

USS CONCORD NEWS LETTER SUMMER 2020



DP2 N Larsen



Ahoy

By Vice President \ Web Dude \ HT1 82-86,

Shipmates \ Families, I think we would all agree that 2020 has kicked off with many challenges. A simple trip to the grocery store has become a journey of wearing mask and staying clear of virtually everyone while trying to avoid an invisible enemy. You've most likely been forced to stay somewhat isolated from the outside world and ready to get back to some form of normality. Nashville, like all other cities closed down in support of the enemy and are doing their best to open up however many of our members expressed concerns about attending USS Concord's 6th biennial reunion. Despite our determination to move forward with our event, it became evident that it was in everyone's best interest to take a breath, put this reunion on hold, and come up with a plan to do our reunion at a future date. I ask that everyone understand why we did this and decide on a "First Then First Now" approach in planning to attend our new date. Article Three below has all the details you need to know and once again let's get our hotels booked, put the dates on the calendar and plan on having a great event!

Topics for this newsletter are as follows:

Article One: Secretaries report.

Article Two: Treasurer's report

Article Three: Reunion 2020 update

Article Four: Member Spotlight

Article Five: Taps



Article one: *From the Secretary,*

Currently our membership strength is at 144! Not too bad but we all know there are more of our shipmates out there, particularly on Facebook. If you are active on Facebook, please give a shout out to your shipmates about CVA. We're the "only" authorized USS Concord Veterans Association in existence. FB is nice but our members are the ones that make reunions happen! That's what it's all about! Speaking of reunions, we regret we had to take early action to cancel this year. There were just too many "ifs" that were well beyond our control. That

said, we have rescheduled the event for next year, September 21-26th. We'll be staying at the same hotel (they kept our rate the same for next year). Of course, we're too far out to finalize any of the tour venues but the options will probably look very much like the options we had scheduled this year. We'll definitely keep you posted on the developments.

Have a safe remainder of the year and mark those calendars for reunion 2021 garrysea@gmail.com.

Welcome aboard to the following shipmates who either renewed or signed up for the first time in our club since our Spring Newsletter release: *Byron Carroll (OS1 82-87), Lee Struble (92-96), Robert Brown (YN1 81-84), Christopher Stegall (OS2 87-91), Charles O'Loughlin (SN 70-71), Robert Devins (LTjg 71-73)*. You can join or renew online here: <http://www.ussconcord.org/id29.html>

GARRY COLLINS (LTjg 81-84)

Article Two: *From the Treasurer,*

As of June 22, 2020, Concord's bank balance is \$3966.11. PayPal balance is \$192.70. Total amount \$4158.81.

Since last quarter sales in the Ship's Store were \$327.55. Ship's Store purchases, mugs & hats totaled \$881.73 beer glasses totaled \$397.60. Check for \$150 for petty cash to cover postage.

STEVE LARSEN (DP2 68-70)

Article Three: Reunion 2020, originally planned for September 22nd-27th at the Hotel Preston in Nashville Tennessee has been rescheduled. The new dates for our Reunion event will be September 21st -26th 2021. Our party pamphlet is now being updated to reflect these changes and will be on the street as soon as all is confirmed. Our planners (A Complete Reunion) will send out the updated brochure when updated and you can once again book your rooms and pick your tours. You may check their site www.acompletereunion.com/uss-concord and our site www.ussconcord.org as we navigate through this process. We have so much planned for this week and I'm sure there will be something for everyone. This will be our 6th reunion and if you have never attended one of these events I highly recommend this one as your first. As always, these hotels sell-out so we recommend you book your room and get your request / checks in the mail as soon as you get the "green light" to sign up. See you at the Grand Ole Opry.

Article Four: Our association identifies various members throughout the year and shares their memories while they served aboard. I'm pleased to announce our *Summer 2020 "Spotlighted member. Steve Larsen, DP2 68-70.*



DP2 Larsen was among the elite who breathed life into our ship and helped set in motion the “First then First now” philosophy. A plank owner, Steve not only participated in the standup of USS Concord, but also our association serving as Treasurer since its creation in 2010. Thanks Steve for your service to our ship as well as our association and for sharing some of your memories with us. You can enjoy his story at our ussconcord.org website.

Article Six: Taps The following shipmates have been reported as loss during this newsletter period:
SK2 Louis Hart 82-86, Monwell Chaisson 72-75, Eric Glover 90-93.

If you have news of a member who has passed and has not been recognized as eternally departed at our website, please contact the webmaster at ussconcord.org.

Chaplain's thoughts:

Hello Mates, I hope all is well. I think one of the most beautiful passages in the Bible, which is often used at Christmas time is; Luke 2:13-14 (KJV) And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

God's idea for you is peace, goodwill toward men. We find in Philippians 4:7 (KJV) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. We see that God's peace bypasses our understanding, it is an assurance within us that everything is going to be alright.

In Revelation 21:3 (KJV) we read; And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

My friends, God has tabernacled with you. God's peace is in you.

Heavenly Father, I pray for the families represented here that in the midst of all the noise around us we would know your peace and rest in the assurance of your love and goodwill towards mankind. Amen

Byron Carroll (OS1 82-87)

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