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**Name**

Al Overby

**Email:**

[al1over@earthlink.net](mailto:al1over@earthlink.net)

**Date:**

Thursday, 28. December 2006

**Comments**

Hello Dom and all your friends! I did not place who you were until I got into the log. You had the only job that might have made me a "lifer". Instead, I used the FT A school as a basis for my work after I got out of the navy. It served me well - 32 yr's with IBM. Today I spend my time "doing" videos for my church library. Back to you - do you remember a "beauty contest" in '56. I was "Miss De'Boat" I think. I would love to see what you shot that night and to hear from any of the FA Div. folks from our days aboard. And - tell Lil thanks for all her work 'cause I think she carries a lot of the load. Al Overby - in NC

Comments from Dom: Hi Al, sorry to say I left the ship in June of 1956, you came aboard on Sept. 7, 1956. I wish I was there for that show. Have you checked out photo #1079 in "1950's Page 10"?, was that the same show? If you have any pictures from that show, please send me copies and I will post them on our site. YES I did have a very good job aboard our ship and I wish I had shipped over. Looks like you did well in life. You are correct, Lil does carry a very large portion of the load.

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**Name:**

Dawn Kragness

**Email:**

[tdclarin@hotmail.com](mailto:tdclarin@hotmail.com)

**Date:**

Wednesday, 27. December 2006

**Comments**

Does anyone remember my uncle, Julian Kragness. He served during World War II. I know he was aboard at the end of the war.

Comments from Dom: Hi Dawn, your uncle, S2c Kragness, reported aboard on June 30, 1945 and was transferred to the USS Lowry on Oct. 1, 1945.

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**Name:**

Mike Loomis

**Email:**

[cmjloomis@hotmail.com](mailto:cmjloomis@hotmail.com)

**Date:**

Saturday, 23. December 2006

## Comments

WOW, Have not thought about this ship in along time and then on pg 5 80's-90's picture 547 is me and Theodore Hilton. I'm the nozzle man. Served aboard her during 87'-91'. Some of the greatest memories of my life. And some of the most influential people in my Life.. Hello to all From EMO4, would love hearing from any of you? cell# 208-640-9304 hm# 208 746 0465. Anyone can get me into contact with Phillip Bradac MMC then that would be great.

Comments from Dom: Hi Mike, glad you found us. I have captioned photo #547 with the information you provided, thank you. This same photo is in our 2007-2008 calendar. It was the photo used for November 2008. We give our dues paying members a two year calendar consisting of 24 pages of photos depicting life aboard our ship. Calendars are issued every two years. We hope you will join our Wisconsin family.

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**Name:**

Angel May

**Email:**

[poohbear2131@yahoo.com](mailto:poohbear2131@yahoo.com)

**Date:**

Friday, 22. December 2006

## Comments

I just wanted to say that the Wisconsin is a truly amazing ship. My husband who has been in the Navy 7 years did his reenlistment today 22 Dec 2006 aboard the ship. It was truly an honor for me to be standing on a piece of naval history as my husband reenlisted.

Comments from Dom: I'm glad the ship got into your system, now you know the feeling we had (and still have) when we served aboard her. Thanks to your husband for serving our country and good luck to him in his naval career.

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**Name:**

Dr. S. James Whitman

**Email:**

[dr.whitman@gmail.com](mailto:dr.whitman@gmail.com)

**Date:**

Saturday, 16. December 2006

## Comments

Visited the magnificent U.S.S. Wisconsin for the first time today. I am retired USAF (Navy first then 20 years in the AF) living in Guayaquil, Ecuador. I brought my son to Norfolk for a taste of my Navy after visiting Fort Bragg for a taste of his grandfather's 82nd Airborne. Wonderful experience on the Wisconsin--and surprise, the Big E was in port too. Great time going through

your website-great pictures.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Dr. Whitman for your interesting military history. I hope your son enjoyed his visit to Fort Bragg and the Wisconsin. Glad you enjoyed our website and thanks for the compliment.



