

THE JERSEY BOUNCE

USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

WWW.USSNEWJERSEY.ORG

Volume XLI No. 1 Spring 2026

President: Michael Holmes Vice President: Hector Tellez



Omaha Nebraska
2026 Reunion Venue

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Decoration</u>
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, I hope this finds you all well and enjoying our “wonderful” winter weather after the holidays with family and friends.

What a terrific reunion we had in San Antonio! The hotel on the Riverwalk was especially wonderful as we ventured out to superb eateries every evening and enjoyed such attractions as the lighted horse drawn carriages and the Alamo. We had a great time together on the 7th floor in the hospitality area telling sea stories (some almost true), eating too much and attending the opening night dinner/auction (Ray Kehoe and Randy Bergman presiding), which raised a fantastic amount for our scholarship program thanks to Dave Wasmer’s teak originals and some wonderful donations from our fellow shipmates! We also had a memorable memorial service honoring our fallen shipmates and final gala dinner.

Our trip to the Pacific War Museum turned out to be a great venue in Fredericksburg, home of FADM Nimitz. And who would have thought we would meet up with a docent (Bob Liam) who was the 4th commissioning Turret 2 Officer! We were also able to watch a particularly moving burial ceremony at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. The reunion also attracted numerous other shipmates who live in the San Antonio area who stopped by and enjoyed their time with us.

This year we will celebrate in Paul Robbins’ (our 100-year-old plank owner) hometown of Omaha! What’s in Omaha you ask? The Union Pacific Train Museum, the SAC Aerospace Museum, the new Vietnam Memorial, the Omaha Memorial Park, the best American Zoo voted 2 years running with an arboretum adjacent to the zoo, the magnificent Joslyn Art Gallery, the Old Market part of town and Boys Town. We have already planned numerous events in and around Omaha so start your travel planning now. The Marriott Regency is under contract (make sure you mention the USS NEW JERSEY Vets when making reservations) to get the special rate of \$119/night (plus tax). **JOIN US!**

During the General Business Meeting we covered a variety of topics including the status of the ship improvements (the teak decking being almost complete), preparations for the Navy’s 250th birthday, our volunteer week in April 25 where we chipped out and repainted the inside of Turret 1 and future volunteer activities, we are planning to participate in aboard our ship.

Several major areas covered were how to increase our membership rolls and the location of future reunions. After a great deal of discussion and reviewing the actual data from the last 14 years of reunions, we voted to return to the ship in 2027 and 2028 (for elections) for the reunions after Omaha. Members also approved returning to the ship on an every other year basis, vice every 4 years, to encourage maximum participation as shipboard reunions draw the largest crowds by far. We also tasked our shipmates with bringing in more of the thousands of the 80’s shipmates into the organization. This change will also allow the submarine NEW JERSEY crew to more easily participate in being on the East Coast in Norfolk. We are already looking for new venues in the Philadelphia area while there, the possibility of our reunion dinner catered aboard the ship and having a volunteer workday with a meet the “sailors who served day” during our time aboard. The Board also approved funding and funded \$1250 of the remaining \$2500

already raised by shipmate donations to have the USS NEW JERSEY Veterans Inc. identified as a sponsor at the Surface Navy Museum in San Pedro CA. It will list our organization below the silhouette of the IOWA Class battleships.

The Navy 250th Birthday was a spectacular event with the USS BILLINGS (LCS-15) tied up alongside the Big J and many of our shipmates from WW2, Korea, Vietnam and Lebanon/Persian Gulf periods attending and providing personal accounts of their time aboard to the hundreds of daily visitors. The stern plate of the carrier USS ENTREPRISE (CV-6) was also unveiled at the ship with Paul Robbins and an original construction Rosie the Riveter present.

Paul and Jack Robbins were a highlight, meeting the CNO and presenting him with Paul's personal challenge coin. We also met with Congresswoman Sherrill (newly elected Governor of NJ) and over 100 Naval dignitaries celebrating our Navy's birthday. Our shipmates provided personal tours of the ship to sailors from ARLINGTON, LASSEN, COOPERSTOWN and BILLINGS who in turn provided us with personal tours of the BILLINGS. We forged a great relationship with their crews, and the BILLINGS Captain told me they felt a part of the Battleship and its traditions after spending a week with us. We presented the crew with teak decking for their Wardroom, Chief's Mess and Crew Mess. We were able to get staterooms aboard for our shipmate volunteers to reduce travel costs as well.

We now have an office for the USS NEW JERSEY Veterans Inc. aboard the Big J. Stateroom 0120 was cleaned and prepared for our use during reunions and volunteer work periods. Thanks to Bruce Whitman for helping me clean it all up! We are working on a brochure for the organization and intend on having brochures and membership applications aboard our ship year-round.

Our BIG challenge 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. Let's work on bringing them into the association to add expanded support to this organization and the Battleship!

Let your leadership know your thoughts and ideas as we move forward in 2026. We are NEW JERSEY, Battleship Sailors All!

Mike Holmes, Repair Officer

1/1981 – 5/1984

President USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Greetings Shipmates, family and friends, I hope all are having a great year and are looking forward to our next reunion in Omaha. I recently met with about a dozen FA Division Shipmates from the early 80's era and had a great time listening to old sea stories and learning about their families. I am hoping to see some of them in Omaha later this year and I am sure to see most of them next year aboard the ship. We will get a few new members out of this group, and I continue to spread the word about our association.

Like many veterans, I volunteer at the local VA hospital and I am always proudly wearing my New Jersey cover. I'm there for about six to seven hours each Tuesday, and not an hour goes by where someone doesn't make a comment about our ship. It is mostly soldiers or marines telling me stories about how our ship made hills disappear or the craters our rounds created.

I hope that all of you have a blessed year, and I am looking forward to seeing all in Omaha.

Respectfully,

Hector R Tellez FTG2

FA Division 1981-1985



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Greetings shipmates, families and friends,

It is that time of year to start thinking about the upcoming reunion in September at Omaha, Nebraska. My wife and I have visited Omaha

several times and have always enjoyed our time there. There are sightseeing attractions such as the zoo and many museums in addition to multiple dining options. Additionally, if you are a baseball fan, like my wife, the AAA Omaha Storm Chasers will be playing every day during the reunion.

Since assuming the Secretary position last year, I have been impressed with all the time and hard work put in by those in our organization who plan the reunions. Be sure to thank them at the reunion for their work.

Michael Murphy, Secretary

LT, S2 Div, 1986-1987

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SHIP'S STORE REPORT

Roy/Cindy Christopher

The Ship's Store is currently transitioning from the long tenured leadership of Mike Schappaugh to Roy Christopher during 2026. Roy and Mike are working on the movement of the remaining ships store material from Florida to New Jersey with Roy taking the lead on sales.

During the transition period, Roy and the President have been working on developing new lines of merchandise including expansion of the 3D printed line of memorabilia we offered at the San Antonio Reunion.

