

Condensed version of the Newsletter that is mailed to our Members



USS Canberra

Prora et puppis pro Canberra

CA-70 / CAG-2

Members of the Crew



Volume 19-2

USS Canberra Reunion Association

Summer 2008

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2008 USS CANBERRA Reunion Information San Diego, CA October 8-12

PLEASE READ FIRST

Reunion Dates: Our Reunion dates are **Wednesday, October 8th through Sunday, October 12th** and the **cutoff** for all reservations is **Friday, September 5th**. Previously we had built in a little cushion to accommodate procrastinators. It is now "What You See, Is What You Get." *The Hotel Contract and our Contract with Armed Forces Reunions both state that reservations must be in their hands by Friday, September 5th to be able to guarantee your spot.* As in the past, tour reservations may be limited to a first come first served basis. Please remember, we have a very liberal cancellation policy. So reserve early and cancel out at a later date if you find you cannot make the reunion.

ATTENTION CA-70 SHIPMATES

Shipmate Bill Ladrie is seeking eyewitnesses to the injuries that he sustained during the torpedoing of the Canberra on the 13th of October 1944. Bill was knocked unconscious when the torpedo hit. When he awoke he was bleeding from the forehead. Bill chose not to seek medical care after the attack due to the ship listing badly and sickbay being three decks below. Therefore, there is no medical record of his injuries. The Navy Department says that he needs; "two sworn affidavits from eyewitnesses to the injury, who were present at the time and have personal knowledge of the circumstances under which the injury occurred. The affidavits must be in the eyewitnesses' own words, not on a prepared form, and must be notarized". Bill needs this to confirm his eligibility for the Purple Heart Medal. If any of you can be of assistance to Bill, please let us know.

Fall Newsletter

The fall newsletter is traditionally mailed in early September so we can pass on last minute info to those who are planning on attending this years reunion. It will include information useful to newcomers as well as useful updates for old timers. It may well arrive after the cutoff date, so get your reservations in early.

Congratulations To Another Shipmate Who Is 90 Years Old

CAG-2 - Thomas R. Weschler

Please Read Next

Dues Expiration Note

In the Spring issue and also with this issue of the Newsletter if there is/was an * preceding your first name on the mailing label, your dues are not up to date according to our records (as of 5/20/08). **Please be advised that the dues cycle for the Association is from 1 January through 31 December of each year.** If you feel there is an error as to when your dues expired, please contact Ken Minick at the address, phone number or e-mail address listed in the Masthead.

Commemorative Caps & Mugs

This year's ball caps and coffee mugs are in the process of being manufactured. They will both be sent directly to the hotel in San Diego. A free coffee mug will be given to each member registering.

Sorry, only one per registration.

As in past years, ball caps will be given to those shipmates that purchase tickets for the Raffle Table at the reunion. Additional hats and mugs will be available for sale at and following the reunion. This years ball caps will again come in Navy Blue, Scarlet and Summer White. If you do not plan to be at this year's reunion, you can contact Ken to reserve your cap and mug for delivery after the reunion (sometime in early November). The price of hats will be at \$16 each including postage, the price of mugs will be \$16 each including postage, if ordered separately. Mugs are in full color. The cost of one cup and one hat, including Priority Mail postage, is \$30.00 if ordered at the same time. Contact Ken for multiple order prices.

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Find Your Telephone Number

Starting in the Winter 92 Issue of the "Members of the Crew" newsletter, a randomly selected 4 digit number was placed somewhere in the newsletter. We are once again doing this when space allows. The number published will be the last four digits, in sequence, of an active members home telephone number at the time of publication. It could be shown in a written form as nine nine nine nine or the numeric form of 9999. It will always be four numbers in length. It will always be a number hidden in a sentence and will never make sense. If you identify the number as the last four digits of your home telephone number as recorded in our files, and advise me within 30 days of the post-mark on the newsletter, I will credit your annual dues with a one year membership. Remember, I must hear from you within 30 days.

Phone Number Found

The phone number listed in the Spring newsletter was found by Shipmate James W. Duff; CAG-2; 6th Division of Jacksonville, FL. It was in the HMAS Canberra article.

CAG-2 Slides From Off the Coast of Vietnam

Paul McManuels' son, Dave, has come across slides that had belonged to his dad that were taken while the Canberra was off of the coast of Vietnam. They can be viewed from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm Central time at: www.daco.net2go.com/
 Dave is now working on a new website to place these slides on. When it is up and running we will publish it in the newsletter to let you know.

THE SUPREME COMMANDER

Following are names of **USS Canberra Shipmates** that have met the Supreme Commander.

<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div.</u>	<u>Aboard</u>
Allen, Kenneth R.	CAG-2	B	1956-59
Berbes, John E.	CA-70	F	1943-45
Churchill, Walter F.	CA-70		1943-45
Garland, Larry O.	CAG-2	E	1960-63
Johnson, James R.	CA-70	9th	1943-45

FOUND SHIPMATES

Following are names of **USS Canberra Shipmates** that have been found since the 2006 Directory was published.
 If you want to contact any of them, let Ken know.

