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

| | |
|---|---|
| 0800 | Board buses for Fredericksburg to Tour the National Museum of the Pacific War |
| 0830 | Buses depart from Hotel for Museum – lunch is on your own |
| 0900 | Hospitality Room opens |
| 1430 | Buses depart from Admiral Nimitz Gallery and arrive back at hotel approx. 1600 |
| 2200 | Hospitality Room closes |

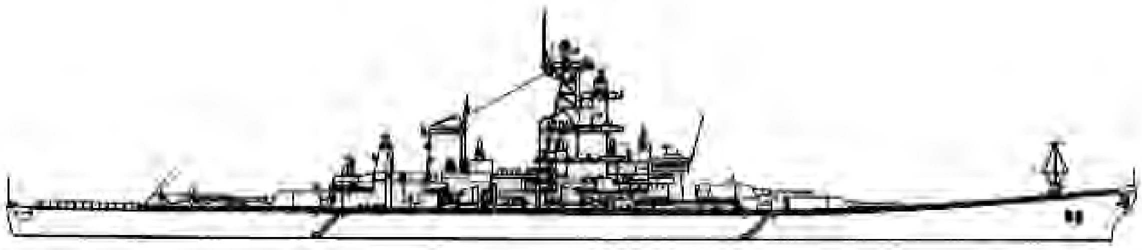
**Thursday, September 18, 2025**

| | |
|---|---|
| 0900 | General Membership Business Meeting (Tango Room 4, 7th Floor) |
| 1100 | Hospitality Room opens |
| 1500 | Hospitality Room closes |
| 1800 | Group pictures by Bill Romer (Skyline Atrium, 7th Floor) |
| 1830 | Doors open for Dinner Dance Banquet, cash bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor) |
| 1900 | Dinner Dance Banquet |

**Friday, September 19, 2025**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1100 | Hotel checkout time |

**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME, SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA**



# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

## WELCOME ABOARD DINNER

Monday, September 15, 2025

1830 Doors open, cash bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor)
1900 Dinner Commences

**Plated Dinner Menu**

Riverwalk tossed salad,
Chef's choice selected starch, vegetable, dessert and warm dinner rolls with sweet butter rosettes. Served with iced tea on the table, water and fresh brewed regular and decaffinated coffee.

**Entrée Choices**

Chicken Picatta
Lightly breaded boneless chicken breast topped with a lemon caper butter sauce

Seared Porterhouse Pork Chop
Texas sized pork chops seared and topped with red eyed gravy

Garden Vegetable Ravioli with red pepper basil sauce

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An Auction for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund
will commence immediately after dinner.
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

## AUCTION NIGHT

**Monday, September 15, 2025**

Following our Welcome Aboard dinner, an auction will be held to provide for our scholarship fund which supports our young future leaders.

All things USS New Jersey, U.S Navy, or Patriotic are needed for the auction. Past donated items have been unique and one of kind that have been made by your fellow ship mates and/or spouses. If you have any items to donate, please bring them to the reunion. If you can't attend, but you have items to donate, please contact:

Chuck Oehme

1619 Fair Oaks Street

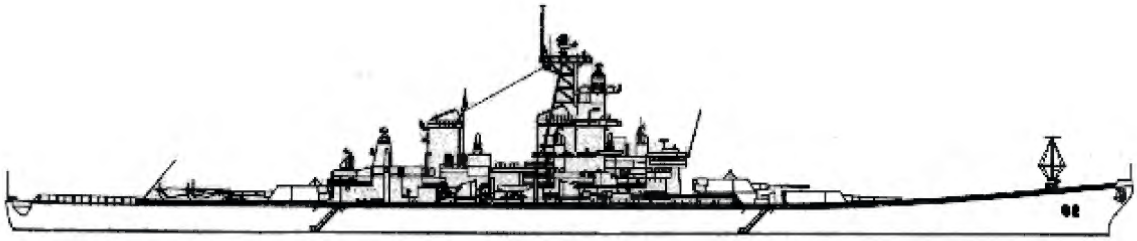
El Lago, TX 77586-5922

Email: chelaine@comcast.net

Phone: (281) 910-6808

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

After the Memorial Service ends, Tuesday is a free day for everyone. Explore and enjoy the many sites of San Antonio. San Antonio is the top destination for free activities. Explore The Alamo, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, San Fernando Cathedral and walk the San Antonio River Walk and so much more. Download the San Antonio Official Visitor's Guide at www.visitsanantonio.com/things-to-do.



# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

## National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, Texas

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Cost: $45.00 Includes transportation and admission to all buildings, galleries and exhibits.

Lunch is on your own – there are many eating establishments outside the front door on Main Street. No food or drinks (except water) is allowed in the museum.

***** EVENT CUT-OFF DATE IS AUGUST 10TH, 2025 *****

**0830 Depart the Holiday Inn Riverwalk**

**1430 Buses Depart from Admiral Nimitz Gallery back to hotel approximately 1600**

The National Museum of the Pacific War located in Fredericksburg, Texas, is the boyhood home of Fleet Admiral Chester W Nimitz. Admiral Nimitz served as Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet and was then named Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean during World War II.

The Museum shows what it was like to battle in the Pacific Islands replicating numerous aspects of the terrain, trenches and fortified cave positions that the Japanese had created to battle US Forces on the Pacific Islands. Presentations at the

Pacific Combat Zone include weapons and vehicles used during the Island-Hopping campaign that allied forces mounted.

The Children's Exhibit depicts World War II on the home front in the United States through the eyes of children. In the exhibit, visitors have opportunities to ponder not only the sacrifices made by children on the home front during the war but also their resilience. Featuring three vignettes - a rural scene, a city scene, and one of an internment camp- visitors get a glimpse of growing up under the cloud of war and a variety of interactive opportunities. The vignettes vary from a cotton farm in Texas to a street in south Chicago, to an internment camp in Wyoming for Japanese Americans. Within each setting, visitors will get a sense of what American children faced on the home front by encountering a virtual child, which serves as an introduction to the space.

The Iwo Jima exhibit tells the story behind the iconic photo of the flag-raising on Mt. Suribachi, learn about the significance of capturing that volcanic mass and the unique challenges of the horrific 36-day battle. The exhibit includes an M2-2 flamethrower, a weapon instrumental in our Iwo Jima victory.

The Japanese Garden of Peace is a gift from the people of Japan to the people of the United States and symbolizes the friendship between these two countries. Completed in 1976, the Garden celebrates the mutual respect between two great naval heroes: Japanese Admiral Heihachiro Togo and American Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. The garden displays not only symbols and traditional values common in Japanese gardens but also contains unique elements that embody the Pacific Ocean and the themes of the Museum.

The Pearl Harbor exhibit tells the story of the attack on Pearl Harbor and how it brought our nation into the war.

Visit the museum website for more information about the museum and current exhibits https://www.pacificwarmuseum.org/visit/exhibits

# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

## Dinner Dance Banquet

Thursday, September 18, 2025

1800 Group pictures taken by William Romer
1830 Doors Open, cash bar (Tango Rooms, 7th Floor)
1900 Dinner Commences

**Plated Dinner Menu**

Riverwalk Tossed Salad

Chef's selection of starch, vegetables and desserts.

Warm dinner rolls and sweet butter rosettes

**Entrée Choices**

Chicken Roulade Florentine

French split boneless chicken breast lightly breaded and stuffed with fire roasted bell peppers, feta cheese and spinach with a rosemary white wine cream reduction

Fire Grilled Sirloin Filet

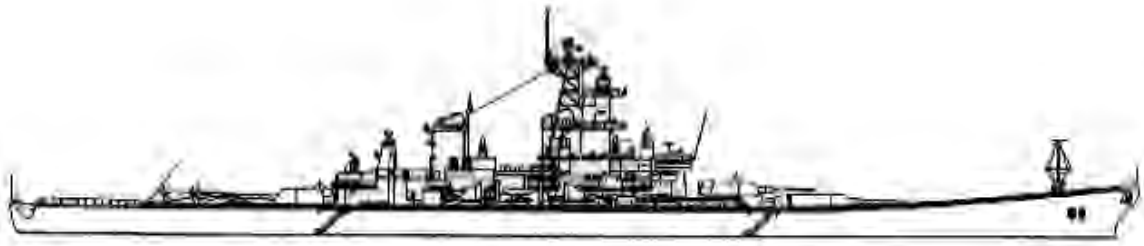
Char grilled Top Sirloin seasoned in olive oil, sea salt and freshly cracked black pepper

