
Name:

Dick Reed

Email:

dickreed@swbell.net

Date:

28 Dec 2013

Comments

I just discovered an amazing coincidence. In going through some old correspondence files I discovered a 1988 newspaper article about my uncle, Joseph McGeeney, who served in the Navy from 1939 until after the war. He was on the destroyer tender Dixie on Dec. 7, but the ship had departed Pearl Harbor very early in the morning of the 7th and didn't get involved in the bombing. Later he returned to the US and was among the Wisconsin crew at the initial commissioning. The article includes a copy of his Plankowner certificate dated April 1944 and signed by Captain E. E. Stone. Nine years later, in June-July 1953 I came on board as a midshipman for the training cruise to Rio, Trinidad, and Gtmo. I would like to email a copy of the article to you, but apparently this system doesn't support it. Is there another way I can scan the article and get it to you? Best regards, Richard Reed, former Naval Officer (LTJG)

Comments from Dom: Hi Dick, I checked the ships rosters and found your uncle listed on the April 16, 1944 roster. He wasn't on very long, transferred off on October 28, 1944. He was a printer and his rate was PRTR1/C You can scan the article to me at dombb64@ptd.net Dick, we probably met some 60 years ago. I was one of the ships photographers on that cruise and was busy all day long taking pictures of crossing the line festivities. Also during that cruise we took individual photos of all the midshipman and perhaps I was the one who took your photo. That was my first big cruise and a great one at that.

Name:

Keith Nitka

Email:

nagel459@comcast.net

Date:

27 Dec 2013

Comments

I have been to see the ship numerous times. 6 in the past 4 years and have never had to pay to get onboard. The key is to let them know your coming ahead of time, as Dom pointed out, so that they can make arrangements and have some one from staff meet you. They will treat you like a "Rock Star". Always have lots of questions for me when I go and I have been video taped telling sea stories. They actually used one of my stories as the "Ghost Tour" that first year in 2012.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Keith for your input. I recall being told by others who called in advance and had a warm welcome when they arrived at Nauticus..



Name:

Michael Jones

Email:

michael.jones.ctr@swflant.navy.mil

Date:

17 Dec 2013

Comments

I served in the 1980's I worked for Mr. Ridings and CWO Art Campomizzi. I have the biggest issue with going to visit the ship and paying to walk the wooden decks! I had to holy stone those decks! Paint the sides and keep her clean and beautiful. To be a Plank Owner and have to pay! To walk on my most cherished duty station doesn't sit well in my heart. That's my ship, I understand the maintenance and upkeep bills, but there should be a "Plank Owner Exception". I'm just venting to my shipmates.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Michael for your entry. I just confirmed with Nauticus if they still honor USS Wisconsin Association Members free access to tour the ship and they said yes. They require a two week notice from members so that they can make sure of booking them into a tour. The person to call is Christine Arrasate on 757 664-1019. Very important, members must show your current association membership card in order to receive this privilege. Any non members you bring along will have to pay the stated admission price.



Name:

Keith Nitka

Email:

nagel459@comcast.net

Date:

05 Dec 2013

Comments

She's 70 years young this coming Saturday!! Doesn't look a day over 20. Happy Birthday to Battleship Wisconsin!

Comments from Dom: Today is Dec. 7th, Happy Birthday Gray Lady.



Name:

Art Hogberg

Email:

Date:

28 Nov 2013

Comments

Dom I love our first LADY!

Comments from Dom: You me and a lot of her children do also!



Name:

MS1 JOHN E VIDAL

Email:

BATTLEUSS3@COMCAST.NET

Date:

08 Nov 2013

Comments

HI. I WAS ON THE PRE COM CREW ON THE WISCONSIN FROM 1987-1988, GOT HURT ON SHIP SENT TO NAS PENSACOLA TO HOSPITAL FOR A MED BOARD RETIRED 09/1/1989. THANK YOU, JOHN VIDAL MS1 (RET)

Comments from Dom: Sorry to hear of your misfortunate accident.



Name:

DEAN PERRY

Email:

deanperry93@yahoo.com

Date:

03 Nov 2013

Comments

DOM, WE HAVE ALL OF MAIN DECK OPEN, UP TO 03 LEVEL OR UP TO FLAG BRIDGE. THE WARDROOM AND THE STARBOARD SIDE PASSAGEWAY TO THE CENTRAL MESSAGING CENTER IS OPEN AND THE FORWARD END OF THE WARDROOM WHICH IS OFFICER COUNTRY IS OPEN TO THE GENERAL ADMISSION, WE ALSO HAVE A TOUR CALLED THE TOPSIDE TOUR WHICH LEAVES THE FLAG CABIN AND GOES ALL THE WAY UP TO NAV BRIDGE AMONG OTHER AREAS AND A MAIN STREET USN WHICH IS MOST OF 2ND DECK, CREW MESS, CPO, SHIPS STORE AND DOWN TO 3RD DECK FOR LAUNDRY, BRIG AND BARBER.

Comments from Dom: thanks Dean for the update on what's open aboard our ship. Most of those areas were open or had just opened when we were there in July 2012 for our reunion. Main Street was not in the best shape as they were installing the air conditioning unit. Due to the noise from the fans and the construction it was hard to hear the guides description of the areas. There are some photos of our visit on our 2012 Reunion Page.



Name:

Dean Perry

Email:

deanperry93@yahoo.com

Date:

31 Oct 2013

Comments

Hey Dom thanks for the information you gave me about my grandfather. My next request is to ask any former crew if they remember how the CPO mess looked and crew who worked galley or wardroom or Capt. galley has any information on those spaces. We are trying to interpret those spaces thank you

Comments from Dom: Hi Dean hope you get answers to your questions. Looks like they are trying to get more of the ship opened. Our association is in the dark as to what's open and what's not. Whenever I get emails pertaining to what is open to the public, I inform them to go on the Nautics website for that info.