<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>Years</u>
Baker, Donald	CAG-2	9th	66-67
Carney, John A., Jr.	CAG-2	OL	62-63
Fulk, Edward P.	CAG-2	1st	66-68
Hobbs, Robert L.	CAG-2	R	56-58
Kregler, Daniel	CAG-2	H	68-69
Layman, Charles D.	CA-70	N	43-45
Mabrey, Clyde C.	CAG-2	5th	58-60
Rubin, Arthur	CAG-2	OE	61-62
Taylor, Robert	CAG-2	E	67-69
VanderWoude, Arnold	CAG-2	OE	56-60

Law Of The Sea Treaty - (LOST)

Ever hear of it; or what it contains; or who wrote it? The treaty, written twenty five years ago, contains 182 pages of do's and don'ts for the world's oceans. The treaty was written by the United Nations and establishes an International Seabed Authority. The Authority will control the following to name just a few:

1. All commercial activity above and below the surface of international waters.
2. All shipping lanes which includes all U.S. commercial vessels.
3. Movement of military sea travel and places tight restrictions on how ships must exercise their right to "innocent passage" in territorial waters and requiring certain submarines to operate on the surface and 7984 show their nation's colors.
4. Mining and seabed drilling. American companies would have to share their drilling and mining technology. Permits for seabed drilling and mining would have to be purchased from the U.N. and a percentage of the profits from the drilling and mining would be collected by the U.N.

The U.N. has established a 23 member tribunal to settle disputes between countries. Some members could be from a land-locked country with no navy or sea-going vessels. Critics feel the country, the United States, is compromising its national sovereignty and undermining our national security and further feel it's nothing more than a transfer of wealth and technology to third world nations. The treaty was signed by then President Clinton, but needs to be ratified by the Senate. The decision is yours. Contact your Senator with your thoughts.

For additional reading bring the U.N. website up at: <http://www.un.org/> or go to: www.rejectlost.com and read the pro's and con's. Read how China views this and how far it would push its territorial waters. China has interpreted LOST to extend China's territorial bodies beyond the normal 200 miles, to more than 1000 miles from mainland China. China claims it has sovereignty over the entire South China Sea. By doing this they control all of the shipping lanes that run north/south, they control many islands within the South China Sea and would cause a problem for Taiwan.

Gerald J. Keenan Photo

Our Historian, John Chenoweth, is looking for a photo of Gerald Keenan, one of the crewmembers killed during the torpedo attack on 13 October 1944, to display with the other members of the Canberra who were killed on that day. If you have one please contact either John, Charlie Koestner or Ken Minick.

Shipmates Zippo Lighter

We have in our possession a Zippo Lighter that belonged to A.J. Senes. If anyone knows his whereabouts, please let us know.



Additional Supreme Commander Column

While browsing the internet, I came upon a Canberra Shipmate's Obituary. My son suggested that I search for more by searching: **USS Canberra Obituary**. The following 28 shipmates were found.

The Supreme Commander

Following are names of **USS Canberra Shipmates** that have met the Supreme Commander.

<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div.</u>	<u>Aboard</u>	<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div.</u>	<u>Aboard</u>
Allen, James H.	CAG-2			Fahlstrom, Dennis L.	CAG-2		64-68
Balder, Norman "Jake"	CAG-2			Griffiths, Charles T., MD	CAG-2	H	
Beam, Donald	CA-70	S	43-45	Johnson, Kenneth	CAG-2		62
Caton, Orville E.	CAG-2		59-61	LeVally, Clifton D.	CAG-2		57-59
Carnes, William C.	CA-70		44-46	McKay, Edward J.	CAG-2		56-57
Clevenger, Jonny L.	CAG-2	S-1	66-69	Ouellette, Ernest A.	CA-70		43-45
Cockerill, John "Jack" H.	CA-70	9th	43-45	Potter, Herbert E.	CA-70	H	43-45
Coletti, James D.	CA-70	5th	43-45	Rorer, William H., III	CAG-2		58-60
Collins, Archie, Jr.	CA-70	Cox	43-44	Serviss, Charles (n)	CA-70		43-45
Coolidge, A. William	CA-70	N	43-45	Smith, Edward E.	CAG-2	OI	63-64
D'Agosto, John P.	CAG-2	H	62	Smith, Robert D.	CA-70	L	43-46
DiRosa, Domenic A.	CA-70	7th	43-46	Taylor, Robert W.	CA-70	H	43-45
Dunlap, Thomas J.	CAG-2		56	Wasson, John "Jack"	CAG-2	S	
Enders, Wilfred "Bill"	CA-70	E	43-44	Wegner, Tom L.	CAG-2		

ex HMAS Canberra II Reef.

VARs calls for volunteers to help sink ex HMAS Canberra II in Victoria

Melbourne: Friday, 12th October 2007 — In 2008, ex HMAS Canberra II warship will be sunk in Victoria to create a major new temperate water dive site. The Victorian Artificial Reef Society (VARs) is now calling for volunteers to help with this exciting project.

The Story So Far

In July 2007, the Minister for Defence, Brendan Nelson, announced the Federal Government would contribute \$7 million towards the cost of sinking ex HMAS II as a dive site for Victoria. The Victorian Government has also pledged \$1 million. Project Management responsibility for this project was handed over to the Defence Material Organisation (DMO). DMO quickly issued a Request for Tender for the preparation of the ex HMAS Canberra II for scuttling. A number of responses were received and it is expected DMO will announce the winning contractor within a few weeks.

Real Work Begins

VARs expects the winning contractor will start work on preparing the warship for sinking in December 2007. Then, sometime in 2008, holed by a series of carefully placed explosive charges, the ex HMAS Canberra II will be scuttled outside of Port Phillip Bay. Within days of the sinking, we expect to have divers reporting schools of small fish sheltering in her cavernous hull. And after just a few weeks, her grey war paint will be mottled with the seedlings of an undersea garden as the warship starts to become a living reef. But there is still much work to be done by VARs to ensure the Victorian diving community fully benefits from this magnificent opportunity.