Seared Salmon

Atlantic Salmon filet lightly seasoned, seared and topped with a lemon dill beurre blanc

Vegetable Wellington with demi sauce

Ice Water, Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaffeinated coffee



# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

# 38th ANNUAL REUNION

## INFORMATION FOR DINNER GROUP SEATING

**PLEASE COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Paid dinner reservations must be made prior to requesting group seating.
2. Dinner seating requests will be accepted between June 19 – August 10, 2025.
3. A separate request is required for each dinner, Monday and Thursday.
4. **Please include a note if space for wheelchair seating is needed.**
5. When requesting group seating, including family members or friends, only ONE PERSON per group should apply. Please list all individuals by name.

   Check to ensure that everyone within the group has made reservations and paid for their dinner prior to making seating requests. This will reduce, or eliminate confusion when individuals within a group either have not made reservations or make the reservations at the last minute.

   ***NO TABLE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE MADE UNTIL EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP HAS MADE THEIR DINNER RESERVATIONS.***
6. Seating requests can be made through E-Mail, telephone, or letter. Messages left on an answering machine are not always reliable.
7. Send the names of all the individuals to the seating coordinator **(8 people per table)**.
8. Please submit your reunion event registration and seating requests by the posted deadline. We will make every effort to accommodate your request, however we cannot guarantee your group seating if your request is received after the deadline.

**Michael Ales, Seating Coordinator**
**38 Elliott Road, Trumbrill, CT 06611-2245**
**Phone: 203-556-1570**
**Email: mike.ales80@gmail.com**

# USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

## 38th Annual Reunion Events Reservation Form

**Refer to the Plan of the Week for event start times**

**Welcome Aboard Dinner – Monday, September 15, 2025 – Tango Rooms, 7th Floor**

____ Chicken Plicata ____ Seared Porterhouse Pork Chop ____ Garden Vegetable Ravioli (vegetarian)

_____ People @ $65.00/person $ _____

---

**National Museum of the Pacific War – Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

____ People @ $46.00/person $ _____ **** Lunch and Dinner are on your own ****

---

**Dinner Dance Banquet – Thursday, September 18, 2025 – Tango Rooms, 7th Floor**

____ Chicken Roulade Florentine ____ Fire Grilled Sirloin Filet ____ Seared Salmon

____ Vegetable Wellington (vegetarian) _____People @ $78.00/person $ _____

---

**Reunion T-Shirt and Fees**

_____S_____ M_____L _____ XL @ $12.00 ea. ..... $ _____

_____2XL_____ 3XL_____ 4XL @ $14.00 ea. ..... $ _____

**50/50 TICKETS** (Please include ticket stubs)..... $ _____

If you forgot to pay **2024 dues**, you can pay that now $25.00 $ _____

**Registration Fee** _____ People @ $20/person ..... $ _____

**Registration Fee is per person and required for ANY or all events*

**LATE Registration Fee** _____ People @ $5/person..... $ _____

**An additional fee is due if the Registration Form is postmarked or emailed after August 10, 2025. Total late registration is $25 per person.*

**Total Amount Enclosed for all Events $_____**

**REGISTRATION FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE**

**Please provide the following and please print:**

NAME: _____ SPOUSE/GUEST: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ERA: _____ DIVISION: _____ DATE SERVED: _____

PHONE:_____ EMAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ PHONE: _____

Please note if you are confined to a wheelchair and a bus lift is required_____

**FINAL CUT OFF- DATE AUGUST 10, 2025**

**Mail registration form and check payable to:** USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

To pay by using PayPal or Zelle, send the payment to bb62veterans@gmail.com. To pay by credit card, ApplePay or GooglePay, check here ____ and we will send an electronic invoice to the email address above with a secure link to our credit card processor. ***Mail or Email registration form to the address listed below:***

