|  |
| --- |
| **USS CONCORD WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER**  |



Ahoy

By Vice President \ Web Dude

Shipmates’ \ Families, Happy New Year. Hopefully Christmas 2016 was good and you got everything from Santa that you wanted. With the new year now upon us it is time to set our sight on reunion 2018. As you’re probably aware, this will be the 50th anniversary of our great ship and we plan to make it special. Once again we are reaching out to the crew to let us know when and where you wish to hold this celebration. Please read the choice locations in this letter, visit our website, and help us select our party location. Special thanks to all our loyal members who’ve stayed with us throughout the years, and a big welcome to those who joined in 2016.

Topics for this newsletter are as follows:

Article One: Membership status.

Article Two: New “Hatch” Password

Article Three: Reunion 2018 Location Survey

Article Four: Member Spotlight

Article Five: 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 99 active members on our muster. Many members’ dues expired at year end!

Here is the list of those shipmates:

Rondal Adkins, Bob Boykin, Michael Bozek, Steve Britt, Robert Brown, Bruce Butler, David Cates, Rodney Cooke, Orville Daley, Dennis Dee, Skip Dent, Henry Dye, Christopher Ebert, Paul Erasmus, Kevin Ferrell, Edward Hlusko, James Hopkinson, John Kosicki, Eric Leindecker, Tom Lemon, Wes Linscott, Primo Magpantay, Robert Martin, Gregory McDonald, Brian Miller, Martin Miller, Russell Miller, Ed Million, Eulen Moore, Joseph Muhitch, Dennis Romo, Gary Rubbert, Marc Schnittker, Robert Slater, Dave Smith, David Stascak, Dennis Taylor, Robert Texiere, Arnold “Ed” Thurman, Larry Weill, Norman Wheeler, Mike Yamrick.

We really need you to “re-enlist” so we can keep our membership base solid! We welcome new members to our organization and remind all that we are non-profit and all our proceeds go toward club functions such as our reunions. Membership is required for those who wish to attend our reunion events, but that’s not the only reason to join. By joining or renewing you’ll stay up-to-date on all association happenings (by the way it’s still only 10 bucks per year to join).

You can renew online here: <http://www.ussconcord.org/id29.html>

Welcome aboard to the following shipmates who either renewed or signed up for the first time in our club since our Fall Newsletter release: BT2 Neil Westgate, MS2 Don Jewell, DP2 Ron Moss, BT3 Paul Bartleson, LT Kenneth McMillen, ET1 Donald Berger, GMG2 Alan Wisniewski, OS2 Kent Sotzing,

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

*Article Two*

The “Hatch” page at our website provides pertinent information for our members in good standing. As webmaster, I receive occasional request from Concord sailors wishing to reconnect with members who served during “their time” aboard. I direct active members to the “Hatch”, and those who are still on the fence about joining are advised to join, and enter the “Hatch” to reunite with their shipmates. The “Hatch” is a “members only” benefit and as such must be controlled in accordance with our active member annual data base. Keeping with “Hatch” security we will be changing the password for entry in February. Active members will be emailed the new password for 2017. If your membership is due as of this letter you may wish to renew now to ensure delivery of the new password for this year.

*Article Three*

On Wednesday, 27 November 1968, USS Concord was commissioned at Long Beach Naval Shipyard. Fifty years later we will celebrate this event by presenting Concords 50th reunion at a site yet to be determined by her crew. Those of you who have been with us for several “cruises” now know how this works. You simply go to our website reunion 2018 page, view the 3 advertised location choices and fill out and submit the selection form. Our association secretary will receive your choice input and when the allotted voting time window has closed, tally and announce the winning town. We will do our best to make your wishes a reality!

 Three cities were chosen for consideration as the location for the 2018 reunion: New Orleans, San Antonio, and Charleston SC. Tom Weber will present San Antonio, Geoff Easter New Orleans, and Bob Smith Charleston S.C. and describe what each town has to offer. It is now open season for voting so head on over to our website and view these three shipmates’ suggestion and make your vote count! Deadline to respond is midnight 31 January.

*Article Four*

 Our association has decided to identify various members throughout the year and share their memories and pictures while serving aboard. SK2 John Rogers was chosen as our first “spotlighted” member and his memories are available at our website, “Member spotlight” page. Here is a picture of John in 2015, and for pictures of John and his story while serving our ship, visit our webpage.



*Article Five*

 Taps. Gladly, we’ve received no news of loss of any of our shipmates since our last newsletter.

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 you can probably guess, the flavor of our newsletters for the near future will be geared toward preparing for our next reunion. I try to do the best I can to keep everyone involved and informed to ensure we have a great time together as an association. Even though our next event is still pretty far out, it will be here before we know it so keep it marked on your calendars, ensure your membership stays active, and visit the Hatch page to encourage others who served with you to join and plan on attending.

Lastly, don’t forget to visit our website “Reunion 2018” page, and let us know your reunion city/time of year preferences! Do it here - <http://www.ussconcord.org/id160.html>

Also, read Johns sea story at the “Member Spotlight Page: <http://www.ussconcord.org/id165.html>

r,

Web Dude