Our shipmate, Ken Kersch, has been programming new designs for 16" Armor Piercing and High Explosive Rounds individual and with Power Bags on NJ Teak base), 16" Powder Bags, Harpoon Missiles, 16" Rotary Rounds, CPO and Ship Emblem Coasters and Flag Display Kits (with your service years on them) as a start.

Several samples of the designs are shown below so look for them to be uploaded to the website in the coming months.

Roy is also working on new shirt and sweatshirt designs after completing the San Antonio Reunion shirt. We will let you know when the new merchandise is available and if you have any ideas or requests, please forward them to us so we can determine feasibility!

We will be identifying prices with shipping costs shortly to allow pre-ordering of your requested design.



Membership Chairman's Message



Greetings fellow shipmates and friends,

Elaine and I hope that all our shipmates had a great holiday season. We had a houseful of kids and grandchildren over Christmas. My youngest granddaughter saw a pile of envelopes sitting on my desk and wanted to know why there were so many.

I told her that I was the Membership Chairman of the USS New Jersey Veterans and I had to send out a second notice for 2026 dues renewals because people didn't mail the first request back right away. She then asked me "what are dues?".

I first had to explain what the USS New Jersey Veterans organization was. I told her that the USS New Jersey Veterans started as a group of USS New Jersey sailors that decided they would like to keep in touch with all the friends that they made while stationed on the ship and have a reunion. I then had to explain what a reunion was.

They put ads in magazines, mailed letters or called to all their shipmate friends that they kept in touch with and had the first reunion in 1982 in Long Beach, California. Russell Brown was the first president. Since the communication in 1980 was very limited by today's standards, no internet, no email and no cell phones, Russell Brown set up in his home a new communication technology, a dial-up bulletin board service, BBS for short. That's how I first found out about the USS New Jersey Veterans.

The USS New Jersey Veterans now also includes what are called "Associate Members". They usually fall into one of three categories.

- The family of USS New Jersey Veterans that loved their sailor who passed away, and who loved the New Jersey and the time that they spent aboard her, and want to keep their loved one's memory alive.
- Volunteers of the USS New Jersey Museum and Memorial. They are the ones that give their time and labor to the ship. I had no idea how many there are and how much time they put in to support our ship.
- There are some that just love the ship for what she accomplished and stood for.

Getting back to the dues.

We ask our members to pay dues every year for a number of reasons.

- Setting up and holding our reunions.
- Our annual donation to the USS New Jersey Museum and Memorial special projects such as new teakwood decking.
- The USS New Jersey Veterans Scholarship Fund. We award to three outstanding and deserving high school graduates a one thousand dollar scholarship.

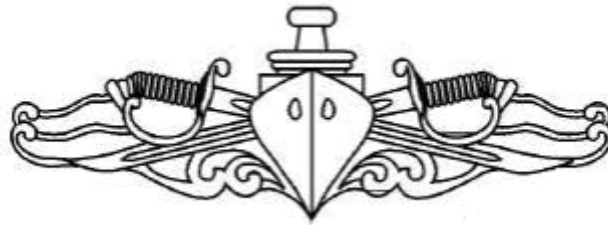
I told my granddaughter that if she studied hard and was of good character, she would have a chance of receiving a scholarship, too.

Surface Warfare Specialist

On the 2026 dues renewal form I added the question, “Are you Surface Warfare qualified?” I was surprised at the number of Korea and Vietnam vets that didn’t know what that meant.

To tell you the truth, until I took this job, I didn’t either.

I wish I had the opportunity to participate in this program.



Requirements For Enlisted Warfare Specialist Designation

Learning Objective: Recall the requirements for enlisted warfare specialist designations. The purpose of the enlisted warfare specialist designation is to recognize through a formal qualification program, exceptional achievement, initiative and professional qualifications of enlisted personnel. To qualify as an enlisted warfare specialist, you must complete a qualification program that is part of the personnel qualification standards (PQS). The qualification program consists of general knowledge requirements of the overall mission, engineering capabilities, combat systems and other mission-essential systems, and basic equipment involved in the particular warfare specialty.

Photo Swap at the reunion.

This year we are again 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.

USS New Jersey BB-62 Welcomes Aboard New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Bill Hartman	M	Beirut- Persian Gulf-Desert Storm	Burleson TX
Frederick S. McMillan		Vietnam	Lawrence KS

Google AI Generated Online Message

Russell N. Collins Jr.

A World War II crew member of the USS New Jersey, Collins passed away in 2017 at the age of 92. He later volunteered at the Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial in Camden, New Jersey.

Google AI knew that the spirit of Russell Collins would always be part of the New Jersey.

Chuck Oehme

Membership Chairman

ETR2, OE Division, 12/67-12/69

USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.



TREASURER'S REPORT



It's a new year and I hope everyone is doing well and making it through the winter.

Accompanying this report is a copy of the financials for 2025. We ended 2025 with \$48,974 in funds on hand which was an increase of \$85 over 2024 year-end balances.

Total revenues for the year were \$39,230 with Reunion Receipts comprising 48% of those monies, Membership Dues 19%, Scholarship Fund Auction and Donations 14%, Ship Restoration Donations 7%, 50/50 Tickets Sales 6% and Ship's Store Sales 5%.

Disbursements totaled \$39,145 with Reunion Expenses comprising 49% of funds disbursed, Bounce Expenses 23% and Scholarship Awards and Ship Restoration Funds forwarded to the Battleship 15%. The Organization also contributed \$1,000 to the Pacific Battleship Center to fund a plaque recognizing the USS New Jersey's contributions and exploits.

I would welcome any questions members might have regarding the financial information provided.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Omaha this September.

