
Name:

rick

Email:

rick@caswellaerospace.com

Date:

31 Dec 2009

Comments

Great job on your research Dom!! I wondered about the Rolex name, I didn't know that they ever made cameras but that's what I thought it said when they showed a glimpse of the makers name on the show. I would not of thought to check eBay for the camera. As you may have noticed, I got the amount of what the pawn shop wrong as well, they gave \$125, not \$200. It came real close to being something you may have used before and since you were a photographer on the Wisky, that would have made it even more ironic than it already is!! Wow...if that camera could talk! I saw it on eBay and was wondering, did you bid on it?

Comments from Dom: Hi Rick, No I didn't bid on it. I'm not sure it's a Navy camera. Someone who served aboard in the 1980's-90's may have owned that camera and glued that emblem on it for identification. I know the photographers of that era were using 35mm cameras and video cameras. I don't know if they used 16mm film cameras. I guess when I have time I will have to do more checking. Have a Happy New Year Rick

Name:

rick

Email:

rick@caswellaerospace.com

Date:

29 Dec 2009

Comments

WOOHOO!!! Here's the clip of the show "Pawn Stars" when a couple bring in a video camera from the Wisconsin. Camera segment starts about 15 seconds in.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDGPuBw2CTk&NR=1> **VIDEO HAS BEEN DELETED**

Comments from Dom: Thanks for the site Rick. See my answer below.

Name:

rick

Email:

rick@caswellaerospace.com

Date:

29 Dec 2009

Comments

Did anyone else see the episode of "Pawn Stars" on the History Channel this week? I watched it on the 29th and they rerun those shows forever it seems like. Somebody brought in a video camera from the Wisconsin. It was in perfect condition, built by Rolex and had all the paperwork and wood carrying case. The camera itself had a small metal plaque on it with the ships crest fastened to it. I couldn't believe the condition it was in, it looked brand new, not a mark on it. They even had a naval historian come in and authenticate it. The Pawn Shop bought it for \$125 so if anyone is interested they might still have it.

Comments from Dom: Hi Rick, thanks for the information about the camera. I researched the camera and to clarify the type of camera it's a film camera and not a video camera. Also the brand name is, Paillard Bolex, not a Rolex (sorry Rick,). I checked out the video that you mention in your next entry and as of today, 12-31-09 the camera is being sold by Gold and Silver Pawn Shop, on EBay. At the time I checked it out the bid was up to \$456.00 and was listed as PAILLARD/BOLEX 16mm MOVIE CAMERA from U.S.S. WISCONSIN. I was one of three ships' photographers from April 1953 to June 1956 and that camera was not in our photo lab. We did have a film movie camera that I used once; it was a small compact camera with one fixed lens and took a pre loaded film cartridge instead of reel to reel. As for the ships' crest affixed to the top of the camera, that emblem was not around in the 1950's, it came out when the ship was re-commissioned in 1988. Again, thanks Rick for posting this info in our Deck Log.



Name:

keith chisholm

Email:

yogikc@yahoo.com

Date:

27 Dec 2009

Comments

i am an amateur historian of both naval history and naval battleship types and design.....the reason is my mom's late father served on the uss pennsylvania in ww1 and he gets the credit for turning me into a lifetime fan of battleships.....my concern is with the lack of naval surface fire power.....my question which ive been trying to get an answer to for 3 weeks on other web sites is this: IF THERE WERE (GOD FORBID) A NATIONAL EMERGENCY PLACING PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE UNITED STATES NAVY...WOULD BB-64 WISCONSIN BE A "POTENTIAL MOBILIZATION ASSET".....BECAUSE TO DESTROY THE MILITARY UTILITY OF THIS GREAT SHIP (IF) HER COUNTRY SHOULD EVER NEED HER AGAIN WOULD BE A DISASTER.....I THOUGHT WE LEARNED IN WW11 THAT IN A TIME OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT ANY NAVAL VESSEL CAN BE CLAIMED AND PUT TO GOOD USE SOMEHOW AND SOMEWAY....IM HOPING THAT WISCONSIN DOES NOT HAVE TO SERVE AGAIN....BUT...IF IT WAS NEEDED.....COULD SHE....AND WILL HER AMMUNITION STORES BE PRESERVED.....IM HOPING BB-61 IS A EMERGENCY POTENTIAL ASSET TO.....HAVING THESE SHIPS USELESS IN A TIME OF FLEET NATIONAL EMERGENCY WOULD IN OF ITSELF BE A DISASTER....(THANKS FOR YOUR TIME)-KEITH CHISHOLM.....FAN OF BB-64,BB-61,BB-62,BB-63,AND ALL BATTLESHIPS FOREVER.....THANKS!!

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your question following is your answer:

**NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007
BATTLESHIP TRANSFER**

In the conference report (H. Rept. 109-360) accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2006, the committee included instructions regarding the transfer of the battleships USS Wisconsin and USS Iowa to the Commonwealth of Virginia and State of California, respectively, and the President's reversion authority pursuant to a national emergency. The committee seeks to clarify that battleships USS Wisconsin and USS Iowa must be regarded as potential mobilization assets and both the recipients and the U.S. Navy are instructed to treat them as such. The committee notes that the following measures should be taken:

(1) the ships must not be altered in any way that would impair their military utility; (2) the ships must be preserved in their present condition through the continued use of cathodic protection and dehumidification systems and any other preservation methods as needed; (3) spare parts and unique equipment such as 16-inch gun barrels and projectiles, be preserved in adequate numbers to support the two ships, if reactivated; and (4) the Navy must prepare plans for the rapid reactivation of the two battleships should they be returned to the Navy in the event of a national emergency.



Name:

Ed Mrozowski

Email:

EdsHockeyShop@comcast.net

Date:

23 Dec 2009

Comments

The ship is in absolute beautiful condition. Looks to me to be in better condition than the Missouri. Is the Wisky going to have to be dry docked like The Mighty Mo?

Comments from Dom: No Ed, she has past bottom inspection so she will not have to go into dry dock.



Name:

Mike Stansbery

Email:

sigp239@gmail.com

Date:

23 Dec 2009

Comments

Just wanted to say how happy I am to see that our ship has been donated to the city of Norfolk. I look forward to being able to take a tour inside of our ship. I know that most likely I will not be able to visit my work center (Spot 1) but I sure would like to see my old rack and Forward and Aft Plot. It would be nice to walk the mess decks again and relive some memories. My family looks forward to seeing the ship that Dad served onboard. Former FC3 Mike Stansbery, FM Div, Spot 1

Comments from Dom: Hi Mike, we all look forward to the day we could go inside our past home.

Name:

JAMES HARBRIDGE

Email:

LIVEFORTHEMOMENTS@HOTMAIL.COM

Date:

19 Dec 2009

Comments

MY FATHER SERVED ON THE WISCONSIN IN 1944 HE HAS A COUPLE OF PICTURES LISTED ON THIS SITE I WAS WONDERING IF THERE ARE ANY MORE PICTURES OF HIM. WAS AMAZED TO SEE THREE OF HIS PICTURES HERE. DONALD LEE HARBRIDGE. THANK YOU JIM HARBRIDGE

Comments from Dom; Hi Jim, thanks for your entry. Perhaps if any of your Fathers shipmates have photos they may contact you.

Name:

Mrs. David Boyd

Email:

kellidiane2000@hotmail.com

Date:

17 Dec 2009

Comments

I have been periodically keeping up with this board. My Husband David Boyd served from 87-91,, He was in the engine room,, I think His nickname was Wheelie.. anyways, Wanted to let teh ones that he served with know how he was doing. We have three daughters and three grand kids,, life has been good and been married 18 years.. He often to this days talks about his days upon the whiskey,, Seems was the best days of his life from how he says.. Be well and Merry Christmas

Comments from Dom; Hi Mrs. Boyd, thanks for your entry. Wishing you, David and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Name:

HECTOR GARAY

Email:

GARAYBB64@GMAIL

Date:

12 Dec 2009

Comments

FIRST HELLO TO MY FELLOW BATTLE SHIP SHIPMATES. MAY ALL AND YOURS BE IN THE BEST OF HEALTH. AND THE REASON FOR THIS NOTE IS TO CORRECT MY PREVIOUS EMAIL ... RETIRED IN 99 AND MY EMAIL WAS MISSING AN A GARAYBB64@GMAIL ..

Comments from Dom; Thanks for the corrections

Name:

HECTOR GARAY

Email:

GARAYBB64@GMAIL

Date:

10 Dec 2009

Comments

JUST WANT TO SAY HI TO MY FELLOW WISCONSIN SHIPMATES I'M A PLANK OWNER FROM PRECOM. DET NORFOLK TO DESERT SHIELD DESERT STORM, SO NICE TO HAVE FOUND THIS WEB. I WILL BECOME PART OF THE ASSOCIATION SOON I WAS RM2 BACK IN THE WISKY PUNCH DAYS I RETIRED IN 90 AND PRESENTLY RESIDE IN CORPUS CHRISTI TX. IF THERE ARE ANY RM'S FROM OUR CREW GIVE ME A HOLLER. MAYBE SOMEONE COULD TELL ME IF PO SANDBERG LIVES IN HOUSTON SEND ME AN EMAIL I WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH BASE WITH HIM. WELL FELLOW SHIPMATES TAKE CARE. HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS.