Name:

Richard Skinner

Email:

rhs3717@sbcglobal.net

Date:

23 Oct 2013

Comments

Does anyone from FA Div. remember the first night off the Korean coast when a wave slammed into the ship and sent water down the air vent in the forward living compartment? Sounded like we had hit a mine. Really shook up the "boots" aboard but the old salts had experienced it before. Just remembering old times.

Comments from Dom: Richard that was before my time. Hopefully some of our guys that were aboard when this happened will tell us what they thought happened.

Name:

McDonald,H.T. 3rd div53 to 56

Email:

harold.mcdonald26@aol.com

Date:

14 Oct 2013

Comments

Well Dom, Here I am again trying to make myself known .Hoping I can stir some action with the other ships crew members .I know I have said this before but it is a shame that we are letting this great site go dormant. Publish it if u want delete it if you want It's just sad to see our beautiful ships site sit IDLE. OK. I HAVE SAID MY PIECE SO I WILL HUSH FOR NOW MAC

Comments from Dom: Hi Mac, if you are referring to the Deck Log, well I blame that on all the social media that's out there. Everyone is busy with their iPhones, laptops, PC's sending out photos, stories, messages and what have you to their friends. They get immediate responses from their friends so I guess that beats making an entry in our Deck Log.

We can only hope that our members who are not in the "fingers game" will rediscover our Deck Log and share some of their shipboard experiences.

Name:

Dean Perry

Email:

deanperry93@yahoo.com

Date:

03 Oct 2013

Comments

Dom, I AM SO HAPPY TO FIND THIS SITE, I AM PRESENTLY A VOLUNTEER TOUR GUIDE ABOARD BB64, FOUND LOTS OF COOL PAPERWORK ONBOARD, LOVE EVERYDAY I AM THERE, ALSO MY GRANDFATHER WAS ONBOARD IN THE 40'S HIS NAME WAS JAMES EDWARD PERRY JR AND HE WAS IN THE SHEET METAL SHOP, IF YOU COULD HELP WITH ANYTHING YOU CAN FIND ON HIM, I HAVE SEEN THE SHOP, I WOULD LIKE TO FIND HIS BUNK. THANK YOU SO MUCH

Comments from Dom: Hi Dean. First, let me thank you for being a volunteer tour guide on our great ship.

As for you grandfather all I could come up with is that James came aboard on 01/08/44 as an F2/C and was an F1/C when he left the ship on 11/29/45. Since he was aboard on 04/16/44 when the ship was first commissioned, he is a plank owner. The roster sheets I have do not list the crews divisions so I don't know what division James was in. With a rate of "F" he could have been in any of the 4 or 5 engineering departments. You mention sheet metal which means he could have been in "R" (Repair) Division.

As a relative, you may be able to send for his military records which should list his duty stations and what he did while in the navy.

Click on the following URL and follow the instructions.: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

I hope this helps.

Name:

McDonald,H.T.3RD DIV53 to 56

Email:

harold.mcdonald26@aol.com

Date:

12 Sep 2013

Comments

I have a question Dom, maybe u can help me out with this one, I have heard our ship referred to as the Whisky and Wisky. I have always been under the assumption that it was Wisky. Can u set me straight on this one Dom, or does it really matter? Thanks MAC.

Comments from Dom: Mac, "Wisky" without the "h" is the correct way.

If you check the [Collision](#) page on our website you will see the following quote:

Do you think that the crew from the 1940's had an inclination that something like this would happen when they nicknamed the Wisconsin, WISKY?
WIS (Wisconsin) KY (Kentucky). It is something to think about.

Name:

George Edward Matthai

Email:

matthai@fuse.net

Date:

02 Sep 2013

Comments

Just read the latest issue of the Badger and noticed a lack of information about our ship itself. Do we have a "Reporter at large? who could describe exactly what's going on on the inside of the ship, how much area is open, how does it compare to how it was in the 50's etc. I'm sure there are hundreds of questions we all are wondering about.

Comments from Dom: Sorry George, no one from Nauticus gives the association any information on the progress of our ship.

Since they don't have a website page dedicated strictly to the Wisconsin like our sister ships do, I guess you will have to

contact Nauticus at www.nauticus.org for your answers.

Name:

George Edward Matthai

Email:

matthai@fuse.net

Date:

02 Sep 2013

Comments

Since our next reunion is in New Orleans, I'm curious, I was stationed in NOLA from 1951-1953 just across the river in a small town called Algiers, LA. There was a naval base there where we serviced small ships. (There is also a Navy air base there) How can I find out if that base is still there or not? Someone told me It has been turned into Condo's for service connected people.

Comments from Dom: George, it's gone. Check the following link for the story.

http://www.nola.com/military/index.ssf/2011/09/only_andrea_publishes.html

Name:

George Matthai

Email:

gmatthai@fuse.net

Date:

13 Aug 2013

Comments

Any plans for an App for my iphone to access your site easier?

Comments from Dom; Sorry George, not at this time.

Name:

jim reed

Email:

Date:

10 Aug 2013

Comments

do you think the Wisconsin is in better shape then she was in the 80s??.... I read somewhere that a few years ago the Us Navy had to come up with "FAST" plans on paper to brig her back to life if needed..... that ture?

Comments from Dom; Sorry Jim I can't answer that. I believe the project manager at Nauticus is the one who can answer that question.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

10 Aug 2013

Comments

In answer to Maxwell, I believe the 5" guns are gone and replaced with missile sites. I know all the 40mm are gone as well.