Tasker - Treasurer

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

phillip@phtasker.net



USS New Jersey BB-62 World's Greatest Battleship

Summary 2025 Financial report

<u>Bank Balances</u>		Operating Accounts (Including PayPal)	Savings Account
Adjusted Balances at January 1, 2025		\$ 35,711.02	\$ 13,178.15
Total Net Funds Received in 2025		\$ 39,227.23	\$ 2.62
Total Net Funds Disbursed in 2025		\$ 39,145.28	\$ -
Funds Transfers		-	-
Net Balances at December 31, 2025		\$ 35,792.97	\$ 13,180.77
Net YTD Change in Bank Balances		\$ 81.95	\$ 2.62
CASH ASSETS			
<u>2025 Operating Results</u>		Available Funds	\$ 32,144.29
<u>Reunion Activities:</u>		Restricted Funds	\$ 16,829.45
2025 Reunion Revenue	\$ 17,553.00	Total Cash Funds	\$ 48,973.74
2025 Reunion Expenses	\$ 15,895.75	<u>2025 Scholarship Fund Activities</u>	
2026 Reunion Expenses	\$ 2,053.51	<u>Scholarship Fund Balance Forward From</u>	
Net Reunion Revenues	\$ (396.26)	<u>2024</u>	
<u>Ship's Store Operations</u>		2025 Fund Raising Activities:	
Ship's Store Sales	\$ 2,067.50	Reunion Auction Proceeds	
Ship's Store Inventory Purchases	\$ 1,672.49	50/50 Proceeds (Gross)	
Ship's Store Postage and Supplies	\$ 413.30	50/50 Payouts	
Net Ship's Store Revenue	\$ (18.29)	Banquet 50/50 Raffle	
<u>General Operations:</u>		Scholarship Donations	
<u>Funds Received</u>		2025 Scholarships Awarded	
Dues Received	\$ 7,500.00	2025 Scholarship Fund Ending Balance	
Credit Card Rebates/Rewards	\$ 300.00	\$ 16,534.45	
Bank Interest Received	\$ 2.62	Unpaid Balance Due 50/50 Winners	
Miscellaneous Revenue Received	\$ 504.00	\$ 5.00	
Total Funds Received	\$ 8,306.62	<u>2025 Ship Restoration Fund Activities</u>	
<u>Funds Disbursed</u>		Fund Balance Brought Forward from 2024	
Jersey Bounce (Including Postage)	\$ 8,952.84	\$ 350.00	
Postage (General)	\$ 494.23	2025 Ship Restoration Fund Donations	
Office and Other Supplies	\$ 53.78	\$ 2,775.00	
PayPal and Square Fees	\$ 238.65	2025 Ship Restoration Fund	
Web Hosting and Internet Services	\$ 575.00	\$ (2,835.00)	
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,025.00	Disbursements to Battleship New Jersey	
Total Funds Disbursed	\$ 11,339.50	2025 Ship Restoration Fund Ending	
Net General Operating Revenue	\$ (3,032.88)	Balance	
Net Operating Results	\$ (3,447.43)	\$ 290.00	

REUNION COORDINATOR'S REPORT



Watch out Omaha, Nebraska the USS New Jersey Veterans will be there soon!

The Omaha Visitors Center did a bang-up job and gave me an excellent tour of Omaha and the surrounding area. They took me to Boys Town a national non-profit with a mission to change the way America cares for children and families. The Boys Town tour was very informative and I know you will enjoy it as much as I did as we tour the campus, churches, Father Flanagan's home and museum. We will also have a box lunch, and you will see the World's Largest Ball of Stamps.

After our tour of Boys Town, we will visit the Nebraska Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in Papillion. The Grand Opening was June 6, 2024 and this will be a great place to have a group photo taken.

The Memorial Service will be held at the hotel on Thursday, September 17th with the Omaha Police Department supplying the Honor Guard. They will also provide the National Anthem Singer, 2 Flag and 2 Rifle carriers and also a Bugler for Taps (if needed).

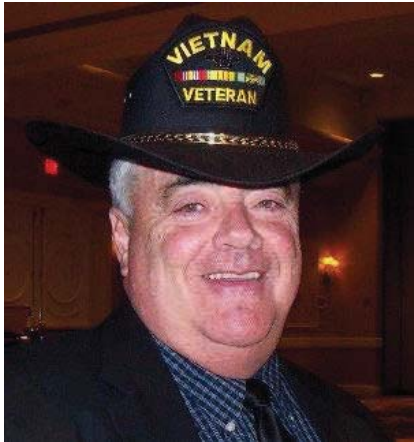
On Friday we will visit the SAC Museum where our tour guides will take us on an aviation adventure with many aircraft past, present and future. We have lunch at The Weekend Lakeside Bar and Grill where they promise to make an unforgettable lunch for the Big J Vets and their spouses.

Then on to Freedom Park where the Senior Volunteer curator will guide us to all things Navy. He has been a volunteer at this site since the mid 1980's. The park is closed to the public on Friday's so let's make sure to thank him for opening the park for us.

I am confident that we will all enjoy Omaha at its best. As a reminder, event cut-off date is Monday, August 17th, 2026. This cut-off date is important as final numbers need to be given to the tour company to potentially add or cancel buses, add tour guides, etc.

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

LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT



Shipmates,

Well, we had a great reunion in SAN ANTONIO, TX the attendance was light but still a great reunion. By the time you receive this bounce there should be many pictures posted on the web page. To those who went to the reunion and have pictures that aren't already on our web page please send them to me by email. We will be returning to the ship in 2027.

I work with our membership director on keeping the rosters 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 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 from all four era's 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, this year we will be in Omaha, NE, please try to attend and see what's going on with your organization. We need your support to keep going!

Stay well,
Bob Williams, Liaison Officer/Web Master

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LEBANON/PERSIAN GULF - 1980'S

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US MARINE CORP REP

Michael Goins
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SEATING COORDINATOR'S REPORT



For our 2026 reunion in Omaha, please send your seating requests to me via separate email (mike.ales80@gmail.com) as well as including a copy of your seating requests along with the payment for the reunion activities. I cannot fulfil any seating request until I receive notification that payment has been made. There is no guarantee that requests made after the submission deadline, (August 24, 2026) will be honored, so please get your requests and payments in on time. I will do my best to accommodate all your seating requests. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our next reunion.

*Mike Ales
Seating Coordinator
LT, B Division, Sept '84 – Jun'86*

Shipmate Reflections

Robert Fahrenholz

As told to Wayne Greenleaf

USS New Jersey, August 1944 - May 1946

"I must be in New Brunswick" Robert Fahrenholz said to his mom on June 5, 1926....well, being only five hours old, maybe he just thought it... But a few days later, he was comfortably nestled in his home in Milltown, NJ, ready to take on the world.

As he grew up, along with his brother and two sisters, he spent many happy hours exploring and playing in the woods around his home with his pack of neighborhood boys. As he grew older, he was enrolled in vocational school, where he studied electricity, always with the thought in the back of his mind of one day becoming a sailor.

That day came when he was 17, finding himself enlisting and heading to boot camp in Sampson, New York. After 10 weeks, he shipped out to school in Bainbridge, MD then Shoemaker, CA. His first tour was on LST 610, for a short period before being ordered to the *USS New Jersey* in August 1944. After meeting the ship in Hawaii, Bob and the *New Jersey* headed for the Western Pacific and the most devastating and cataclysmic war in human history.

Soon after arrival in WESTPAC, The *New Jersey* would find itself fighting a different "war." in December 1944, the Third Fleet, with Admiral William "Bull" Halsey commanding, aboard his flagship *USS New Jersey*, with QMSN Bob Fahrenholz up in Navigation, sailed into the massive Typhoon Cobra ("Halsey's Typhoon"). The event remains the US Navy's deadliest natural disaster.

170 ships were caught in 150 mph winds and 90-foot waves east of Luzon. The storm sank three destroyers—the Hull, Monaghan, and Spence. 790 sailors were killed, and nearly 900 were swept overboard. 27 ships sustained damage and 146 aircraft were destroyed or washed overboard. Fires broke out on several aircraft carriers.

Damage to the fleet was severe. Some ships rolled more than 70°. The carrier *Monterey* was nearly taken down in flames by its own airplanes as they crashed into bulkheads and exploded during violent rolls. One of those fighting the fires aboard *Monterey* was LT Gerald Ford, our 38th President. Ford later recalled nearly going overboard when the ship rolled 20°.

