



BIG "E" LEGEND

The Official Newsletter of the USS Enterprise Association

Preserving the Legend: Jim Voorheis

Where is the ship?



Hill is currently evaluating and preparing for the de-fueling of the Enterprise. This can take up to 18 months or more depending on various circumstances. Once de-fueled, she'll be officially decommissioned. Final status of the Enterprise is still being discussed by the Navy and various ship breaking companies. Options that are still being considered include towing to Bremerton, WA or towing to Brownsville, TX for final dismantlement. Other options may be brought forth at a later date.

I have been in discussions with coworkers on how we are going to be removing much of the engineering spaces. This is going to be a very long and tedious process. My brain has had to go back 30 years to remember what I did and where I did it when I was onboard. Though we try to forget stuff, it all comes back when probed hard enough.

I am working with an Engineer at my company to get some components (nuts, bolts, wire, rods, etc.) from the ship, that we can use for making Association plaques. We are also discussing the possibility of retrieving more memorabilia (brass name plates, lanterns, anything recognizable and usable) to be used by the Association for auctions or sale, to further our efforts at preserving the memory of the Enterprise. I will be working on these issues in the next couple of months.

I find it kind of ironic that I started my career in the nuclear and hazardous materials industry onboard the Enterprise. And now I will probably end my career tearing her apart. I figure the entire process (starting in 2015) may take about 5 - 8 years till finished. That will put me close to retirement. Sort of a full circle for me. Never would have guessed that one in my career.

James Voorhies

SAVE THE DATE!

SEPTEMBER
22—25, 2015

WINDSOR
LOCKS, CT



From the Deckplates: A Decommissioning Update from Big 'E'

Article from Huntington Ingalls regarding the transfer of one of Enterprise's anchors to the Lincoln.

<http://newsroom.huntingtoningalls.com/releases/video-releasenewport-news-shipbuilding-installs-uss-enterprise-cvn-65-anchor-on-uss-abraham-lincoln-cvn-72>

2015 Association Officers

Don Thiry	Chairman	donthiry@gmail.com
Jim Voorhies	Vice Chairman	jamesvco@cs.com
Jerry Pearson	Treasurer	jerrycvan65@gmail.com
Robin Spelman	Recording Sect.	robinspelman@gmail.com
Bill Newby	Past Chairman	unclebill65@comcast.net
Chas Folick	Past Chairman	willyfudd@msn.com
Don Rasmussen	Past Chairman	planes17g@gmail.com
Rich Kehoe	Board of Dir.	cvan65@comcast.net
Harrison Gerstlauer	Board of Dir.	hgerst@q.com
Ken Ford	Board of Dir.	kenford94@hotmail.com
Larry Ragan	PAO Web	dpclragan@gmail.com
Bill Slupe	Historian	wslupe1@aol.com
Art Dumas	Membership	allendumas@gmail.com
Marylee Thiry	Scholarship	marylee.thiry@gmail.com
Jim Johnson	Parliamentian	pugsley1946@gmail.com
Rich Kehoe	Ships Store	cvan65@comcast.net
Tom Reed	2015 Reunion	bigetruckertom@yahoo.com
Roger Womack	2016 Reunion	rogerw339@centurytel.net
Doug Braun	2017 Reunion	ddb147@hotmail.com
Open Position	Newsletter	

WATERLOO IOWA HIGHLIGHTS

For Love or Money

Glen and Sally Lee

One of the highlights of the 2014 Waterloo reunion was a dinner held at the restored Historic Brown Derby Ball Room, a 20's era speakeasy. Dinner was a delightful buffet.

It was a fun and entertaining evening. The play For Love or Money was put on by E2G, Inc. The wait staff was all part of an elaborate ruse. A "murder" was committed and the number of suspects was rampant. It was a struggle for power and money and perhaps an affair (the three primary drivers of crime). It involved a floozies of a waitress, a Romeo type waiter, a very grim supervisor and other delightful characters. Each table was able to put forth their solutions for who was the perpetrator. One theory was that the Thirys were central, but was proved to be false. The final revelation proved it was one of the staff rather than the Associations Chairman; we still have our suspicions.



WATERLOO IOWA HIGHLIGHTS

Linda Slupe

In late September some of the navy sailors that served on the USS Enterprise over the last 50 years gathered for the annual USS Enterprise Association reunion, in Waterloo, Iowa. This year's reunion was hosted by Mike Butler, a local Cedar Valley resident. The reunion was good time for all in attendance. Mike had scheduled several special events during our stay.

One event included a fabulous box lunch and self guided tour of a farming museum. We saw many common and uncommon farming implements, including a *Waterloo Boy*, an early kerosene tractor, and early ancestor of the modern day *John Deere* tractors. The many displays included refurbished old cars and trucks, other equipment used in dairy farming, blacksmithing, and many of the features of farm living (in the late 1800's and early 20th century). During the tour I climbed aboard large tractor and found myself "truly a small lady on a huge machine!" There was even a functioning corn shucker and a grinding wheel for making corn meal. The tour included a lovely display of hand-crafted quilts. The quilt display also included unique barn quilts that frequently decorate the farmer's barns, each design, distinctive and beautiful.