Comments from Dom; Irving, only four 5" mounts were removed. Two on the starboard side and two on the port side. In their place they installed the Harpoon and Tomahawk weapons.

Name:

Scott Mitchell

Email:

scottarronmitchell@gmail.com

Date:

06 Aug 2013

Comments

To All 3rd Generation Shipmates (1988-1991), I'm trying to replace a stolen 90'- 91' cruise jacket or at least replicate an authentic identical jacket. If anyone has the original jacket that they no longer want or extra original patches, I would be interested in purchasing these items.

I have already checked with the Association and they do not have information on the jacket or the patches. I would appreciate any info on either a complete jacket or the original patches. I appreciate your time and thanks in advance to all those that respond. V/R, Scott Mitchell

Comments from Dom: Scott, eBay is selling a pre-owned (click on the following) [G-1 Leather Flight Jacket Size 42](#) like the one you are looking for.
Price is listed at \$299.00, I believe when new, they sold for \$200.00 back in 1991.

Name: maxwell
Email: reed0505@44.com
Date: 04 Aug 2013

Comments

are they ever going to take the caps off the 5inch guns?? or have the guns move

Comments from Dom: Sorry Maxwell, I don't have that answer. You will have to contact Nauticus at www.nauticus.org They are in control of the ship.

Name: Irving Zimmerman
Email: howspar@aol.com
Date: 31 Jul 2013

Comments

See Dorian Gray. He didn't age either!

Comments from Dom: Yes but he is a fictional person.

Name: Irving Zimmerman
Email: howspar@aol.com
Date: 28 Jul 2013

Comments

By the way, the Facebook group site is "I served on USS Wisconsin BB64"

Comments from Dom: Thanks for the info.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

28 Jul 2013

Comments

Hi Dom, it's been quite a while since i checked out this web site. Great to see you are still maintaining. I have hooked up with several shipmates from the 50's thru Facebook and let them know about this site. Stay well. I have #77 coming up in a couple of weeks but I look the same as I did in 1956. RIGHT!!!

Comments from Dom: Thanks for selling our site on Facebook. As for you looking the same as you did in 1956, tell me where can get a duplicate mirror like the one you have.

Name:

AG3 Paul Wethington - aka Billy

Email:

plwethingtonjr@yahoo.com

Date:

04 Jul 2013

Comments

I know this is a shot in the dark, but I am looking to see if anyone has a copy, or can make a copy of the cruise video from the Gulf War deployment. It would be a great thing to have. I lost mine when I moved after a divorce.

Comments from Dom: Paul this video has been requested in the past through this Deck Log. I don't know if they were ever contacted by anyone who could help them. I'm hoping someone can make a copy for you. Good luck.

Name:

johnny borquez

Email:

johnny_borquez@yahoo.com

Date:

02 Jul 2013

Comments

looking for all shipmates on board ship in S-3 division. ships servicemen. please reply. thanks.. sh3 borquez

Comments from Dom: Hi Johnny, I hope you get some responses.

Name:

Bm1(sw) D. Thomas Ivy Jr (PLankowner)

Email:

Topcat8989@gmail.com

Date:

20 Jun 2013

Comments

I served on board for three years, through the gulf war, desert shield and storm, the best years of my career, To all who have served I thank you for your service!

Comments from Dom: thanks for your service also.

Name:

Gere Mullican

Email:

steelman3@tds.net

Date:

10 Jun 2013

Comments

Hello Dom. Just jumping in to say howdy. I am about to celebrate birthday no. 81. Since there is no photographic evidence of my serving almost 17 months, 1955-1956 I wonder if you know the dates the pictures were taken for the cruise book. I must have missed the opportunity to be there. Also I wonder if you have any info on the following ship mates: Ben Hilliker, Alfred McGlinsey or William Suchoff. Hilliker's photo shows up in the cruise book, but the other two don't. They were all in Division "H". Any information you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

I have been in touch with Ed Phipps (Gunners mate) who lives in Arizona. I didn't know him where were aboard but met him many years later when he came to visit me. He remembered me treating him. And he was aboard (like me) during the collision with the Eaton. Thanks Gere Mullican (HM2)

Comments from Dom: Hi Gere, Happy Birthday. The cruise book you are referring to, 1955-1956 was worked on after I left the ship which was June 20, 1956. I have no idea when those individual crewmember photos were taken. I also do not have any information on the crewmembers you mention. If they are not listed on our website Members list then we do not have home address, phone number or email address for them.

Sorry I was not helpful on any of your questions.

Name:

McDonald, H.T. 3 RD DIV 53 TO 56

Email:

beak1935@yahoo.com

Date:

25 May 2013

Comments

To all my former shipmates ,Hope you all have a wonderful Memorial day and a safe one at that . Come on guys let's not let our site die out. I realize that the Social Media has grown more popular ,but this site can prove to be more interesting that Face Book could ever be. So let's get with it and so more posting ,Thanks, MAC.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Mac, hopefully some will take time out from the Social Media magnets that draw them and drop a line or two in our Deck Log. Our guys crave stories about life aboard our great ship. This is the place to tell those stories, if you had the pleasure to live on this ship you may have been part of or remember these stories.

Name:

Eryn Welch

Email:

eryn.welch@norfolk.gov

Date:

24 Apr 2013

Comments

A request from Nauticus/Battleship USS Wisconsin (BB-64)

Battleship Wisconsin staff seeks gently used 1991 uniforms for onboard ship exhibits. All rates, ranks, and sizes are welcome. If you are interested in donating a uniform, please send me a message to eryn.welch@norfolk.gov
Thanks in advance for your help!