Comments from Dom; Hi Hector, glad you found us. As for Ray Sandberg, click on the Members button at the top of the page then go to the 80's-90's R-Z page, click on his name and send him an email. Looking forward to you joining our Wisconsin family.

Name:

Steven Brookshire

Email:

steven.brookshire@us.army.mil

Date:

05 Dec 2009

Comments

I'm a former WisKy sailor. Over the years I've look for a lot of former shipmates. But, as of yet I have not been able to find John Ventrone last known living in Ohio. If anyone has a phone number or address. Would like to here from you. Thanks

Comments from Dom; Hi Steven, hope someone contacts you.

Name:

KEITH BENJAMIN

Email:

kvbenj@comcast.net

Date:

27 Nov 2009

Comments

ANYONE WHO WAS IN THE STEAM HEAT AND AFTER STEERING DURING 1945 AND 1946 WHO KNEW ME ("A" DIV.) I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Comments from Dom; Hi Keith, hope you hear from former crew members.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

27 Nov 2009

Comments

I received an email from the Law Firm of Baron and Budd asking to relate my experiences while serving on the Wisconsin. They are a firm specializing in "Class Action" law suits, specifically asbestos related. Has anyone else heard from them or sent anything in writing?

Comments from Dom; Hi Irving, I believe you are the first to inform us of this contact. Lets see if you get any responses.

Name:

E.P, Adams

Email:

edpadams@hotmail.com

Date:

22 Nov 2009

Comments

It was honor to serve my country on the USS Wisconsin, during the Gulf War. Started as a FN in Fire Room # 3, then became a SN RM 1990-91. Hello to all my fellow ship mates.....

Comments from Dom: Hi E.P., hope you hear from your shipmates. By the way, have you given any thought about joining our Wisconsin family?

Name:

Frank Sauve

Email:

franksauve2000@yahoo.com

Date:

05 Nov 2009

Comments

Hope you return to service, would be honored to serve on her again.

Comments from Dom; Frank, I think a lot of guys would be honored to serve on her again.

Name:

BM-3 Richard Allen 4th div.

Email:

allwis64@yahoo.com

Date:

01 Nov 2009

Comments

On board from 1951 to 1954, looking for shipmate, Charlie E, Richardson, 4th div. would love to fine this person. s.f.c. us army military retired

Comments from Dom; Hope you find Charlie

Name:

Arsell Bridges)SM2)

Email:

arsellbridges@yahoo.com

Date:

24 Oct 2009

Comments

I am looking for a way to get a copy of the 1990 cruise book. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Comments from Dom; High Arsell, it seems the only place you can get this book is on eBay at a very high price. [USS Navy Cruise Books On CD](#) doesn't have this book in CD format at this time.

Name:

MAC/BM3 Michael Jones

Email:

destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Date:

18 Oct 2009

Comments

I just want to check in to say hello to all my Wisconsin family! I recently talked with MACM Albrech and CWO3 Campomizzi both are retired and I'm still going 1 year and 8 months left on active duty. LT. Little and OSCM Lindsay is still going strong. I'm so very proud of those 2. BM3 Haymond I finally ran in him here in Georgia he is out the navy and happy. I just want to wish everyone a great week. God bless you all.

Comments from Dom; Hi Michael, thanks for the update and thank you for your continues service. Stay safe.

Name:

John Britt BTFN

Email:

ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com

Date:

09 Oct 2009

Comments

I can not put into words how much I miss that grey lady, served during gulf war. I want so bad to see her again but can not afford it just yet, been out of work for 6 plus moths. But before I die I so hope and pray I get to see her I'd be proud to kiss her decks again and salute her 352 483 1429.

Comments from Dom; John, I hope a good job comes your way soon. As for our "GRAY LADY", many of us feel as you do about her. It's amazing the power she has and the love her former entrusted children of the 1940's, 1950's and 1980's / 1990's still have for her. Now if only the powers that be would release her so that she can be opened to the public and especially to us who lived inside her to once again reminisce of our time aboard. The crews of the three eras that served aboard her are starting to pass away, just look at our "In Memoriam" list on this site. Our fear is not of dying, after all we joined the Navy knowing this could happen, our biggest fear is we may never get to see inside her again.

Name:

Tom Bradshaw , Pres. USS Wisconsin Assoc.

Email:

bb64bt1retired@aol.com

Date:

09 Oct 2009

Comments

In response to Mary Ann Walkover, I do remember Rick, he was a good sailor and we had many laughs and good times on board the "WisKy". We learned of his passing a few years ago and was honored at one of our Memorial Services at a reunion a few years back. He will be well remembered by all his shipmates.

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your remembrance, Tom.

Name:

Williams, Pete Bm2

Email:

pw38@att.net

Date:

01 Oct 2009

Comments

Just checking in again with the crew. I've missed talking and hanging out with friends doing all kinds of wild crazy things and I still can remember the past.. we had so much fun and wish we could get together again.. I'm doing ok here in Austin, TX, great health and wish everybody the best of health and good strength.. keep in touch.. any 2nd and 6th div out there.. God Bless everyone and the one's who's moved on to a better place..

Comments from Dom; Hi Pete, I hope you hear from some of your shipmates.

Name:

Jack Young

Email:

gy32@roadrunner.com

Date:

30 Sep 2009

Comments

I would like too know if anyone would know where too get the ships book 3 march 1951 to 3 march 1952 Anniversary Edition. I also think there might have been two others. Thank You for Your time. Jack

Comments from Dom; Hi Jack, yes there were two other books in the 1950's. The Officers and men of the USS Wisconsin (BB-64) proudly present THEIR SHIP'S HISTORY from April 1952 to April 1954. Wisconsin Cruise Book 1955-1956. One or two or possibly all three are being sold through eBay. Purchase price for these books are well over \$100.00 each. [USS Navy Cruise Books On CD](#), has CD copies of these books at a reasonable price.

I have not seen any of them but I have heard that they are pretty good. The choice is yours

Name:

ALICE [MEADE]McAstocker

Email:

tmcastock@aol.com

Date:

27 Sep 2009

Comments

O.C.Meade, rate S1c V6 . My Father died in 1974. I do remember that My Father said He felt very safe on board the Wisconsin from day one

Comments from Dom; Alice, most of us, if not all also felt very safe aboard this magnificent and powerful ship.

Name:

Alice [Meade] McAstocker

Email:

tmcastock@aol.com

Date:

27 Sep 2009

Comments

I would like to know if my Father Oglevee C. Meade was a Plankowner? He reported

on board on April 16 1944 Thank You Alice McAstocker

Comments from Dom; Yes he was, Alice.

Name:

mary ann walkover

Email:

walkoverzam@yahoo.com

Date:

24 Sep 2009

Comments

I am writing to see if anyone out there still remembers rick gray. he was on the USS Wisconsin in the years 1990 until it came home. as some know Rick passed away a year after his retirement. he was 45. we miss him so much but still would love to hear any comments about Rick. you were as much of his family if not more. he spent 26 or so years in the Navy. His first love. thank you in advance on anyone commenting.

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your entry, Mary.

Name:

Ernie Rubottom

Email:

rubottome@bv.com

Date:

16 Sep 2009

Comments

Regarding the story accounts from Lally and Ekis....Lally hit on it pretty good. I was in 1st division doing work near the forecandle when the GQ came over the 1MC...my GQ readiness was to secure/close all air vents along the starboard side I believe and then proceed to my GQ fire station near Turret 2. The voice on the 1MC said incoming starboard side, Impact imminent, brace for impact and I about crapped my pants...thinking, this is it. It's after this that my memory goes blank....I do however recall the talk of an IFF signal that wasn't set....it was explained to me later that this enabled us to know whether or not aircraft were friendly or not and that the GQ was called because some British planes wanted to check out the mighty Wisconsin. I am not sure how much of the British planes is true but that much has stuck with me for the last 19 years. Thanks Ekis for your recollection. SN Rubottom 1st Deck Division

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your recollection of the incident reported by Douglas Lally. See the previous Deck Log entries.

1-Douglas Lally Deck Log entry 24June 2008 2- Andy Ekis Deck Log entry 7 July 2008

Name:

Trish Ratliff

Email:

trishratliff@yahoo.com

Date:

15 Sep 2009

Comments

I just watched a show about the USS Wisconsin. It was very touching and the attachment those men felt was so obvious and very sincere. It is almost sad that she is not out there now doing what she did best.

Comments fro Dom; Hi Trish, thanks for your entry. We also would like to see her out there doing what she does best.