Bob remembers that several ships attempted to refuel from the *New Jersey*, but all were unsuccessful due to heavy rolling, including the *USS Spence*: her rudder jammed and she capsized and sank drowning 317 men, after hoses parted while attempting to refuel from *New Jersey* - due, in part, to their disobeying direct orders from Admiral Halsey to

ballast down. The fuel tanks had to be de-ballasted to accept needed fuel, so the ship had insufficient fuel to weather the storm. This was a problem shared by the destroyers and destroyer escorts. Bob remembers that the *New Jersey* itself suffered significant damage to its forward 20mm guns. During the rough weather, he found Admiral Halsey pacing up and down in the passageway outside of his stateroom.

Throughout the war, Bob continued his duties in the chart house, working on the ship's charts and keeping records, and on the bridge working as helmsman, soon making QM3.

When the typhoon was over, and victory had been won in the war, Bob returned home. He found Claire, the love of his life, at a dance, and wasted no time (six months) marrying her. He went to work at Squibb, in New Brunswick, working there for 12 years. It was at that time that he found his life's work, managing a local nonprofit cemetery, 125 acres in size, in nearby Scotch Plains. He did that for 40 years. and then turned the job over to his son. Along the way, Bob had five children - four daughters and a son. Today, at 99 ½, his love affair with Claire (97) continues: they will be celebrating their 78th wedding anniversary this August...!

Bob often relives his many memories of his Navy years....but despite his experiences in the war and the typhoon, he is sure he would do it all again. And his secret for a long life...? "Don't worry - it all falls into place. And a glass of wine with dinner doesn't hurt either...!"

Thanks for the memories, Bob.



State of the Museum Report

Shipmates,

2024 might have been the year we drydocked the battleship but 2025 is the year that we secured the museum's relevance. Participating in the Navy and Marine Corps' 250th birthday celebrations brought increased visitation, especially from the Navy's decision makers who all got to see the great condition that the ship is in after the last several years of intentional efforts. The acquisition of key artifacts improves our ability to tell our story to future visitors. And on top of that, the President announced a new class of modern battleships that he wants to build. The limited information available now has positioned our museum as to be a part of the conversation of what exactly is a battleship in the 21st century and what is its role.

This year the museum had eight semesters of intern help. These interns learned the basics of giving tours and how museums work but spent most of their time working with our collection. For the first time in the museum's history the blueprint collection is now usable for research both by the museum and by outside parties. The object collection was catalogued in its entirety; this has allowed for the significant uptick in exhibit creation. The archives collection is next on the list for the 2026 intern class. They catalogued 6,579 Objects and 6,778 Blueprints.

We continue to lead the field in our social media presence. In 2025 we had over 194 million YouTube Views. We reach 279,000 subscribers and 1,900 videos.

In 2025 we had 57 new collections of objects donated to the museum totaling 627 items. Some notable objects include the 7 new .50 caliber machine guns, an original 16in powder bag, one of the ship's original 1911 handguns, an RPV Pioneer Drone, and the stern plate of the aircraft carrier ENTERPRISE (CV-6).

This was a banner year for new exhibits at the museum. The museum has only opened 3 exhibits in the previous 6 years however in 2025 we unveiled 6 representing a major if still incomplete overhaul of the exhibits of the ship. They are Leyte Gulf Recognition Models, Support Any Friend, Commodore Barry, Enterprise and Pier Signage, Lebanon, and MARDET.

This year the museum acquired three 3-D Printers courtesy of a generous donor. These printers are being used for multiple purposes including producing items for the ship's

store which have been selling very well. Notably, these printers are also being used for the museum's interpretation. There is now a replica Harpoon Missile in the Captain's In-Port cabin, as there was during the last years of the ship's career. The museum has a photograph of the item from 1987 but not the original object itself.

By far the most impressive accomplishment this year is our record-breaking visitation numbers. I have records going back to 2013 and while I have seen articles online claiming 350,000 guests in 2002, I can't confirm the accuracy of that. What I can say is our numbers this year represent a modest increase over any previous year on record. 2024 we were closed several months for drydocking but compared to our last full year, 2023 we were slightly down with 50,429 self-guided guests, way up with 15,220 guests on guided tours, significantly down with 5,264 overnight campers, and level with 14,316 events participants for a total of 61,491 daytime guests and 81,071 total individuals who crossed our decks. We have not had over 80,000 guests in more than a decade.

As we move into 2026, we urgently need support to save unique and historically irreplaceable Iowa-class battleship blueprints, manuals, and spare parts from imminent destruction. In February, USS Charleston (LKA-113) will begin the scrapping process in Brownsville, TX. In her forward cargo holds are literal tons of objects and documents from Iowa-class battleships including long out-of-production spare parts and the complete engineering log office blueprints from USS New Jersey.

We need to raise at least \$35,000 to save three truckloads of irreplaceable documents and parts. For every approximately \$8,000 more we raise we will be able to recover another truck load. There's more than 20 semi trucks' worth of equipment and documents in her holds. Anything we can't bring back will be lost forever.

In 1999 when Missouri and New Jersey were being prepared to be transferred to their museums, the Navy removed hundreds of boxes of plans and parts to support the remaining Iowa's, which would be held in reserve for another decade. Eventually, those parts made it to USS Charleston in Philadelphia where they were consolidated with still more parts.

It is unlikely we will be able to find these parts anywhere else in the future. Some, like the original steam whistle, date back to World War II. Others, like the motors for air handlers, are critical for keeping our climate control system functioning. But the parts are a drop in the historic importance bucket compared to the blueprints and manuals. No complete set of Iowa-class blueprints exists. We believe the complete engineering log office plans for both Missouri and New Jersey are in boxes on Charleston.

Battleship New Jersey is working with other museum battleships to save these parts. Three other battleships joined us in tagging parts on Charleston for salvage in 2020. We will continue to work with them and other museum ships to make sure as much as possible makes it to one of our ships, then is made available for the others to use. This will include cataloging and scanning documents in the future.

In addition to the other museum ships, we have also worked with Naval Sea Systems Command and the National Archives. Both of those entities are limited in how much they can take in and how much access to the ship they can get us.

The federal government will not be saving anything else off this ship. It is all up to us now. With your help we can fly to Brownsville and save the last known stockpile of battleship parts and documents. In the immortal words of Indiana Jones, "It belongs in a museum!"

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](https://www.youtube.com/BattleshipNewJersey).

I will see you all on board soon.

