



USS BELKNAP

DLG/CG-26

REUNION NEWS

Letter from the President

Shipmates:

As the 2012 reunion in Virginia Beach rapidly approaches us, the wonderful job Bob and Pat Joseph has done excites me and makes me think this will be our best reunion ever. Going back to our “home port” area always takes me back to my time in USS Belknap when she was my home and work place.

I am aware there will be a fair number of new shipmate arrivals this year and I look forward to seeing a few from my own year group (66-68) for the first time in over 40 years! I expect many new sea stories, and memories to be shared, and maybe even the basis for a “STARBUSTER 2”, for Mike Abbott to consider.

There is a full agenda for the business meeting this year. We will discuss the possible establishment of a USS BELKNAP scholarship; the status of the USS BELKNAP Commemorative Memorial Plaque to be displayed in the United States Navy Memorial in Washington,

DC; Efforts being made to get Belknap added to the list of ships exposed to “Agent Orange”; and information for all of us interested in the USS BELKNAP ring project from shipmate Bill Staley. Additionally, we will hear from our reunion coordinator for the 2013 reunion in Tampa, Dick Lemon.

Again, this year like so many in the past has been made workable thanks to your Association officers, Mike Abbott, Dick Tremain, and Jeff Milnes. Please take the time at the reunion to thank them and your reunion organizers, Bob and Pat Joseph.

As a side, for the new ladies that come this year, ask to meet our Ladies Auxillary President, Lori Apuzzo. She will make sure

you are teamed up with a wife who knows the ropes and can give some useful information on what all the guys are up to.

Remember to check the website: USSBelknap.com for reunion information and hotel details.

The facility this year is great and I look forward to seeing and meeting all of you. Drive and in all ways travel safe.

Warm regards,
“Skip” McCarroll (66-68)



Save the Dates:
2012 USS BELKNAP
Reunion will be held in
Virginia Beach, VA.
18-20 October, 2012

Update on Belknap Book - "Starbuster"

A book authored by many shipmates and edited by Mike Abbott is Starbuster. The book is available for sale at Lulu.com. The book's sales have been very good with profits being returned to the Association.

Book reviews continue to come in and be very positive. Here are two reviews:

I just finished reading the book, Starbuster...awesome! I could not put it down. I never knew the history of the Belknap and now I have a greater appreciation for her. Too bad we could not saved her for a

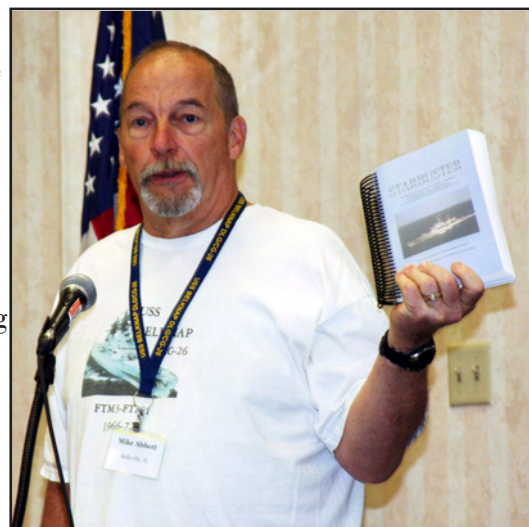
museum. How do I check to see if I'm a member of the Belknap Association? I want to attend the next reunion. Wayne Ray (Med Cruise 83)

Thank you very much for putting this book together! I received mine yesterday and I haven't put it down.

To let you know I plan on being at the reunion in Virginia Beach and I can't wait to meet you.

MMC Robert Dale Chenault (SW) USN - Retired

Order your copy by going to: www.lulu.com and click on the "Starbuster" link.



Mike Abbott with "Starbuster"

The Attraction of BELKNAP Reunions and Motorcycles

For the longest time I was fascinated with motorcycles. I thought they were somewhat dangerous, definitely challenging, outside of my comfort zone and maybe even fun.

At age 57 I took a motorcycle safety riding course. I learned to ride, I bought a small Harley Davidson Sportster in 2010 and started trying out this strange new transportation lifestyle. I indeed found the experience challenging, there was the discomfort of bad weather to ride through, but it was fun. Oh, riding that motorcycle was so much fun.

That Sportster taught me how to ride and it hooked me on motorcycles. It also "told me" I needed a bigger bike so I bought a brand new 2011 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide Ultra Limited as a 59th birthday present to myself.

This Harley is a touring bike. It has a big motor, Maureen, my bride, can sit back in her backseat "throne" as we ride and we can

both travel in style and comfort.

We joined the local Harley Owners Group (HOG) chapter and found great friends and friendships as a result. We have had some great adventures with it. We've taken it on road trips to Missouri from our home in Des Moines, Iowa, and we've been able to do 30 laps on the Rusty Wallace designed Iowa Speedway NASCAR track.