Comments from Dom: Hi Eryn, hope our guys come through for you

Name:

David Bruhn

Email:

Bosscat40@gmail.com

Date:

23 Apr 2013

Comments

Good Day! I've recently come into possession of a USS Wisconsin G1 Flight Jacket. The brown one with the Big Persian Gulf Patch on the back. This jacket is extremely interesting & I know it came from one of the crew. There is a name in the inside of the jacket that I've traced to maybe a CPO August Bellardine Jr. He was from Columbus Ga. and was on the ship in 1987. Does anyone remember him? Thank you ,David.

Comments from Dom; Thanks for posting this information. I hope you get a response.

Name:

George E. Matthai

Email:

gmatthai@fuse.net

Date:

21 Apr 2013

Comments

I'm sure this is too much to ask but it would be a wonderful thing if there were a place to record the obituary of a shipmate who has sailed his final voyage. I see many shipmates names from the "E" division where I served from 1953-1955. I have often wondered about their lives after our goodbyes, and how about and how many are still left from our time.

Comments from Dom; Hi George, most people email the information to me, however some people do list obit info on the Deck Log. After I verify that the deceased did serve aboard, I get back to the person who had listed the name of the deceased with all the information I could find. I then leave it up to that person if they still want the information on the Deck Log, they usually say no. As a matter of fact I just finished researching another deceased former crew member that was recently listed on the Deck Log. I have emailed the information to the person that listed the name and I'm just waiting to hear from him .

As for your last question, we will never know how many former crew members are left.

Name:

Maureen Tobin

Email:

mctobin@earthlink.net

Date:

14 Apr 2013

Comments

My late father, Bernard V. ("Bun") Tobin served in the Navy from Jan 1951 to Oct 1952. (He died of natural causes 11/15/78.) He was on the USS Wisconsin in 51-52; then transferred to submarines and served aboard the USS Trutta (SS-421) and the USS Clamagore (SS-343). I have a copy of the USS Wisconsin's yearbook for March 1951 - March 1952. It has some damage along the bottom of the pages, but is mostly legible. If anyone would like a particular page/section scanned/photocopied and emailed/mailed to them please let me know. Please be sure to put "Whisky Yearbook" in the email's subject line.

Comments from Dom; Hi Maureen, that's very nice of you to do this for our former crew members.

Name:

Paul Zentmyer

Email:

paulz56@comcast.net

Date:

09 Apr 2013

Comments

Does anyone from the 50s remember Edward J. Gralla? He was onboard 51-52. He has passed away but his daughter informed me that he had a friend onboard at that time who encouraged him to go to school and helped him with his math so that he could go on to college. She would like to find out who that person was so that she can contact him. So, if anyone knows who this fellow sailor is please let me know & I'll pass the name (and any other info) on to her.

Comments from Dom; Paul, I hope someone responds to this.

Name:

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

Email:

beak1935@yahoo.com

Date:

02 Apr 2013

Comments

Come on Guys, Are we losing interest in our Ships web site. There has been only one post since I last posted about renewing my membership .I check the site daily and am not finding new posts ,I don't want to be the only one ,but if I have to I will ,so come on lets get with it .MAC

Comments from Dom; Hi Mac I'm afraid we are losing out to social networking. Facebook and Twitter are the rage now.

Name:

Patrick Kidwell SMC USN Ret. Crew 2/91-6/91

Email:

smcswaw1982@yahoo.com

Date:

08 Mar 2013

Comments

Served aboard Wiskey from Feb. 1991 to June 1991. Best 4 months of my career! Had just come from Recruiting duty as an SM1 and was all set for a 3 year tour when the Decomm. was announced and had to take orders elsewhere. The crew was fantastic, the ship was immaculate and I was so sad the day I left her and went over a few piers to report aboard USS Austin. Please keep her memory alive she is magnificent! I am bringing a friend to tour her in April and show him this awesome ship. Thanks again for all you do!!

Comments from Dom; So sorry you did not get to serve aboard her longer than 4 months.

Look at it this way, there are guys out there that wanted to serve aboard but never got the opportunity , for however short it was, you did.



Name:
McDonald,H.T. 3 RD DIV.53 TO 56
Email:
beak1935@yahoo.com
Date:
25 Feb 2013

Comments

Well it is official ,I now have my new membership card ,so everything is legal again .Just hope all are doing well ,missed the site while it was down ,because I visited everyday, so glad to see it back up and running smoothly. Thanks Dom for a job well done .Hope to see more new posts soon. Will write more later ,MAC

Comments from Dom; Glad you were able to renew your membership. To bad we can't get some of the dropouts to rejoin.
It would be very nice is some of our non members, those listed without an "M" next to their names, to join also.



Name:
GUY TRINGALI
Email:
GUYCHAR24@COMCAST.NET
Date:
25 Feb 2013

Comments

HI DOM, GLAD TO SEE THAT OUR PROBLEM ON THE INTERNET HAS BEEN RESOLVED. HOPE THE NEWSLETTER WILL ALSO RETURN SHORTLY. I MISS THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK YOUR FRIEND AND SHIPMATE GUY TRINGALI CHARLOTTE SAYS TO SAY HI

Comments from Dom: Hi Guy, thanks for your entry. Sorry to say. but I have canceled our weekly newsletter as of December 28th.
Reason, lack of readership. With over 1000 of our members and non members having an email address, we only averaged 69.5 readers weekly for the past five and a half years. It was no longer worth the time and effort to set it up and post it on our website.
As per my last newsletter of 12/28/2012, I do thank and appreciate the loyal 69.5 readers.