Ryan Szimanski

Deputy Executive Director of Curatorial & Educational Affairs

Battleship New Jersey Museum & Memorial

R.Szimanski@BattleshipNewJersey.org

USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

39th ANNUAL REUNION

WHERE: Omaha Marriott Regency

10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE 68114

WHEN: September 16th – 20th, 2026

COST: **One King or Doubles - \$119.00 + State & local Taxes of 18.17%**
\$119.00 X 18.17% = \$140.62

RESERVATIONS: **888-236-2427** (Hotel Direct)

For group rate reference group name: **USS New Jersey Reunion.**

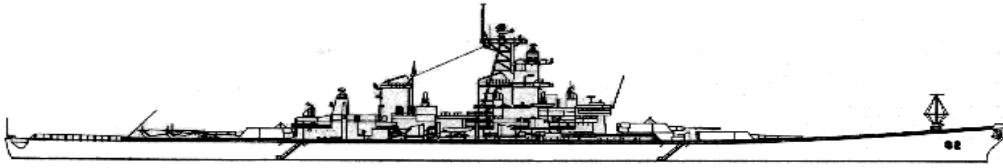
Online Reservations can be made at the link below which is also available on our website:

<http://www.ussnewjersey.org/>

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1759172863353&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

(Once you click on the link it will take you to the hotel website, then enter your arrival and departure dates, and it will automatically populate our group name and discounted group rate \$119.00)

- Reservations received after 11:59PM (CDT), **August 26, 2026**, may not qualify for the group rate.
- Group rate is available from 9/13 - 9/22/2026 (this includes the 3 days pre and post reunion)
- ADA Compliant rooms are available upon request.
- Individuals may cancel reserved rooms up to 48 hours prior to arrival without penalty.
- Full hot breakfast included in room rate
- Free Overnight Parking
- Complimentary Wi-Fi in guest rooms and meeting spaces.
- **Pet Friendly - \$100 non-refundable fee per stay**
- Check In Time: **3:00PM check-in, check out time 12:00PM Noon**



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

39th ANNUAL REUNION

Airport - Hotel Ground Transportation

Upon arrival at the Omaha Eppley Airport, retrieve your luggage at baggage claim and head to the ground floor of the South Garage Section D3. There is construction going on in the airport – follow the signs for Ground Transportation.

The hotel does not have shuttle service.

City Taxi – 402-933-8700

Fares to hotel start at \$20.00 plus tip.

If there are several people in your group using a standard taxi could be a cost savings.

Uber and **Lyft** are also available. Lyft being the most reasonable.

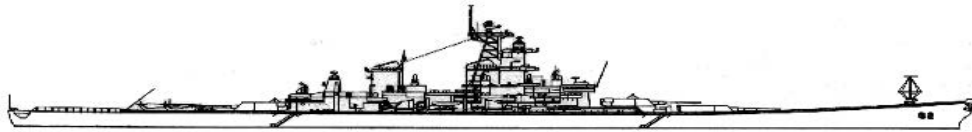
Hotel Address: Omaha Marriott Regency
 10220 Regency Circle
 Omaha, NE 68114

Breakfast is included with your paid room will be served in the Regency Ballroom A & B. The buffet will be served in the Regency Foyer, just outside the ballroom.

**** EVENT CUT-OFF DATE IS MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026 ****

Other things to see and do in Omaha on your free time:

- Union Station
- Memorial Park
- Bakers Candies
- Durham Museum
- Henry Doorly Zoo
- Omaha Botanical Gardens
- The Old Market
- The River Front
- First National Sculpture Park
- Omaha's Visitor Center
- There are so many good Eating Places



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

39th ANNUAL REUNION - Plan of the Week

Wednesday, September 16, 2026 - Check in Day

- 0900 Registration, Hospitality Room and Ship Store opens (Regency Ballroom A and B)
- 1400 Board of Directors Meeting (Millard Board Room)
- 1630 Registration, Hospitality Room and Ship Store closes
- 1830 Doors Open for Welcome Aboard Dinner, cash Bar (Salon A, B and C)
- 1900 Welcome Aboard Dinner
- 2000 Scholarship Auction commences

Thursday, September 17, 2026*

- 0900 Memorial Service (Regency Ballroom A and B) and Hospitality Room opens
- 1030 Board buses to Boys Town and arrive approximately 1045 for tour and lunch
Tour is 3-1/4 hours and lunch will be staggered
- 1400 Board buses for Vietnam Memorial and arrive approximately 1420 for group pictures
- 1515 Board buses to return to hotel and arrive approximately 1530
- Dinner is on your own
- 2200 Hospitality Room closes

Friday, September 18, 2026*

- 0900 Board buses to SAC Museum and arrive approximately 930 and hospitality room opens
- 1145 Board buses for lunch at Lakeside Bar and Grill and arrive approximately 1200
- 1315 Board buses for Freedom Park and arrive approximately 1400
- 1615 Board buses to return to hotel and arrive approximately 1645
- Dinner is on your own
- 2200 Hospitality Room closes

Saturday, September 19, 2026*

- 0900 General Membership Business Meeting (Salon A and B)
- 1100 Hospitality Room opens and closes at 1500
- 1800 Group pictures by Bill Romer (Walnut Grand Foyer)
- 1830 Doors open for Dinner Dance Banquet, cash bar (Salon B, C, D and E)
- 1900 Dinner Dance Banquet

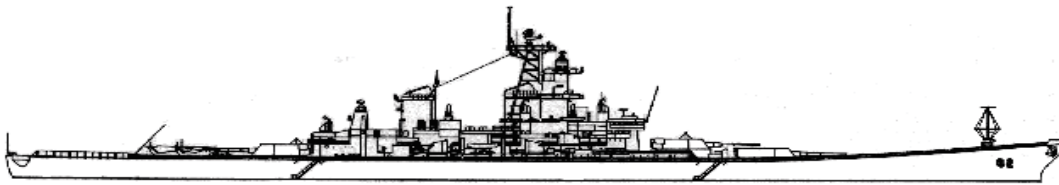
Sunday, September 20, 2026

- 1200 Hotel checkout time

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME, SEE YOU NEXT YEAR AT THE BATTLESHIP BB62!

*** Ship Store hours will be posted for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.**

Refer to [Airport - Hotel Ground Transportation](#) for other things to see in Omaha on your free time.



USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

39th ANNUAL REUNION

WELCOME ABOARD DINNER

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

1830 Doors open, cash bar (Salon A, B and C)
1900 Dinner Commences

Plated Dinner Menu

House Salad
Chef's choice starch and vegetable, assorted dinner rolls with butter and house selection of desserts. Served with coffee, tea and water.

Entrée Choices

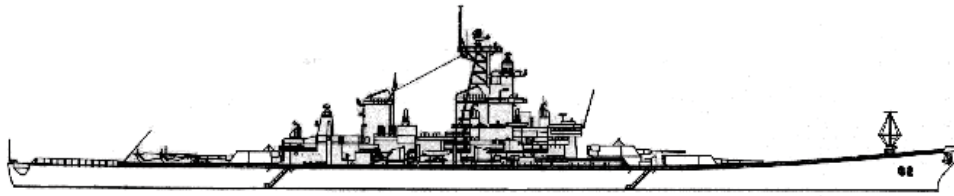
Balsamic Marinated Chicken Breast

Braised Beef Cheek

Vegetarian Pasta

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An Auction for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund and restoration of the ship  
will commence immediately following dinner



**. USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**  
**39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION**  
**AUCTION NIGHT**

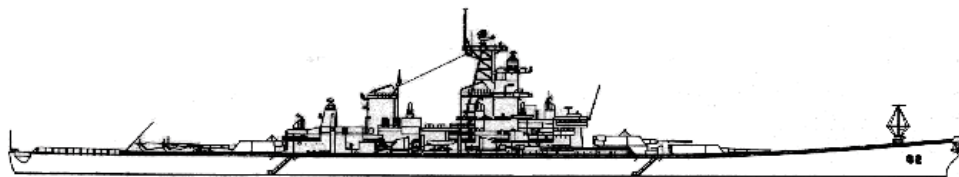
**Wednesday, September 16, 2026**

Following our Welcome Aboard dinner, an auction will be held to provide for our scholarship fund which supports our young future leaders as well as the restoration of the ship.