Name:

Fid Hommell

Email:

fidhimself@gmail.com

Date:

13 Sep 2009

Comments

Looking for anyone that was on the Wisconsin from Jan 1988 to Apr 1992 in the B-Div. I was in #1 and #2 fire room. please send me a email.

Comments from Dom; Hi Fid, hope you hear from some of your shipmates.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

08 Sep 2009

Comments

Dom, I always look forward to your Friday edition of your "Personal Log" to recall where we had been. I was wondering how I could get a chronological log of the period after you left the ship. For me that would be from June 1956 to September 1957. I know where we went, I just don't remember when.

Comments from Dom; Thanks for reading the Friday Newsletter and my Personal Log. As for what you are looking for, have you read our Ships History? Some of what you are looking for is listed there. Just go to the top of this page and click on "Ship's History"

Name:

chad horton

Email:

cg_horton_99@yahoo.com

Date:

05 Sep 2009

Comments

I had a good time today.. 9/5/09 on it.

Comments from Dom; Did you serve aboard the Wisconsin?



Name:

Steve Bridges

Email:

sbridges3@cfl.rr.com

Date:

27 Aug 2009

Comments

I'm looking for a brass USS Wisconsin Zippo lighter, preferably the plankowner one. My ex-wife lost mine and I would very much like to replace it. If you have one for sale, or know of one please email me.

Comments from Dom; Hi Steve, we do not have this lighter in our ships store. Try searching for it on the internet.



Name:

Micki Coughlin

Email:

mickroco@aol.com

Date:

08 Aug 2009

Comments

Hi Dom. Thanks so much for your help and your great site. Would love to hear from anyone who knew my father. His name was Maurice Roseman and he was on board from 1944-1945 and was called "Rosie". The pics I sent look great. Thanks again.

Comments from Dom; Hi Micki, again thanks for sharing your photos with us. I hope you hear from some of your fathers shipmates.



Name:

Gerald Wendrick

Email:

gwendrick@yahoo.com

Date:

31 Jul 2009

Comments

Finally after nearly 18 years I get to visit the old girl. Me and my family will be flying to Norfolk Aug 14 and spending 4 days there, my little girls can't wait to see her, I think there will be lots of old memories running thru my head. The friends who have since pasted away, and the ones who are still with us, wondering how each and everyone has changed since my time on the Wisconsin. Would be an honor to salute the flag on the old girl aging. I will wear my cruise jacket no matter how hot it is when I get there to show my pride of her. If any old shipmates will be there at that time would be great to see ya. I will be staying at the Marriot not far from the old gal. will take photos for family on her to share with everyone. Any advice to other things to do while we are there is greatly appreciated.

Comments from Dom; Boy, someone seems very excited to see mama. I hope you realize that the inside of the ship is not open. You can only walk her main deck and three decks above. The Marriot is a beautiful hotel, that's where we held our 2008 reunion.

Name:

CARL A. MEYERS

Email:

ccamlv@yahoo.com

Date:

28 Jul 2009

Comments

Small comment about ships history (1947) In addition to reserve cruises to Panama, trips were made to Halifax, N.S., Port-au-Prince Haiti and Ponce, Puerto Rico during that time period

Comments from Dom; Thanks Carl for the additional information.

Name:

Michael Jones was BM3 now MAC

Email:

destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Date:

22 Jul 2009

Comments

On July 13, I got to visit the mighty Wisconsin with my wife and Aunt! What a treat! I hadn't walked those teakwood decks in over 18 years! Everything virtually looked just as good as the day I left her. The Senior members of the Wisconsin's Crew were totally awesome! They sent me to the back office where I was given the Wisconsin package and the special hat pin that I will always treasure! It was a treat! With 2 years left on active service I look forward to the reunions in Norfolk at the ship in the future! God bless all my Wisconsin Sailors old and new!

MR. RIDINGS was my old department head back in those days and I still remember when I did my Mess Duty in the wardroom I cleaned MR. WESTON'S stateroom :). I think back on those days and they still bring me smiles!

Comments from Dom; Hi Michael, glad you enjoyed your visit to our ship. The docents do take good care of former crewmembers. As you know some of them are also former crewmembers. They always do a great job of presenting our ship.

Name:

bt3 John Britt

Email:

ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com

Date:

17 Jul 2009

Comments

Trying to stay in touch with shipmates during gulf war, having trouble. Please pass this email address to all in question, from B div was in # 3 fire room. Came aboard in Mississippi ship yard also looking for video that was made during cruise I paid for but never received it. Any help would be appreciated

Comments from Dom: Hi John, thanks for your entry. Here's an idea, check out the 80's / 90's roster for the shipments your looking for and if their name is in blue that means they have an email address. Click on it and send them a personal email. Just a suggestion.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

13 Jul 2009

Comments

I had never looked at the "other" pictures. Great shots. Now I see why you don't need mine.

Comments from Dom; Glad you got a chance to see and enjoy them.

Name:

Jamie Caskey

Email:

krug_jamie@hotmail.com

Date:

07 Jul 2009

Comments

Hi, I am looking for any pictures of my grandfather, Boyd Yetzer. I have a picture of him

sketched by Irvin M. Beatty from 1944 while they were aboard the ship. Any information or pictures would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Comments from Dom; Hi Jamie, I hope some of your grandfather's former shipmate see this and contact you.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

04 Jul 2009

Comments

Yesterday, July 3rd was the end of my vacation yet it was one of the happiest days for me. I, along with my wife and daughter had the great pleasure of visiting the Wisconsin. Although I had not seen her since August, 1957 I remembered everything I was able to see. I was presented with a welcome package by Tom Dandes and the docents were very hospitable. I only wish I could go below. I did learn that the metal and canvas that we slept on was removed in favor of real bunks. The younger set are all "wooses". Anyway it was quite an experience. Dom, if you are reading this Tom said he sent you a photo disc of the entire interior of the ship. Will you be posting it?

Comments from Dom; Hi Irving glad you and your family had the chance to see our ship. The Docents are great and do take care of former crewmembers when they come aboard. As for Dan's pictures, most of what he gave me has been on the site for the past few years. I guess you haven't gone into our "Other Photos" page 1, that's where you will find them. I will go through his and pick out the ones that are not on the site.

Name:

Bm3 Anthony Gallardo

Email:

agallardo@bop.gov

Date:

23 Jun 2009

Comments

Question: I just recently found out that I will be in Norfolk, Va. in Mid July. I was wanting to tour the ship with my Wife to show her the ship I spent five years on. Does any one know if We are able to show her the birthing areas (our racks beds) I wanted to show her the tight quarters we lived in. and the galley we all ate in. I use to work in the sail loft and would also love to show her the area I worked in. Thanks and look forward to seeing the Beautiful ship I called home for 5 years... Anthony L. Gallardo Pueblo, Colorado

Comments from Dom; Hi Anthony, the ship is still not open to the public. Sorry to say, you can only walk her main deck and three decks above. Enjoy your visit.

Name:

dan waeltermann

Email:

honeysucklefly@hotmail.com

Date:

18 Jun 2009

Comments

looking for any information about my father, Dan Waeltermann, on board from 3-1-47/3-15-47.
Thanks, Dan

Comments from Dom; Hi Dan, as per my email to you, the copies of the ships rosters for that time period are not very legible. I did find his name listed on the 3/1/1947 roster but he was not listed on the 8/12/1947 roster. This means he was transferred off the ship sometime between those two dates.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

13 Jun 2009

Comments

I responded with an email to John Anderson about Greenock, Scotland. I remember it very well. I remember going into a local pub and the locals bought me and my buddy drinks, boilermakers to be precise. A shot (or 2) of Scotch and a warm ale. I remember watching the beautiful hills as we sailed in. I remember Glasgow and the Teddy Boys and the trouble that ensued. Anyone else have these memories???

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your memories. Looks like John Anderson woke up a few memory banks.

ame:

Michael Jones

Email:

destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Date:

07 Jun 2009

Comments

Its kinda sad that when I try to find my Battleship buddies ALL of them are retired! I search Together We Served and I found 1! And of course he is retired. Serving on the Battle Ship is an Honor and truly something special. I want to find Sailors from my error to keep this Website going. I look at the meetings and there's no one from my error in the pics, were goanna have to change it some how. I found BM3 Walker who retired as a NC1, and Capt Coleman account is no longer active. I'm determined to find more older shipmates! As always have a great week fellow Sailors and friends.

Comments from Dom; Hi Michael, that's the big problem we are having. We need the 3rd

generation crew to start joining our association. We need them to try and make our reunions and to get involved with this great Wisconsin family. Sad to say, but without them, this association will go away.

Name:

Michael Jones

Email:

destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Date:

07 Jun 2009

Comments

WOW Mr. John Anderson, it looks like you have a pretty good memory! I'm impressed and the meals they throw together on some of these ships you will never get any where else. I can't help you with the memories but I enjoyed reading what you did remember. Glad you enjoyed the mighty Wisconsin! Have a great week Sir. Very Respectfully, MAC(SW/AW) Michael Jones

Comments from Dom: Thanks Michael for you entry and thanks for your service.