Name:
Donald Lecik
Email:

Date:

21 Feb 2013

Comments

Dom I am so sorry for being so lax, I am still alive but down, this paralysis is for the birds. But I had a helper today my nurse Pam helped me out of bed over to my computer. I had a VA appointment yesterday up in Huntington WV 97 miles away and by the time I get there going up and down them Mt and curves I am in bad shape. But the new Doc is a spine Doc and he is from Korea and when I told him about us on the Wisconsin being there and about Pres Syngman Rhee coming aboard and giving us a Medal he said do you have any pictures of him on your battleship?, sure do, please bring me some. Not knowing I would find something, well I found two. **(Check out 1950s-Page 7 photos #751 to #753)**

I want to comment on Jeff Ash **(deck log 23 Oct. 2012)** about being a Battleship Sailor; we are a breed like no other. There will never be another like us, we are Dreadnought Sailors and we are a dying breed.

God it hurts that I can't go to the big Easy or places I have not yet seen.

Dom you stay well.

Comments from Dom; Hi Don, It's been a while since I called you. Hope this Korean doctor can help ease your discomfort and maybe help you feel a little bit more comfortable. I remember it well when Pres. Rhee came aboard. I was up in the ships helicopter taking some photos of the events going on aboard our ship. The only problem we had was we could not land back on the ship because there was no more room for us to set down. There were 10 or 11 helicopters aboard so while waiting for some of them to leave I was given a quick fly over the Korean shoreline. **(Check out 1950s-Page 7 photo #750)**



Name:

McDonald H.T. 3RD DIV 53TO 56

Email:

beak1935@yahoo.com

Date:

07 Feb 2013

Comments

Just wanted to let you know I sent my dues for renewal for membership today. I found the application on the site and filled it out and mailed it in .Just wanted to let you know MAC.

Comments from Dom; Glad you found the "Membership" page



Name:

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

Email:

beak1935@yahoo.com

Date:

06 Feb 2013

Comments

Thank you Dom, I have been visiting daily since site went down. Hopefully I can renew my membership soon. Maybe you could send me a form so I can do it .I have missed reading all the posts and am glad it is back up and running again let me know if there is another way to renew my membership, will be waiting to hear from you .Same old MAC

Comments from Dom; Sorry for the delay in getting the sight back on line. Our host provider had a problem with the server that our site was on so they put us on another server. I had a problem trying to publishing my backup copy to this second server, for some reason it kept giving me an error notice and would stop the publishing. After daily emails they finally came up with a solution and the publishing went through.

Name:

George Matthai

Email:

matthai@fuse.net

Date:

06 Feb 2013

Comments

Excited to hear the next reunion will ne in New Orleans!. My first duty when I got out of boot camp was in New Orleans, actually it was on the Naval Base in Algiers, LA. which was just across the river from NOLA as it was known then. Does anyone know if the base is still there? It would be neat to revisit it.

Comments from Dom; Hi George, that should be like home coming for you..

Name:

Keith Benjamin

Email:

kvbenj@comcast.net

Date:

08 Dec 2012

Comments

Just wondering if there are any ship mates of mine left. Came aboard late in 1945, "A div", "after steering" , "steam heat", "small boat engineer". Give me a shout.

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

Name:

Keith Nitka

Email:

nagel459@comcast.net

Date:

26 Nov 2012

Comments

HEY Gulf War vets. A member of the Nauticus crew asked me when I visited the ship last if there was a basketball hoop mounted somewhere on the fantail. He had heard it somewhere and was looking for confirmation. I do not know and thought perhaps one of you out there may know the answer. Thanks! QM2 Nitka, Navigation department, '89-'91

Comments from Dom; Can anyone recall if there was one when the ship was in service?

Name:

Richard Guion

Email:

richard.guion@L-3com.com

Date:

16 Nov 2012

Comments

ALCON, Our company (L-3 Communications) has the honor and privilege of supporting the City of Norfolk with the latest round of USS Wisconsin exhibit upgrades. As part of these changes, we will be greatly enhancing the ships shore power feeders and helping to open up more of the ship to visitors. If there are any members with Electrician Mate background and are switchgear savvy, please email or call me if you wish to help educate me or just want to chat. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. My cell number is 757.725.6517

Comments from Dom: Thanks Richard for your entry. I hope you get some callers that can help you.

Name:

mike wilson

Email:

treelovervt@yahoo.com

Date:

11 Nov 2012

Comments

Serving in the navy from 1983-1987 I was lucky enough to see these mighty battle ships in their glory .But never had the privilege of stepping on board one till I went to visit the Wisconsin. It was a great feeling one that's hard to explain unless you had served when these ships steamed next to you at sea. Great site and thank you.

Comments from Dom; Thanks Mike for your entry. It was a great privilege for me to serve aboard her. I went aboard her right out of Boot Camp and four years later I left her to be discharged. My entire navy enlistment was on that ship.

Name:

Brian b
Email: Bribur91@aol.com

Date:
09 Nov 2012

Comments

Hello. Do you have anything other than the 2012 reunion t shirts available? I like to collect.

Comments from Dom: Brian you will have to contact **Paul Zentmyer** at either paulz56@comcast.net or 434-219-4382, he's in charge of our ships store.



Name:
Tom Bradshaw
Email: bb64bt1retired@aol.com
Date:
06 Nov 2012

Comments

To all the folks on the east coast, we all say prayers for you. So glad our girl in Norfolk is ok.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Tom.



Name:
Jeff Ash
Email: jash3935@gmail.com
Date:
23 Oct 2012

Comments

To all battleship sailors, we all share a special bond. No one can understand the bond that it holds and that bond is non determinate. We are the lucky few that sailed a TRUE naval ship. Thank you to all that serve, but a battleship sailor is something special. God speed to all

Comments from Dom; Jeff, you said it all.



