

USS Enterprise CVAN/CVN-65 Association



Website: <https://cvan-cvn-65.org> | Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1884570089141061>

Quarterly Newsletter - Fall 2026



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE: by James (Jim) Voorhies

Ahoy Shipmates and Families of the USS Enterprise.

We recently completed our 2026 annual USS Enterprise Association reunion in San Antonio, TX. What a wonderful gathering. I hope that all who attended enjoyed everything that Texas had to offer. I appreciated the staff of the Nimitz museum extending their honors to all of us Enterprise sailors, during our visit. The San Antonio Riverwalk and the Alamo were very enjoyable to visit and learn of early Texas history. My only complaint was the 100+ temperatures we endured each day. We were able to tolerate those warm days by racing from storefront to storefront to stand in the cool air conditioning. That made it tolerable and Shirley got to do a little shopping at each cooling spot. Thank you, Juan and Vera, for hosting a fantastic gathering.

Many have been reading the notes from Travis, that the former USS Enterprise will be pulling into Mobile in early November. If you have a chance to be there when she arrives, take lots of pictures and allow us to post them on our website. Travis will also be hosting our 2027 reunion in Mobile, AL. He has many activities planned and I'm looking forward to seeing lots of sailors, Marines and their families during the reunion.

Fall is upon us now. The kids and grandkids are back in school. The weather has finally given up the hot days of summer for the cool evenings of Autumn. Our aspen trees in Colorado have changed over to

gold-colored quaking mountainsides. And I'm sure, many of you are enjoying the color changes in your part of the country. Many of us are preparing for the festivities that are about to be celebrated, including Halloween, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Spend time with family and friends. Share the love, enjoy all that life can provide, and praise God for all he has shown us.

Remember your fellow Veterans. If you know of a Veteran in need, please help them find the resources that can provide them the support they may need. Also, remember our servicemen who are far from home, protecting us and our way of life. Offer encouragement to their families and assure them that God and a thankful nation will watch over them. When they return, welcome them home, with the warmest wishes that you can.

jamesvco@cs.com

Remember; If you are not receiving our emails. Please check your spam folder and add us to your trusted senders list or contact me:

- Brian Heck
(515) 290-3559

"It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you know for sure that just ain't so."

- Mark Twain



Scuttlebutt from THE EDITOR:
by Dave Trumble

It's actually hard to believe that it is Fall and has already been two months since our reunion in San Antonio. With that being said, I want to congratulate Juan Martinez and his wife Vera for bringing together such a successful and enjoyable reunion in San Antonio. I can only imagine how hard it is to prepare and schedule events and then needing to change them at the last second, as something unforeseen happens to change the plans that you have made. So once more congratulations on this year's reunion.

In this newsletter, I've included pictures that various individuals took at the reunion. I thank those that have shared these pictures with me, either via Facebook or otherwise.

As a history buff, I can say that our group's field trip to Fredericksburg to see the National Museum of the Pacific War, which has the Admiral Nimitz Gallery and is his home town was really informative. I have just finished reading the book "Chester W. Nimitz - Admiral of the Hills", which tells about his life story and his younger years in Fredericksburg.

As always, if you have any questions regarding anything in this Newsletter or would like to send me an article to publish, please reach out to me via email at: Newsletter@cvan-cvn-65.org

Until next newsletter, take care!

WELCOME ABOARD - OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Paul Anderson	1987 - 1989	Medical
Mark Damon		
Kim Esau	1985 - 1989	AIMD
Dana George		
David Jones	1994 - 1996	AIMD
Gary Klone	1972 - 1973	RC
James Looper	1989 - 1992	2nd
Richard Mendoza	1974 - 1978	V-4
William Mullins	1987 - 1992	W & G-2 (ship's armory)
Gordon Perry	1967 - 1969	RC
Sam Plumlee	1978 - 1982	OE
Rixon Rafter	1986 - 1989	A2, A1st LT
Scott Reed		
Matthew Rollins	1992 - 1995	AIMD



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER
by Travis Mathews

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

Your impossible situation is possible with God!!

Shipmates, You may find yourself in an impossible situation today! You don't see a way around it, you don't see a way through it!!

Know that God can make your impossible thing possible! And possibilities are His specialty!!

Let's sing of the Goodness of God!!

All my life You have been faithful,

All my life You have been so, so good!

With every breath that I am able,

Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God!!

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me!

