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| **USS CONCORD WINTER NEWSLETTER**  |



Ahoy

By Vice President \ Web Dude

Shipmates’ \ Families, it seems the year has slipped away and holiday season 2015 is upon us. I have fond memories of Christmas on Concord, (as I’m sure you do), some good and some spent at sea which were less enjoyable. Regardless it was always fulfilling whether with our families, fellow shipmates or both. The times we spent Christmas at sea were always a bit more enjoyable due to the fact that the supply department ensured we had a great Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. When Christmas arrived while in port we had the families on board, gave gifts to the kids and somehow Santa always managed to arrive on Pier four via the base fire truck. Well those are my memories and perhaps it brought back a couple for you. We’ll get together in September at our reunion and I’d be glad to hear your memories as well.

Topics for this newsletter are as follows:

Article One: Membership status.

Article Two: Digital cruise book project.

Article Three: Reunion 2016.

Article Four: TAPs.

*Article One*

Association membership remains strong with many of our original members continuing their involvement, as well as many new members signing up this year. As of this letter we currently have 135 active members on our muster, but 42 memberships will expire on January 1st of 2016. If you’re unsure when your membership will expire, and to prevent your name from being removed from our active members list at our website, please check with our club secretary at garrysea@gmail.com for your status.

Welcome aboard to the following shipmates who either renewed or signed up for the first time in our club since our last newsletter release:

***Gary Porter (IC2 82-85), Anastasios G. Tom "Pappy" Pappanastasiou (RM2 70-70), James Beindorf (EM2 74-79), Larry Dickey (PN3 80-84), George Campbell (YN3 70-73), Richard Paul Mueller (YN3 68-70), John Lendman (DP2 68-70), Andy Dow (SK2 83-87), Charles Arrants (CDR 86-88), Lawrence Gambia (MS2 73-77), Skip Dent (SK2 68-70).***

Hopefully if you're still not a member, you’ll take the plunge and add your name to our coveted list this year!

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 *Article Two*

Geoff Easter (LT 79-81) is in the process of locating all USS Concord cruise books and making a digital library available for the crew. He has asked for individuals who have personal copies to allow him to borrow them to assist in this project and thankfully many of you have come forward to offer assistance. Geoff is still in need of several books to complete this project, and He offers the following comment:

**I would like to thank everyone that I received responses from regarding the digital cruise book project. I have checked through our responses thus far and we have a need for books from '72 through '77 and '85 through '88. We appear to have coverage available for the other years. Think we might also need '79-'80 Med cruise. I lost my copy of that one in house fire years ago and don't think anybody has offered that one yet either. I know Garry (our secretary) has the '82 book. I know the Navy Historical Center has some of the '80's books although not sure how good their copy service is. I want to commence scanning before the end of the year and to have the available books worked up by the beginning of summer 2016. The responses have been pretty good so far. If anyone has the books we are still looking for please let me know what you have and whether you would be able to loan them to me for a short period to get them scanned. I appreciate the responses that have come in over the past few months and will be in touch with people individually to arrange scanning them. Have a happy and safe holiday season!**

If you can help with this project please contact Geoff at gbeaster825@aol.com.

*Article Three*

 Reunion 2016 has been set for September 8-11th 2016 in Norfolk Virginia. Our party committee asked for you “the crew” to decide the location of this event and now is the time to start planning to attend. Once again this event will be coordinated via a professional reunion planning company that specializes in military reunions. Reunion events will begin with tours and shopping, and ultimately lead up to the main event, the banquet, on Saturday night.

Our banquet and lodging will be at the Sheraton Waterside Norfolk. I highly recommend that you book your room now, and via our website link you can enjoy the discounted price offered specifically for our event. If you are not yet a member head on over to our website and join so you can attend this event. Check our website often over the next few months to find out all the details as they unfold, and sign up for the tours \ banquet as soon as it’s made available at ussconcord.org.

Contact Steve nslarsen@gmail.com or Garry garrysea@gmail.com for questions concerning this event.

*Article Four*

 TAPS. Thankfully we have received no knowledge of the loss any former Concord sailors since our last newsletter report. If you have news of a member who has passed and has not been recognized as eternally departed, please contact the webmaster at ussconcord.org.

As we close out 2015 I would like to remind everyone of our store at our website, and encourage all to visit and buy Christmas gifts from our “Ships Store”. All purchases are non-profit and the money goes back into our club to help support functions such as the upcoming reunion. Santa’s Elf “Bob Smith” has been working hard to ensure he has the stuff we like so instead of another pair of socks, or a bottle of cologne, visit the “Ship’s Store” for your Christmas gifts.

Until spring,

Web Dude