



# USS Canberra

*Prora et puppis pro Canberra*

CA-70 / CAG-2

## Members of the Crew



Volume 25-4

USS Canberra Reunion Association

Winter 2014

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To Our Faithful Old Friends And  
Our Cherished New Friends.  
There Is Not A Better Time To Say  
"Thank You"

And To  
"Wish You A Happy Holiday Season"

Phyllis & Ken  
Barbara & Ron  
Jean & Bob  
Mary & Bill  
Louise & John  
Jackie & Len  
Diane & Gene  
Pat & LeRoy

## Dues

Membership dues in the amount of \$25 are now due for 2015 (1 January through 31 December).

Please mail your dues to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd.  
c/o Ron Nullet  
P.O. Box 614  
Centereach, NY 11720-0614.

### Please make your check out to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd.

\*\*\*\*\*Lifetime Dues Are Available\*\*\*\*\*

You can pay your dues with a  
lifetime membership.

Age 60-70 = \$275

Age 71-80 = \$210

Over 81+ = \$140

### *Contents of the Members of the Crew*

2014 Business Meeting	PAGE 2
2014 Attendees	PAGE 3
Supreme Commander / Found Shipmates	PAGE 4
Agent Orange Information	PAGE 4
2014 Reunion Summary / Wearables	PAGE 5
Mackenzie Gregory	PAGE 5
Reunion Photos	PAGE 6

# 2014 Business Meeting Highlights

- Ken Minick, President, opened the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Master-At-Arms Gene Sibley. The Invocation followed and was given by Chaplain Bill Dorsey.
- The death of our President Emeritus, Jerry Der Boghosian, was discussed.
- We were reminded to keep our ailing shipmates and families in our thoughts and prayers.
- President Ken Minick opened nominations for Association Officers and stated that if anyone is interested in assuming any of the Officer positions in the Association, or would like to become a “Trainee” for one of the positions, please speak up. He also stated that since we do not have a living Past President, the office of President Emeritus will remain vacant for the foreseeable future. Unfortunately, **once again**, no one spoke up so the following were nominated and re-elected as Officers of the Association:

President Emeritus	Vacant
President	Ken Minick
Vice President	Bob Tylinski
Secretary/Treasurer	Ron Nullet
Chaplain	Bill Dorsey
Historian	John Chenoweth
Assistant Historian	LeRoy Johnson
Master-at-Arms	Gene Sibley
USMC Liaison	Len Kucharski

- The Association Composition/Database was discussed. As of 1 Oct. we had 3,208 names in our database; Of those: 109 are Widows; 55 are Family Members; 9 are Honorary Members; 1 Staff (AFR) Member; 104 are Life Members and 250 are Paid Members: Which means we send out 528 Newsletters. We also have 1,490 Deceased; 1,165 Not Paid and 25 Missing (old addresses, cannot contact) in the database.
- The Financial Report was submitted by our Secretary/Treasurer Ron Nullet. Shipmate Jim Owens, after reviewing it, made the recommendation that it be accepted. The Association is presently sound financially although we still have many outstanding costs for the 2014 Reunion.
- The Commissioning of the HMAS Canberra was brought up. No firm date has been announced and no information has been made public about it. The last heard was that late November was the tentative time for the commissioning.
- The 2015 Reunion was then discussed. Our 2015 Reunion will be held October 14-18 at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Historic Mobile, Alabama. **The wrong dates of 7-11 Oct were given at the reunion.**
- A Member’s directory is available via e-mail to members desiring one. The format is Microsoft Excel.
- We hope to start looking at locations this coming spring/summer for the 2016 reunion. Our main problem in finding hotels is that we try to have our reunions in October, around the 13<sup>th</sup> when the CA-70 was torpedoed. For some reason, early October is always a problem when looking for hotels.
- A special thanks was once again given to Bob’s Printing (Bob and Mike Beach and their staff) for printing and mailing our Newsletters. Another special thanks was given to the ladies who keep the reunion running with their work in and around the hospitality room each year.
- The meeting was then opened for discussions from the floor. The following items were discussed:
  - + Put list of attendees in newsletter; Buffet and Banquet music too loud; Going west for reunions; Thanks to the officers; Healthier food in hospitality room; Tours in Mobile.
- A motion was made and seconded that the 2014 business meeting be closed.