Name:

John Anderson

Email:

j.anderson@virgin.net

Date:

30 May 2009

Comments

Dear Officers and gentleman of the New Jersey (BB62) and Wisconsin (BB64)
This is addressed to those who may have served on these ships in the mid 1950s.

I was a young Scottish boy aged 7 - 9 years only. I lived in Greenock. At that time my father was a Major in the local TA artillery regiment in Greenock having served in Burma, and was in Z reserve for Korea. He was also chairman of the local conservative party in politics. I say this as I do not know with what connection he had with the US Navy exercises' when both boats I believed served as Fleet oilers.

I do remember being invited on both ships, and was very impressed, so much so that my hobby as an historian is battleships 1906 to date. I have followed the history of both ships with vigour. I admit the Missouri is the most historical and the Iowa is the class. However my affection is with the BB62 & the BB64, on a personal basis.

I was invited on board the Wisconsin first, with my mother and father as a guest, on a Saturday afternoon, and I remember standing under those 16" guns that seemed to go on for ever. I think it was 1955-57. Members of the crew were invited back to our house and my parents had a cocktail party, at which I was told of Elvis Presley. Later, and I thought two years but I may be wrong, my parents were invited on board the New Jersey on a Sunday for a meal and it was the first time I had ham with apple sauce. I was also very impressed that you

could put a coin in a machine and be served a bottle of Coca Cola. I thought these two occasions were two years apart, but I am not sure. When the gentleman and officers visited our house for the party we also took them up to the moors behind Greenock to let them TRY to pick heather, that was to no avail.

Both my parents died over 30 years ago, so I cannot ask them, so I am hoping someone can fill in the gaps!

Can anyone help me clarify my childhood memories, I would be most grateful.

Kind regards

John Anderson

Comments from Dom: John emailed this information to me. I asked John If it would be OK to post his request on our Deck Log in hopes that a former crewmember may read this and answer him. John agreed with the posting.

The Wisconsin was in Greenock, Scotland July 26 to July 31, 1954, Edinburgh, July 26 to August 1, 1955,

Greenock, July 1956 and Clyde, Scotland June 1957.

John said our trip in 1954 could have been one of the two times he is referring to.

John, let me know how you make out.

Name:

Michael Jones

Email:

destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Date:

25 May 2009

Comments

David from the UK, I still remember when we decommissioned the ship. It was in "Like New Condition". I went to Norfolk like 5 years back and to see the Ship in all her splendor was truly amazing. I have some old pictures of my time on the ship and I'm going to send them to the site next month. When I see the pics of my old ship mates and 2 of me it really brings back good memories. When I retire I must wear my uniform for the last time on that ship. Again all have a great week! Very Respectfully, MAC Jones

Comments from Dom: Thanks for your entry Mac.

Name:

Michael Jones was BM3 now MAC

Email:

destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Date:

17 May 2009

Comments

Man I miss this great ship! I cant wait to see it in July! I was a SN and made it up to BM3! I

worked on the flight deck and turret three! 1987 to 1992 I was there! God bless all the battle ship Sailors and there families! I WOULD GIVE THE WORLD TO SEE CAPT COLEMAN our old Executive Officer! There's no ship quite like ours. "Gave the song I'm proud to be an American real meaning! Wow this was over 20 years ago and I'm still active duty. Currently MAC Michael Jones 21 years active and going. BM3 Haymond, BM3 Malcolm Davis!!!! BME Askew!! BM2 Washington, BM2 Alvis, BM3 Henderson, BM3 Wright, were is my Battleship buddies!!!!!!!!!!!!!! my email is destoned2swirl@yahoo.com

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your continues service Michael. I hope you hear from your past shipmates.



Name: Irving Zimmerma
Email: howspar@aol.com
Date: 05 May 2009

Comments

As I was looking over the pictures for the umpteenth time, one looked pretty familiar. # 1102 from the 1950's section - the 3rd guy from the left looks a lot like Earl Decima - OI division.

Comments from Dom: That photo was sent in by the wife of Vincent Piersante. Vince was in the 4th Division, so I believe they were in the 4th Div.



Name: Irving Zimmerman
Email: howspar@aol.com
Date: 04 May 2009

Comments

Two days until the anniversary of the infamous "collision"! Do you remember where you were when it happened? I was in CIC (radar) keeping my eye on the formation as we were sailing out of Norfolk. The screen was very hazy due to the heavy seas and fog. I felt the collision but did not realize what happened until our commander told us. What a day!!!!

Comments from Dom: Irving, since it was a Sunday afternoon, I was laying in my rack up in the photo lab when we hit the Eaton. I didn't know what we hit but the way the ship moved, I knew it had to be something big. I told the other photographers, lets grab our cameras and out and see what we hit. As they say, the rest is history.



Name: David
Email: david-k@blueyonder.co.uk

Date:

04 May 2009

Comments

I read on Wikipedia that the Wisconsin and her sister ship Iowa are being kept in battle worthy condition. Is this true? I wish we in the UK had held on to a few of ours.

Comments from Dom: Hi David, I don't know about the Iowa, but the Wisconsin looks like it would not take too long to get her ready if they need her.

Name:

Andrea Oldfield/John DeSimone

Email:

danan5@hvc.rr.com

Date:

24 Apr 2009

Comments

2 years ago I went with my father, John DeSimone to see & board the Wisconsin. Growing up my father always told stories of his years on the Whiskey. He was in the navy in the early '50's. We went with my mother and my 3 children. My father was so proud to show us the ship. We had our own private tour with Dad as the tour director! My kids were amazed at the stories he told and the "lingo" he used! To top it off I bought an American Flag with me and we had it flown over the ship that day and returned to us. It was truly a priceless trip!! If anyone remembers my father, he would love to hear from you!!!

Comments from Dom: Hi Andrea, glad you and your family enjoyed your visit to our ship. You had the perfect tour guide with you. OK guys, John was in "B" Division and made both tours to Korea. Andrea and John are waiting to hear from you.

Name:

Tom Bradshaw

Email:

bb64bt1retired@aol.com

Date:

17 Apr 2009

Comments

To all those who look at our wonderful web site and post to the deck log, please feel free to join our Wisconsin Association Family by completing the application on the site. We are so proud of our BB-64 and all those who have served aboard her. We want to continue the Association even after the Last Battleship Sailor has sailed to meet Davy Jones. Remember we are the last of those who will ever sail aboard a United States Navy Battleship. Reunion in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin in September 2010, more info to follow.

Name:
KEN "DOC" COLEMAN
Email:
KRC6247@AOL.COM
Date:
29 Mar 2009

Comments

HAD A GREAT TIME TOURING HER.... WENT ABOARD THE BATTLESHIP NEW JERSEY IN SUBIC BAY BACK IN 1969 SHE WAS ALSO BEAUTIFUL.. THANKS FOR THE GREAT TOUR IN MARCH 2009 HOPE TO COME BACK AGAIN... KEN DOC COLEMAN HOBART, IN

Comments from Dom; Hi Ken, thanks for your Deck Log entry. Glad you enjoyed your tour on the ship.

Name:
KEITH BENJAMIN
Email:
KVBENJ@COMCAST.NET
Date:
28 Mar 2009

Comments

MY TIME WAS: LATE 1945 TO SUMMER OF 1946. "A" DIVISION, STEAM HEAT, AND "AFTER STEERING". WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANY OLD MATES.

Comments from Dom; Hi Keith, I hope you hear from some of your former shipmates.

Name:
Marc Vershowske
Email:
marc.vershowske@ual.com
Date:
25 Mar 2009

Comments

I was stationed on the USS England during Desert Shield when the Wisconsin showed up. What a Beautiful Ship. I'm from the great state of Wisconsin and Took, and still, take GREAT pride at looking at her and, of course, my old ship. Wish I could have spent some time aboard the Wisconsin while she was active but will always remember seeing the BIG GUNS from a distance. Long live the USS Wisconsin and ON WISCONSIN!

Comments from Dom; Hi Marc, thanks for your Deck Log entry. It would have been nice if you could have served aboard the ship named after your state.

Name: Perry Bodnar
Email: perybb64@verizon.net
Date: 13 Mar 2009

Comments

I just today made some home made navy SOS from the secret formula used all those years ago. I have a copy if anyone interested to go back quite a few years. This is the one made from ground beef not chipped beef. I will share with anyone so contact me. Tastes as good as then. Perry Bodnar

Comments from Dom; OK guys, now is the chance to go back to "yesteryear."

Name: Irving Zimmerman
Email: howspar@aol.com
Date: 02 Mar 2009

Comments

The time is finally drawing closer until I get to board the Whisky once again. I will be in Norfolk the end of June and I have been waiting for this opportunity for a long time. I served on her in 1956 & 57 and was aboard for the unfortunate collision.