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:

Dave Wasmer  
1710 Mayflower Street  
New Holstein, WI 53061  
Email: [dewa@charter.net](mailto:dewa@charter.net)  
Phone: 920-901-2388

I will be driving to the reunion from Wisconsin and can take any forwarded items with me.



## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

### 39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION

#### Village of Boys Town

Thursday, September 17, 2025

Cost: \$58.00 per person. Includes transportation, lunch and admission to all buildings including Father Flanagan's House, Boys Town Museum and Chapels.

1030 Board Buses for Boys Town

1400 Board buses for Nebraska's Vietnam Memorial Park

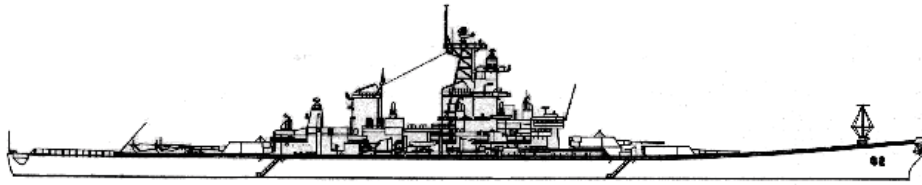
**\*\* EVENT CUT-OFF DATE IS MONDAY, AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 \*\***



We will tour the expansive campus of Boys Town, a National Historic Landmark District. Preserved in time inside this world-renowned village are the Hall of History Museum, historic chapels, gardens and Father Flanagan's home. In fact, it's the stuff that movies are made of; Boys Town, the 1938 movie starring Spencer Tracey and Mickey Rooney, won two academy

awards. In addition to lunch in the visitor's center, we will have time to browse the Gift Shop, view the World's Largest Ball of Stamps and of course a complete tour of the campus. One attraction includes Dowd Chapel, the Catholic Church where Father Flanagan is entombed.

After the tour of Boys Town, we will load buses and travel to Nebraska's Vietnam Memorial Park for a short stop for group pictures by Bill Romer and then back to the hotel.



## **USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**

### **39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION**

#### **SAC Aerospace Museum**

Friday, September 18, 2026

Cost: \$73.00 per person. Includes transportation, lunch and admission.

0900 Board Buses for SAC Museum

1145 Board buses for Lunch at Lakeside Bar and Grill

**\*\* EVENT CUT-OFF DATE IS MONDAY, AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 \*\***

The Strategic Air Command & Aerospace (SAC) Museum focuses on aircraft and nuclear missiles of the United States Air Force during the Cold War. The objective of the museum is to preserve and display historic aircraft, missiles and space vehicles and provide educational resources.

The museum was established in 1959 and was originally located on the Offutt Air Force Base. In 1970, ownership of the museum was transferred from the Air Force to the State of Nebraska. On May 16, 1998, the museum moved indoors to the new facility in Ashland, Nebraska. After several name changes, the museum was officially changed its name to Strategic Air Command (SAC) & Aerospace Museum on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

The SAC Museum has over 40 aircraft, including famous bombers that are on display. There are iconic planes like the B-52, B-36, B-1A, alongside missiles and other aerospace vehicles.

This is a museum everyone will love. The museum has its own volunteers that do all the work to restore the aircraft. The complete restoration of an aircraft at the Museum takes, on average, two years and approximately 10,000 hours of labor. The EC-135 Looking Glass restoration took over 32,000 volunteer hours and about six years to complete.

## Freedom Park

1315 Board buses for Freedom Park

1615 Board buses for hotel

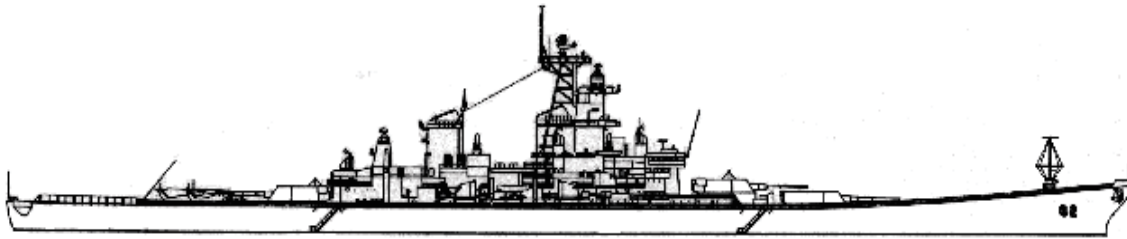


Freedom Park serves as a United States Naval Museum on the Missouri River. It is home to the USS Marlin SST-2 Submarine and the USS Hazard AM-240 Minesweeper, Anchor & Propeller Garden, Shipboard Rocket Launchers and a Douglas A-4D Skyhawk Jet Fighter and other aircraft.

The USS Hazard was commissioned October 31, 1944 and was very active during WWII. The ship's slogan was "No Sweep, No Invasion".

The USS Hazard was decommissioned in 1946 and is the only Admirable-Class minesweeper left in the United States.

This park is only open on Saturdays, however, one of the senior members of the volunteer groups will be our personal guide and opening the park specifically for the USS New Jersey Veterans.



## **USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**

### **39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REUNION**

#### **Dinner Dance Banquet**

Saturday, September 19, 2026

- 1800 Group pictures taken by William Romer
- 1830 Doors Open, cash bar (Salon A, B, C and D)
- 1900 Dinner Commences
- 2000 Dance DJ until 2300

#### **Plated Dinner Menu**

House Salad

Chef's choice starch and vegetable, assorted dinner rolls with butter and house selection of desserts. Served with coffee, tea and water.

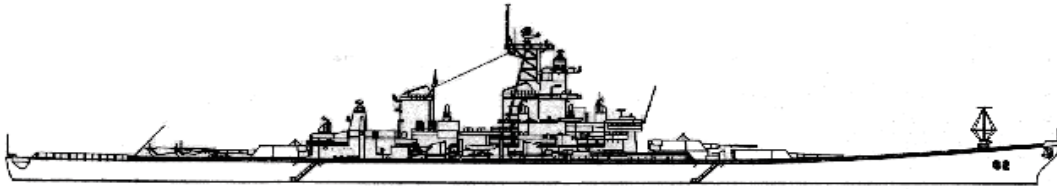
#### **Entrée Choices**

Roasted Chicken Quarters

Sliced Flank Steak

Baked Salmon

Vegetarian



## USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.

### 39<sup>th</sup> 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 22 – August 24, 2026.
3. A separate request is required for each dinner, Wednesday and Saturday.
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 by email or telephone. Messages left on voicemail are not always reliable. It is preferred to send your seating requests to me via a separate email (mike.ales80@gmail.com) as well as including a copy of your seating requests along with the payment for the reunion activities. Remember to send the names of all the individuals at your table to the seating coordinator (8 people per table).
7. 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, Trumbull, CT 06611-2245**  
**Phone: 203-556-1570**  
**Email: [mike.ales80@gmail.com](mailto:mike.ales80@gmail.com)**