# 2014 USS Canberra Reunion Attendees

Ship	Last Name	First	Division	Years	Ship	Last Name	First	Division	Years
CA-70	Collins	Daniel	1st	1943-46	CAG-2	Bayman	Nick	E	1959-62
CA-70	Osifchok	Joseph	1st	1942-45	CAG-2	Burk	Don	E	1957-60
CA-70	Beach	Robert	2nd	1944-45	CAG-2	Shirk	Neal	E	1956-58
CA-70	Doka	Joseph	3rd	1943-45	CAG-2	Whitehead	Jack	E	1956-59
CA-70	Koestner	Charlie	4th	1943-45	CAG-2	Burnette	Edward	F	1956-57
CA-70	Phillips	Charlie	S	1943-46	CAG-2	Sibert	Arlon	F	1958-61
CA-70	Roberts-Benoit	Dolores	Family		CAG-2	Yoder	Cleve	F	1956-57
CA-70	Roberts	Kathy	Family		CAG-2	Painter	Jim	FM	1964-67
CAG-2	Hildenbrandt	Ray	1st	1960-63	CAG-2	Sibley	Gene	FM	1960-62
CAG-2	Dorsey	Bill	6th	1962-66	CAG-2	Tylinski	Bob	FM	1961-62
CAG-2	Burdick	James	7th	1959-61	CAG-2	Wier	Ronald	N	1965-68
CAG-2	Gault	Bob	7th	1962-64	CAG-2	Graves	Barry	OE	1966-68
CAG-2	McMahon	Bill	7th	1956-58	CAG-2	Holt	John	OE	1958-60
CAG-2	Woods	Henry	7th	1959-63	CAG-2	Minick	Ken	OE	1963-65
CAG-2	Wooldridge	Woody	7th	1957-60	CAG-2	Peltzer	Carman	OE	1964-66
CAG-2	McMahan	Gene	8th	1956-57	CAG-2	Boerner	Ernest	OI	1957-58
CAG-2	Demmery	Dean	9th	1962-64	CAG-2	Simpson	Dennis	OI	1961-64
CAG-2	Lam	Lester	9th	1963-64	CAG-2	James	Rudolph	OI	1956-58
CAG-2	ORoark	John	9th	1959-60	CAG-2	Villanueva	Michael	OL	1958-60
CAG-2	Witheridge	Robert	9th	1956-58	CAG-2	Talkington	James	OR	1957-60
CAG-2	Brouillette	Ed	A	1957-60	CAG-2	Ahern	James	R	1960-63
CAG-2	Petraska	Pete	A	1960-61	CAG-2	Baer	Bill	R	1963-64
CAG-2	Pusateri	Samuel	A	1958-60	CAG-2	Bray	Kenneth	R	1963-65
CAG-2	Stoehr	Al	A	1957-59	CAG-2	Haase	Albert	R	1956-58
CAG-2	Cooper	Barney	B	1957-60	CAG-2	Koonce	Charles	R	1962-64
CAG-2	Downen	Donald	B	1958-60	CAG-2	Kralik	Tom	R	1956-58
CAG-2	Halley	Paul	B	1958-62	CAG-2	Nullet	Ronald	R	1959-63
CAG-2	Johnson	Leroy	B	1962-66	CAG-2	Schmelebeck	Del	R	1956-58
CAG-2	Morgan	Robert	B	1965-66	CAG-2	Skinner	William	R	1957-60
CAG-2	Pugh	Lawrence	B	1954-56	CAG-2	Vaden	Kenny	R	1963-65
CAG-2	Stark	Michael	B	1966-70	CAG-2	Thomas	Sammy	S	1963-66
CAG-2	Ward	Bobby	B	1956-59	CAG-2	Owens	Jim	S	1963-65

## The Supreme Commander

<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>Aboard</u>	<u>Departed</u>
Price, William H.	CA-70	B	1943-46	2012
Barrows, Dorman R.	CAG-2		Vietnam	2012
Holmes, Jerry M.	CAG-2		1960-63	2014
Urban, Henry Z.	CA-70	7th	1944-46	2014
Parker, William C.	CAG-2	X	1965-67	2014
Marowski, Charles M.	CA-70	B	1943-46	2014
Gregory, Mackenzie J.	HMAS Canberra		WWII	2014
Moran, Edward J.	CA-70	CR	1943-44	2014
Gwilliams, Waldo E.	CAG-2		1961-63	2014
Stone, Kenneth E.	CAG-2	F	1958-60	2014
Comer, Harry	CA-70	F	1945-46	2014
Garrity, Patrick J.	CAG-2	7th	1959-60	2014

## Found Shipmates

Following are names of **USS Canberra Shipmates** that have been found since the Fall 2014 Newsletter was published. If you want to contact any of them, let Ken know.