Name:

Sam Robinson

Email:

[srobinson@waunakee.k12.wi.us](mailto:srobinson@waunakee.k12.wi.us)

Date:

Monday, 11. December 2006

### Comments

Our band will be performing "Pride of the Fleet" this Thursday, December 14 at the Waunakee High School Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. The piece was written for the U.S.S. Wisconsin after being retired from active status. Any Madison, Wisconsin area crew members are cordially invited to our concert to hear a great march dedicated to your great ship!! Sam Robinson, Waunakee High School Band

Comments from Dom: Thanks for the information, I will send out a notice to our members in your area.



Name:

Tracy Stinnett BM2 6th DIV

Email:

[tracystinnett@yahoo.com](mailto:tracystinnett@yahoo.com)

Date:

Thursday, 07. December 2006

### Comments

I was aboard 88-90. Looking for any shipmates. Anyone heard from Whiskey Bill from a-gang I think?

Comments from Dom: Hi Tracy, hope someone answers you.



Name:

David

Email:

[holmesdl@yahoo.com](mailto:holmesdl@yahoo.com)

Date:

Tuesday, 05. December 2006

### Comments

Hi, I love the website! My Grandfather, Michael F. Cassel served as a LT. on the Wisconsin during World War Two. I have his scrapbooks that include issues of the ships newsletters (ships newspaper?), menus and invitations for special meals (victory meal, holiday meal), newspaper clippings, and other similar items. I also have nice professional photos of the ship, and some group photos (some just officers, some both officer and enlisted). I am working on making digital copies of everything and am more than willing to e-mail copies to anyone who is interested. If anyone knew my Grandfather or knows anything about his service about the Wisconsin, I would love to hear from you.

Comments from Dom: Hi David, Wow!!, what a collection you have, very interesting. That is very nice of you to offer e-mail copies of your collection, just for the asking. I am interested in what you have, I will e-mail you later.

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Name:

Ron Wetmore

Email:

[rgjewetmore@cableone.net](mailto:rgjewetmore@cableone.net)

Date:

Monday, 04. December 2006

### Comments

I just found your website and haven't reviewed all the information yet. But was going through some of my dad, Wesley E. Wetmore, things and found out he was a main deck plank owner. Dad was a CGM 4th Division and worked on the starboard Secondary Battery. Looks like he was on-board from April 1944-March 1946. Dad transferred from the USS Tennessee and was a Pearl Harbor survivor. My question. Is there an official list somewhere of Plank owners? Also I have about 25 "On Wisconsin" and a few "The Badger" daily papers that were obviously published on-board. They highlight different "men of the day" and current war activities. Thanks and this looks like a pretty cool website. Ron Wetmore.

Comments from Dom: Hi Ron, glad you found our website. We do not have a list of all the 1940's plank owners, however you can click on the "Crewmembers" button at the top of this page, go into the 1940's lists and check out the names of our association members that have two red stars after their names, they were plank owners. There seems to be a good number of 4th Division names there. The ones in blue and underlined have an e-mail address. Looks like your Dad had a nice collection of ships memorabilia.

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Name:

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

Email:

[bigmac1532@insightbb.com](mailto:bigmac1532@insightbb.com)

Date:

Saturday, 02. December 2006

### Comments

50 Years ago in May 15 1956, I left the Wisky and remember looking back at the gaping hole in her bow. I was laying in my bunk when all of a sudden there was a tremendous thud and almost knocked me out of bed. The scare didn't last to long because I was on the damage control party