Another tour took us to a John Deere assembly plant located, just outside of Waterloo, that assembled large tractors. We were ferried through the plant on a special trolley to observe (and not touch) the equipment. It truly was an amazing plant, from the robotic painting (that signature John Deere green and yellow) line, to the automated assembly line, assisted and directed by human workers. The tour was about an hour in length. All in all, we were awed by the huge manufacturing plant and impressed by the shiny new John Deere products.

One evening we had a unexpectedly fun murder mystery dinner. It combined excellent food and entertainment that had us laughing and trying to expose the villain during in our serving staff.

One of our best events during the reunion was the self guided tour of the Grout Museum (named after the benefactor). The museum has broad range of exhibits. Our group came to learn about the five Sullivan brothers, natives of Waterloo, who enlisted together, served together, only to all die together when the USS Juneau (CL 52, an anti-aircraft cruiser) was sunk during one of the naval battles off Guadalcanal, in November of 1942. The displays and story posters of this event were extremely well done, as were the other WWII, Korea, and Vietnam exhibits. What a thrill to be an able to see the Sullivan Brothers honored in their own home town and cementing the strong relationship between the family, the town, and the Navy.

To top all this, our reunion banquet, at the hotel the last evening, featured a very special speaker, Kelly Sullivan-Loughren, the granddaughter of the oldest (George) of the Sullivan brothers and grandniece of the four other brothers. She gave us wonderful insight into the family story and the events following the brothers loss. While teaching is her profession, she has a family. She is also the official representative/ambassador for the Sullivan family and the sponsor for USS the Sullivans (DDG-68), a Burke class, Aegis destroyer. Her presentation was not only informative, but also, enthusiastic and upbeat. We were all very inspired with her presentation and enjoyed the evening.

Hitchin' a Ride on the Information Super Highway

by Bill Slupe, Historian

I thought it might be helpful to share some information, since more often than not, folks seem to think I might actually know something . Through the process of osmosis, a personal experience and interest, and a large serving of sea stories, I have learned a few things about history, the military and our ship. So here are a few internet sites you may find of interest (and hopefully useful) .

The NAVSOURCE site (<http://www.navsourc.org/>) has a great collection of images of many ships and information on the images. It is operated by volunteers and I think they've done a great job.

The Naval History & Heritage Command Center (NHHC) (<http://www.history.navy.mil/>) is headquartered in the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, DC. As the name implies, this office is the caretaker of the Navy's past. In addition to their library, operating museums, the NHHC has a broad range of on-line resources. Currently, on their home page, they have a subject link to the USS Enterprise that includes images, videos and the Command History reports from 1958 through 2011.

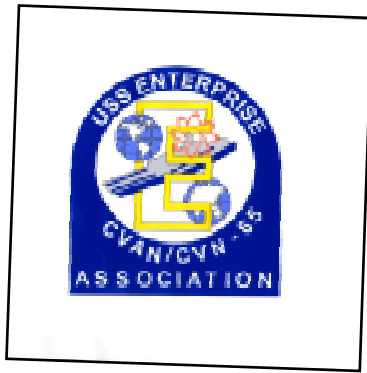
There is a site (<http://navysite.de/cruisebooks/index.html>) that gives the reader on-line access to more than 800 ship's cruise books! We are very fortunate to have every Enterprise cruise book digitally copied and viewable. Each page has a light watermark; a small price to pay for access to such a resource. Now you might want to show the grandkids what you looked like when...

I should also mention our own website (<http://www.cvan-cvn-65.org/>) can help keep you in touch with what's happening in the Enterprise Association. In conjunction with the Association we have a Facebook page: "Veterans of Enterprise" (<https://www.facebook.com/vetsofenterprise>). In addition to periodical posts the site is a good conduit for a wider and more diverse audience than we could reach otherwise. A typical posting may be seen by over 2000 viewers; some posting have drawn over 10,000! Readers can both read the posting and add their own comments.

Occasionally, I have been asked where one can obtain a copy of their military record. The National Archives maintains a military records repository in St. Louis, Missouri. If you need a service record you can find information at : <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/> . Another site veterans may be interested in when trying to find out what ribbons and campaigns they were awarded is : <http://www.usshorne.net/horne/images/ribbons/opnavnote1650.pdf> . Unfortunately, the document is dated March 2001 and I've not found any newer release of Opnavnote1650 available on-line.