Name:
David Aviles
Email: tamana1023@gmail.com
Date:
19 Oct 2012

Comments

Hello everyone my name is David Aviles MM3 on board Wisky during 1987 through 1991. I am trying to find any information about my arrest in Laredo Mexico during the ships visit to Ingleside Texas in 1989. There was an organized trip Mexico where I ended up in a Mexican jail, and my Lieutenant Keith Ballinger and Lady from consulate, they paid ransoms and had me released. Where I was then sent to captains Mass 45 days extra duty, and my pay was Garnished. Please help me!

Comments from Dom: David, I hope you get the information your looking for.

Name:

Mark Evdemon

Email:

usnavymark@comcast.net

Date:

18 Oct 2012

Comments

Toured the battleship...awesome power of ship. God bless all those that served. I was on a couple of "tin cans".

Comments from Dom; Thanks for your entry Mark. Glad you had a chance to tour our ship. Thanks for your past service.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

24 Sep 2012

Comments

You're right, I must have missed the liberty boat. Maybe my age (76) is catching up with me.

Comments from Dom; Lately, I have missed a few boats also.

Name:

Keith Nitka

Email:

nagel459@comcast.net

Date:

17 Sep 2012

Comments

Along the lines of the last message, your local Veterans of Foreign Wars post and American

Legion post will also take your tattered and worn out American Flags for proper disposal. I am Jr. Vice Commander of my local VFW post, been a life member of the VFW since returning from Desert Storm in 1991. The VFW also assists all military men and women serving in harms way and here at home as well as their dependents and vets in VA hospitals. We also run patriotic programs for civilians and scouts. I am also proud of the programs we run which gives scholarship money to high school boys and girls as well as middle school boys and girls for college. I urge all vets to join the VFW or Legion or both and also register with your local VA hospital. If you would like more information you can visit the websites of these organizations: www.vfw.org or www.legion.org or www.va.gov

Comments from Dom; Thanks Keith for the additional information. I have been a member of the American Legion for over 25 years.

Name:

Kenneth Anderson

Email:

krande0630@gmail.com

Date:

17 Sep 2012

Comments

I requested permission to leave the ship on 28 February 1955, saluted the ensign and had not seen the ship since. A few years. I was elated to share the Wisconsin with my wife and to walk the 02 level again. I have memories of scrubbing those teakwood boards. She is a different ship than the one I sailed on. The many additions and deletions in her fire power have changed her inside and out. The updated crew accommodations have altered every space that I worked in except the Captain's veranda. I think that anyone who spent days, weeks and years living, working, and feeling the energy and soul of such a ship must have fond memories and even a sincere love of this humongous piece of steel. I do. The USS Wisconsin is part of my story and I am proud of it.

Comments from Dom; Hi Ken, yes there have been some changes made to the ship since you and I were aboard but overall you still feel her power when you step aboard.

Name:

Charlie Taliaferro

Email:

crtaliaferro@gmail.com

Date:

12 Sep 2012

Comments

AMERICAN FLAG RETIREMENT ~ The Kitchen Table Gang Trust - When bright and beautiful, they were proud symbols of sacrifice. But faded and frayed, they were forgotten and need to be disposed of. Flags that evoked images of Bunker Hill, Bataan and Baghdad ended their days in garages and Goodwill stores. If you have an old, tattered flag that is unfit for display, the Kitchen Table Gang Trust (<http://www.kitchentablegang.org>) will properly dispose of it with dignity and in accordance with federal laws. - The flags are retired each year on Flag Day, June 14th, send your flags to the Kitchen Table Gang Trust, 42922 Avenue 12, Madera. CA 93636-8866. Hundreds of these forlorn flags

rescued by the Kitchen Table Gang Trust are honored every year in a dignified military ceremony that delivers them to a pyre. The ceremony, is led by GySgt Daniel Kelly, USMC (Ret) and MGySgt Richard Scruggs, USMC (Ret). When you send us flags, we would greatly appreciate a small donation for providing this service. - The 'Kitchen Table Gang' is a rag-tag bunch of military retirees trying to make life more pleasant for hospitalized veterans. The Kitchen Table Gang Trust has been helping veterans and military personnel for over 32 years. They also have patriotic programs for civilians and scouts. Additionally, they assist deployed soldiers and Marines with "CARE" packages. In the last year, they have sent over 38,000 packages to these deserving men and women in Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan and even Africa! - Want to know more about the Kitchen Table Gang Trust? Then check us out from articles in PARADE magazine at http://www.parade.com/news/veterans/articles/11-ways-to-help-veterans-on-11-11-11.html?mbid=NS110411&mbid_source=newsletter&mbid_content=parade and in the Los Angeles Times at <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/jul/04/local/la-me-adv-flag-barn-20110704> - Please take the time to check out this website (<http://www.kitchentablegang.org> This is a "grass roots" bunch of veterans doing what our own Government should be doing for our disabled and homeless veterans and our returning soldiers and Marines, but isn't about to. - Charlie Taliaferro, Director crtaliaferro@gmail.com THE KITCHEN TABLE GANG TRUST <http://www.kitchentablegang.org> 42922 Avenue 12 Madera, CA 93636-8866 (U.S.A.) - (In the event the above clickable links do not work, please use "cut and paste" to your browser.)

Comments from Dom; Thanks Charlie for the entry and for all that you do.

Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

howspar@aol.com

Date:

05 Sep 2012

Comments

Hi Dom, long time no write! Are there any pictures from the Norfolk reunion or a list of attendees?

