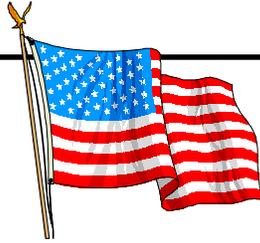




Shift Colors



The Newsletter for Navy Retirees

Volume 47 Issue # 1

Navy Personnel Command

January - March 2002

VA unveils plans for national museum

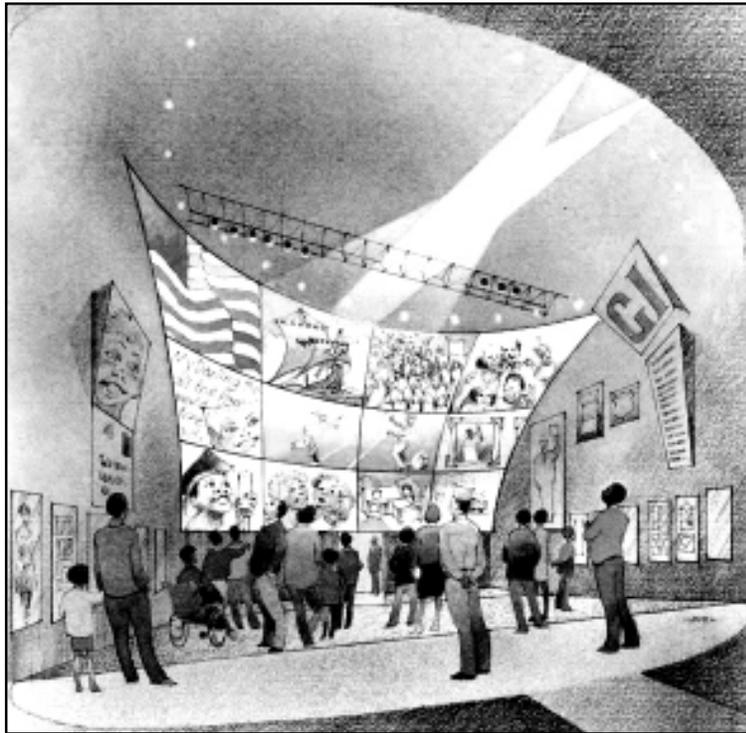
Plans for a National Veterans Museum were unveiled Nov. 8 at a reception in Washington, D.C., hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“Our nation’s veterans have made tremendous contributions to our country and its history,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. “This new museum will tell that story to generations of Americans, both born and not yet born.”

The National Veterans Museum, to be located at VA headquarters at 810 Vermont Ave. N.W., in Washington, will tell a story of homecoming, the universal experience shared by all soldiers and sailors as they return to family, friends and community. Exhibits will



Postcards and Snapshots will be an advanced format object theater presentation with high-definition video footage projected onto a series of wrap-around, suspended or retractable screens.



In the Connections Center, visitors will use multimedia computer terminals with Internet access, and interactive audio-visual exhibits.

discuss the impact on U.S. society of such events as the Bonus Army of 1932 and the GI Bill of 1944.

In remarks at the reception, attended by members of Congress and leaders of America’s veterans service organizations, Principi said he hoped the new museum would be “world-class” in scope and design. He vowed to create an institution where veterans and their families can feel at home while in the nation’s capital, and where they can reconnect with old friends and comrades.

Principi also plans to link the museum with the capital’s other veterans memorials, including the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Women in Military Service to America Memorial, and the World War II Memorial now under construction.

No timetable has been set for construction or completion of the museum.

*Related Site of Interest: www.va.gov
Department of Veterans Affairs Web site.*

Straight from the source

Dear Fellow Retirees,

There have been numerous changes in our lives as a result of the horrific events of Sept. 11, 2001. These changes include, but are not limited to, the way we travel, our outlook on life (how precious it is) and concerns heretofore never dreamed. But through all of the loss of life and destruction we remain united and indivisible and our pride in being Americans has not been altered. Current events have brought a higher appreciation for those who serve, such as police, fire fighters, our military and its leadership. We need to include these heroes in our prayers.

There has been much action in Washington of interest to the retiree community. Our legislators have tabled any revision to the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) for FY02. The Secretary of the Navy's Retiree Council (SECNAV RC) and military fraternal groups will certainly increase their efforts for equitable revisions in SBP to be included in the FY03 National Defense Authorization Act. Changes in the law that governs the Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act continue to be reviewed. The Full Concurrent Receipt issue has support from both the House and Senate and is in committee as this issue goes to print. The legislators are now confronted with a funding issue. Hopefully, when you read this you'll say, "That's old news."

On the brighter side, TRICARE for Life (TFL) and the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program are moving well, with the exception of a small glitch. The problem (which affected a small but important group) should be corrected with only a minor inconvenience to that group.

Our October – December 2001 edition of Shift Colors highlighted our Retired Activities Office (RAO) volunteers. We retirees have got to be proud of the men and women who provide assistance to our shipmates. RAOs receive no compensation for their efforts and are our unsung heroes.

Please... if the opportunity arises and you are in the neighborhood where an RAO is located, stop in and thank them for their deeds. They would appreciate hearing from you.

Finally, the response from our community to the retiree decal in the last newsletter has been overwhelming. Many have asked where to get additional decals. We are investigating the most feasible action to make this happen.

I will keep you apprised of our progress.

The Retired Activities staff wish you and your loved ones a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.