,so I grabbed my fire extinguisher and headed toward the bow. And to my amazement all I could see was a buckled deck and a small ship that was almost cut in half. That memory still hangs in my mind to this day, as I'm sure it does to many others too. Good memories linger also. I've not been back to see her as yet but I hope before I get to the stage in my life that I am not able to travel anymore I get the chance to go aboard her decks again. Dom You guys are doing a great job keep up the good work MAC.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Mac, how well I remember that collision also. I was also in my rack in the photo lab when we hit the USS Eaton. I grabbed a camera some film and ran to the bow. I could not believe what I saw. As you stated, this is something that never leaves your mind. Hang in there Mac, our 2008 reunion will be in Norfolk and we will be allowed inside the ship.**



**Name:**

**William Staples**

**Email:**

[jujubug2010@aol.com](mailto:jujubug2010@aol.com)

**Date:**

**Thursday, 23. November 2006**

### **Comments**

I would like anyone to respond that knew Howard R. Staples that served as an electrician on the USS Wisconsin during the last year of WWII. Thank you!

**Comments from Dom: Hi William, your Dad was an F1c and served aboard from May 12, 1945 to April 1, 1946**

**I hope you hear from his former shipmates.**



**Name:**

**Roger & Kathy Musack**

**Email:**

[kathy.musack@aurora.org](mailto:kathy.musack@aurora.org)

**Date:**

**Monday, 06. November 2006**

### **Comments**

Roger (who is a member of your association) and I had the chance to visit BB-64 on October 17th. Being from Wisconsin, we were thrilled to see our "namesake". We spent hours walking on the deck, touring the Nauticus and taking a boat tour of the naval area. Unfortunately, the

weather was a bit uncooperative and parts of the ship were roped off for safety reasons. We were told that normally people are allowed to go up a level from the deck but this too was off limits for some reason. Despite our disappointment of that, we were truly excited to spend time on our beloved Wisky!!

Comments from Dom: Glad you enjoyed your visit to our beautiful ship. At least you were able to see some of the ship in spite of the bad weather. I hope when you walked past her massive 16" guns, that you felt the power she possess.



Name:

The band from Wisconsin

Email:

[brittni\\_burton69@yahoo.com](mailto:brittni_burton69@yahoo.com)

Date:

Friday, 20. October 2006

### Comments

We are thrilled to be playing on the USS Wisconsin. Janesville Wisconsin Parker Band

Comments from Dom: Hope you enjoy your visit to the Wisconsin.



Name:

Stuart Naylor

Email:

[stuartnaylor500@hotmail.com](mailto:stuartnaylor500@hotmail.com)

Date:

Wednesday, 18. October 2006

### Comments

This is a great web site. I was in the US Air Force and I can remember the sound of navel fire going over the air base at Nha Trang Vietnam. We could see the flashes down range and knew

that the Navy was putting a serious hurt on the enemy down there. I am impressed with the way the history of the Wisconsin has been preserved. My wife and I were recently in Norfolk and the sight of the Wisconsin docked next to Nauticus was inspiring. My daughter is married to a Petty Officer First Class who is stationed in Norfolk and he has given me an up close and personal look at some Navy equipment and it is very impressive. The people who run this web site are to be commended for their preservation of the history of this great ship. I look forward to going aboard and taking the tour the next time we go to Norfolk.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Stuart, thanks for your comments about our web site. Better yet, thanks for your comments about our SHIP. We love this ship and when we served in her we felt safe and secure. Now it our turn to make her feel safe and secure.**



**Name:**

**Marty**

**Email:**

**[mmeison@aol.com](mailto:mmeison@aol.com)**

**Date:**

**Saturday, 14. October 2006**

## **Comments**

I saw the Wisconsin while she was in mothballs up in the Philadelphia Navy yard and it was a sad sight indeed. I could hardly believe that the ship my father talked about serving on during World War II could be in such disrepair. I visited the USS Wisconsin today in Norfolk VA, and I'd just like to say thank you for erasing the previous memory. BTW I'm sending your URL and pics of the Wisconsin to my father.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Marty, yes the Wisconsin was in sad shape while in the yards for 28 years. She does look beautiful now and we were promised she would never look bad again. You didn't mention your Dad's name, is he a member of our Association? If not how about signing him up as a member of our Wisconsin family. Just click on the Membership button at the top of this page and you will find information on how to join.**