**\*\* EVENT CUT-OFF DATE IS MONDAY, AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 \*\***

**USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC.**  
**39th Annual Reunion Events Reservation Form**  
Refer to the Plan of the Week for event start times

**Welcome Aboard Dinner – Wednesday, September 16, 2026 – Salon A, B, and C**

\_\_\_\_\_ Balsamic Marinated Chicken Breast \_\_\_\_\_ Braised Beef Cheek \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Pasta  
\_\_\_\_\_ People @ \$45.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Boys Town Tour – Thursday, September 17, 2026 – Box lunches; sandwich, chips, cookie & water**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ham & Cheese \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey & Cheese \_\_\_\_\_ House Salad w/egg and assorted dressing packs  
\_\_\_\_\_ People @ \$58.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\* Dinner is on your own \***

**SAC Museum and Freedom Park – Friday, September 18, 2026 – Lunch at Lakeside Bar and Grill**

\_\_\_\_\_ People @ \$73.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\* Dinner is on your own \***

**Dinner Dance Banquet – Saturday, September 19, 2026 – Salon B, C, D and E**

\_\_\_\_\_ Roasted Chicken Quarters \_\_\_\_\_ Sliced Flank Steak \_\_\_\_\_ Baked Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian  
\_\_\_\_\_ People @ \$63.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Reunion T-Shirt and Fees**

\_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL @ \$12 ea. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2XL \_\_\_\_\_ 3XL \_\_\_\_\_ 4XL @ \$14 ea. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**50/50 Tickets** (Please include ticket stubs) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you forgot to pay **2025 dues**, you can pay that now \$25 ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ People @ \$20/person ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Registration Fee is required for ANYone who registers

**LITE Registration Fee** \_\_\_\_\_ People @ \$5/person ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*An additional fee is required for anyone who registers for the 2026 reunion from August 17, 2026 to the reunion on September 19, 2026. This fee 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* EVENT CUT-OFF DATE AUGUST 17, 2026 \*\***

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](mailto: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](mailto:bb62veterans@gmail.com)

**To use form, remove at perforations**

## REUNION NAME PLATE ORDER FORM

Mark your required History String(s):

| <u>City</u>         | <u>Year</u> | <u>Quantity</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>Plankowner</b>   | <b>1943</b> | _____           |
| <b>Plankowner</b>   | <b>1950</b> | _____           |
| <b>Plankowner</b>   | <b>1968</b> | _____           |
| <b>Plankowner</b>   | <b>1982</b> | _____           |
| 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        | _____           |
| 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        | _____           |
| Omaha NE            | 2026        | _____           |

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 \$50.00 each

History Strings are \$10.00 each

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

Roy/Cindy Christopher

5 Fawn Drive

Lebanon, NJ 08833-3021

Phone: 908-399-112

[royce1961@gmail.com](mailto:royce1961@gmail.com)

If you would like to pay by using PayPal or Zelle forward the payment to [bb62veterans@gmail.com](mailto: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.

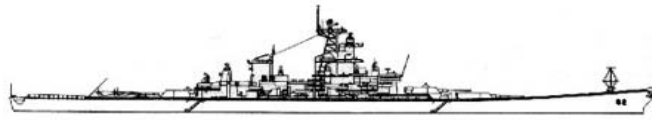
**To use form, remove at perforations**

## Reunion shirt Front



Reunion shirt Back





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

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

**A complete application must be submitted via US Mail and postmarked no later than June 1st**

### Eligibility Requirements:

1. Sponsor shall be a former or current 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 subject to providing a copy of sponsors obituary.
4. Applicants shall be the descendant (child, grandchild, or great-grandchild) of a qualified sponsor. Stepchildren shall also qualify.
5. Applicants shall be entering their first year of college for undergraduate studies or trade school.
6. Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the university, college, or trade schools of the applicant.
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](http://www.ussnewjersey.org)

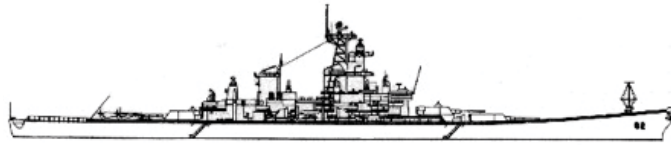
### Application and Submission Checklist:

1. ☐ Complete all three (3) application forms. (Part 1, Part 2a & Part 2b)
2. ☐ Applicants provide a personal handwritten essay with college, trade school and career goals and ambitions identified. (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 package, including all items noted above, postmarked on or before June 1st. Transcripts and recommendation letters may be mailed separately, if the sender desires, but must meet the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.
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 \_\_\_\_\_

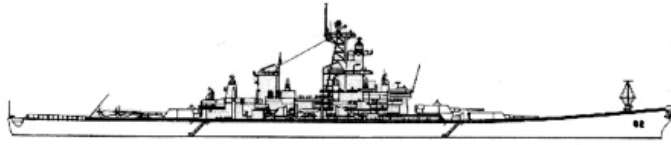
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