In Your Service,
Dennis Mills

Shift Colors

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Chief of Naval Personnel

RADM Gerald L. Hoewing

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Shift Colors, the Newsletter for Navy Retirees (NAVPERS 15886), is published quarterly in accordance with Department of the Navy Publication and Printing Regulations. The Secretary of the Navy has determined that this publication is necessary in the transaction of business required by law of the Department of the Navy. Send correspondence to:

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Contents

VA News

pages 4-6

Seminars

page 7

Tricare News

page 8

Useful Phone Numbers

page 9

Reunions

page 10-13, 16

DFAS

page 15

A message from the Chief of Naval Personnel



Welcome to 2002, and all the optimism and challenges we face with the beginning of this year. Many of you know too well what it's like to begin a new year while the country is at war. We thank you for the lessons you have taught us about service, vigilance and sacrifice.

As we watched our Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen and Marines respond to their call-to-arms after September 11th, and their focus on the mission throughout the holiday season, there was one holiday that never seemed to end — Veteran's Day. Though war was never far from anyone's mind over the traditional season of hope, a sense of patriotism and unity remained ever present. Many of the World War II veterans I speak with continue to tell me that the patriotic spirit prevalent in our society today is the same spirit last seen during their conflict.

Supporting this patriotic spirit, I've received an overwhelmingly positive response to the "Retired Navy" decals that were inserted in the last issue of *Shift Colors*. The process of getting them to you was several months in the making, but they could not have arrived in your mailboxes at a better time. Americans in search of heroes have to look no further than the location you choose to display your symbol of Pride, Tradition and Service. The Navy you built and the Sailors you trained owe much to your example.

Those Sailors continue to make valuable contributions in our nation's war on terrorism, and we are doing whatever it takes to improve their quality of service. The new year will bring them the largest pay raise since 1981, and for the first time ever, the chance to participate in the Thrift Savings Plan (401K Plan). Retention in our force continues to soar. We ended FY01 with the highest first-term reenlistment rates of any service and we continue to improve on those tremendous efforts. Please continue to thank them for their service; your words of encouragement mean a lot to them.

As we continue our war on terrorism, I want to assure you that we in the personnel business are also focused on improving, not just preserving, retiree benefits. Despite much progress in some areas, I am disappointed that we did not achieve a few of our key objectives for veterans. However, like each of you, we remain determined to keep making our case until we gain sufficient support to succeed.

Please continue to contact me with your thoughts and suggestions at p00@bupers.navy.mil. Also, Mr. Michael Wardlaw, Director, Casualty Assistance and Retired Activities Division, and his staff welcome your input. Contact them at (800) 255-8950, or via e-mail at p62s2@bupers.navy.mil, or through regular mail at Navy Personnel Command (PERS-62R, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055-6220).

All the best!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norb Ryan Jr." in a cursive style.

NORB RYAN JR.
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy



VA expediting oldest benefit applications

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi took a critical step recently in fulfilling his — and President Bush’s — promise to veterans and their families to reduce backlogs in applications for benefits when he officially accepted the report of a blue-ribbon panel studying the issue.

“The president and I promised a top-to-bottom review of our claims process,” said Principi. “That promise has been kept, and now is the time to get to work to fix this problem so that veterans get the benefits they earned through their service to this nation.”

The 12-person Claims Processing Task Force, created in May and headed by retired Vice Adm. Daniel Cooper, examined a wide range of issues affecting the speedy processing of claims, from medical examinations and information technology, to efforts to shrink the backlog and increase the accuracy of decisions.

The task force gave Principi 34 recommendations, more than half of which can be accomplished within six months. The goal is to reduce the claims backlog and processing times by 50 percent during the next two years.

The task force identified ways to allow VA’s employees to spend more time on processing claims, to improve the basic claims process, to enhance accountability at all levels, and to emphasize and encourage all VA offices to attack this problem.

“The task force has been honored to participate in this extremely

important endeavor,” said Chairman Cooper. “It is my hope that our report will serve as a catalyst to further the secretary’s goals to have consistent, equitable and timely answers to veterans claims.”

During a 120-day period, the task force reviewed past studies and recommendations, visited VA regional offices, examined training, records and data processing centers, and held numerous open hearings with both the general public and private sector organizations.

“It’s important to remember this problem was caused by ineffective processes, not people,” added Principi. “The men and women of VA who process claims have worked diligently to help America’s veterans.”

Overall, VA has about 668,000

claims of all types awaiting an initial decision or an appeal. That includes 355,000 cases in VA regional offices on disability claims for service-connected compensation.

Nearly 2.7 million veterans receive compensation for disabilities incurred in service or pensions for wartime veterans who become totally disabled in civilian life. In addition, more than a half million widows, children and parents of deceased veterans are paid survivor compensation or death pensions.

“Providing benefits to veterans is a core mission of VA. It is the foundation upon which VA rests,” said Principi. “We can — and will — do better.”

For more information, visit www.va.gov/whatsnew/ under “Claims Processing Task Force Report” site.



Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. Norb Ryan Jr., visits with CDR Ervin Rice (USN Ret.) at Naval Air Station Brunswick, Maine, where CDR Rice has logged more than 10,000 volunteer hours in the Retired Activities Office since 1981.



'Veteran's Experience' to educate students

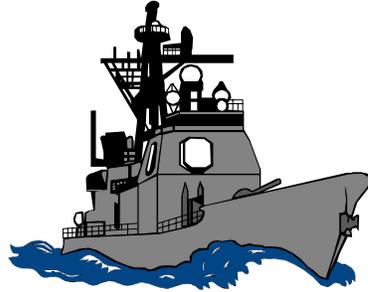
by *Veteran's Affairs Public Affairs*

In support of President Bush's initiative to unite schools with America's veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has started a Web site, "The Veterans' Experience."

The new VA Web site will provide information to help teachers and veterans inform students about contributions veterans have made to the American way of life.

The online educational materials are designed to help the President's new campaign, "America's Lessons in Liberty," which strives to bring a veteran to every school for Veterans Day, and as often as possible during the year.