**Name:**

**Beverly J. Gunther**

**Email:**

**[bgunther@crosslink.net](mailto:bgunther@crosslink.net)**

**Date:**

**Friday, 13. October 2006**

## Comments

Dear Dom & Lil: I wish to commend you both as well as those men who participated in the Memorial Service, it was as you promised - a beautiful service, one that I will never forget. I felt it honored my John beyond my expectations and I was a very proud wife to have been able to witness and join in this fine tradition. I felt like I could relax now; because everything my beloved John asked me to perform (his last wishes) were completed with that wonderful Memorial Service. I went back to my hotel so relieved, knowing my John was honored with those other distinguished Sailors/Marines, he loved his ship and shipmates more than he could articulate and I felt the Angels/Souls of those departed men around the room - the service truly transformed the Ballroom into a very somber & holy place and I felt so lighthearted when I left as if those Angels/souls released something to us that made me feel so good and I was suddenly lifted into a place that was very holy. It's hard to describe, I know -- but after the ceremony I was so uplifted, so free -- everything John wished for was completed and I do thank the Chaplain and I thank you and Lil for helping me get to the Reunion and see such a very cherished Memorial to our brave men. You and Lil are to be commended for putting on such a terrific Reunion. I am looking forward to the 2008 Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia, especially to be able to see John's beloved ship again. All my love to you both, Beverly J. Gunther [John A. Gunther, deceased, 1945-1947]

Comments from Dom: Hi Beverly, we are happy to hear that you were so touched by our Memorial Service. Our Sergeant-at-Arms, Bill Lewis and our Chaplain, Deacon Bob Simpson, are the two people really responsible for organizing and presenting our Memorial Service. They seem to improve it a little more each year and deserve all the praise for their work. Between Bill and Bob they make sure that all of our departed shipmates and or wives, have a special part in our reunion. All of our reunion attendees treat our Memorial Service with dignity and respect. We look forward to seeing you at our reunion in Norfolk in 2008.

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Name:

Brittany

Email:

[brittany\\_burton67@yahoo.com](mailto:brittany_burton67@yahoo.com)

Date:

Friday, 06. October 2006

## Comments

I am a teenager from Janesville Wisconsin and I attend Parker High School. I am thrilled about coming to see and play on the USS Wisconsin in April of 2007. This trip will be most definitely the best and most educational trip I have ever gone on. Thanks for letting us come and view and play on the USS Wisconsin.

Comments from Dom: Hi Brittany, you sound very excited about your trip to see the Battleship Wisconsin next April.

You will enjoy the ship and Nauticus The Maritime Center, which has many items of interest.

Your "Thanks" should be directed to Nauticus, since they are the ones hosting your visit. I will forward a copy of this Deck Log entry to them and I am sure you will receive an email from them.

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Name:

Kat

Email:

[kathryn.harris@leitnerfirm.com](mailto:kathryn.harris@leitnerfirm.com)

Date:

Thursday, 05. October 2006

## Comments

My father retired from this ship, Chief Signalman Phil Tony Cain. I believe it was 89 & I was wondering how to find out about the reunions for him. Any information would be greatly appreciated. Thanks so much!

Comments from Dom: Hi Kat, our Association holds a reunion every two years. We had one this past September in Charleston, SC. Our 2008 reunion will be in Norfolk, VA. Information on our 2008 reunion will be posted on our website in late 2007 or early 2008. If your Dad would like to join our Association, he can download an application from our website.

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Name:

ADC(AW) JOHN DAVIS

Email:

[jbmaria1@netzero.net](mailto:jbmaria1@netzero.net)

Date:

Monday, 25. September 2006

## Comments

Last month we did the annual CPO selectee trip to the USS WISCONSIN and had a awesome tour. We had lots of photos taken and were told that they would be on this site. I can not find them, could you tell where to find them or put a link to them. Thank You ADC(AW) JOHN R. DAVIS VFA-105 "GUNSLINGERS"

Comments from Dom: Sorry John, no one has sent me any photos of the CPO selectee's touring the Wisconsin.