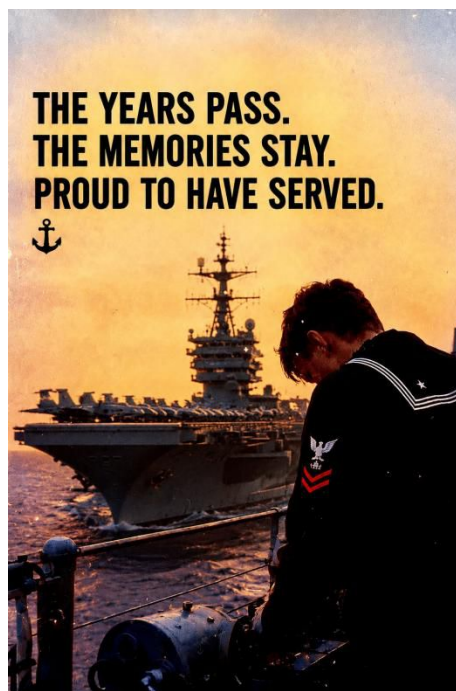
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now,

I give You everything!

'Cause Your goodness is running, it keeps running after me!!!

Have a blessed Fall!

Jesus loves you



OUR 2026 USS ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

These are the two applicants for the 2026 scholarship as presented to the membership at our meeting in San Antonio by Scholarship Chairman Dr. Patti Blundell. She stated that both were strong candidates, meeting requirements for application submission, relationship to association members, academic progress, paid and volunteer work, curricular and extracurricular involvement and essay performance. Both candidates are currently enrolled in college/university programs of study; one in accounting and information systems and one in psychology (pre-counselor/therapist).

As both applications had met the requirements at a high level, Dr. Blundell, had recommended both candidates for a scholarship.

Association Chairman James Voorhies then explained that the Board of Directors had discussed these candidates and based on our by-laws, we are allowed to award a scholarship of up to \$2000 for each candidate. The Board of Directors recommendation to the membership is to award that amount, to each applicant. A motion was made and seconded and then after further discussion the vote was taken to award \$2000 to each candidate.

Michael John Pucci, Jr.

Michael is a resident of Freehold, New Jersey. He is a rising junior at Virginia Tech University at Blacksburg, VA. Michael is majoring in accounting and information systems. He serves as Treasurer for the Kappa Alpha Order (national fraternity) and participates in VT Accounting Society.

Michael is sponsored by his grandfather, John T. Yablonski, of Ocean Gate, New Jersey.

Jamie Elizabeth Kailee Durheim

Jamie is a resident of Waite Park, Minnesota. She is a rising junior at the University of Minnesota Morris. Jamie is majoring in psychology with the goal of becoming a therapist/counselor. While at Minnesota Morris, Jamie participates in intercollegiate swimming. She is also involved in Psi Chi (International Psychological Honors Society).

Jamie is sponsored by her grandfather, Michel R. Doble of Waite Park, Minnesota.

Thank You Letter

Dear USS Enterprise Foundation,

I am writing this letter to thank you all for your generous contribution to my education. I am truly grateful for your support and investment in my education through this scholarship.

Receiving this money will make a significant difference in helping me pursue my academic goals; the financial assistance will help ease the burden of tuition and housing expenses, allowing me to focus more fully on my studies.

My studies this school year include courses that fuel my passion like child and adolescent psychopathology, where I will be studying the process of mental disorders development, diagnosis, and treatment in children.

Thank you again!

Kindest Regards and Gratitude,

Jamie Durheim

2026 Reunion Host Active in VFW



(L to R) Chairman Voorhies with Vera and Juan Martinez after presenting them with an award of appreciation for hosting the 2026 San Antonio Reunion.

Our Reunion Hosts this year Juan Martinez Jr. and his wife Vera Martinez were not only busy preparing for our visit to San Antonio, they stay very active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). Juan stated that they are both active in the Department of Texas VFW. Juan is an All American Post Commander, All American District 20 Commander and All American Captain Division 1. His wife Vera is Auxiliary President of VFW Post 9174.

MEET OUR NEW PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Gregory Wojyn has volunteered for and been appointed as our new Public Affairs Officer. He brings a wealth of experience to this position. Here is the biography he provided the Association:

From 1983 to 1985 I served in the Public Affairs Office aboard USS Enterprise (CVN-65). In that role I edited the ship's newspaper, *The Shuttle*, and led efforts that achieved more than 90 percent participation in the Fleet Hometown News Program—resulting in the placement of over 3,000 crew-member stories in local media outlets across the United States. I also received a Letter of Appreciation from Commanding Officer Robert Leuschner Jr. for creating a United Way awareness campaign that helped the crew set a record contribution of nearly \$1 million. Later, while assigned to the Public Affairs staff at Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Headquarters, I briefed the Admiral's staff and earned a Letter of Appreciation from Admiral Frank B. Kelso for support of the commissioning of USS Chicago (SSN-721).