The new site, which is hosted on



VA's main site at www.va.gov/veteranedu, will link to sites operated by veterans' service organizations, civic education organizations and the VA's own Veterans Day section.

"No one can tell the story of our nation's struggles against the foes of freedom better than our veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. He added that veteran

organizations already encourage members to reach out to schools with stories about military experiences, and the VA's new Web site will support educational programs.

Principi emphasized that the President's call to veterans to offer themselves as guest speakers at schools goes beyond Veterans Day and is a call also to students to recognize America's veterans.

The Web site will include examples of sacrifices by well-known veterans, information on the country's freedoms and explanations of popular American symbols of patriotism.

For more information on the Department of Veterans Affairs visit www.va.gov.

Veterans warned about DD214 scam

We have all heard the horror stories associated with the theft of one's identity. Most of us have not been touched by the anxiety associated with this type of event whether by luck or by vigilance to keep private information out of unauthorized hands.

Recently, it was brought to the attention of the PERS-62 staff that, allegedly, an unscrupulous individual was using information available on a retiree's DD214 that was registered at a local courthouse to assume the members' identity for fraudulent reasons.

With the exception of certain documents closed by the courts, records at courthouses throughout the United States are readily available to the general public. Those of you that have recorded your DD214 with the local courthouse should be

aware that your documents are not fully secure and are available to anyone who wishes to scrutinize them.

Although the incidents of identification fraud are rare, you may want to consider other methods of securing an additional DD214. For example, placing one in a safe deposit box, at family members' homes, with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), or your military fraternal group (American Legion, Fleet Reserve Association and The Retired Officers Association).

In any case, inform your family members of where the extra copies may be found. If you would like to obtain more information on ID fraud, visit www.consumer.gov/idtheft or call the Federal Trade Commissions Identity Theft Hotline toll-free at **1-877-438-4338**.



Premium cut to save vets \$15 million per year

A majority of the veterans who carried military life insurance into their civilian lives and have maintained coverage through the Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) program will enjoy \$15 million in premium reductions during the next 12 months.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is cutting premium rates for VGLI policyholders between the ages of 30 and 59. This affects more than a quarter-million veterans and includes about 70 percent of those who maintain policies through the regular payment of premiums.

"This decrease is part of our continuing effort to provide veterans with insurance coverage that provides financial security at a reasonable price in today's market," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Anthony J. Principi.

VA's experience with the costs of the program enable periodic adjustments to keep the premiums affordable while ensuring VGLI is self-sustaining. The new premiums also keep VGLI competitive with private insurance companies.

Depending upon the age of policyholders, premium rates will decrease from five percent to 24 percent. For example, policyholders with \$100,000 in coverage between the ages of 55 and 59 will see a \$4 drop in their monthly premiums to \$84, while the group from 45 to 49 years of age will have a \$10 monthly reduction to \$32, a \$120 yearly savings.

Policyholders will see the premium reductions and additional discounts reflected in their first premium bill after July 9.

Coinciding with the reduction are new premium discounts that will be offered to those who make payments quarterly or semi-annually. Currently, only a discount for annual payments is offered.

Just two years ago, in the spring of 1999, VA reduced premium rates an average of 30 percent for veterans who were under age 50. Since that time, enrollment in VGLI has increased. VA officials hope the July decrease will continue that trend.

VGLI allows former military personnel to convert their Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage to lifetime renewable, five-year term life insurance.

About 392,300 veterans are covered under VGLI policies with a total face value of about \$37.4 billion.

VA to lower copayments for outpatient care

Veterans who currently make copayments for outpatient health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will have lower bills, and in some cases, no bills at all, under rules published in the Federal Register.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi is lowering the \$50.80 copayment some veterans now pay for outpatient care. This decrease is part of an evaluation of copayments — outpatient, medication and long-term care — by VA.

The new regulation sets up a

three-tier copayment system for outpatient care. The first tier will be for preventive care visits and will cost veterans nothing. This care includes flu shots, laboratory tests, certain radiology services, hepatitis C screenings and numerous other preventive services. Primary care outpatient visits comprise the second tier and will require a copayment of \$15. The last tier includes specialty outpatient care, like outpatient surgery, audiology and optometry and will cost \$50.

The copayments do not apply for

the treatment of medical problems that are officially recognized as "service connected." For nonservice-connected conditions, the outpatient copayments apply primarily to veterans enrolled in Priority Group 7.

Every dollar collected from outpatient and medication copayments is returned to the VA facility where the veteran received medical care. The copayment collections are used to improve medical care for veterans.

The medication copayment regulation will be effective Feb. 4, 2002.



