

**THE**



**BIG**

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**NEWS**



USS ENTERPRISE CVAN-CVN-65 ASSOCIATION

[WWW.CVAN-CVN-65.ORG](http://WWW.CVAN-CVN-65.ORG)

March, 2023

## 2023 REUNION REGISTRATION ENCLOSED

### **FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

Greetings!

We have a Newsletter! Its been a long time coming and I thank you all for your patience. I also want to thank Marylee Thiry for volunteering to taking on this endeavor once again. Please send all articles to Marylee or myself to include in the next newsletter.

Many thanks to Bruce and Mavis Mooberry for hosting last years reunion in Las Vegas. It was a great time for all! A recap is included in this newsletter.

We are looking forward to this years reunion hosted by Bob and Linda Smith in Piscataway New Jersey. Set your sights on visiting New Jersey this Fall! Registration information is included in the Newsletter.

We also have Association elections this year for Chairman, Vice Chairman and 3 Year Board Member. Fresh faces and new ideas are always welcomed.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this September!

Don

As the individual responsible for maintaining the collection of donated items to the Enterprise Association I have, since 1997, had the privilege maintaining and caring for the donations. Most of the collection has come from former Enterprise crewmembers and their families. Some of our collection has come directly from the ship and the Navy. Other items have been donated by individual not having a direct connection to the ship.

I view my responsibility for the collection, first to preserve the donated materials. Second, to share the history of the ship and its crew through the years of service. Third, be a resource for information.

One of my activities through the years is to setup the Memorabilia Room at the annual reunions. The presentation varies due to the available room and the site selected by the reunion host. Normally, I will bring anywhere from 600 to 800 pounds of ship's history to display. One of the items of greatest interest to reunion attendees is our complete collection of cruise books.

Over the years, as technology has evolved, we have increasingly turned to the computer and internet to communicate and share Association activities. A typical posting on our Facebook may reach over 10,000 and, unlike postage, cost us nothing.

With the deactivation in 2012 and the decommissioning in 2017 the ship awaits its final fate of scrapping. As of this writing, the ship still sits pier side at Newport News Shipyard as the Navy mulls over how to best dispose of the ship and cover the estimated billion-dollar funding necessary. The new Enterprise, CVN-80, has been incrementally funded for several years and modules are being constructed. There is planning the keel will be laid later this year, at a date to be determined.

We hope the new Enterprise will have a new "Enterprise Room," much like the one that was on CVN-65. If that were to happen the Association, in coordination with the Navy, would be able to donate items from our collection.

William Slupe, USS Enterprise Association Historian

**U.S.S. ENTERPRISE (CVAN/CVN-65) ASSOCIATION REUNION**  
**September 18—22, 2023**  
**Piscataway New Jersey**

Hosts: Bob and Linda Smith

Holiday Inn  
21 Kingsbridge Road  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854  
PH: 732-980-0400  
Email: fd@njholidayinn.com

Room Rates: \$115/night or \$125/night with full breakfast for two  
Group Name: Enterprise Association

**Registration Fee: \$250.00 per person (includes Welcome and Farewell Dinners (Buffet Style))**

**Battleship New Jersey Tour with brunch (box lunch) served in the Crews Mess**

**Dietary Restriction:    Gluten Free \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_**

**Group Picture on Final Night**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ = \$250.00  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ = \$250.00

Total Attending: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Due by August 10, 2023

Makes Checks Payable to:

USS Enterprise Cvan65 Association  
c/o Robert Smith  
64 Charles Terrace  
Piscataway N.J 08854

732-985-5371  
Email: rsmith7013@aol.com

## 2022 Las Vegas Enterprise Reunion

Ahoy Mates,

The Las Vegas Reunion was held September 20-24 at Sam's Town with 115 people in attendance. It was a great time to gather with old friends and make new as many attendees were first timers.

Thanks to first time attendee, Ken Lawler, representative from Quilts of Vale who came and provided a memorable presentation explaining the organizations purpose, membership and goals. In addition, they presented a Quilt of Valor to Bob Smith from Piscataway, NJ. Bob served aboard the Big E from 1965-1967. We hope this can be an ongoing addition to our future reunions.

Sam's Town hosted a Bingo for all attendees of the reunion. There was a \$20 charge with proceeds going to the Enterprise Scholarship Fund. Thanks to Sam's Town donating the bulk of the prizes and an additional \$1170 for our Scholarship Fund.

The Memorabilia Room was a very popular place for sailors to gather and reminisce. A special thank you to Bill and Linda Slupe for their dedication and many hours to store, pack, set up and document to allow us to enjoy this amazing experience.

The Ships Store had record sales as many attendees could not get enough Enterprise items! A special thank you to Rick Kehoe for his dedication and to Marylee Thiry as Rich's right hand man helping man the store.

As always, our memorial service was a time to recognize our fallen shipmates.

No reunion is possible without behind the scenes people who pitch in to ensure a successful reunion. We would like to recognize Shirley Crow, Erlinda Peralez, Linda Smith and Shirley Voorheis for their amazing abilities to recognize what needs to be done.

This years Scholarship Recipients were:

Brooke Dixon, granddaughter of Bruce Mooberry, who was awarded \$2000.

Sophia Mozgala, granddaughter of David Mozgala, who was awarded \$1800.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Scholarship Auction. This helps to raise funds to provide for scholarships awarded each year and is also a fun opportunity to get to know one another and be a part of the Scholarship mission. Thank you to Marylee Thiry for displaying these items, overseeing ticket sales and conducting the drawings.