I have never received photos of these tours. Perhaps they meant The Hampton Roads Naval Museum website

If you find out where they are, please let me know.

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Name:

Lorraine Hodgens

Email:

[Scrabbler2@verizon.net](mailto:Scrabbler2@verizon.net)

Date:

Wednesday, 20. September 2006

### Comments

Hi I'M interested to know if the Wisconsin is still open for tours. My husband Howard (Buddy) served aboard the battleship from 1950-1953. He was in A Division. I have his Anniversary Edition 1951-1952. It's interesting to see all the places he's been. He was very proud of his service in the Navy eight & 1/2 years. He passed away in 1996 after a 2 year struggle with Lou Gehrig's Disease. It would be so great to visit the ship and see where he served. Thanks, Lorraine

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Lorraine, the ship is open for tours of the main deck and three decks above. The ship is not open for internal tours.



Name:

Julie Hill

Email:

[soapplepie@aol.com](mailto:soapplepie@aol.com)

Date:

Monday, 18. September 2006

### Comments

My Grandfather, Donovan Truluck, Plank owner (I have to get that in there for him) served on this wonderful BB-64 during WWII. He is so proud of his time served on this beauty. My Husband (USCG) and I recently took time to visit the ship in Norfolk, and wow, I was truly amazed at the size. It was really neat to actually be on the ship, that my Grandfather called home for 2 long years. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to visit it, and for giving me that connection with my wonderful Grandfather. He has told me so many things about it...like "if you put your feet up on the chains, than the poor guy who was stuck holding the bucket of sand well, he would hand it on over to you to hold the darned bucket of sand then you'd be stuck with it until you saw the next sucker with his feet up on the chains....." Very funny stories I hear. I hope that they continue for quite some time. Thanks again!!!

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Julie, thanks for writing in our Deck Log. I had the pleasure of meeting your Grandfather at our 1998 reunion. We had a few good conversations about our ship.



Name:

Patrick Le Bihan

Email:

[atlantic.shipping@wanadoo.fr](mailto:atlantic.shipping@wanadoo.fr)

Date:

Saturday, 16. September 2006

## Comments

I am 62 years old, living close to Brest, France , and for me the BB 64 had been of a huge importance in my life, career choice. I will reverts soon when my job will give me a little more time to give with more details in order to explain what is for me the BB 64. Remember that the BB 64 had made 2 calls in Brest. Regards Patrick Le Bihan

Comments from Dom: Hi Patrick, thanks for visiting our site. I was on the ship for the second trip to Brest, France.

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Name:

Roy Strausbaugh

Email:

[MSTRAUSBAUGH1@neo.rr.com](mailto:MSTRAUSBAUGH1@neo.rr.com)

Date:

Sunday, 10. September 2006

## Comments

Hello to all my shipmates, Just got home from the reunion in Charleston. Thanks to all who do the work! Tears and smiles, remembering all those with whom I served. Those of us in the band in the 50s are determined to double our numbers at the reunion in Norfolk. Can we somehow sort our members by location? Dom, a Navy "Well Done" for the website and a "Well Done" for all those who made the Charleston reunion so successful. Roy Strausbaugh, Erie, PA, Wisconsin Band

Comments from Dom: Hi Roy, I'm sure the Reunion committee appreciates your thanks and yes it was a successful reunion. It would be great if the other Divisions can also double their numbers for the next reunion.

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Name:

**Mike Rourke**

**Email:**

[cm.rourke@bmts.com](mailto:cm.rourke@bmts.com)

**Date:**

Thursday, 07. September 2006

## **Comments**

I was wondering if all the Iowa Class ships are being let go by the navy. It seems a shame to see these majestic warriors be put to pasture. With the world the way it is lately I believe they show the strength and resolve of the USA.