Upcoming Retiree Seminars



<p style="text-align: center;">California</p> <p>Sunnyvale April 2003 (650) 603-8047 POC: CAPT French Crandrcfrench@earthlink.net L1kelsay@home.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Michigan</p> <p>Mt Clemens Aug. 24, 2002 (9 a.m.- 3 p.m.) Bldg 780, Johnson Street Selfridge ANGB (810) 307-5580 POC: Walter Melms selfrao@tir.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Texas</p> <p>San Antonio March 30, 2002 Fort Sam Houston at Blesse Auditorium in the School of Medicine (7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) (210) 225-2997 Ext 119 Satrao@cnrf.nola.navy.mil</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Delaware</p> <p>Wilmington March 16, 2002 "The Landings" the Dover AFB Collocated Club (302) 998-3328 uzonyi@cnrf.nola.navy.mil rjkusn@aol.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Minnesota</p> <p>Minneapolis Sept. 20-21, 2002 (612) 713-1578 philipson@worldnet.att.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">United Kingdom</p> <p>England Jan. 26, 2002 (10 a.m.- 4 p.m.) RAF West Ruislip 01895-61-6500 011-44-1895-61-6500 (fm US) 00-44-1895-61-6500 (fm other countries) sturges@cnauk.navy.mil</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Japan</p> <p>Atsugi April 13, 2002 Joint with RAO Yokosuka POC: Joe Babb 0467-78-5015/ext 264-4190 (011-81-6160-64-4190 fm US) FSCom@atsugi.navy.mil J-Babb@atsugi.navy.mil</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mississippi</p> <p>Gulfport Spring 2002 at the Smith Theatre CBC Gulfport (8 a.m. - Noon) (228) 871-3000 Ext 35 jmlardner@cbcgulf.navfac.navy.mil</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Washington</p> <p>Everett May 18, 2002 (8 a.m.- 1 p.m.) Support Complex (Smokey Point) in Fleet & Family Support Center and Totem Rec Center (425) 304-3775 (800) 531-1787 (ask for RAO) RetiredActivities@everett.navy.mil</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Japan</p> <p>Yokosuka April 13, 2002 Joint with RAO Atsugi POC: Scott Keehn 0468-21-1910/ext 243-9626 (011-81-6160-43-9626 fm US) c200mb1@cfay.navy.mil</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tennessee</p> <p>Millington May 5, 2002 (901) 874-5195 Ractivities@navsuppact- midsouth.navy.mil * no hyphen in e-mail address</p>		
<p>January-March</p>			<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Shift Colors</i></p>



Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

TRICARE for Life adds 1.5 million beneficiaries to begin new fiscal year

*By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen Rhem, USA
American Forces Press Service*

TRICARE for Life kicked off on schedule Oct. 1, adding 1.5 million new beneficiaries to the military's healthcare system.

"This benefit ... is helping to restore trust in our government," said David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, in a ceremony at the TRICARE Management Activity in Washington, D.C. "The introduction of this benefit today reaffirms the determination of Congress and the commitment of the Department of Defense to service members of today and of yesterday."

Officials believe there may be glitches but that they'll be fixed as soon as they're identified. "I am anticipating an electronic bump here and there," said Dr. J. Jarrett Clinton, acting assistant secretary for health affairs. "But I know now we have people who take care of electronic bumps."

That TRICARE for Life began on schedule in spite of the national tragedies of Sept. 11 speaks highly of the people who work for TRICARE, Chu said.

"This is a new day for the entire military health system and a great

one, and I salute each of you," he said to the TRICARE employees at the ceremony.

It also makes the American people realize how much they depend on their military services. "This last month has made us realize the sacrifices that our military members and (DoD) civilians make toward maintaining a democracy," Clinton said.

Officials believe the



TRICARE for Life program will send a message that will help recruiting and retention as well.

"This is a magnificent benefit, and we believe it will do a great deal to both recruit and ... retain those people who we so desperately need and rely upon to maintain this nation of democracy and freedom," Clinton said.

TRICARE for Life extends TRICARE benefits to military retirees who are over age 65 and Medicare-eligible.

The fiscal 2001 defense authorization act extended coverage to this

previously ineligible group.

For eligible retirees and their spouses who are over age 65 and enrolled in Medicare Part B, TRICARE will become a second payer to Medicare starting Oct. 1. This will end their need to pay many out-of-pocket expenses, and most will probably conclude they no longer need to buy "Medigap" supplemental insurance, TRICARE officials said.

The only requirements for beneficiaries are that they ensure the accuracy of their enrollment information in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System and that they be enrolled in Medicare Part B.

All but about 70,000 of the 1.5 million retirees eligible for TRICARE for Life are enrolled in Medicare Part B, said Steve Lillie, TRICARE's director of over-65 benefits. Medicare's next general enrollment period is January through March 2002.

Beneficiaries with questions should call the newly expanded TRICARE for Life center toll-free at **1-888-DOD-LIFE (1-888-363-5433)** or visit the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.



Ready Reference Phone Numbers

Air Force Retired Affairs	(800) 531-7502	Navy Lodge Reservation Service	(800) 628-9466
Arlington National Cemetary	(703) 695-3250 or (703) 695-3255	Navy Retired Activities Office	(800) 255-8950
Army Retired Affairs	(800) 336-4909	Navy Uniform Shop	(800) 368-4088
Awards Information (Washington, D.C.)	(202) 685-1770	Reserve Component SBP Section (Code 416)	(800) 535-2699
Coast Guard Retired Affairs	(800) 772-8724	Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)	(800) 419-1473
DEERS Verification	(800) 538-9552	Shift Colors Magazine	(901) 874-3154
Defense Finance and Accounting Service Cleveland, Active Duty	(800) 346-3374	Social Security Administration (SSA)	(800) 772-1213
DFAS Cleveland, Retired Pay Customer Service	(800) 321-1080	Ships Historian (Washington, D.C.)	(202) 433-3643
DFAS Denver, Annuity Section	(800) 435-3396	TRICARE Headquarters	(303) 676-3526
Dept. of Justice Radiation Compensation Program	(800) 729-7327	TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program	(877) 363-6337
I.D. Cards, Benefits and Eligibility	(800) 443-9297 or (901) 874-3360	U.S. Naval Home	(800) 332-3527
Internal Revenue Service	(800) 829-1040	U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home	(800) 422-9988
Marine Corps Retired Affairs	(800) 336-4649	VA National Service Life Insurance (NSL)	(800) 669-8477
National Personnel Records Center	(314) 538-4141	VA Regional Office	(800) 827-1000
Naval Reserve Personnel Center (Records)	(800) 535-2699	VA Service Department Burial Benefits	(800) 697-6947
Navy Worldwide Locator	(901) 874-3388	Veteran's Group Life Insurance (VGLI)	(800) 419-1473