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/TRADE SCHOOL 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: \_\_\_\_\_

~~~~~  
COMMITTEE USE ONLY

COMMITTEE MEMBER _____ APPLICANT RANKING _____

COMMITTEE MEMBER _____ APPLICANT RANKING _____

COMMITTEE MEMBER _____ APPLICANT RANKING _____

REMARKS _____



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
William H. Ahearn	E	Korean War Era	Port Hueneme, CA
Herbert Ascher Jr.	K	World War II Era	Larchmont, NY
Clifford C. Asselstine		World War II Era	Kalispell, MT
Robert Barrett		World War II Era	Kingston, PA
Thomas Richard Baszkowski	FA	Korean War Era	Severn, MD
James E. Biechler	Q	Korean War Era	Madison, WI
James Biro		World War II Era	Salisbury Township, PA
CDR George L. Block	WO/NA V	Korean War Era	Taos, NM
John Howard Burke		Lebanon - Gulf War Era	Corpus Christi, TX
Gene Edward "Mike" Butts		Lebanon - Gulf War Era	Jacksonville, FL
Tony "Gunner" Catletti	5th	Vietnam War Era	Las Vegas, NV
Warren Cole Childs		World War II Era	Greeley, CO
Jesse Cleland	G	World War II Era	Clute, TX
Robert "Bob" Benning Clower	L	World War II Era	Roopville, GA
Joseph Colwell	MARDET	Korean War Era	Myrtle Beach, SC
Eugene "Gene" Consolo	E	Korean War Era	Naples, FL
Edward P. Costello Sr.		World War II Era	Boardman, OH
Richard A. Coy	A	Vietnam War Era	Owensboro, KY
Dr. Robert J. Creighton	MARDET	World War II Era	Shenandoah, IA
Peter A. Culhane	FA	Vietnam War Era	Milton, MA



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Richard J. Deily		World War II Era	Burtonsville, MD
Joseph R. DelGuidice	5th	Korean War Era	Bay Pines, FL
George I. Dickinson		World War II Era	Johnson City, NY
Richard E. Dirickson	X	World War II Era	Pebble Beach, CA
John Thomas (Jay) Donahoe		World War II Era	Hanover, IL
James Joseph Duffy	B	World War II Era	Springwater, NY
Walter Eisenberger		World War II Era	Lakewood, NJ
John Eisbrener		Korean War Era	Trail, MN
Raymond F. Elias		Vietnam War Era	Westport, MA
Haydn T. Evans	CR	World War II Era	Dallas, PA
Barry T. Fitzsimmons	1st	Vietnam War Era	Hanover Twp, PA
Mark Edward Foster		World War II Era	Barton Creek, UT
Mahlon Gane	T	Korean War Era	Port Townsend, WA
Armand A. Gavazzi	5th	Vietnam War Era	Vestal, NY
Frederick William Goering	K	Korean War Era	Waupaca, WI
Donald Gray	M	World War II Era	Alton, IL
E. Charles 'Gus' Gustafson	X	World War II Era	Annandale, MD
Harry "Ray" Hall	Q	Korean War Era	Brockport, NY
Christopher C. Harrison		World War II Era	Ellington, MO
George F. Hayes	FA	Korean War Era	Southington, CT
Howard T. Hollis		World War II Era	Lenoir City, TN
Clinton Carroll Hopkins	H	World War II Era	Bristol, TN



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Melvin J Keldsen		World War II Era	Glendora, CA
Richard H. Kerr	X	Vietnam War Era	Boise, ID
Clifton M. Kimbrough	MARDET	World War II Era	Santa Ana, CA
Lynwood G. Kinch		Korean War Era	Delhi, NY
Jay Edgar Kinney	B	Lebanon - Gulf War Era	Flat Rock, IL
CAPT George F. Kosco		World War II Era	Bethesda, MD
Robert T. Kosker	CR	World War II Era	Hampton, VA
Raymond George Kuiper		Korean War Era	Grand Haven, MI
Richard S. Liptak		Korean War Era	Aliquippa, Pa
Donald A. Little		Korean War Era	Dover, OH
Peter A. Liuzzi	N	Korean War Era	New Hartford, CT
Frank P. Manwell	X-1	Korean War Era	Jacksonville, FL
Robert J. McCann Jr.	OI	Vietnam War Era	Canton, OH
John R. "Jack" McSorely		World War II Era	Hamilton, NJ
Leonard Theodore Miller	FA	Korean War Era	Fort Pierce, FL
Rocco Moccia	B	Korean War Era	Glen Cove, NY
Dionysius "Jun" Nicholas	H	Lebanon - Gulf War Era	North Las Vegas, NV
Christopher P. Norton		World War II Era	New Port Richey, FL
Arthur Pomponio		World War II Era	Fairport, NY
Hubert N. Pritchard		World War II Era	Mount Vernon, OH
John Relleva		World War II Era	Philadelphia, PA



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
David Roland Rigney	1st	Lebanon - Gulf War Era	Franklin, TN
Carl William Ritner	MARDET	World War II Era	Pottstown, PA
Billy Ray "Bill" Roberson	2nd	Korean War Era	King, NC
Thomas Henry Runion		Korean War Era	Camp Verde, AZ
Robert Charles Samuelson		Korean War Era	Danbury, CT
James Sellers	M	World War II Era	New York, NY
Carmen E. Sena		World War II Era	Niles, OH
Dr. George David Shier	T	Korean War Era	Midland, MI
William H. Shilling	3rd	Korean War Era	Fremont, OH
Henry P. Siewers	N	Korean War Era	Cocoa Beach, FL
Robert Lee Smith		World War II Era	Aragon, GA
Stanley R. Smith		World War II Era	Virginia Beach, VA
Raymond Andrew Stafford	R	Korean War Era	Walkerville, MI
Marvin Odell Stearns	FM	World War II Era	Houston, TX
Joseph K. Stetina	CR	World War II Era	Lancaster, PA
Melvin F. "Freddie" Tayman	A	Korean War Era	Brandywine, MD
Donald Lee Tharpe	GM	Lebanon - Gulf War Era	Katy, TX
Bruce Joseph Trepkus		Lebanon - Gulf War Era	Oak Ridge, TN
Norman I. Turner	R	World War II Era	San Antonio, TX
Edward Volansky	3rd	Korean War Era	Sharpsville, PA
Raymond Webb	K	World War II Era	Lancaster, PA



USS New Jersey BB-62 Taps Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Clifford L. Welch		Korean War Era	Watertown, SD
Clarence E. Whipp Jr.	G	World War II Era	Breaux Bridge, LA
William Whisonant	MARDET	World War II Era	Rock Hill, SC
Harlan A. Williams	G	World War II Era	Albuquerque, NM
Roy E. Williams		World War II Era	San Diego, CA
Donald R. Wilson	A	Korean War Era	Coal Township, PA
ADM Edmund T. Wooldridge	CO	World War II Era	Annapolis, MD
Ballard Woosley Jr.	3rd	World War II Era	Poplar Bluff, MO



**New Jersey SSN 796 Alpha Sea Trials
Courtesy of Huntington Ingalls**



The crew of SSN 796 has taken over our past responsibilities and is on patrol in the distant waters ensuring the will of The United States of America is expressed.

Since commissioning, the boat has been completing the normal pre-operational maintenance, upgrade, and testing period, and we expect USS New Jersey to become fully operational later this year.

**From John Koehr
USS New Jersey (SSN-796) Support Organization**

Keep the future members of our organization in your thoughts.



The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is structured around three primary administrations responsible for delivering benefits and services: the [Veterans Health Administration](#) (VHA), [Veterans Benefits Administration](#) (VBA), and [National Cemetery Administration](#) (NCA). These, along with the Board of Veterans' Appeals and various staff offices, manage healthcare, compensation, education, and burial services.

Key VA Administrations and Departments include:

- **Veterans Health Administration (VHA):** Operates the nation's largest integrated healthcare system, providing medical care, nursing homes, and clinics.
- **Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA):** Responsible for disability compensation, pension, education, home loans, and vocational rehabilitation.
- **National Cemetery Administration (NCA):** Manages national cemeteries, headstones, and burial benefits.
- **[Board of Veterans' Appeals](#):** Processes appeals for denied benefits.

The **United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)** is a [Cabinet-level executive branch department](#) of the [federal government](#) charged with providing lifelong healthcare services to eligible [military veterans](#) at the 170 VA medical centers and outpatient clinics located throughout the country. Non-healthcare benefits include disability compensation, vocational rehabilitation, education assistance, home loans, and life insurance. The VA also provides burial and memorial benefits to eligible veterans and family members at [135 national cemeteries](#).

As a Veteran, you earned the right to belong to the **United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**. **Sign up.**

Then, whether you need it now or later **Sign up** for **Veterans Health Administration (VHA)**