Last week we got back from a 2,354 mile road trip to Sturgis, S.D., and we visited attractions in five states along the way. We had so much fun in this adventure that I hope everything lines up so I can make the 1,200 mile trip from Des Moines to Virginia Beach by bike.

Weather, time and finances will dictate that call.

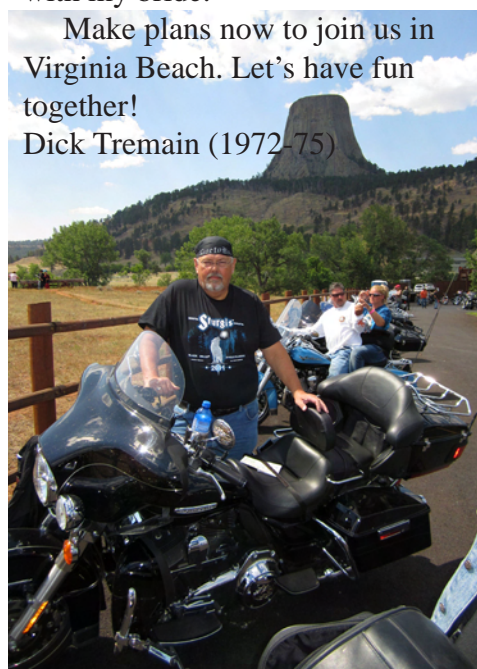
The reason I bring up my new-found enjoyment of motorcycles is this: If you haven't tried it you don't know.

USS BELKNAP reunions are the same way. If you haven't been to one you just don't know.

Shipmate, get out of your comfort zone, spend a little money and time and see if attending a reunion is right for you. I'm betting you will find what I have found. Both the reunions and motorcycles let me have a great deal of fun, meet great friends and enjoy adventures with my bride.

Make plans now to join us in Virginia Beach. Let's have fun together!

Dick Tremain (1972-75)



Dick Tremain and his cycle at Devil's Tower Wyoming.

To all our Ladies:

I hope all your summer was enjoyable and I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. Our 2011 reunion in St. Louis was a success. I think all those who attended had a wonderful time. A special thanks goes out to the men's association for providing a wonderful luncheon for the ladies. The food was fantastic and it was good to have all of the ladies together, where we had our meeting when lunch was over. Another special thanks goes out to Susie, Mike's wife for taking a lot of time to arrange to have 2 vendors at the luncheon for the ladies to do some shopping. We had a jewelry vendor and a Miche bag (pocketbooks) vendor. Many ladies purchased a lot of great items, including myself.

Election of our officers, was quick. I (Lori Apuzzo) was elected president and Pat Joseph was

named vice president. I don't think we did sergeant-at-arms for this year, but we will not forget for next year. I hope we will have more new members come to Virginia Beach for 2012. The auxiliary is a great way to get to know the wives of our men and to get together. The only thing that we do is to assist with the table to check in shipmates, sell the raffle and 50/50 tickets. We help on the night of the banquet with the raffle items. That's really it, so if anyone who has not signed up and is interested, please make sure to make yourself known to Pat or me in Virginia Beach.



Lori Apuzzo

I know it's only August, but we really need to get thinking about October in Virginia Beach. Everyone has a lot of things coming up between now and then, we have my daughter getting married, but we really want to have as early as possible, some idea of how many will be there. You will find incentives from the men's letter to help get this started. I have seen the brochures and it looks like we are going to have a fantastic time, Bob and Pat Joseph have been working very hard to present an outstanding package, which they have accomplished. I am looking forward to seeing you all in Virginia Beach. Please make sure you check the itinerary that will be our 2012 Belknap Reunion in Norfolk, VA.

Until October,

Lori Apuzzo

Ladies Auxiliary President

PLAN-OF-THE DAY FOR USS BELKNAP REUNION

Thursday 18 OCT 2011

Check – in - Registration
Hospitality Room Open at 0700.
Coffee available all day.
Free time for all shipmates

Friday 19 OCT 2011

Transportation for "Riding Norfolk Tour"
Leaving hotel at 0900 – returning at 1600.
1700 – 1800 Welcome Aboard with cheese, wine, and beer in Shenandoah Room
Shipmates free time after

Saturday 20 OCT 2012

0800 Military Aviation Museum available
0900 Ladies Auxilary breakfast and meeting in Ashley's restaurant.
1400-1600 Business Meeting -- Hospitality Room
1800 Shenandoah Banquet room opens
1815 Color Guard arrives for Memorial Service
Upon completion of Memorial Service cash bar will open
1900 Salads will be served/ dinners to follow

Sunday 21 OCT - Checkout 1200. Late checkout available.