Upcoming Reunions

USS AMPHION (AR 13)

San Antonio, TX; May 16-19, 2002
Contact Henry Miller
1214 Langstonshire Lane
Morrisville, NC 27560
(919) 677-9554
hmillersr@nc.rr.com

USS ARCADIA (AD 23)

San Antonio, TX; May 16-19, 2002
Contact Andrew Malone
38 Croyden Lane
Hicksville, NY 11801
(516) 681-0725
arcd23@yahoo.com

USS BADOENG STRAIT (CVE 116)

Jacksonville, FL; May 2-5, 2002
Contact Henry Trotter
106 Sage Drive
Universal City, TX 78148
(210) 658-3447
claytrott@iname.com

USS BATAAN (CVL 29)

Branson, MO; May 15-19, 2002
Contact Clayton Wright
1413 Easthill Square N.E.
Canton, OH 44714
(330) 497-7842

USS BLAKELY (FF 1072)

Charleston, SC; July 18-21, 2002
Contact Merle Houk
P.O. Box 52
Volant, PA 16156
(724) 533-2297
mhouk20@hotmail.com

USS BUSHNELL (AS 15)

Key West, FL; Apr. 18-22, 2002
Contact Ben Supowitz
9106 Springview Road
Philadelphia, PA 19115-2816
bene124@msn.com

USS CADMUS (AR 14)

San Antonio, TX; May 16-19, 2002
Contact Robert E Baschmann
11231 Bullis Road
Marilla, NY 14102
(716) 655-5415
dinamlrs@aol.com

USS CAMBRIA (APA 36)

Charleston, SC; Apr. 25-May 1, 2002
Contact David Stoll
508 West Pearl Street
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-3786
destoll@bright.net

**USS CAVALLA
(SS/SSK/AGS 244/SSN 684)**

Galveston, TX; Apr. 16-17, 2002
Contact Zeke Zellmer
665 Grant Court
Satellite Beach, FL 32973
(321) 777-2966
cavallareunion02@worldnet.att.net

USS CHARLES R. WARE (DD 865)

Charleston, SC; May 2003
Contact Thomas Alvarez
27 Francis Street
Mechanicville, NY 12118
(518) 664-7513
warewkc@aol.com

**USS CHICAGO (CA 14/29/136/
CG 11/SSN 721)**

Oklahoma City, OK; May 8-12, 2002
Contact Stuart Stewart
1705 S 227th Place
Seattle, WA 98198-7639
(206) 824-4814
backstay@mindspring.com

USS C. K. BRONSON (DD 668)

Jacksonville, FL; May 15-19, 2002
Contact Chuck Bowman
32745 Fallhaven Circle
North Ridgeville, OH 44039
(440) 748-6623
nbowman@compuserve.com

USS COMPTON (DD 705)

Melbourne, FL; Apr. 19-22, 2002
Contact Clifford Fry
5543 Shriver Street
Leesburg, FL 34748
(352) 326-2382
dd705@prodigy.net

USS DASHIELL (DD 659)

Frankenmuth, MI; June 9-13, 2002
Contact Bill Butler
P.O. Box 427
Metamora, MI 48455
(810) 678-2184

USS DEKALB COUNTY (LST 715)

Mobile, AL; May 6-9, 2002
Contact Roy Caves
76 Redbud Lane
Madison, MS 39110
(601) 856-8672
Fax (601) 981-7676
lst715@aol.com

**USS ELMER MONTGOMERY
(FF 1082)**

Mayport, FL; Apr. 26-28, 2002
Contact Bill Salter
23218 Palomar Place
Land O'Lakes, FL 34639
(813) 908-1100
wsalter@techtransfer.com

USS ENGLAND (DLG/CG 22)

San Diego, CA; June 12-15, 2003
Contact Dennis O'Brien
909 E Yorba Linda Blvd H218
Placentia, CA 92870
(714) 961-6840
dennis@ussengland.net

USS FARGO (CL 106)

Newport, RI; September 2002
Contact Fred Huntington
4608 Valley Forge Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-2208
(757) 499-5076
dinamlrs@aol.com

Upcoming Reunions

USS FORREST SHERMAN (DD 931)

Ocean City, MD; Apr. 21-24, 2002
Contact Kurt Wagemann
720 Reedy Circle
Bel Air, MD 21014
(410) 836-9260
kurt.wagemann@verizon.com

USS FRANCIS HAMMOND (DE/FF 1067)

Norfolk, VA; May 2002
Contact Tim Williams
191 W Log Bridge Road
Coventry, RI 02816-4517
(401) 397-8555
tdmallard@aol.com

USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVB/CVA/CV 42)

Frederick, MD; May 15-19, 2002
Contact Ronald Reese
17536 Frederick Road
Mt. Airy, MD 21771
(800) 437-0869

USS GENERAL W. A. MANN (AP 112)

Portland, OR; May 3-6, 2002
Contact J. Anthony
19 Springmeadow Drive
Downingtown, PA 19335
(610) 873-6304
mjanth@webtv.net

USS HALFBEAK (SS 352)

Groton, CT; June 28-30, 2002
Contact Billy J. Reeves
P.O. Box 199
Winchester, KY 40392-0199
(859) 745-1599
reevesbj@yahoo.com

USS HANCOCK (CV/CVA 19)

New Orleans, LA; May 23-27, 2002
Contact Joe Bizet
P.O. Box 8034
Shreveport, LA 71148
(318) 686-2809
twimbo@aol.com

USS KEMPER COUNTY (LST 854)

Washington, D.C.; May 16-19, 2002
Contact James Simonson
2931 Cooper Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301
(320) 253-2167
jsimonson@stcloudstate.edu