Comments from Dom; Hi Irving, enjoy your walk around her main deck and three decks above. I don't see your name on our Members list, have you given any thought to re-joining our Wisconsin family?

Name: Michael N Moore
Email: michaelnealmoore@hotmail.com
Date: 28 Feb 2009

Comments

I was proud to serve on the USS Wisconsin during Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Just wondering if there is a way to find contact information for some of the friends I made while aboard.

Comments from Dom; Hi Michael, if you go to our "Members" page you will be able to access our Association list of former crewmembers. If their name is in blue, click on it and you can send an email to your former shipmate. Why not join our Wisconsin family and have your name listed, this way if one of your former shipmates wants to contact you, they can.

Name:

John Goheen

Email:

kb2adl@comcast.net

Date:

20 Feb 2009

Comments

Dom; So glad to read of the progress regarding the opening of the ship. It's been awhile, but it looks like things are moving along, at the usual bureaucratic snails pace. Anyway, the only concerns that I have with the EPA inspectors are the same one's we had on Battleship New Jersey. When it comes to EPA inspection of an Iowa class battleship, been there, done that. However, I'm sure you are well aware that like most bureaucratic organizations, the EPA will try to "reinvent the wheel". The main problem was that, especially with PCBs, the inspectors had difficulty recognizing what equipment contained PCBs and what didn't. They almost did serious damage to our General Announcing System had I not worked with them on the proper identification of those components that "might" contain PCBs. My point is that the inspection process must be carefully monitored by personnel who know the equipment being inspected. As an aside, we doing very well on Battleship New Jersey and wish your organization great success with your "charge". Fair wind and following seas, John Goheen, BB62 Curatorial Support

Comments from Dom; Hi John, thanks for the information. I hope if the EPA or whoever, runs into a snag that they contact you for advice.

Name:

Angela Matthews Menton

Email:

amenton@bellsouth.net

Date:

14 Feb 2009

Comments

My father, Willis Harold Matthews, served on the U.S. Wisconsin. He always talked about his time on the Wisconsin. He passed away with cancer at age 50. He would be in his 80's if still alive. Is there anyone out there who knew or heard of my Dad? Let me know. I have one of the Wisconsin books that looks like what are now high school year books. I love looking at it. Lots of Sad Sac cartoons in it also. Hope to hear from someone. My Dad was born in Greenbrier, Tennessee 3/15/1921

Comments from Dom: Hi Angela, thanks for your entry. Your Dad was a GM2 (gunners mate) in the 6th Division and served aboard from 1951 to 1953. Hope you hear from some of his former shipmates.

Name:

Karen McManus

Email:

kmcmanus2005@comcast.net

Date:

05 Feb 2009

Comments

My Grandfather Wesley Thomas Hinchcliffe was on the Wisconsin from 1943-1945. Does anyone know my Grandfather and may have stories or photos to share? He is getting ready to celebrate his 87th birthday. Thank You.

Comments from Dom; Come on shipmates, can you help Karen with her request?

Name:

Pete Williams

Email:

pw38@att.net

Date:

02 Feb 2009

Comments

Hello shipmates.. I have a new e-mail address.. its pw38@att.net hope all is well and god bless everybody that's here and that's looking for other shipmates.. I've found a few and will continue to search for others.. I'm here in Austin, TX, doing well and in good health..

Comments from Dom; Hi Pete, I have added your new e-mail address. Hope you hear from your former shipmates.

Name:

David Pemberton

Email:

Pemberton@Sathre.com

Date:

13 Jan 2009

Comments

What a great site. My dad, Walter Pemberton, served in the South Pacific during WW II in FM Div. I found a picture of him #299 which surprised him and was amazing to me. He's 83 now and still active (golfing). I would be curious to know if anybody remembers him. I am going to try to send in some pictures he has filed away. Thank you to all that served

Comments from Dom: Hi David, glad you like our site and that you found a photo of

your Dad. James, Joseph, of FM Division sent in that photo. Why don't you email him and see if he still remembers your Dad. Another great idea, why not sign up your Dad as a member.

Name:

Bob Means

Email:

bmeans@nnex.net

Date:

22 Dec 2008

Comments

ONE OF THE CREWS PHOTOGRAPHERS TOOK A COLOR PHOTO OF THE FIRST ROCKET FIRED FROM THE SHIP DURING DESERT STORM. I TOOK THAT PHOTO AND PUT IT ON SEVERAL T SHIRTS AND SENT THEM TO THE SHIP. I DID NOT GET A RESPONSE AND WONDER IF THE SHIP GOT THEM.?? GLAD TO HEAR THAT THE SHIP WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC SOON. BOB MEANS

Comments from Dom: Can anyone help Bob on this?

Name:

Todd Overcash

Email:

tover@carolina.rr.com

Date:

14 Dec 2008

Comments

Two years ago, I was able to fulfill my dream of visiting the ship that my grandfather served on during WW 2. As a child when I would visit him, I would get the pictures that he had from the ship and look through them. The battle action photos, going through the typhoon and pictures of the others who served with him. I also have a few letters that the Captain had written to the crew about bombing the Hitachi plant. My grandfather just turned 87 years old and I was hoping that he would be able to make the trip to Norfolk to see his ship. He would tell me stories of guys like "Bull" Wesley who was a big guy and my grandfather was a little guy. I love my grandfather and proud of the service that he provided to our country. He lost his hearing during the war. Even with hearing aids he has trouble hearing but he loved to play the guitar and I have been amazed at how he could play without his hearing. My grandfather is Clyde Robinson and he was in the L Division from 1943 to 1945.

Comments from Dom: Hi Todd, thanks for the very touching story. You can tell in the way you wrote this entry, that you do love your Grandfather. I hope he does get the chance to see his ship once again.

Name:

William Bowles

Email:

cabmanswife13@yahoo.com

Date:
02 Dec 2008

Comments

I served on the Wisconsin from 1988-1990. I was the IRON GEEK in fighting matches we had on the ship and I am looking for a lot of my old ship mates. The email above is my wife's I don't get on much but if you know me and want to talk she will let me know. Hopefully see you at the 2010 reunion.

Comments from Dom: High William, I hope you hear from your shipmates. I see you are not a member of our association, I think you should join us. Mama is looking for all her sons to become members of her Wisconsin family.



Name:
Charles P. Beck
Email:
sudsybowl@comcast.net
Date:
24 Nov 2008

Comments

I looked for a long time before finding friends I worked with and pals who spent off duty time together. Because I belong to the association was able to find 3 on Wisky and three on Jersey. I am so glad I joined Wisconsin association.

Comments from Dom: Hi Charles, glad you were able to find shipmates and also glad you joined our Wisconsin family.



Name:
FRANK CURRAN
Email:
CURRANFC@MSN.COM
Date:
11 Nov 2008

Comments

I ATTENDED THE REUNION FOR THE FIRST TIME ON AUGUST 2008 AND WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE MY FORMER HOME. IT WAS SUCH A PLEASURE TO SEE MANY OF MY SHIPMATES AND FRIENDS THAT I HAD NOT SEEN IN OVER 50 YEARS .INCLUDED IN THAT GROUP WAS MY DIVISION OFFICER LT. ROBERT FALL WHO CAME FROM SOUTHIE. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT REUNION TO AGAIN SEE ALL OF YOU AGAIN AND HOPEFULLY OTHERS THAT COULD NOT MAKE THIS LAST ONE. THE WHISKY AS SHE STILL STANDS THERE IN NORFOLK MADE ME FEEL SO PROUD AND HAPPY.

Comments from Dom: Hi Frank, glad you enjoyed your first reunion. All our reunions are joyful as you will see if you keep attending them.



Name: Bm3 Williams(aka buckwheat)
Email: w.keith72@yahoo.com
Date: 06 Nov 2008

Comments

hey shipmates I served aboard the Whisky from 1987-1989 with the nickname buckwheat and first division maybe someone will remember me. I am excited about the nickname! There was only one. So if you have been looking for me here I am. Talk to you soon!

Comments from Dom: Hi Keith, or should I say "Buckwheat", hope you hear from your shipmates.



Name: Pete Williams, Bm3 Williams, P
Email: pw38@sbcglobal.net. and healthy_38@yahoo.com
Date: 21 Oct 2008

Comments

HELLO SHIPMATES.. MAN ITS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE BUT IM DOING REAL GOOD AND IN GOOD HEALTH.. IM HERE IN AUSTIN, TX.. JUST WANTED TO CHECK IN WITH EVERYBODY AND HOPE TO HEAR FROM OTHER SHIPMATES TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON AND TO SHARE RECENT PHOTOS .. TAKE CARE AND TRY TO STAY IN CONTACT. PETE.

Comments from Dom: Hi Pete nice to hear from you. Glad to hear that you are doing good and are in good health. Have you given any thoughts of joining our Wisconsin family? We need you 80s/90s crewmembers to become members of this association. You are the ones that will have to keep this association alive. Just being on our email list won't cut it. You have to be an active member and or get involved with the preservation of this wonderful association. Think it over, remember MAMA wants YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!