**Comments from Dom: Two have, The USS New Jersey BB-62 is a Memorial in Camden, New Jersey and the USS Missouri BB-63 is a Memorial in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.**



**Name:**

**EM2 Dantzler**

**Email:**

[kdantzler5@comcast.net](mailto:kdantzler5@comcast.net)

**Date:**

Sunday, 20. August 2006

## **Comments**

Hello everyone (88-91).. I was looking at the ribbons in the award area of this website. When did we receive a battle E ribbon? I am drilling reservist and would love to put it on only if I can verify (proper paper work) that we have this ribbon. Thanks, EM2 Dantzler

**Comments from Dom: Sorry, but this has never been authenticated. Some of the crew members had informed me that they received the ribbon and that it is on their discharge papers (DD214). Others have said they did not receive this ribbon. I copied this board from the one that is on our ship now.**



**Name:**

**Daniel Kwiatkowski**

**Email:**

[dannyanderin@charter.net](mailto:dannyanderin@charter.net)

Date:

Friday, 11. August 2006

## Comments

Hello everyone. I was a crew member from 1988-1989 down in Pascagoula. I am interested in getting into contact with people that I served aboard with or was in boot camp with. I was in the USS Wisconsin boot camp in Great Lakes. I am especially trying to contact George Aldrich. If anyone has any contact info for him. please let me know. Thanks

Comments from Dom: Hi Daniel, I hope someone answers you. Have you given any thoughts about joining our Wisconsin family? We would sure like to have you as a member. We need more 1980's / 1990's former crewmembers to keep this association going.



Name:

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

Email:

[bigmac1532@insightbb.com](mailto:bigmac1532@insightbb.com)

Date:

Thursday, 10. August 2006

## Comments

Hey Guys ,Just wanted to let you all know that I am still among the living and doing well It's been just over 50 years since I left the Wisky, and there is not a day that goes by that I don't look back on those days aboard Her . She was a majestic ship and I was very proud to have been a part of Her history. I think of the friends I made and some I have found and some not ,but I am still looking. Have a great day. MAC

Comments from Dom: Hi Mac, you said it all. June19th made it 50 years that I left the ship and I was discharged on June21st.



Name:

Roy Strausbaugh

Email:

[MSTRAUSBAUGH1@neo.rr.com](mailto:MSTRAUSBAUGH1@neo.rr.com)

Date:

Monday, 24. July 2006

## Comments

Am looking forward to the reunion in Charleston, my first. Served in Wisconsin 1955 some of 1956. I was first in fire control main batteries and then in the band (ex division). I remember well the "Middie" cruise to Scotland, Denmark and to Gitmo. It certainly influenced my life. I wound up as a European historian. I remember asking what "Scotch" was at my first visit to a pub in Edinburgh. Do not remember the liberty boat ride back. See you all there - am heavier and gray hair. Roy

Comments from Dom: From one EX Division crewmember ( I was one of the ship's photographers from April 1953 to June 1956) to another, welcome Roy. Glad you will be attending this years reunion. We have a few EX Div. crewmembers signed up for this reunion. See you in September.



Name:

bob mitchell

Email:

[redsford@telus.net](mailto:redsford@telus.net)

Date:

Saturday, 15. July 2006

## Comments

with the current world unrest I believe the Iowa's should be reactivated.

Comments from Dom: Bob, that would be fantastic.



Name:

William Myers

Email:

[williamjmye@msn.com](mailto:williamjmye@msn.com)

Date:

Wednesday, 12. July 2006

## Comments

I am a battleship sailor from the New Jersey 68-69 during Vietnam. I served in E Division. You have a beautiful web site. Keep up the good work perpetuating the memory and history of the Battleship.

Comments from Dom: Thanks for your comments and checking us out.