USS KENNETH D. BAILEY (DD/DDR 713)

Mobile, AL; Apr. 25-28, 2002
Contact Robert Levine
439 Weld Street
West Roxbury, MA 02132-1109
(617) 327-3286
rhl713@aol.com

USS KENNETH WHITING (AV 14)

Daytona Beach, FL; May 6-10, 2002
Contact John Hart
11661 SW 137th Loop
Dunellon, FL 34432
(352) 861-2062
jonpott9@cs.com

USS KEPPLER (DD/DDE 765)

Milwaukee, WI; May 30-June 2, 2002
Contact Willard Darrell
23 Kenneth Lane
North Babylon, NY 11703
(631) 586-4565
dinamlrs@aol.com

USS KING (DLG 10/DDG 41)

San Diego, CA; June 20-23, 2002
Contact Terry Forsyth
685 Spring Street 157
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
(360) 378-8685
forsyth@rockisland.com

USS KISKA (AE 35)

Chicago, IL; July 11-14, 2002
Contact Mark Anderson
1019 Glenwood Avenue
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 360-9331
drmarkhot3@home.com

USS LANG (DD 399)

Galveston, TX; Apr. 5-13, 2002
Contact Al Weber
826 Greenbelt
Houston, TX 77079-4501
(281) 493-1219
jonpott9@cs.com

USS L. MENDEL RIVERS (SSN 686)

North Charleston, SC; May 9-12, 2002
Contact Luis del Prado
4501 Ironstone Circle
Orlando, FL 32812
(407) 249-5797
bubblehead630@hotmail.com

USS LST 533

Norfolk, VA; Apr. 26-29, 2002
Contact Bob Saveland
(252) 633-3831

USS LST 610

Tucson, AZ; May 5-8, 2002
Contact Curt Kuebler
3930 Northstar Drive
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406
(928) 680-5838, ckcookie@rraz.net
Or Gordon Wahlberg
6510 N Tierra De Las Catalinas #7
Tucson, AZ 85718
(520) 577-3251, gpw25pls@cs.com

USS MACDONOUGH (DLG 8/DDG 39)

Bahamas Cruise; May 5-9, 2002
Contact Walter Carroll
1549 Fieldcrest Circle
Rock Hill, SC 29732
(803) 366-2016

Upcoming Reunions

USS MARIAS (AO 57)

San Antonio, TX; May 16-19, 2002
Contact Ray Bower
3471 Blackjack Court
Lake Wales, FL 33853
(863) 676-4047
dinamlrs@aol.com

USS MULIPHEN (AKA 61)

Arlington, VA; Apr. 25-28, 2002
Contact Ronald Waint
105 Sonant Drive
Newark, DE 19973
(302) 737-1751
rwaint@delanet.com

USS NANTAHALA (AO 60)

San Antonio, TX; May 16-19, 2002
Contact Jack Gibbs
40695 Newport Drive
Plymouth, MI 48170-4742
(734) 455-9306
jegibbs@mediaone.net

USS NELSON (DD 623)

Valley Forge, PA; May 2-4, 2002
Contact Joseph Bobby
411 Oak Street
Port Carbon, PA 17965-1708
(570) 622-9867
lipt@ruralcomm.com

USS NEW ORLEANS (CA 32)

Lowell, MA; May 23-26, 2002
Contact Henry Wristen
15 Wason Road
Hudson, NH 03051-5036
(603) 882-3951
hwdive32@aol.com

USS NOBLE (APA 218)

Fredericksburg, TX; Apr. 10-13, 2002
Contact Vincent Clarke
508 Ninth Street
New Cumberland, PA 17070
(717) 774-3172
oilkingvpc@aol.com
Web site www.ussnoble.com

USS OSTARA (AKA 33)

Mitchell, KY; Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 2002
Contact George Swarts
6044 Hazel Drive
Florence, KY 41042
(859) 283-2984
gsw9131135@aol.com

USS PALAU (CVE 122)

Lancaster, PA; May 1-5, 2002
Contact Harry Weldy
45 W Cheery Street
P.O. Box 122
Rising Sun, MD 21005
(410) 658-6043
hweldy@dol.net

USS PAWCATUCK (AO 108)

Phoenix, AZ; June 19-23, 2002
Contact David Willis
15807 Cimarron Drive
Surprise, AZ 85374
(623) 214-9835
dwshs53@aol.com

USS POMPON (SSR 267)

North Charleston, SC; Apr. 26-28, 2002
Contact John Lookabill
2501 Bengal Road
North Charleston, SC 29406
(843) 797-2991
johnd2501@aol.com

USS PURDY (DD 734)

Norfolk, VA; May 2-5, 2002
Contact Larry DiPasquale
3744 Surrey Drive
Allentown, PA 18103-5329
(610) 433-4787
chiefdi@juno.com

USS PYRO (AE 1/24)

Jacksonville, LF; Apr. 24-27, 2002
Contact Bob Hauge
10460 Sandpiper Avenue
Brooksville, FL 34614-0900
(352) 596-0701, winmillbob@aol.com
Or Gary Golay
14746 Maple Trail SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372-1465
(952) 447-6449, bgolay@msn.com
Web site www.usspyro.com

USS RALEIGH (CL 7)

New Orleans, LA; March 27-31 2002
Contact Sam Feldt
1111 Herman Drive # 8F
Houston, TX 77004-6929
(713) 521-2070
(713) 521-0249

USS RICHMOND K. TURNER

Charleston, SC; Fall 2003
Contact Phil Habib
7914 Holgate Rd
Pensacola, FL 32514-6723
(850) 474-4903
phabib@bellsouth.net