Name: Terry Holder
Email: pt0782@msn.com
Date: 8 Oct 2008

Comments

Hello again all.... Would like to share a story....played golf yesterday with my father. Standing outside the head pro was looking at me thru the window and pointing at me. He and two of his friends came outside and said you're no Navy (I was wearing a Navy T-shirt)...they were joking

with me of course. I said, not only am I Navy, I'm Battleship Navy. The pro looked me over for about 30 seconds and said "Then I shall call you brother as I also served my tours on the USS Missouri" Really is amazing the people you meet in the strangest places.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Terry for you entry.



Name:

Mark Pickens

Email:

mpickens@farmersagent.com

Date:

13 Oct 2008

Comments

I talked to a couple of my old shipmates today and it really got the old Whiskey Punch juices flowing. We're attempting to organize an OI division reunion sometime next summer so anyone who reads this from OI division 1988-1991 feel free to contact me at the above email. I'm putting together an email contact list to forward on the Chief Mac so we can include as many as possible. Awesome website guys!! OS2(SW) Pickens

Comments from Dom: Hi Mark thanks for you compliment. I hope you will be able to round up some OI shipmates.



Name:

Don Lecik Sr

Email:

motowndojo@sbcglobal.net

Date:

10 Oct 2008

Comments

Hi Dom and all you who was lucky to make the reunion. I wanted to and would have but my spine has giving out on me and I unable to walk. Since Joan passed my son came up to Detroit and got me. He said dad get the heck out while your still alive and move down to Mc Andrews KY with him. There is not a day goes by I don't think of the Wisconsin, that's all I have to do now, slide out of bed into my wheel chair, and go to the computer. I go to the Huntington VA and they do take good care of me, they send 3 nurses a week to take care of me. Hope before the month is out The VA is going to be putting a Pain Pump in my spine. You all take care of the ship and if any you would like to drop me a line I am 24/7, you all keep a good wind to your back. Don Lecik EO-1 7th Div.

Comments from Dom: Hi Don, sorry to hear of your medical problems. When I spoke to you a few weeks ago you sounded a little down but your spirits were high. I hope some of your shipmates read this entry and contact you.



Name: Doug Rice
Email: doug0555@yahoo.com
Date: 30 Sep 2008

Comments

I am in the process of doing research for a book on the Korean War. The basis of the book will be using personal stories from those who served in the war. My father was there in 1951 with the 1st Cav. Division. His cousin was with the 2nd Inf. Division and was KIA on May 18, 1951. If any Korean War Veteran of the USS Wisconsin Association would be interested in contributing their stories, it would be greatly appreciated. Sincerely Doug Rice

Comments from Dom: Hi Doug, good luck with your book.

Name: Richard Fretz
Email: richardfretz@fretzconstruction.com
Date: 25 Sep 2008

Comments

Just found your site and enjoyed looking thru it. My father served on the U.S.S Wisconsin during World War 2. His name is Robert R. Fretz and he is still CEO of Fretz Construction Company here in Houston. I will be sure to show him this site as I am sure he will enjoy looking at the great pictures of the ship and crew.

Comments from Dom: Hi Robert, glad you found us. I'm sure the pictures will bring back some good memories of your fathers time aboard. You could make him even happier if you were to sign him up as a member of our Wisconsin family.

Name: Adam Shepard
Email: metsmacra@yahoo.com
Date: 20 Aug 2008

Comments

I currently serve in the U.S. Navy as an active duty sailor and I've always felt a sense of compassion for the Iowa class Battleships even though I'll never sail aboard one. I feel that way because if it wasn't for my father taking me aboard the Missouri in Bremerton when I was six I don't think I would have joined. I would give anything to be a battleship sailor and I love hearing the stories from the Chiefs or officers that I run into when I find out that they served aboard the Iowa, New Jersey, Missouri, or Wisconsin. Also cool sites like this one that give

out all this information on these naval icons is a great thing. I think that all younger sailors need to visit sites such as this one to learn about the ships and the men who crewed them, because if it wasn't for either one the Navy wouldn't be what it is now.

Comments from Dom: Hi Adam, thanks for visiting our website and for your kind comments. We strive to put out an informative site and to keep Battleships alive in everyone's minds. I believe that most of us who served aboard a Battleship, during the time we were aboard, did not know how lucky we were and that one day we would be part of history.

May 28-30, 1991 approximately 200 of us former crewmembers were invited by the ships crew to ride the Wisconsin from Norfolk, VA to Earl New Jersey. This was called, USS Wisconsin Veterans Farewell Cruise. On our way to N.J., they fired the 16" guns for us. Many of us had never seen these guns fire because we were below decks during G.Q. This truly was a sight never to be forgotten. The Wisconsin was the last Battleship to fire her 16" Guns. The ships crew and we veterans who were aboard at that time are part of history.

Thanks Adam for your service to our country and good luck to you.



Name:

McDonald,H.T. 3rd Division 53 to 56

Email:

hmcDonald1532@att.net

Date:

20 Aug 2008

Comments

Well once again I hate it that I will not be able to attend the reunion . My Wife had to have both her knees replaced and isn't able to walk very far at a time .So maybe next time. Hope one day I can set foot on the old girl , I had a wonderful experiance the 2 years 10 months and 29 days I was aboard. I left her just after the collision in 56.Spent 3 years in the Army , didn't know when to quit ha ha .So once again maybe the next time MAC.

Comments from Dom: Hi Mac, sorry you can't make the reunion, but your wife comes first. Hope everything goes well for her.



Name:

Gene S. Lingford, Sr

Email:

mtymouse1@sbcglobal.net

Date:

18 Aug 2008

Comments

My wife and I are attending the reunion but are running into a problem. We cannot find transportation from the Newport News Airport to the Hotel. We are arriving on Tues. at 7:30 P.M. If there is anyone at the reunion who has a car we will gladly give you gas money for the trip. It is 30 miles from the airport to the hotel. Please RSVP if you can help or know of someone who can. Thanks Gene Lingford "A" Division

Comments from Dom: Gene, I'm hoping you receive an email from one of our shipmates that can help you.



Name:

Gene S. Lingford, Sr

Email:

mtymouse1@sbcglobal.net

Date:

18 Aug 2008

Comments

My wife and I are attending the reunion but are running into a problem. We cannot find transportation from the Newport News Airport to the Hotel. We are arriving on Tues. at 7:30 P.M. If there is anyone at the reunion who has a car we will gladly give you gas money for the trip. It is 30 miles from the airport to the hotel. Please RSVP if you can help or know of someone who can. Thanks Gene Lingford "A" Division

Comments from Dom: Gene, I'm hoping you receive an email from one of our shipmates that can help you.



Name:

Howard Nicholson

Email:

realvern@insightbb.com

Date:

16 Aug 2008

Comments

I been wanting to come to the reunion, but cancer, and nerve damage in both hands and feet. I don't know if I can drive that far by my self. Have to leave my several ministries to be able to leave in first place, am busy daily in world wide ministry. Love my ship and all who served. God Bless every one, May the Lord protect and provide for each one.

Comments from Dom: Hi Howard, sorry to hear about your medical problems. We will pray for you.



Name:

Salvador Lozano

Email:

salnavhoutx@yahoo.com

Date:

04 Aug 2008

Comments

August 2, 2008, was a very great day full of feelings. I was back onboard the USS WISCONSIN after 17 years. What made it even better was to have my family with me (this was their first time) it was also a special treat to meet World War II Veterans, Korean War Veterans and Vietnam War Veterans who served onboard the WISCONSIN. What an honor and privilege it was to me to have served onboard the one and only powerful U.S. Naval Battleship during Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield. God Bless every former crewmember both Enlisted and Officer who served onboard her and may God Bless their families.

Comments from Dom: Hi Salvador glad you and your family enjoyed your visit aboard our ship. I'm sure Mama Wisconsin was glad to see you also.



Name:

Chris Hamm _ Milwaukee, WI

Email:

Hammsailor@sbcglobal.net

Date:

24 Jul 2008

Comments

I have heard it said that BB64 is the only Iowa class battleship still able to go to sea, though she is barren of munitions right now. Is she still able to be re-outfitted and returned to sea duty? Couldn't believe it when I read years ago that only two of the spare 16 inch rifle barrels for the Iowa class ships remain, that the rest had been scrapped. No company in the US can make those barrels any more! Please say "Hi" to Rolf Johnson for me. Many thanks and keep our USS Wisconsin clean and happy! Wish I could see her again.

Comments from Dom: Hi Chris. The Wisconsin is in great shape and in the ready. She is maintained constantly. I don't see "Wisconsin Johnson", so I hope he reads your entry.