USS Belknap Ring Order Form

Ring available in
Sterling Silver or Gold
The stone is synthetic
12 x 10 MM Blue Sapphire
with USN Crest riveted
through stone

(Real Sapphire is NOT an available option)



Ring Cost:

Sterling Silver: \$225.00

10K Gold: \$1,225.00

Both Rings: \$1,450.00

Note

Shipping / Insurance / Handling to be added
based on shipping zip code listed below.
FOB—Greensboro, NC

RING ORDER INFORMATION

Metal Choice: _____ GOLD / _____ Sterling Silver / _____ Both Metals

Ring Size: _____ (incorrect size can not be fixed)

Name engraved (inside ring): _____

ENGRAVING INCLUDED IN COST

PLEASE PRINT

NOTE: If we can not read your writing — spelling errors of name CANNOT be fixed

Shipping Information

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ / State: _____

Zip Code: _____ / Contact Number _____

Email Address: _____

Credit Card Information

Name on card: _____

Card Type: _____ Master Card / _____ Visa / _____ AMX / _____ Discover

Card Number: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____

CVC number (On back); _____

Pay By Check

Make checks payable to: Good Stuff Marketing

Mail with order to: Good Stuff Marketing, PO Box 16343, Greensboro NC, 27416

Additional Reunion Info & Requests for USS BELKNAP DLG/CG-26 Reunion - 2012

MILITARY AVIATION MUSEUM - "WARBIRDS OVER THE BEACH"

If we have enough interest on Saturday morning we can go to the museum. To see if you might be interested go to their web site and you will get all the information: WWW.MILITARYAVIATIONMUSEUM.ORG. If interested, contact Bob Joseph, Reunion Coordination. E-mail address: bjoseph15@cox.net.

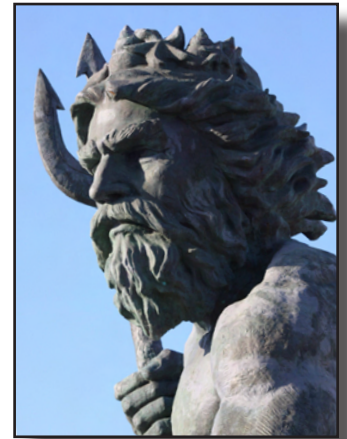
If you are flying into Norfolk International Airport go to baggage pickup. Go beyond Carousal #2. You will see phones for calling the hotel for the Free Shuttle service. Their vans are white and will have Holiday Inn/Hampton Inn logo on the side to the rear of the van. They drop off at both hotels, as they are located side by side.

VERY IMPORTANT!

Holiday Inn room cut off date is September 18, 2012.

Riding Norfolk Tour's final count is September 28, 2012. After that date there will be an additional charge of \$3.00 per person.

If anyone has dietary needs for either the banquet or the riding tour, please notify Jeff Milnes. Milnesjj@verizon.net.



King Neptune on the
Virginia Beach Boardwalk

Shipmates Signed Up for the 2012 Reunion

Abbott, Mike
Apuzzo, Lou
Bates, Mike
Bowers, Gary
Bronsborg Andy
Bronsborg-Adas T. J.
Broyles, Walker
Buffett, James C.
Burgess, Larry
Chmielewski, Ray
Devlin, Terry
Ferguson, Kit
Gensch, Jim
Griffitt, James
Hardwick, Terry
Hatton, James
Hevel, Allen
Hulsey, Joe P.
Husher, Terry
Jessel, David
Joseph, Bob
Kalisz, John

Kubowicz, Ronald
Kurtz, Robert
Lemon, Dick
McCarroll, Fred (Skip)
McGuinness, James
Nolde, Rich
Perry, David
Ralph, Joseph
Rentner, Richard J.
Robinson, Dana
Rounbehler, Gerald
Scott, Ron
Shafer, Dick
Sniff, Al
Soutar, Craig
Strupczewski, Leo
Tremain, Dick
Walton, Gary S.
Wolford, Neil
Yost, Randy
Zimbric, Gerald G.

*as of August 16, 2012

USS BELKNAP ASSOCIATION

2012 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

OCTOBER 18 –OCTOBER 21 2012

Holiday Inn-Virginia/Beach Hotel & Conference Center

5655 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462
(757) 499-4400
www.HIVaBeachNorfolk.com

Call for reservation at 757-499-4400 (Toll free 800-567-3856)

Rooms are available at \$85 per night –plus 13% sales tax-plus \$1.00 per night for lodging tax.

Name: _____

Guest Name(s): _____

	# Persons	Total
Registration Fee: (Shipmate only) \$30.00	# _____	\$ _____
One guest free: additional guests \$25.00 each	# _____	\$ _____
As an INCENTIVE for early registration BY JUNE 1, 2012, the fee will be reduced to \$20.00 for shipmates and \$20.00 for each additional guest. From 1 June to 31 August the fee will be reduced to \$25.00 for shipmates and guests .		