Comments from Dom: As I listed in my weekly website newsletter (which is posted every Friday, late morning or early afternoon) of August 24, I had posted 252 reunion photos on our website. All you have to do is go to any page of our website, at the top of the page click on the button that says, "Our Reunions" and it will take you there. As for a list of the attendees, they were posted and updated weekly on the reunion planners website from May 18 to July 6th . Our home page had a link to this site which had information about the reunion and listed the attendees. Irving, I think you missed the liberty boat.

Name:

Gere Mullican

Email:

steelman3@tds.net

Date:

11 Aug 2012

Comments

Hi Dom. Could you please give me the address to get a copy of my DD-214. Sorry I haven't written in a while, but I stay really busy taking care of my wife. She has a little dementia and I have to take care

of her. Hello to all my former ship mates. Gere Mullican HM2, 1955 and 1956.

Comments from Dom: Hi Gere, Sorry to hear about your wife, wishing all goes well. Info you request can be found on the following site:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

In case you lose it, you can find it on our website's Bulletin Board page.

Name:

George Matthai

Email:

matthai@fuse.net

Date:

26 Jul 2012

Comments

I have been maintaining a website for one of our shipmates for many years now. Captain "Skip" Crawford, now deceased, he was LTJG D/5th Divisions (Ret.CAPT.) 1952-1954. The website is www.sailorstale.homestead.com I cannot locate any relatives who would like me to continue to publish it each year. Does anyone know of anyone? otherwise I will be forced to delete it. That would be a shame because there is a lot of good reading in his Memoir's. He had a sister named Mary Ann Crawford but I can't locate her.

Comments from Dom; Hi George, it would be a shame to delete that site. I noticed a brother and a few relatives have entries in the sites guest book, are they the ones you can't contact?

Name:

MIKIE BRENKMAN

Email:

MBINFANTRY@GMAIL.COM

Date:

01 Jul 2012

Comments

I NEED SOMEONE TO EMAIL ME INFO ON BUYING A DIGITAL DVD COPY OF OUR DESERT SHIELD DESERT STORM VHS CRUISE VIDEO! CAN ANYONE HELP ME OUT PLEASE?

Comments from Dom; Good luck in your pursuit of this video.

Name:

Craig Bittle

Email:

craigbittle@yahoo.com

Date:

26 Jun 2012

Comments

Anyone interested in playing a round of golf at Sewells Point on 7/18 or 7/19 or what the heck

how about both days? I checked and they have clubs for rent. Craig

Comments from Dom Is it safe to say that you like golf?

Name:

Craig Bittle

Email:

craigbittle@yahoo.com

Date:

15 Jun 2012

Comments

Does anyone have any information about the golf outing? Thanks, Craig

Comments from Dom; I guess by now you and John Fox have gotten together on your question.

Name:

George Matthai

Email:

matthai@fuse.net

Date:

22 May 2012

Comments

Dom, don't know if you saw it or not but a movie camera belonging to the USS Wisconsin was featured on "Pawn Stars" tv show. Two college kids said they bought it at a yard sale I wonder if you saw this? Maybe it was a camera you once used. link.. [PAGE HAS-BEEN DELETED](#)

Comments from Dom; Hi George, looks like "Pawn Stars" is at it again with a movie camera that never was on the Wisconsin. Looks like the same camera they had in 2009, See Deck Log entries of 29 Dec. and 31 Dec. 2009. In their present add they don't describe the so called Wisconsin insignia. In 2009 they said the camera had a small metal plaque on it with the ships crest fastened to it. As you know the crest was not around in the 1950's, it came out when the ship was re-commissioned in 1988.

I was in the photo lab from April 1953 to June 1956 and we did have one 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 this Paillard Bolex camera does.

Name:

BM1SW CHARLES BROWN USN RET.

Email:

HOOKING UP AGAIN

Date:

17 May 2012

Comments

DOM AND SHIPMATES OF BB 64. YOUR SISTER SHIP USS IOWA IS TO BE TOWED OUT OF RICHMOND CA MAY 20. SO ALL MY SHIPMATES OF BB 64 WHO LIVE IN CA THIS SHOULD BE A SIGHT TO SEE. MORE INFO AT www.pacificbattleship.com OR www.uss Iowa.org AS ALL WAYS ITS FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS. BOATS

Comments from Dom; Hi Boats, thanks for the update.

Name:

William E. Caldwell Jr.

Email:

caldwellwe@hotmail.com

Date:

14 May 2012

Comments

I had just broke boot camp the year before , was stationed at Naval station Annapolis { APL } when I found out I was going aboard The USS Wisconsin BB64. It was the hippest day of my life being a part of the fifth div. and becoming a boat coxswain. Running liberty boats was a thrill and becoming a shellback was also joyful

Comments from Dom; Hi William, thanks for your entry. Have you given any thought to joining our association? We could sure use more former crew members from her last commissioning as members of our Wisconsin family.

Name:

Dom Menta

Email:

dombb64@ptd.net

Date:

23 Apr 2012

Comments and Answer

A USS Wisconsin BB-64 coin was found in a parking field near the Southside Baptist Church. The person that found it would like to return it to its rightful owner.

If you can claim this coin, please contact me, Dom Menta at dombb64@ptd.net with your name and phone number, I will pass this information to the finder of the coin and that person will contact you.

Dom

Name:

Milton Contaras

Email:

miltcontaras@sbcglobal.net

Date:

10 Apr 2012

Comments

09 April 2012 Hi Dom; Made our reunion reservations last week. Hope to see it posted on the reunion roster soon. That is when I will feel it is official. Your shipmate.

Comments from Dom; Hi Milton, I don't post the names on the attendee roster, that's done by Military Reunion Planners. Their latest update is 4/6/12, I'm sure your name will be on the next update. Looking forward to seeing you.