Name:

Randy Swann

Email:

rswann@cpu2.com

Date:

16 Jul 2008

Comments

My name is Randy Swann, I have a question for you. A couple of years ago I helped a friend move that lived up the street. He had severed on the Wisky and knew that I had also. With no kids he gave me a lot of his navy stuff. In one of the boxes he gave me I found the original 1940 damage control manuals for the ship. The binders are not in the best of shape but all the pages and pull outs are in great shape. My question is this, Do you know anyone or anywhere that might be a interested in buying these manuals? Thanks for your time and any help you could give. Randy Swann

Comments from Dom: Hi Randy, you said you served on the Wisconsin, I don't see you listed as a member of our association. How about joining our Wisconsin family. As for those manuals, if you can't find anyone who will buy them, you can always donate them to us. I am

the historian for our association and the collector of the ships memorabilia. Once the ship is open to the public, we will have an area to display all the donated items with the names of the donors.

Name: PATRICK MITCHELL
Email: ptmitchell2002@yahoo.com
Date: 14 Jul 2008

Comments

I WAS A GMG ON BOARD WISCONSIN. I WORKED ON 5"38 AND IN SMALL ARMS WITH GMG2 PERRYMAN. IF ANY OF THE GUYS FROM THE PAST IS READING THIS GIVE ME A RING 501-804-6381. TODAY I WORK ON AIRCRAFT AS A ELECTRICAL DESIGN ENGINEER. HOPE TO HEAR FROM A LOT OF MY LONG AGO FRIENDS.

Comments from Dom: Hi Patrick and welcome to our email list. I hope you hear from many of your former shipmates.

Name: Charles Stewart
Email: stewtek@msn.com
Date: 12 Jul 2008

Comments

Shipmates! I look forward to seeing you guys in Norfolk at the Reunion between AUGUST 26-31, 2008. I will also be visiting my son in Norfolk, a 2nd Class Petty Officer, Stationed aboard the USS Iwo Jima LHD-7 All the Best! Charles "Stew" Stewart EM1(SW/AW) Navy RET. 1976-1996 Plankowner (1987-1989) Lake Ridge, Virginia.

Comments from Dom: Hi Charles, thanks for your entry. I don't see your name listed on the list of reunion attendees, don't forget to send in your reunion registration. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Name: Andy Ekis
Email: andy.ekis@halliburton.com
Date: 07 Jul 2008

Comments

AG3 Lally, I remember you and I remember that incident concerning the "incoming vampire" during Desert Storm. It occurred right in the middle of evening chow and the aft. mess deck was packed. Once they called "vampire inbound" everyone scrambled to their GQ stations. It was mass pandemonium because there were only two water tight doors (one on port and the other on starboard side) which lead from the mess deck. People were piled up. I couldn't make it to my GQ station at Radio Central within our 2 minute target and Zebra was set so I wound up bracing for shock at "impact imminent" on the second deck next to the ATM machine. After the expected impact never came we relaxed brace. I think it was Capt. Bill Or the CIC watch officer who came over the 1MC later and told us that an Air Force F-15 loitering somewhere nearby on station came down and lit us up with his fire-control RADAR. This doesn't really make to me, because all of the coalition forces should've had the same IFF codes to identify us as friendly. So I just put it down as a drill... It did scare all the evil out of me though...

Comments from Dom: Thanks Andy for answering Douglas Lally. (Deck Log entry 24June 2008)



Name:

MARK RICE

Email:

EPD522@YAHOO.COM

Date:

30 Jun 2008

Comments

I SERVED ONBOARD THE WISCONSIN DURING THE PERSIAN GULF WAR AND LOOKING FOR A FEW SHIPMATES TO GET INTO CONTACT WITH. TERRY EOFF AND REX WALSINGHAM. LAST I KNEW, TERRY WAS IN TEXAS AND REX WAS IN THE COAST GUARD BUT THAT WAS IN DEC 1997.

Comments from Dom: Hi Mark, hope you hear from your shipmates.



Name:

Jim Bates

Email:

bigburtha@aol.com

Date:

28 Jun 2008

Comments

Looks like it going down to the wire to find out if we will be able to go deep inside for the reunion if I read the article right. Any thoughts on this? Is there a deadline for this?

Comments from Dom: Sorry to say Jim, it looks like we won't be able to go inside our ship. The turnover procedure among other things, has not been completed.



Name:

Palante McClain

Email:

mr.palante@yahoo.com

Date:

25 Jun 2008

Comments

Hello fellow shipmates, I served onboard during the refurbish phase in Pascagoula, Miss. I served from June '88 to Sept. '90. In 1st Deck Division. Please bring me up to date on what I've missed out on, plus I'm trying to find a few shipmates, if you know of their whereabouts please contact me. Shipmates: Frederick Browning (Memphis, TN), Calvin Hudson (Brooklyn, N.Y.), Theodore Adam Taylor III (Oakland, Ca.), Todd Holmes (Ca.), Gerald Williams (Monroe, La.), Charles Dillingham (Oakland, Ca.), Herbert Whitten (Seattle, WA.), BM3 Victor Boyd (Tyler, TX.) If anyone is interested in contacting QM3 Alonzo Everhart, or Hugh 'Deon' Kelley 3rd Deck Div. I have numbers to contact them, just drop me an e-mail. Thanx hope to hear from you soon.

Comments from Dom: Hi Palante, thanks for writing in our Deck Log. I hope you hear from your former shipmates.

Name:

Douglas Lally

Email:

Dgl1199@yahoo.com

Date:

24 Jun 2008

Comments

I served on BB-64 during the Gulf War (AG3, you might remember me from the ships news show, I did the weather sometimes) and I am just trying to do some fact finding. If anyone else was aboard when this incident occurred I would love to hear what you recall and see if it matches what I recall. Sometime in late February 1991, after the ground offensive started, the ship went to G Q right after an announcement was passed on the 1mc of an unidentified incoming aircraft. Once I got to my station, one of the 5" magazines (fun place), it was announced the incoming aircraft was in fact a missile and that was followed by an order to brace for shock. Nothing happened, relax brace was passed. Then G Q was secured a minute or so later. Now I am still confused by this. Was that real? I never really got a straight answer from anyone after that and as I recall there was a lot of confusion about it all. I emailed one of the guys from my division and he said yes it was indeed a real missile and that it had just missed us. But in my research on this event I see that Missouri was attacked by two Iraqi Silkworm missile, one missed, the other was shot down by destroyer HMS Gloucester. Other versions of this event say it was the Wisconsin that was attacked that day. It came up in a conversation a few days ago about the war and battleships in general. It hit me that I really didn't know what happened that day, only that "something" happened. I felt odd saying that we were really attacked without knowing this was in fact the truth. If anyone remembers this day please fill in the details for me. This is driving me nuts.

Comments from Dom: Can any of our Gulf War crew members help Douglas out on this?

Name:

[Jessica Prah](#)

Email:

jprahl@f-k.com

Date:

28 May 2008

Comments

Good morning,

My Grandpa, Edward Prah, served on the Wisconsin during WWII, and right now he is being treated for various ailments. As of right now he is planning on attending the reunion in August, so he can walk across the deck of the USS Wisconsin one more time.

What I really would like to know is if there is any one who served on the ship who could write him or email him wishing him well? I think this will really help to lift his spirits, and give him the extra push he needs to carry on through this difficult time. If you know of anyone who could potentially be of help I would greatly appreciate it.

Please feel free to contact me at this email address jprahl@f-k.com

Sincerely,

Jessica Prah

Comments from Dom: OK guys, our shipmate and association member, Edward Prah, F2/c M Div. 1945-1946 can use "a quick picker upper" from his mates. So how about sending him an email.

Name:

Curt Cornell

Email:

cornellct@mwt.net

Date:

26 May 2008

Comments

After reading all the great things everybody has said about the Wisconsin a rush of memories have been flowing through my mind. I served aboard her from 1988-1991, and I can honestly say these were some of the best years of my life. Thanks to all who have put together such a wonderful web site.

Comments from Dom: Hi Curt, a lot of guys that served aboard Wisconsin feel the way you do. Thanks for you compliments about our website. Actually our site would be a little bit better if your name was listed as a member of our Wisconsin family association.

Name:

Darrell Lowell

Email:

darrelllowell@yahoo.com

Date:
05 May 2008

Comments

Wouldn't it be better if Wisconsin was berthed in say...Wisconsin instead of VA? It would be a great addition to the Milwaukee skyline...

Comments from Dom: Sorry Darrell, she doesn't fit.



Name:
Katherine Gay McGinn
Email:
summerkgw@yahoo.com
Date:
14 Apr 2008

Comment

My father, Donald Joseph Gay, and his brother Robert Gay served on the Wisconsin from 1946 to 1948. I do not know what Division they were in.

If anyone remembers them, please email me at summerkgw@yahoo.com Thanks!

Comments from Dom: OK guys, get on your thinking caps, do any of you remember the Gay brothers?