<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>Aboard</u>
Painter, James	CAG-2	FM	1963-67
Smith, John E.	G-2/70	Eng	1966-68
Stoehr, Alfred N.	CAG-2	A	1957-59

## Agent Orange

The letter below was recently received by Ken

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Veterans Affairs has added April 1965 to those dates already specified for the USS Canberra on the list of ships associated with service in the waters of Vietnam and potential Agent Orange exposure.

My coworker, Brian Lueth, worked closely with some of you on obtaining the information necessary for Congressman Ribble to make the request to the VA.

Thank you for your help!

Please see the **attached letter**, and share with those who will benefit.

Best wishes,

Kerry Niemcek Skaleski  
Office of Congressman Reid Ribble WI 8

The **“attached letter”** mentioned above can be found on the Agent Orange & VA Claims Page of our website.

## 2014 National Reunion Norfolk-Virginia Beach, VA

The 2014 reunion in Virginia Beach/Norfolk is now history and was enjoyed by all who attended. There were 6 CA-70 WWII plus 3 family members of James Roberts who was killed in the torpedo attack of 13 October 1944 and 56 CAG-2/CA-70 shipmates attending, including 6 first timers, for a total of 136 shipmates, family and guests enjoying our Saturday Night Banquet.

Our guest speaker was retired Captain Floyd D. (Ken) Kennedy, an expert in the field of Naval Intelligence. He gave a very informative talk on "The United States Navy: Then, Now, and Tomorrow" The Division with the highest attendance this year was R Division with 10 attendees.



### Embroidered Logo Wearables

We have two CA-70 golf shirts (one size M and one size XL) and a CA-70 sweatshirt (size M) available. Also two CAG-2 sweatshirts (one is size L and one is size XL). **All are white!** Golf shirts are \$20 each and sweatshirts \$25 each, which includes shipping.



## USS Canberra Wearables Jackets, Shirts, etc

We still have CAG-2 jackets, chambray shirts and golf shirts available. The golf shirts and jackets are only available in blue. CAG-2/CA-70 shirts are available for shipmates who were aboard during the last few years of the Canberra's commissioning.

**Jackets are \$100.**

**Golf shirts are \$28.**

**Chambray shirts are \$33.**

All of the prices include shipping.

Contact Ron Nullet (PO Box 614; Centereach, NY 11720-0614 **or** ronsteam@optonline.net **or** phone 631-736-3444) if you are interested in these items.

### Ship's Silhouette Hats

We have Ship's Silhouette Hats in stock. The cost for each hat will be \$18.00 per cap including priority mail postage. The hat is only available in Navy Blue in the CA-70 version. The CAG-2 version hats are available in Navy Blue, Summer White or Scarlet. If you are interested in purchasing one or more of these hats you can contact Ken via mail, e-mail or telephone.



## LtCdr Mackenzie J. Gregory, RAN (Ret)

Mac was a stalwart and legend of the HMAS Canberra HMAS Shropshire Association. He served on both ships and was the Officer of the Watch when HMAS Canberra 1 was attacked by the Japanese Imperial Navy on 09 August 1942 at the Battle of Savo Island.

He was a Naval Historian and the webmaster of <http://www.ahoy.tk-jk.net/> and was a long time Honorary Member of our USS Canberra Association.

He was instrumental in getting the CAG-2's bell transferred to the Australian Maritime Museum in Sydney, Australia.

Mac Gregory's family wishes to advise his many friends and legion of Ahoy followers that Mac died on August 27th, 2014. In accordance with Mac's final wishes, he was cremated on September 1st and his ashes were scattered from the end of Station Pier, Port Melbourne at high tide on September 3rd in the presence of his immediate family.

# Our WWII Heroes



Left to Right: Joe Osifchok, Dan Collins, Bob Beach, Charlie Koestner, Charlie Phillips, Joe Doka



## And Some Wore Their Uniform

From L to R  
BUC Koestner  
TDC Minick  
SKC Beach  
CWO2 Dorsey

USS Canberra Reunion Association  
P.O. Box 130  
Belpre, OH 45714

**Address Service Requested**



**CA-70    USS Canberra    CAG-2**  
**Reunion Association**  
**Annual Reunion**  
**14-18 October 2015**  
**Mobile, AL**

Details to follow in the Spring 2015 Newsletter