USS SCHOFIELD (DEG/FFG 3)

St. Louis, MO; May 30-June 2, 2002
Contact Richard Cohagan
P.O. Box 223
Duluth, GA 30096
(770) 623-9022
usnavyretired@juno.com

USS SEA DEVIL (SS 400/SSN664)

Norfolk, VA; March 22-23, 2003
Contact Michael Martin
RR1 Box 2875
Palmyra, VA 22963
(434) 589-8298

USS TANGIER (AV 8)

Arlington Heights, IL; May 15-19, 2002
Contact Irv Svoboda
249 Greenbriar Street
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
(847) 437-1068

Upcoming Reunions

USS TARAWA

(CV/CVA/CVS 40/LHA 1)

St. Louis, MO; Apr. 18-21, 2002
Contact Frank Grosey
14430 Amethyst Road
Victorville, CA 92392
(760) 241-7472
bt2fpg@msn.com

USS THOMAS E. FRASER (DM 24)

Biloxi, MS; May 20-22, 2002
Contact Bill Sturgill
P.O. Box 332
Grass Lake, MI 49240
(517) 522-8594
bilsturg@aol.com

USS THORNBACK (SS 418)

Charleston, SC; May 3-5, 2002
Contact James Barnes
60358 County Road 11
Elkhart, IN 46517-8719
(219) 875-4683

USS TICONDEROGA

(CV/CVA/CVS 14/CG 47)

Albuquerque, NM; May 16-19, 2002
Contact Frank McDonald
180 Country Club Garden
Santa Fe, NM 87505-2888
(505) 438-3015

USS TOLOVANA (AO 64)

Biloxi, MS; April 2002
Contact Joseph Baer
126 Westfield Drive
Holliston, MA 01746-1257
(508) 429-1257
ao64baer@aol.com

USS UMPQUA (ATA 209)

Charleston, SC; Apr. 21-24, 2002
Contact Jerry Bitzel
2801 Mt. Carmel Road
Upperco, MD 21155
(410) 343-0599
gbitzusn@aol.com

USS VICKSBURG (CL 86)

Philadelphia, PA; May 16-19, 2002
Contact George Shaffer
32 Valley Road
Colonia, NJ 07067
(732) 382-3869
dinamlrs@aol.com

USS WABASH (AOR 5)

Dallas, TX; June 2002
Contact Dennis Schrock
123 South Ohio Street
Atoka, OK 74525-2429
(580) 889-7707
drycleaner2000@yahoo.com

USS WADDELL (DDG 24)

San Diego, CA; June 27-30, 2002
Contact Bill Brewer
13070 Triadelphia Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042
(410) 531-1250
brewer@usswaddell.com

USS WILLARD KEITH (DD 775)

Braintree, MA; May 15-18, 2002
Contact Ed or Bev Raney
42 Brown Street
Brockton, MA 02301-1006
(508) 586-8337
karaly@gis.net

USS ZANE (DMS 14/DD 337),

USS PALMER (DMS 5)

Virginia Beach, VA; May 15-19, 2002
Contact Colie Gruber
5115 Gateway Drive
Tampa, FL 33615-4622
(813) 884-4019
screbel@juno.com

USS ZEAL (AM 131)

Virginia Beach, VA; Apr. 25-28, 2002
Contact Frederick Rufe
1126 Pearl Street
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865-3619
(908) 859-0606
fredr1@fast.net

ASIATIC FLEET

Houston, TX; Feb. 26-March 3, 2002
Contact John Slaughter
3801 Canterbury Road #812
Baltimore, MD 21218-2377
(410) 235-4471
captjack@juno.com

NAVAL RESERVE RECRUITING ASSOCIATION

Columbia, MD; June 6-9, 2002
Contact Jay Knight
62 Narrow Lane Court
Pensacola, FL 32506-7500
(850) 455-8831
nrramepo@msn.com

NAVY CRUISER SAILORS ASSOCIATION

Annapolis, MD; Apr. 28-May 3, 2002
Contact Edward August
21 Colonial Way
Rehoboth, MA 02769
(508) 252-3524
Fax (508) 252-3524
usncsa@aol.com

NMCB 22

Corpus Christi, TX; March 8-9, 2002
Contact Gerald Smith
1141 Bradshaw Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

PBM MARINER/PSM MARLIN

Corpus Christi, TX; Apr. 18-20, 2002
Contact Kenneth Courtright
11826 Lady Palm Cove
San Antonio, TX 78213
(210) 308-6818
Or George Mamoulides
7204 Catamount Court
Raleigh, NC 27615
(919) 847-0779

See Reunions, page 16

When can I wear my uniform?

Retirees may wear the uniform corresponding to the rank or rating indicated on the retired list. The grooming standards presently in effect for active duty personnel apply, and the uniform must conform to Uniform of the Day or the uniform occasion.

OCCASIONS FOR WHICH WEARING A UNIFORM MAY BE APPROPRIATE:



- Memorial Services
- Military Weddings
- Military Funerals
- Military Balls
- Patriotic parades on national holidays or military parades or ceremonies in which any active or reserve military unit is participating.
- Meetings or functions of associations formed for military purposes uniform may be worn to and from the

event, but travel must be completed on the day of the event.

- The uniform may be worn when instructing a cadet corps or similar organization at an approved institution. Retirees are eligible (if recalled) for a uniform clothing allowance, if member has been inactive for more than three months and has not received a uniform allowance within four years before recall.

WHEN UNIFORM IS NOT AUTHORIZED

Wearing of the uniform is prohibited in connection with personal enterprises or activities of a business nature. Also, when participating in any demonstration, assembly or activity whose purpose is furtherance of personal or partisan views on political, social, economic or religious issues. Exception is when authorized for bonafide service or observance. Uniform is not required on AMC flights.