Name:
Kenneth R. Anderson,JO3
Email:
anderson.kr@comcast.net
Date:
25 Mar 2008

Comments

After reading the comments of others I am driven to add my bit of appreciation and gratitude to the Wisconsin and all those that call her "My ship". I lived aboard ship from August 53 to Feb. 55. Not long but long enough to permanently imprint my being. After a break in service of 22 years and 2 months I reentered the service. I wanted to join the Navy reserve but in 1977 there were no billets anywhere except the army. So I joined the army at the same rank I had left the Navy so long ago. I stayed in the army reserve and did two short and one three year tour of active duty. Retired at the age of 60 after 18 years at the rank of Sergeant Major. The point is that my military mind set is as a sailor aboard the USS Wisconsin, BB64. A totally awesome experience. Thanks to the Navy, to the Crew; past and future of the USS Wisconsin, to the association and to the ship. Ken Anderson, SGM, Retired

Comments from Dom: Hi Ken, thanks for sharing your military experience with us.

Name:

Don Thompson

Email:

patanddon1993@yahoo.com

Date:

02 Mar 2008

Comments

As a Naval Reservist in 1958, I was privileged to have been on board the Wisconsin for only 2 weeks. But I will always be remembering those 14 days in my mind. I was a QMQ 3 and my duty station was the bridge and battle station was in the secondary control with the executive officer when we fired the 16" guns. At the time we were with the New Jersey BB62 and other ships in the Atlantic just east of Daytona, Florida. What a sight and sound! Donald Thompson Sr.

Comments from Dom: Hi Donald, this ship will do that to you. If you just board her for a day, she will never let you forget your time aboard her.

Name:

Thomas Flom

Email:

ltroedel@yahoo.com

Date:

29 Feb 2008

Comments

With my retirement today I think Co.041 USS Wisconsin recruit company passes into the history books. I can temporarily be reached at the above E-mail address. Once I get things set up back in Wisconsin I will update to my own e-mail address.

Comments from Dom: Congratulation on your retirement. I have changed the email address we have to the one above. Please send me your new email address when you have it.

Name:

Patsy Self

Email:

p_self@hotmail.com

Date:

26 Feb 2008

Comments

I would like to express my appreciation to all the brave men who have served aboard the USS Wisconsin. I am thankful for all of the men and women who have served our country in any branch of the military, however the Navy has always made my heart swell with pride as my Mother's brother, Allen Oscar Deal served aboard the USS Wisconsin probably in 1944 and

1945. I would like to make contact with anyone who served with him and to find out what he did aboard ship during his time of service. He did not talk to much about his time aboard the ship, any information you have to send I will share with his daughter Ms Faye Deal Swilling. Thank you and GOD BLESS AMERICA !

Comments from Dom: Hi Patsy, I hope you hear from some former shipmates.

Name:

Mike Olson

Email:

molson53213@yahoo.com

Date:

26 Feb 2008

Comments

I was recently made aware that FC3 Ken Cox Passed away. How did he pass? I am also still looking for IC3 Rob Wison and FC2 Steve Blevens. If anyone has any information about this, I'd sure appreciate it. Thanks, Mike Olson.

Comments from Dom: I hope you locate your two shipmates.

Name:

John Goheen

Email:

kb2adl@comcast.net

Date:

21 Feb 2008

Comments

Met today, aboard Battleship New Jersey, with Ken Garvin, BB 64 Maintenance Director. And yes, we are inching closer to starting the interior restoration of the BIG W. Ken said it was OK to contact both the Association and the Radio Club regarding the restoration planning and effort. I have done just that. Ken was up here regarding the application of power to the Battleship and to show me pictures of the interior of the ship and some of the systems, specifically the 1MC and dial telephone system. Let me tell you, the ship is immaculate and the systems undamaged. Even before we get aboard, we are ahead of the curve. Apparently now we are waiting for clearance from the EPA before Ken gets the "hatch" keys. When that happens, he is going to need help from many volunteers. Your Pres will advise you on how that will happen. Looking forward to that day! Regards, John Goheen, KB2ADL, BB 62 Curatorial Support Services

Comments from Dom: Thanks John for the GREAT news about our ship. We are aware of the volunteers needed to get this ship opened to the public. Both Nauticus and our Association are trying our best to recruit volunteers. If any 1980's/90's former crew members read this and are not members of our Association, what are you waiting for. You are needed to carry on the name of the Great Battleship Wisconsin and if possible, volunteer your expertise in getting this ship open. Just go to the top of this page and click on "Membership", we would love to welcome you aboard.

Name:

Kristy

Email:

kwick102@yahoo.com

Date:

17 Feb 2008

Comments

My grandfather, James Wick, was on the USS Wisconsin. I cant thank the people of the USS Wisconsin enough for what they have done. I was able to visit the ol' Wisky one day in 2003. Walking on the deck brought tears to my eyes since I never got to know my grandfather being that he passed away when I was two years old. If any one would happen to have any pictures or information on my grandfather I would greatly appreciate your help.

Comments from Dom: Hi Kristy, thanks for writing in our Deck Log. Can anyone help Kristy with photos. James was in M Division, 1952-1954

Name:

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Moore

Email:

bobhopehil@yahoo.com

Date:

10 Feb 2008

Comments

We had the honor of visiting your ship on February 8. What a terrific experience. The vets who man her were a delight to speak. They are justly proud of their service, and we very much appreciate their continued involvement. The Wisconsin truly is a national treasure. Keep up the good work.

Comments from Dom: Thank you for visiting our ship and for your kind words. I am sure, all involved appreciate your sentiments.

Name:

FC1 (SW) M. Eric Ritter, (ret) '88-'91

Email:

imerk@hotmail.com

Date:

07 Feb 2008

Comments

It had been quite awhile since I looked at the website. It really is great! I was in FA division and would love to hear from some of my shipmates. With nearly 20 years in the Navy, it's always the time on the Wisconsin that I remember the most. From the day I walked down the dock in the Ingalls shipyard at Pascagoula I knew she was the most incredible ship to the day we lit up

the night sky in the Arabian Gulf. The pride I have for being able to say I was a member of her crew is still beyond words. Forward for Freedom...for ever!

Comments from Dom: Eric, that feeling will never leave you.

Name:

George Matthai

Email

matthai@fuse.net

Date:

28 Jan 2008

Comments

I was reading on our web site ("Latest News") about opening up our ship this year. The article stated "The ship must be brought into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, said Norfolk Mayor Paul D. Fraim . Does this mean that the lower decks will be wheelchair accessible? I suppose there would have be an elevator for that.

Comments from Dom: George, you will have to ask that question on the Nauticus online Forum.

<http://www.nauticus.org/wisconsin.html>

Name:

David Boyd

Email:

dumptruck224@hotmail.com

Date:

21 Jan 2008

Comments

Well I hope all had a great new year, and finally calming back down from all the festivities. Our family was blessed with a visit from our grandkids, they are still little but so much fun... Looks like my wife of 15 years is now wanting to move to Virginia and since she is a cardiac nurse now seems she can go anywhere she wants ... The kids are excited that in just a short year we may be in Virginia... I love to tease my wife and tell her I knew she would finally get her degree so she can care for me when I am old and falling apart... HA HA HA anyways hope you guys are doing well and look forward in being back in Virginia soon David

Comments from Dom: Hi David, don't forget our reunion will be in Norfolk, Aug. 25-31.Hope to see you there.

Name:

Roy Strausbaugh MU3

Email:

mstrausbaugh1@neo.rr.com

Date:

07 Jan 2008

Comments

Dom, We are planning our fall trips and etc. What are the specific dates for the reunion in Norfolk? Best Regards, Roy Strausbaugh

Comments from Dom: Roy I guess you haven't read your December Badger yet. Our reunion will be in Norfolk VA., August 26-31, 2008. See page 2 of the Badger. All the forms and information will be in the April Badger. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Name:

Lyman I. Myers no.4engine room 56-57 m div.

Email:

louismyers70@yahoo.com

Date:

01 Jan 2008

Comments

It has been a long time, but I still remember the good times we had. If my health permits I would like to visit the old gal one more time. Maybe I can make it this year. May the good LORD bless and keep you all. Smooth I would like to wish all the bilge rats of mike division, and no. 4 engine room a happy and prosperous new year. sailing Louis Myers

Comments from Dom: Happy New Year to you to Louis. How about making it even greater by joining our Wisconsin family.

Name:

McDonald,H.T. 3rd Div.53 to 56

Email:

hmcDonald1532@att.net

Date:

01 Jan 2008

Comments

Well here we are beginning another year .It's 12:48 right now and I didn't move out of my big chair . Seems like the older we get the harder it is to celebrate like we used to. I remember when we were aboard the Wisky, this time of night we would have been on East Main Street, really celebrating . But that is way in the past now, I used to almost live on East Main St. But I gave up drinking and smoking 42 years ago. But in my lifetime I bet I drank enough to float a Tin can ha ha .But anyway Hope all have a Happy New Year and comes home safely .MAC

Comments from Dom: Happy New Year to you also, Mac. Thanks for your story of your younger days as a young "swabee"



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