A special thank you to Marylee for chairing the Scholarship program, reviewing the applicants and making recommendations to the Board of Director for awards.

Next years reunion will be in Piscataway, New Jersey. The reunion will be hosted by Bob and Linda Smith and we can assure you that it will be one amazing time!

Until then, fair winds and following seas.

### **SCHOLARSHIP NOTICE!**

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY IS **September 15, 2023**. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY THIS DATE. PLEASE MAIL YOUR APPLICATIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN **WITH ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AS LISTED ON THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**. THE APPLICATION MAY BE DOWNLOADED AT THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE: [www.cvn-cvan-65.org](http://www.cvn-cvan-65.org)

Times have changed. When I first reported to the Enterprise in August of 1960 I drove from my home in Los Angeles to Newport News, Virginia, where the ship was being built. In those days there were no Interstates. Most of the 3,015 miles were driven on 2 lane highways. 2 lanes, 1 lane eastbound, 1 lane westbound. I had gone to AAA and acquired a Trip Tic, a multi page book with my designated route highlighted, a predecessor to Map Quest and GPS. Starting in L.A. I did have freeways through most of California. Then I got to Arizona and the 2 lanes started. In those days, before the Interstates you would drive through each of the cities, stopping at red lights and being on the alert for the badly misplaced signs indicating where I should have turned to get back on the main highway. Also, in those days, I purchased most of my gasoline at independent gas stations alongside the highway, often just out in the country, not in a city. Speaking of gas stations, the average price I paid per gallon was 31.7 cents. The highest was 37.9, the lowest, 24.9. The total cost was \$61.75 - for 3,015 miles. Last week I paid \$76.18 for 248 miles. 14.9 gallons at \$5.099 per.

Yes, times have changed.

There is a challenge to driving mainly on 2 lane main highways, here are a couple of examples:

In Oklahoma, I was driving along at 60 or 65 MPH when about a quarter mile ahead of me, a farmer in his tractor, towing a harrow, pulled out onto the highway right in front of me at about 3 MPH. I did manage to maintain control, and when I went around him, he seemed to be smiling. I am sure he got his jollies for that stunt. We get spoiled on the Interstates, we can pass another car just whenever we want. On a 2 lane highway it is necessary to make sure nobody is coming the other way. In North Carolina, a car about a half mile in front of me pulled out to pass on an uphill grade. Just as the two cars were side by side, a car came over the crest. It was a tight squeeze, but all three cars made it. Unfortunately for the lady driving the car that passed, the car that came over the crest happened to be a State Trooper. He and I passed and I watched in my rear view mirror as he made a quick u turn and came roaring back. By the time I caught up with them, the lady was looking pretty apprehensive as the Trooper approached.

Yes, times have changed, sometimes for the better, sometimes maybe not so.

Gary Blackburn

In 1967 the ship was active for six years and off of Vietnam. They were strong on divisional compartment inspections. Our division had a work area off the hanger deck just aft of sponsor two. We also had a small compartment on the O2 level where our division stored all the spare parts/tools and miscellaneous parts. We received and most unfavorable rating for each inspection. We combined the rooms into one area and gave the O2 level to the squadrons. This created a position as a store clerk for our division. I eventually ran this supply area. In 1968 I was asked to get some ink pens from our office Supply had set up an IBM nomenclature (numbers/letters) part numbers. Very confusing! I filled out the paperwork as I understood it. About 2-3 weeks later, we are at sea I am informed to be in full dress uniform to report to the captain at a specific compartment #. I am just an E4 from Michigan, and my understanding was that there was only one Captain on the ship. Now I am sweating bullets on an air-conditioned ship. I complied I was in dress whites and reported to the compartment. This was an outer office full of 4 or 5 clerks I told them I was to report to the captain. I find out he is a Captain in charge of the supply department. The clerks are all sort of laughing under their breath now. They tell me to knock on the next office doors. The bullets I was sweating are now gone and were re-

placed by cannon balls. I was told to enter. I introduced myself and was left standing as the captain asked me sternly. Where exactly do you plan on storing this item you ordered? By this time, the outer office is in full riotous laughter. My answer was in my storage bin. The captain broke out in a smile. I want to see that bin as you ordered a Rail Road Car.

Rich Kehoe

Each year I look forward to reviewing the applications for our Scholarship Awards. Every year I wish I had more to review! Having just recently retired from Higher Education in my roll in Enrollment Services I know how expensive a college education can be. Each and every amount received helps to reduce the cost of attendance and the use of student loans. If you have been a member of the Association for one year or more and have a dependent attending college, please encourage them to apply for our Scholarship!

I would also like to announce and express my heartfelt appreciation to the Estate of Alexander Svincov for his very generous bequest of \$5000 towards our Scholarship Fund.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding our Scholarships.

Marylee Thiry

Don and Marylee Thiry  
26831 Coachlight  
Woodhaven, MI 48183

Standard Rate Mail  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 517  
Monroe, MI



**The Big E-Mail is distributed to members of the  
USS Enterprise (CVAN/CVN-65)  
Association.**

**Please forward all comments and submittals to:**  
**Don and Marylee Thiry**  
**26831 Coachlight**  
**Woodhaven, MI 48183**  
[bigenews@wowway.com](mailto:bigenews@wowway.com)



FROM THE EDITORS:

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES TO THE NEWSLETTER. THEY ARE MUCH APPRECIATED! KEEP THEM COMING!

DON AND MARYLEE THIRY