MILITARY TITLE USAGE

Military retirees are allowed to use their military title subject to certain restrictions and good judgement. The use should not discredit the Navy or Department of Defense. Such use in connection with commercial enterprises is prohibited -- with or without intent to give rise of any appearance of sponsorship or endorsement by the Navy or DoD.

MEDALS AND AWARDS

Information and guidance on personal decorations, campaign and service medals, and other awards are contained in SECNAVINST 1650.1. For proper wearing of medals and badges, see Navy Uniform Regulations (NAVPERS 15665), which is available on the web at www.bupers.navy.mil, under the link to "Instructions." "Requests for Verification and Issuance of Medals or Unit Awards" should be addressed:

If retired for more than six months:

**National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Blvd
St Louis, Missouri 63132**



If retired less than six months, contact:

**Naval Reserve Personnel Center (Code 41)
4400 Dauphine Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70149-7800**



Defense Finance and Accounting Service

1099-R forms to be mailed by Jan. 15

The 1099-R forms for tax year 2001 will be mailed to the home address on file with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) by Jan. 15, 2002 to all Department of Defense military retirees and annuitants.

Former spouses who receive pay as a result of a court-ordered division of community property will also be receiving 1099-Rs.

The 1099-R form has three copies of the information on one page with the form information on the back of the recipient's copy.

For example, box 1 (gross distribution) does not contain gross income, but is the total amount of annuity received – or, the taxable amount – as shown in box 2a. For retirees, this amount does not include nontaxable income such as Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) costs.

Because the 1099-R is also used to report other types of income, the boxes that do not apply to retired members and annuitants will be left blank or have not been included in the form.

For example, boxes 2b and 9 will be blank, and boxes 3, 5, 6 and 8 have been removed from these forms. The remaining boxes correspond to IRS instructions for 1040 and 1040A forms.

Retirees in a non-pay status, such as those receiving a full VA waiver or a full Civil Service waiver, will not receive a 1099-R.

REISSUE REQUESTS

Retirees or annuitants who do not receive their 1099-Rs by January 31, 2002, have questions about their 1099-R forms or need to update their mailing addresses may contact: Defense Finance and Accounting Service at **1-800-321-1080**, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

When calling to request a reissue of your 2001 1099-R, press **1099** when prompted and your call will be forwarded to the next available Tax Customer Service Representative. Be prepared to provide your social security number, date of retirement, if you are a recent retiree and your current mailing address. DFAS Cleveland will begin processing reissues on Jan. 31, 2002.

You can expect to receive the reissued 1099-R approximately seven working days after your initial request.

Written or faxed requests should be sent to one of the following:

Retirees and former spouses

Defense Finance and Accounting Service – Cleveland
Code PRR
P.O. Box 99191
Cleveland, OH 44199-1126

Phone: 1-800-321-1080

FAX: 1-800-469-6559

Annuitants:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service – Denver
DFAS-DE/PRRB
6760 E. Irvington Place
Denver, CO 80279-6000

Phone:

1-800-435-3396

FAX: 1-800-982-8459

CORRECTED 1099-Rs

To ensure the DFAS report of income and taxes matches the 1099-R you file with the IRS, requests for corrected 1099-Rs must be made in writing. The written request must include a complete explanation and justification as to why the 1099-R amounts are in error.

Telephone, e-mail or internet requests for corrected 1099-Rs will not be honored. You can use the addresses and fax numbers above to send or fax information for corrections to your 1099-Rs.

If you don't receive your 1099-R, or if it is incorrect, please alert DFAS at least seven working days in advance of the April 15, 2002 filing deadline. This will allow DFAS the opportunity to mail your form in time for the tax-filing deadline.

Upcoming Reunions

RADAR PICKET SHIPS

USS GUARDIAN (AGR 1)

LOOKOUT (AGR 2)

SKYWATCHER (AGR 3)

SEARCHER (AGR 4)

SCANNER (AGR 5)

LOCATOR (AGR 6)

PICKET (AGR 7)

INTERCEPTOR (AGR 8)

INVESTIGATOR (AGR 9)

OUTPOST (AGR 10)

PROTECTOR (AGR 11)

VIGIL (AGR 12)

INTERDICTOR (AGR 13)

INTERPRETER (AGR 14)

TRACER (AGR 15)

WATCHMAN (AGR 16)

USS YR 23/65

Newport, RI; May 28-30, 2002

Contact Harry Miller

230 W. Forest Avenue

Pawtucket, RI 02860-3318

(401) 724-7278

yagr@msn.com

SEALAB/TRIESTE I & II

San Diego, CA; March 14-17, 2002

Contact Bob Bornholdt

1012 Calle Mesita

Bonita, CA 91902

(619) 267-7504

bornhlt@aol.com

VC 66

St. Charles, MO; Apr. 25-27, 2002

Contact Joe Mussatto

1407 South Street

Lexington, MO 64067-1427

(660) 259-4733

muzzo@iland.net

VP 45/VP 205

San Diego, CA; Oct. 11-13, 2002

Contact Charles Caldwell

1061 Arnold Way

Alpine, CA 91901-2721

(619) 445-5072

cbc@cts.com

VR 21

Pensacola Beach, FL; May 16-18, 2002

Contact Peggy Dennis

6433 Winston Brown Road

Milton, FL 32570

(850) 626-0818

YAGR'S

Newport, RI; May 28-30, 2002

Contact Harry Miller

230 West Forest Avenue

Pawtucket, RI 02860-3318

(401) 724-7828

yagr@msn.com

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND
SHIFT COLORS (PERS-05)
5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE
MILLINGTON, TN 38055-0500