Name:

Troy Spring

Email:

[troydspring@hotmail.com](mailto:troydspring@hotmail.com)

Date:

Tuesday, 11. July 200

### Comment

I really enjoyed your site - while I have not served in the military, I have great admiration for the men and women that have served our great country. I recently toured the North Carolina in Wilmington and it has really sparked my interest in learning more about battleships. Is the Wisconsin open for tours?

Comments from Dom: Hi Troy, thanks for stopping by and glad you enjoyed our site. At the present time the Wisconsin is open to the public free of charge but you can only walk her main deck and three decks above. As soon as the ship is fully released by the Navy then preparations will be started to open the ship to the public. Hopefully this will be soon. They do have some portholes and half glass doors that you can look through to see the inside of the ship.



Name:

CALVIN FLETCHER

Email:

[cohoma\\_cal@yahoo.com](mailto:cohoma_cal@yahoo.com)

Date:

Thursday, 06. July 2006

### Comments

I am a battleship sailor from the crew of the NEW JERSEY west pact 86 a-division

Comments from Dom: Hi Calvin, welcome to our site. Hope you enjoyed your visit, please visit us again.



Name:

Jonathan "War-Dog" Warford

Email:

[sniper-x@swfla.rr.com](mailto:sniper-x@swfla.rr.com)

Date:

Saturday, 01. July 2006

## Comments

It's been a while since I signed the log. But I wanted to drop in and say hello to all my shipmates. I served 88 to 91 in 6th and 4th Division. Those few years are still the most remembered in my life. I went on to serve 5 more years and still love the fact that I am, and will always be, a Battleship Sailor!

**Comments from Dom: I know the feeling, I left the ship 50 years ago and I am still proud that I was and still am a BATTLESHIP SAILOR!**

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Name:

Charles M. Storrs

Email:

[cmscas77@micro-link.net](mailto:cmscas77@micro-link.net)

Date:

Friday, 30. June 2006

## Comments

I am looking for a white dress hat size 7 to complete my dress blues uniform. If any one out there has one that they want to get rid of I would appreciate you contacting me via my e-mail address. Having attended a recent memorial day service and parade in my home town , has inspired me to want to become one of the military marching units. I served aboard the Wisconsin in B Div. #3 fire room 1951-1953. Keep on keeping on to all you shipmates out there. Hope to see you at the reunion in Sept.

**Comments from Dom: I hope someone has a white hat for you. See you at the reunion Charlie and I hope a lot more of our shipmates who read this.**

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Name:

Charles "Stew" Stewart , Jr.

**Email:**

[stewtek@msn.com](mailto:stewtek@msn.com)

**Date:**

Thursday, 29. June 2006

### Comments

I was an EM1, Electrical "E" Division on BB-64 from 1987-1989 (PlankOwner). Trying to locate a former Shipmate by the name of EM3 Jeffery "Jeff" Williams from Tennessee. If you happen to know Jeff's whereabouts, have him or you too, shoot me an email at [stewtek@msn.com](mailto:stewtek@msn.com) All the Best, 16th inch MATES! The Stew

**Comments from Dom: Can anyone help Stew locate Jeff?**

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**Name:**

Robert Driggers

**Email:**

[rdriggers@hotmail.com](mailto:rdriggers@hotmail.com)

**Date:**

Monday, 26. June 2006

### Comments

It has been nice keeping in touch with all the WISCONSIN group from the precom and commissioning during our days of Pascagoula and beyond. Following the years post Navy with Captain Blesch...Nissen...Cruze... and others to name a few has been enjoyable. I would encourage more of us to reach out to one another.....hope everyone is well.

My contact info. is, [rdriggers@hotmail.com](mailto:rdriggers@hotmail.com) Cell: 949-373-6255 Living in Southern California.....