I have continued to represent the USS Enterprise Association and support Enterprise heritage for many years. In 2010 I played key roles representing the Association at the River Vale Memorial Day Parade—home of the stern plate of USS Enterprise (CV-6)—and supported media awareness when the River Vale Library unveiled its USS Enterprise (CV-6) memorial collection. More recently, I coordinated the participation of USS Enterprise (CVN-65) Association members in the October 2025 unveiling of the USS Enterprise (CV-6) stern plate at the Battleship New Jersey (BB-62) Museum & Memorial. I also worked to secure Fox News coverage of the event honoring 101-year-old veteran Paul Robbins aboard the Battleship New Jersey, helping generate more than one million social media visits to BB-62 sites. These efforts reflect my ongoing commitment to telling the Enterprise story with accuracy and impact.

For 13 years I served in elected leadership roles as a Councilman in Englishtown, New Jersey, including terms as Council President and Police Commissioner. Throughout that service I routinely applied my public affairs skills—organizing the annual Memorial Day Parade and other local events, fielding questions from local and state news media, and providing clear communication during crises such as Superstorm Sandy. Combined with my formal training as a

Defense Information School graduate and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications (Journalism and Public Relations) from Rutgers University, this experience has prepared me to represent the Association with professionalism, composure, and genuine enthusiasm. I currently serve on the Advisory Board of the Battleship New Jersey Museum and remain an active member of the USS Enterprise CVN-65 Association.

I understand the importance of clear, timely, and respectful communication with our shipmates, their families, the media, and the public. I would bring that same standard of excellence to the Public Affairs Officer role—helping tell the story of Enterprise, support Association events, and strengthen the bonds among those who served aboard her. It would be a privilege to serve the Association in this capacity.

IN MEMORIAM TO OUR SHIPMATES:

Donald W. Murray: 1st Division (1961-1964) Plank Owner

Ship's Store Information

Apparel: We are working to get larger sizes in on all apparel.

Lead Time: Please note there is a 3-4 weeks if you're ordering apparel in different colors or for any apparel not currently in inventory.

New Product Items coming soon:

- Eighty caps in the last official enterprise cap design (2012)
- Light beige rain-coats

Best regards,
Tommy Bowden, Ship's Store Clerk

AS A REMINDER,

FROM 2027 REUNION HOST TRAVIS MATHEWS:

- The Enterprise is scheduled to be towed into Mobile River on November 12, 2026. Best viewing will be at Fort Morgan or Dauphin Island.
- When registering for the hotel be sure to mention it is for the USS Enterprise Association.

San Antonio Reunion Recap



Chairman Voorhies addresses the group at the first membership meeting.

During the Welcome Dinner, reunion host, Juan Martinez reported on the various activities he has scheduled for us during the week and recommended sites for us to see while in San Antonio. Juan told us about some of the

history of San Antonio, ways to get around the city and answered questions asked by our members. He talked about the VFW and the advantages of being a member.

Chairman Voorhies then introduced the officers of the Association to the membership and explained some of the duties and responsibilities of their office. He then recognized all the plank owners that were able to attend the reunion, all of those that were onboard during the fire of 1969, all marines that served onboard the ship and those first time attendees at the reunion. He then explained the schedule of events for the week. It was then requested to take a moment of silence for those shipmates lost on January 14, 1969 in the fire, which he did. We were then asked to recognize them during our Memorial Service, when we would also be mentioning all our members that we have been made aware of, since our last reunion.

Shirley Voorhies then explained how our bag raffles would work as well as when our Ship's Store would be open for business. James then explained about some of the items we had at the raffle. He then mentioned that we would be recommending two of our members for Lifetime Membership in the Association, during our Membership Meeting. These two were Bill Slupe and Jerry Pearson.

At our Membership Meeting, our chairman updated us on activities of the Board of Directors. Juan Martinez was asked to talk and explained some of the expenses associated with the reunion. Travis Mathews brought us up to date on what he has scheduled for us at the Mobile, Alabama



Our cheerful Raffle Ladies, Shirley Voorhies and Teresa Heck.

Reunion, next year. Mobile is a great city and we are going to have fun. He asked for an up-charge of \$75 for next year's reunion, from \$250 to \$325 per person, because of everything he has scheduled. The reunion is scheduled for the week of September 27th of next year.

During the closing dinner, the POW/MIA Table was set and Juan Martinez explained the significance of each setting on the table. Chaplain Mathews performed the "Two Bell Ceremony" for those that have departed us since last reunion, as well as those lost in the fire on January 14, 1969.

Chairman Voorhies presented Juan and Vera Martinez with an award from the Association, showing the Association's appreciation for hosting this year's reunion. Juan introduced our guest speaker VFW Department of Texas, Past State Commander Robert Martinez Jr. Commander Martinez recognized veterans from all eras and conflicts and told about losing shipmates and how the playing of taps affects him. He told the history of Enterprise rental car as well as told about some of the history of ships named Enterprise, including that CVN-80 would once more carry the Enterprise name. Commander Martinez mentioned that CVAN/CVN-65 had made 25 deployments in her life of 51 years.