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. c/o Mr. Phillip Tasker, Treasurer
7526 14th Lane, Vero Beach, FL 32966-1200 or Email: bb62veterans@gmail.com

# REUNION NAME PLATE ORDER FORM

Mark your required History String(s):

| 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 | _____ |
| Daytona Beach FL | 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 | _____ |
| San Diego, CA | 2019 | _____ |
| Oklahoma City, OK | 2021 | _____ |
| Cherry Hill NJ | 2022 | _____ |
| Charleston SC | 2023 | _____ |
| Cherry Hill NJ | 2024 | _____ |
| San Antonio TX | 2025 | _____ |

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

Complete this section if you need name plates.

____ Crew Member Name Plate

____ Associate Member Name Plate

All name Plates are 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:

Name tags are $20.00 each
History Strings are $9.00 each

**Make checks payable to USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc and mail this order form to:**

Mike Schappaugh
3540 16th Street No.
Saint Petersburg, FL 33704
Phone: 727-415-5798
sixpaca12@yahoo.com

**If you would like to pay by using PayPal or Zelle forward the payment to bb62veterans@gmail.com. If you would like to pay by credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay, check here ____ and we will send you an electronic invoice with a secure link to our credit card processor via the e-mail address below.**

**E-Mail:** _____

**Regardless of payment method, please mail this registration form to the address above.**

# USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.
# Scholarship Application Eligibility Requirements

The USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. awards three (3) $1000 college scholarships each year. One of the scholarships is the Richard Esser Scholarship, presented in honor of a former outstanding member. The winners will be selected by a committee appointed by the President. All applicants will be notified of their final status by the President.

**Complete application must be submitted via US Mail and postmarked no later than JUNE 1ST.**

Eligibility Requirements:

**1.** Sponsor shall be a former crewmember of the USS New Jersey and current member in good standing (dues shall be paid up-to-date) of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
**2.** Sponsor shall be a member in good standing of the USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc. for 24 months prior to the deadline date for submission of the application they are sponsoring.
**3.** A sponsor who is recently deceased shall be considered a member in good standing for the period of 12 months from their date of death. Please provide a copy of sponsors obituary.
**4.** Applicant shall be the descendant (child, grandchild, or great-grandchild) of a qualified sponsor. Stepchildren shall also qualify.
**5.** Applicant shall be entering their first year of college, or trade school, for undergraduate studies.
**6.** Scholarship funds will be paid directly university, college, or trade schools applicant attends.
**7.** Documentation and photos submitted will not be returned.
**8.** Descendants of the current Scholarship Committee members are not eligible.
**9.** Application Forms are available for download on our website, www.ussnewjersey.org

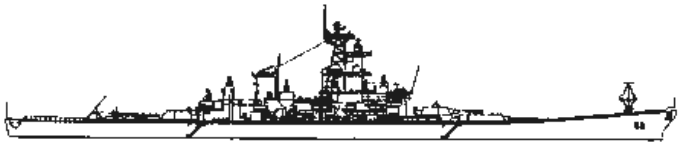
Application and Submission Checklist:

**1.** [ ] Complete all three (3) application forms. (Part 1, Part 2a & Part 2b)
**2.** [ ] Applicants personal handwritten essay with college and career goals and ambitions. (200 words max)
**3.** [ ] Applicants personal resume.
**4.** [ ] High school transcript, latest available.
**5.** [ ] Recommendation letter from guidance counselor.
**6.** [ ] Two additional letters of academic recommendation.
**7.** [ ] Provide graduation or senior photograph.
**8.** [. ] Obituary of sponsor if deceased.