Name:

Ortman Edward

Email:

WealthyMTGuardian@yahoo.com

Date:

03 Apr 2012

Comments

Glad I found this site, seems like a lifetime ago, my kids are quite fascinated by all this though. Maybe I can connect with some of my shipmates here...

Comments from Dom; Now that you have found us, why not join our Association?

Name:

John La Beff

Email:

johnlabeff@yahoo.com

Date:

29 Mar 2012

Comments

Hey shipmates, SM3 LaBeff here. I served from pre-com Jan 88 to de-com 9/ 91. and just told my wife that if Wisky was still in commission I would still be on it. I loved her dearly.

Comments from Dom; Hi John, do you really want to show your love for our ship, then join our association.

True love for our ship is by becoming a member of the USS Wisconsin Association.

Name:

Carl A Meyers

Email:

ccamlv@yahoo.com

Date:

18 Mar 2012

Comments

Served aboard 1946-1948--K Division Great experience and memories of reserve and midshipmen cruises will be with me forever

Comments from Dom; Hi Carl, yes most of us do have some great memories..

Name:

R. Durham

Email:

curdog71@yahoo.com

Date:

17 Feb 2012

Comments

Looking forward to reunion. I made the last one in Norfolk but in less than 24hrs there had to head back home for a hurricane that was bearing down on my home town, hope I have better luck this time!

Comments from Dom; Hi Robert, hoping all goes well for you this time. We are hoping more of your former crew members will signup for this July reunion.

We need the 1980s-1990s former crew members to join our association and take an active part in it. If we don't get their support, then I'm afraid this association will go "dead in the water"

Looking forward to seeing you at the reunion.

Name:

LT John Powell

Email:

john.k.powell@navy.mil

Date:

13 Feb 2012

Comments

Good Morning everyone. I can't claim much title as crew but for a very short period in 1991. I was aboard during Gulf War 1, only from February to return home in Norfolk. I was attached to DESRON and we'd transferred from the Tripoli after striking the mine to the Missouri, and then to Wisconsin. I was in OA division as an AG3 at the time. I remember my time aboard with great fondness though, and I distinctly remember the announcement mid-Atlantic of her upcoming decommissioning. I remember when that announcement came over the 1MC I was looking out at some distant mercies and thinking "I hope they are looking this way, this is the last time anyone will see a battleship at sea". It was a poignant moment to be sure. I remember also the fantastic welcome we received in Norfolk. In my 22 years (and counting) of Naval service that ride into the harbor on Wisconsin is a major highlight. I hope my brief time aboard counts as crew as I feel I'm a part of her (and Missouri) too. Fair winds to you all. v/r
LT (LDO type) John Powell, former AG3

Comments from Dom; Thanks John for your entry. Once again I'm proven right. Whenever someone who served any time aboard the Wisconsin and tells it like you did I always tell them that this ship gets under your skin and never lets go. Thanks for your continued service and

stay safe.

Name:

Gere Mullican

Email:

steelman3@tds.net

Date:

26 Jan 2012

Comments

Is the site working properly? I posted yesterday and it doesn't show up now. I enjoy reading the posts but seems like no one has posted in a long time. Gere Mullican HM2 - 1955-56

Comments from Dom, Sight is working, sometime I don't have a chance to check the deck log entries daily.

Name:

Gere Mullican

Email:

steelman3@tds.net

Date:

25 Jan 2012

Comments

Don't anyone ever post on here any more? I don't post a lot but sure do enjoy reading what others post. Gere Mullican hm2 - 1955-56

Comments from Dom; Hi Gere, I guess they are too busy on Facebook and Twitter.

Name:

Kevin Conard

Email:

conard4115@att.net

Date:

23 Jan 2012

Comments

Dom, My wife and I visited in April of 2011 and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. One thing I thought of in regards to a comment made by the tour guide when he mentioned that there are no more "Whisky" pennants available, mother nature shredded them all, and it just didn't seem right not having one to display, and a new set cost hundreds of dollars. Was there any thought given to trading a November, Charlie, Mike or Alpha pennant(s) to one of the other surviving BB's for a "Whisky" or two?

Comments from Dom; Hi Kevin, thanks for your entry. Sorry but our association does not control the ship. It is being maintained by Nauticus, therefore your question should be directed to them. I don't have a persons name that you can contact, but I believe they have a "contact us" link on their site.

Name:

Keith Nitka

Email:

nagel459@comcast.net

Date:

23 Jan 2012

Comments

Hi Dom- I have emailed some fellows on the list directly but have not got any replies. I have questions about Battleship life during WW2. I am hoping someone of that generation will read this and contact me directly. Especially some one of the "right" arm rate group. I served aboard Wisconsin during the Gulf War. Also my dues for this year are on the way! - QM2 Nitka

Comments from Dom; Hi Keith, I'm surprised your emails went unanswered. How about it guys from the 1940's, please contact Keith.

Name:

maxwell

Email:

Date:

05 Jan 2012

Comments

I have heard that the Missouri was in Nam for a short time?? is that true... i cant find any info on that... Just the big J... any one hear of this??

Comments from Dom; The only BB that was there was the USS New Jersey BB-62

Name:

George Matthai

Email:

Matthai@fuse.net

Date:

03 Jan 2012

Comments

Dom, Your comment "The only problem would be breaking in a new battleship crew" in regards to re floating our ship. You would have thousands of former crew fighting for the chance with me leading the charge to take her to sea again. I'm homesick I suppose.

Comments from Dom: Hi George, I'm sure any former crew member would volunteer.

Send E-mail to [Dom Menta](#) with questions or comments about this web-site. This website was established in 1998 and all contents are the property of the USS Wisconsin Association. If you desire to use graphics or other info from this website please E-mail [Dom Menta](#)