While the internet is a boundless source of information, sometimes it seems like finding something there can become a frustrating exercise in futility. If you prefer to learn or research our ship, going "*old school*," a book, may be the way to go! Several years ago I met a doctor from New Zealand, Dr. David McKay. After spending over a decade studying and researching the USS Enterprise he published, what I consider, the most comprehensive story of the ship ever written. The book, "***USS Enterprise, CVA(N)/CVN-65,***" is nearly 700 pages and liberally illustrated. The book is a historical narrative that focuses on the ship, events and technical points, rather than personalities and the crew. The book is available for purchase (ISBN is: 978-1877427503).

I am just scratching the surface of information and resources available, but I hope it may be of some use.



Reunion 2015

Windsor Locks CT



NOTES FROM CONNECTICUT 2015

By the time you read this, the Holiday Season will be over, so no matter how you celebrated it Ray and I and our families hope you and your loved ones had a most wondrous one. Thru last August we had done a lot of the basic foundation work for the 2015 Reunion. We found the HillsPoint Hotel and Conferences in Windsor Locks. Since this is not a chain hotel we were able to negotiate a lower rate. Our rate will be about \$65 per night + tax. They have several Large Banquet Rooms, A good sized room for Ships Stores, and one for Memorabilia. While our Hospitality area will be in a lobby area as you know we usually tend to take over, so this should do nicely with a portable bar. There is one restaurant across the street and numerous chain restaurants and fast food about ten minutes away on Ella Grasso Blvd.

We are close to Bradley International Airport and central to most attractions we want to go to. We thought a visit to the Connecticut Air Museum at which we could hold our Memorial Service and then almost across the street is a Reserve component where I know the Maintenance Command Master Sergeant.

Just up in Springfield, MA is the Eastern States Exposition, known locally as the Big E which will be in session at the same time as our reunion. I am working on making an arrangement with them for us to visit as a special group. The Big 'E' at the Big 'E'.

Other arrangements are being studied as well.

Since I broke my back in a fall in August Ray has been fantastic doing the necessary running around for both of us. I can't thank him enough. I am healing though it is a very slow process and I cannot drive as yet. I thank you one and all for your prayers and well wishes.

Further information will be forthcoming shortly. Again we wish you one and all a Wonderful New Year.

Your Shipmates,

Tom Reed

Raymond Cote, Jr.



Scholarship Awardee's 2014

It is my pleasure to announce the following winners of our 2014 Scholarship Award:

Kelly Aloia

Ian Smith

Frances Browyn Walls

Great job on your academic achievements! Keep up the good work!

Marylee Thiry

Scholarships are available but apparently we forget or are independently wealthy. These are available to members, spouses, family members and grand children. You must be a member for at least one year. Applications are available at the website. If you need a paper copy mailed, please let me know!



We could use your help! We need people that have a way of communication, preferably E-Mail or fax / phone and can respond within a day or two when things need to be answered.

From the Chairman...



Don and Marylee Thiry

Shipmates,

It's been a hectic few months since our Iowa reunion and time has just flown by. Best wishes for a peaceful new year. I would like to thank Mike Butler for hosting us in Waterloo, IA. We had the opportunity to visit The Sullivan's Museum and the John Deere plant as well as meet Kelly Sullivan-Loughren, the granddaughter of the oldest Sullivan brothers, George.

Marylee and I are looking forward to seeing all of you again at our 2015 reunion which will be held in Windsor Locks, CT and hosted by Tom Reed and Ray Cote. More information is included in the newsletter and the registration form will be available soon online and in the next newsletter. Tom and Ray's contact information is also included in their highlights on the following page.

The 2016 reunion is scheduled for Branson MO, hosted by Roger Womack and the 2017 reunion will be in Cody WY, hosted by Doug Braun.

There are seven elected positions in the Association; there are also numerous appointed ones. All of which make our group a better one. We always need someone to help with any number of Association activities. If you would like to have the members visit your area - host a reunion. We are happy to send you a booklet that will walk you through all the steps of hosting. We also have members that are more than willing to help you with making your reunion a memorial one.

I am reminded of several quotes on Volunteerism, the first is "**We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give**". *Winston Churchill*. The second is "**The future depends on what we do in the present**", *Mahatma Gandhi*. Both of these quotes perfectly reflect on the status of the Association. All of our officers are volunteers; they devote their time and energy to making sure we preserve the memory of the USS Enterprise. In addition we continue to offer scholarships to deserving members and their dependants through your generous donations.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact any member of the Association Board. We are always looking for good men and women

Respectfully,

Don Thiry

USS ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION

26831 Coachlight

Woodhaven MI 48183-5302

Standard Rate Mail

US POSTAGE

PAID

Monroe MI

Permit No. 517

All members are encouraged to submit articles, sea stories and photos to the quarterly newsletter.
Send input for the next edition to donthiry@gmail.com.

WWW.CVAN-CVN-65.ORG



Air Museum's

to

Ariel View of the Winsor Locks

Don't forget the Ship's store

cvan65assocshipsstore.org/