He mentioned his time in the U.S. Navy opened up a lot of doors for him. Commander Martinez then told us about his time in service and the various assignments he had, as well as the various planes he had the opportunity to work on. He loved the Navy and loved his time in the Navy. His children and grandchildren he told them, can forget him on his birthday, on Father's Day, on Christmas, but don't forget Veterans' Day, that's special for him and should be for all of us.

Commander Martinez then talked about the VFW and how it fights for veteran benefits. He explained some of the benefits of being a member and some of the bills they are supporting through congress.



The "Two Bell Ceremony" by Chaplain Mathews.

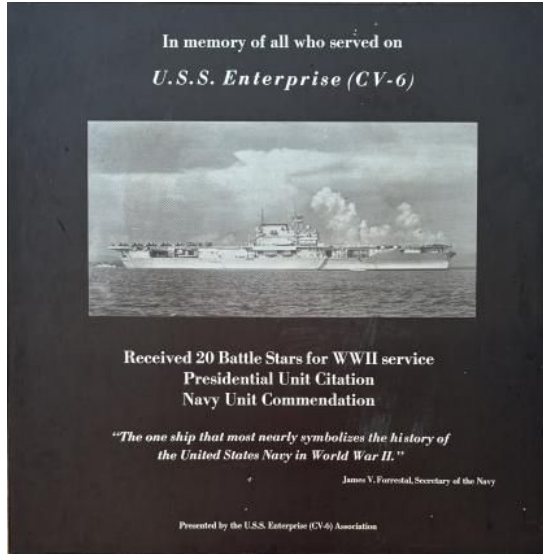


Robert Martinez Jr. and Juan Martinez Jr.

San Antonio Reunion 2026 Remembered in Pictures

(Thanks to those that took some of these pictures; Brian & Teresa Heck, Charles Boettcher and others that shared on FB)







USS ENTERPRISE CVAN/CVN-65 ASSOCIATION 2027 REUNION

The Downtown Historic Holiday Inn
301 Government Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602
September 27 - October 1, 2027



Room Type:	Standard King Room 2 Queens
Room Rate:	\$129.00 (no tax) Breakfast Buffet X2 included
Phone Number:	(251) 694-0100
Booking Code:	USS Enterprise room Block
Member name:	
Spouse / Guest:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
E-Mail:	

NAME TAGS

Member name:	State from:	Rank:	Years onboard:
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Spouse / Guest name :

Dietary restrictions:	
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Reunion Registration: \$325.00 per person

Registration _____ X \$325.00= _____ Due by: September 1, 2027

Please make checks payable to: **USS Enterprise Association**

Mail to: Brian R Heck, Treasurer
419 W. Sycamore St.
Ogden, Iowa 50212

You can also use your member portal on our website to register for the reunion.

Planning to attend: Please use one or the other to **Travis Mathews**
Text: (251) 744-1969
Voicemail: (251) 744-1969
E-Mail: enterprise83_85@yahoo.com

T-SHIRTS INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION, SELECT SIZE COLOR AND QTY

Mens (blue) ____Sm ____Med ____L ____XL ____XXL ____XXXL

Womens (pink) ____Sm ____Med ____L ____XL ____XXL

ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICERS:

Chairman Term Exp 2027	James (Jim) Voorhies
Vice Chairman Term Exp 2027	Richard Peralez
Secretary Term Exp 2028	Charles Boettcher
Treasurer Term Exp 2028	Brian Heck
3 rd Yr Board Mbr Term Exp 2027	Mike Saviano
2 nd Yr Board Mbr Term Exp 2028	Mike Sullo
1 st Yr Board Mbr Term Exp 2029	Pete Romanjenko

APPOINTED OFFICERS (No term expiration):

Chaplain	Travis Mathews
Chaplain (Alt)	Steve Packwood
Newsletter Editor	Dave Trumble
Parliamentarian/ By-Laws	Mike Sullo
Membership/ Database Mgr	Brian Heck

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued):

Webmaster	Tommy Bowden
Ship's Store Clerk	Tommy Bowden
Historian	Bill Slupe
Public Affairs Officer	Gregory Wojyn
Reunion Comm Mbrs	Bruce Mooberry Pete Romanjenko
	2027 Reunion - Mobile, AL (host) Travis Mathews
	2028 Reunion - Windsor Locks, CT (host) Ray Cote
Scholarship Comm Chairman	Patti Blundell
Scholarship Fund Chairman (Interim)	Pete Romanjenko
Scholarship Fund Treasurer (Interim)	Brian Heck
Financial Audit Comm Members	Shirley Voorhies and Shirley Crow



USS Enterprise Association Website