Banquet (Saturday, October 20, 2012)

Cost \$33.00 per person – meal plated and served at table

Make your selection from one of the following entrees:

Boneless Skinless Atlantic Salmon	# _____	\$ _____
Chicken Picatta	# _____	\$ _____
Sliced Roast Beef	# _____	\$ _____

All entrees served with Salad, Seasonal Vegetables, Dessert, Rolls and Butter, coffee or Tea.

Note: Those with special diet needs can be accommodated. Please contact Jeff Milnes.

Tour:

Will be a Riding Tour of Norfolk with stops at MacArthur Memorial, USS Belknap Memorial, Victory Rover Harbor Cruise and ending at Doumar's famous Ice Cream. Price will be \$69 per person – driver/guide gratuity not included

_____ \$ _____

Annual dues if you need to get caught up: \$20.00/year

\$ _____

\$ _____

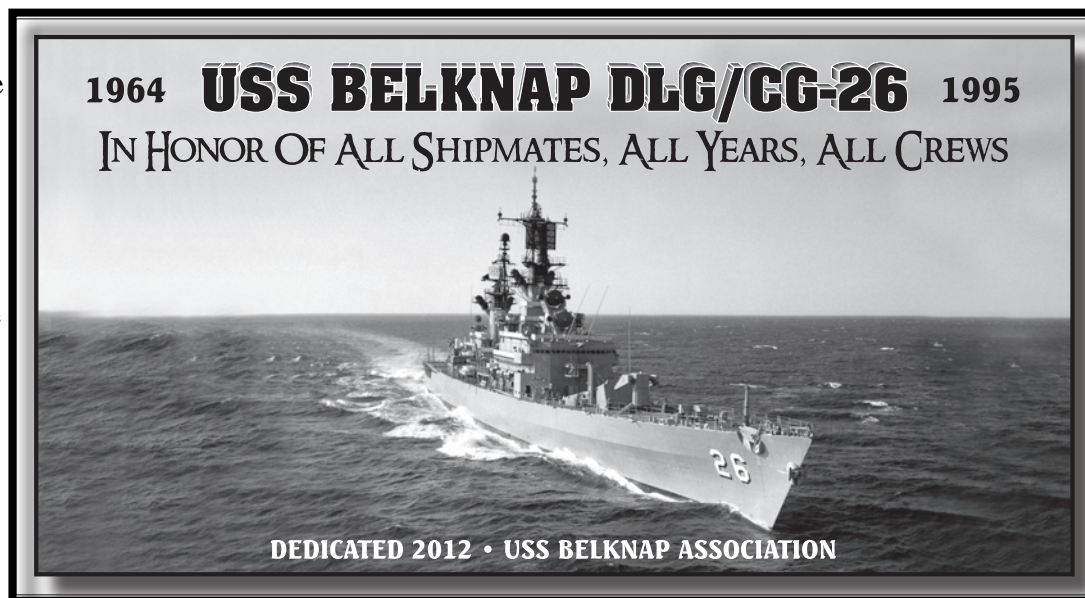
Total: \$ _____

Mail completed form to Jeff Milnes at 490 E. End Ave., Beaver, PA 15009

USS BELKNAP Plaque Ready for Dedication

The USS Belknap Commemorative Memorial Plaque has been completed and is ready for dedication/installation in the U.S. Navy Memorial, in Washington, DC. When installed it will be on panel B-26 in location number 5 (eye level). While there are 177 of our Belknap shipmates in the Navy Log, it will be great to finally see our ship represented. There will be a replica of the ship plaque on display at the Virginia Beach reunion. At this time this project has not been a Belknap Association project, and is being funded by shipmates tax deductible donations to the US Navy Memorial. Total cost of the project is \$3,000.00 dollars. We are one third of the way there. For those who can and would like to contribute to this heart warming effort, be sure to indicate on your checks to the Navy Memorial, "for USS Belknap Memorial". They will send a tax deduction letter back to you, thanking you for your dona-

tion. There will be a listing of all who have participated in this project at the reunion. It will be a agenda item at the business meeting, and it would be great if that discussion was for when the dedication could be scheduled instead of, should we further discuss how/if the Association wants to continue the effort. There will be discussion for those who wish to obtain their own



personal plaques, for \$150.00. Further information on purchasing or donating can be found on our web site.

Shipmate Shows Good Taste and Makes News



Bill Staley (FTG3 1965-69) recently made news in North Carolina. He has a company that specializes in keeping people in the "sauce." His "BS BBQ Sauce" was recently featured in a television news report, pictured here, which can be seen at in full at: www.billsgoodstuff.com. BS Sauce in ice cream? See the website for details.

Jeff Milnes
490 E. End Ave.
Beaver, PA 15009