Application Submission:

**1.** Mail complete application, including all items notes above, postmarked on or before June 1st. Transcripts and recommendation letters may be mailed separately, if the sender desires, but the deadline still applies.
**2.** Application package shall be mailed to:

Michael Holmes, President
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
6110 Windward Drive
Burke, VA 22015



# USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
# Scholarship Application – Part 1

**APPLICANT PERSONAL INFORMATION**

NAME_____ DOB_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ ST_____ ZIP CODE_____

PHONE NO._____EMAIL_____

FATHERS NAME_____

PHONE NO._____EMAIL_____

MOTHERS NAME_____

PHONE NO._____ EMAIL_____

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

**USS NEW JERSEY VETERAN SPONSOR INFORMATION**

VETERANS NAME _____

ADDRESS_____

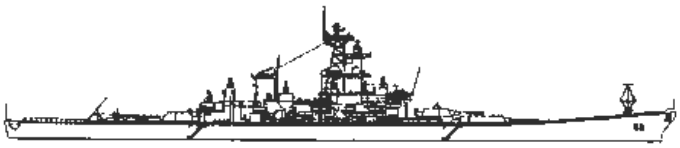
CITY_____ ST_____ ZIP CODE_____

PHONE NO._____EMAIL_____

YEARS SERVED ON USS NEW JERSEY, FROM _____ TO _____

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT _____

IF VETERAN IS DECEASED, PROVIDE DATE OF DEATH _____



# USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

## Scholarship Application – Part 2a

HIGH SCHOOL_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ ST_____ ZIP CODE_____

YEARS ATTENDED: FROM _____ TO _____

SCHOLASTIC HONORS_____

_____

_____

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

_____

_____

_____

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS_____

_____

_____

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES_____

_____

_____

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE_____

_____

_____

ARE YOU WORKING THIS SUMMER? _____ WHERE? _____

POSITION AND DUTIES _____

# USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.
# Scholarship Application – Part 2b

COLLEGES YOU HAVE APPLIED TO ________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

PLANNED MAJOR _________________________________________________________

COLLEGE YOU HOPE TO ATTEND ____________________________________________

HAVE YOU BEEN ACCEPTED? _________ WILL YOU BE ATTENDING? _________

IF YOU HAVE FORMALLY COMMITTED, PLEASE PROVIDE THE ADDRESS OF THE BURSAR'S OFFICE AND YOUR STUDENT ID NUMBER, IF KNOWN. THIS INFORMATION CAN BE PROVIDED AT A LATER DATE, IF YOU ARE SELECTED FOR A SCHOLARSHIP.

BURSAR'S OFFICE________________________________________________________

ADDRESS_______________________________________________________________

CITY______________________________________ ST________ ZIP CODE____________

STUDENT ID NUMBER: ____________________________________________________

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<u>COMMITTEE USE ONLY</u>

COMMITTEE MEMBER ________________________ APPLICANT RANKING _______

COMMITTEE MEMBER ________________________ APPLICANT RANKING _______

COMMITTEE MEMBER ________________________ APPLICANT RANKING _______

REMARKS _______________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________
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# USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

| Name | Division | Era | Hometown |
|---|---|---|---|
| Karl Alizade | 2nd & 6th | Vietnam | Lady Lake. FL |
| George Balog | C | Korea | Pine Knoll Shores, NC |
| Joseph V. Blanks | 6th | Vietnam | Graham, NC |
| Bernard R. Boylan | Unknown | Korea | Glen Ellyn, IL |
| Frank T. Bozek | Unknown | WWII | Houston, PA |
| Donald Allen Brown | A | 80's | Benton City, WA |
| Robert "Bob" J. Brown | Q | Korea | North Vernon, IN |
| Andrew Allen Brumback | G-4 | 80's | Louisville, KY |
| James Joseph Bunkers | CMDMC | 80's | Hemet, CA |
| James Martin Burke | B | Korea | Warminster, PA |
| Raymond J. Chapdelaine | Q | Korea | Webster, MA |
| John Edwin Childs | M | Korea | Romney, WV |
| John Wesley Clark, Jr | Unknown | WWII | Sebring, FL |
| Jack Goldston Cranford | MARDET | WWII | Concord, NC |
| William A. Deak | Unknown | Korea | Northfield, OH |
| Lawrence Karl DeLong | Unknown | Korea | Brick, NJ |
| Robert William Dierking | EX | WWII | Pleasant Hill, MO |
| Garveese Dillon | EX | Korea | Meadville, MS |
| James Leroy Duffin II | B | 80's | Kelso, WA |
| James J. Duffy | B | Korea | Springwater, NY |
| David Wayne Eckiwaudah | Unknown | 80's | Lawton, OK |

# USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

| Name | Division | Era | Hometown |
|---|---|---|---|
| Francis E. "Bud" Evans | 5th | Korea | Moscow, PA |
| Eugene Joseph Field | E | Korea | Bergenfield, NJ |
| Thomas A. Flynn | B | WWII | West Palm Beach, FL |
| Joseph E. Gallienne Jr. | M | Korea | Huntington, NY |
| William Douglas Galvin | Unknown | WWII | Eaton Rapids, MI |
| Kenneth Heisey Gibson | X | Vietnam | Oxford, MD |
| Elihu Jacob Gorodesky | Unknown | WWII | Philadelphia, PA |
| Ronald Emerson Gossett | B | Vietnam | Ashland City, TN |
| Donald William Gray | Unknown | Korea | Burton, MI |
| Joseph Henry Haas | R | Korea | New Canaan, CT |
| Christopher Clinton Harrison | Unknown | WWII | Ellington, MO |
| Henry Jacob Hartman | E | Korea | Lansdowne, MD |
| Cleatis Harvey | Unknown | WWII | Port Wentworth, GA |
| Carl Edward Heiden | K | Korea | New Braunfels, TX |
| Ralph Leonard Henderson | Unknown | Korea | Spring Hill, FL |
| John Edward Henry | A | Korea | Maryville, TN |
| Robert F. Hensel | S-3 | Korea | West Deer Township, PA |
| Bert F. Hill | 2nd | Korea | Utica, NY |
| Jimmy Lee Hill | Unknown | Vietnam | Royston, GA |
| VADM Carl holden | Captain | WWII | St. Albans, NY |
| Chester David Hollembeak, Jr. | X | 80's | Rockville, MD |

# USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

| Name | Division | Era | Hometown |
|---|---|---|---|
| Joseph Hopkins | 5th | WWII | Hainesport, NJ |
| Thomas R. Ihnken | N | Korea | Pompton Plains, NJ |
| Mark Harig Jansa | E | 80's | North Port, FL |
| Harold J. "Doc" Jarvis | S | WWII | Ventura, CA |
| John P. Jenkins | W | Vietnam | Lady Lake, FL |
| William Edward Johnston | 2nd | Vietnam | The Villages, FL |
| John W. "Jack" Johnston | E | Vietnam | Lake Lure, NC |
| Harry Mauvy Jones | GM | WWII | Houston, TX |
| Ora W. "Bill" Jones | Unknown | WWII | Gas City, IN |
| Richard F. Kampf | Unknown | Vietnam | Ocala, FL |
| William Stanley Kapushinski | 2nd | Korea | Sterling Heights, MI |
| John S. Keller | X | Korea | Southington, CT |
| Larry Guy Kindt | 1st | 80's | Ossineke, MI |
| William Roland Kroah | FA | 80's | Mountlake Terrace, WA |
| Walter Kroptavich Jr. | S-1 | 80's | Rochester, NH |
| Don Allen LaChance | FA | Vietnam | Newport News, VA |
| Howard H. LaFianza | T | Korea | West Mifflin, PA |
| Leroy Kenneth Joseph Langlois | Unknown | WWII | Pensacola, FL |
| John G. Laputka | N | Korea | Ocala, FL |
| Warren G. "Boz" Latislaw | E | WWII | Constantine, MI |
| Robert Eugene Lavender | Unknown | WWII | Oklahoma City, OK |
| Richard "Dick" LeBrun | Unknown | Korea | Taunton, MA |

# USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

| Name | Division | Era | Hometown |
|---|---|---|---|
| Richard Leigh Ledwidge | Unknown | WWII | Mojave, CA |
| Joseph J. Lelio | C | Korea | Rochester, NY |
| Richard J. Logan | FA | Vietnam | Northampton, NY |
| John Edward Mares III | M | 80'S | Chesapeake, VA |
| Alfred William Michalowski | E | Korea | Fremont, NH |
| RADM Richard D. Milligan | Captain | 80's | Chesapeake, VA |
| Kenneth George Murley | EX | Korea | Tocco, GA |
| Daniel Muzechenko | Unknown | WWII | Aumsville, OR |
| James E. Parman | B | Korea | Kingsport, TN |
| Charles Donald Partain, Sr | Unknown | Korea | Sanford, FL |
| Scott Parvino | FM | 80's | Avinger, TX |
| Louis C. Petrone | Unknown | Vietnam | Glendale, RI |
| Gene Popovnak | Unknown | Korea | Youngstown, OH |
| George William Poznich | R | Korea | Houston, TX |
| Stanley Norman Reyan | E | Vietnam | Rocky Point, NY |
| Raymond C. Richards | FM | WWII | Colonia, NJ |
| Darrell Lee Richardson | FA | 80's | Pocomoke City, MD |
| Fredrick S. "Fred" Ridder | Unknown | Korea | Alexander, IL |
| Lonnie D. Risseeuw | M | Vietnam | Roseburg, OR |
| Joseph Louis Rocco | E | WWII | Willoughby, OH |
| John Francis Russo | S-2 | Vietnam | Stamford, CT |
| Harold Schumacher | M | Korea | Port Charlotte, FL |

# USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

| Name | Division | Era | Hometown |
|---|---|---|---|
| Norman R. Schwendler | OC | 80's | Anaheim, CA |
| Robert R. "Bob" Slocum | 7th | WWII | Muskegon, MI |
| Carl Theodore Solberg | Staff | WWII | Mount Vernon, NY |
| Mortimer N. Stein | CR | WWII | Bennington, VT |
| Daniel F. Stipicevich | N | Korea | Burlingame, CA |
| John E. Thomas | FA | Korea | Wilkins Twp, PA |
| Timothy Thomas Gerald Tracy | Unknown | 80's | Butte, MT |
| Andrew T. Trimmel | 2nd | WWII | Lorain, OH |
| William John Troyanos | Q | Vietnam | Beverly Hills, FL |
| Joseph Paul Vaccarella | 7th | Korea | Fairfield, CT |
| Robert Vermilyea | Unknown | WWII | Waterford, NY |
| Robert W. Walters | N | Korea | Cinnaminson, NJ |
| Ray Walton | H | Korea | Bismark, ND |
| James Arthur "Bill" Watson | Unknown | WWII | Kilgore, TX |
| Wilbur E. Welch | 6th | Korea | Spring Mills, PA |
| Lee M. White | Unknown | WWII | Kingsport, TN |
| Dale Witt | A | Korea | Nora Springs, IA |
| Gordon F. Wolfe | Unknown | Korea | Springfield, MA |
| William R. Wrape | Lt | Korea | Little Rock, AR |
| Myron "Mike" Michael Zajkowski | Unknown | Korea | Longwood, FL |
| Michael L. Zinke | M | Vietnam | Waterford, WI |

# USS New Jersey BB-62 Welcome Aboard New Members

| Name | Division | Era | Hometown |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pamela Ales | | Associate | Trumbull, CT |
| Derek L. Farthing | | Associate | Jersey City, NJ |
| Ben Guillen | R | Vietnam | Corpus Christi, TX |

# Alternative Payment Options

The organization has worked to expand payment options for Ship's Store purchases, Reunion registrations and Membership Dues. We can now accept payment through PayPal, Zelle, and by credit card, Apple Pay, and Google Pay.

You can make payment through PayPal or Zelle by e-mailing the payment to

**bb62veterans@gmail.com**

Credit card, Apple Pay and Google Pay remittances can be made by requesting to be invoiced. We will send an electronic invoice that can be paid securely through *Square*, a national payment processor.

***REGARDLESS OF METHOD, PLEASE NOTE WHETHER THE PAYMENT IS FOR SHIP'S STORE, REUNION, OR MEMBERSHIP.***

**Editor's Note:**

**The above is a picture of a wonderful painting by James Flood showing the three iterations of the USS New Jersey that appeared on the cover of the Fall Bounce. The Editor was remiss in not acknowledging the artist and the USS New Jersey Veterans apologize for this oversight.**

**James Flood (jamesaflood.com) is a renowned artist who specializes in nautical subjects. He was also a USS New Jersey veteran serving during the Vietnam Era. Jim's paintings can be viewed throughout the world in galleries, museums, ships, private collections, books and magazines.**