**Comments from Dom: Thanks for your comments, I hope you do get more of us to reach out to one another.**

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**Name:**

Clyde M. Robinson

**Email:**

[cmrstrings@ctc.net](mailto:cmrstrings@ctc.net)

**Date:**

Monday, 19. June 2006

### Comments

I am a plank owner. I was in the navy in 1943 to 1945 I would like to know if any one knows anything about Harvey Keenan or Big Bull Weasley, or any kind of information about the L division in 1943 to 1945. I will be 85, my birthday is the 16th of November. How much does it cost to join the association. C. M. Robinson.

Comments from Dom: Hi Clyde, I hope you get some information about your shipmates. The Association dues are \$15.00 a year, click the following for an [Application](#)

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Name:

JONES BROWN

Email:

[jb254364@alltel.net](mailto:jb254364@alltel.net)

Date:

Saturday, 17. June 2006

### Comments

WISH TO SAY HAPPY FATHERS DAY TO ALL. 6/18/06 SMOOTH SAILING.

Comments from Dom: Thanks Jones, from all the fathers.

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Name:

Terry Frost

Email:

Date:

Tuesday, 13. June 2006

### Comments

Does anyone have any information on where we got our cruise jackets and if there is any chance of getting another; lost mine in a house fire. Onboard from 89-91. I can be reached at the following: Cell: 479-453-1116 Cingular or home at 479-229-9946. Very respectfully, Terry

Comments from Dom: I get a number of request for this jacket, said to say I do not have an answer for them.

I believe it was a one shot deal to purchase this jacket.

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Name:

Terry Frost YN2(SW/AW)

Email:

Date:

Tuesday, 13. June 2006

## Comments

I was saddened to notice how few deck log entries were available for 06'. I served from 89-91' onboard and have just in the past few months realized that most of the upper ranking enlisted and officers I served with are approaching retirement or have retired and that my group will be the next reaching the twilight of their careers. I would love to hear from some of the admin guys. My cell phone # 479-453-1116 or my home # 479-229-9946. The farther time passes by; the more and more fond I am of the times we all shared. You guys hold a spot close to heart. Never was I so glad to leave anywhere in my life as I was the day I was ding' dinged off the brow; and now as I look back I am more saddened than I was happy that I did not take the time to enjoy what a wonderful adventure we were involved in. I sincerely look forward to placing my foot back on those teak decks, one more time. God bless you guys still serving; hope the best for you and your families. Thanks for serving! Dom? I haven't a chance to read all the pubs listed; is there a chance that Wisky will be opened up so we can visit the inside of her once again? If so, when would you expect this to happen? Thanks you for your timeless efforts through the years; I appreciate the devotion you have shown. This always brightens my day when I get a chance to visit.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Terry, yes deck log entries have been light.**

**When the ship is officially turned over to the city of Norfolk, which should happen this year, then at some point after that the ship will be opened to the public. We do not know when. When a time frame for opening the ship is given to us, we will notify our Association members and also post the information on this web site.**

**Terry, as a former crew member, have you given thought to joining our Wisconsin Family**

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Name:

Joe Brown

Email:

[washcapsfans@cox.net](mailto:washcapsfans@cox.net)

Date:

Monday, 05. June 2006

## Comments

Hmm. Now I am confused. The Naval Vessel Register says that the USS Wisconsin is now available for donation as a museum or memorial with a different maintenance category. Since I have not heard anything about the City of Norfolk and its Letter of Intent to acquire the Wisconsin, is there a hold up? Thank you for clarifying and keep up the great work!!

**Comments from Dom: Joe, I don't have an answer for you. Read the April 1, 2006 story in [The Virginian Pilot](#)**

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Name:

Mike Olson

Email:

[solson32@wi.rr.com](mailto:solson32@wi.rr.com)

Date:

Sunday, 04. June 2006

## Comments

I served on the Wisconsin from 1988 - 1990. I am looking to get in contact with FC2 Steve Blivens and IC3 Rob Wilson. If there is anyone who can help me, I would appreciate it. Thanks, Mike Olson

Comments from Dom: Mike, I hope you hear from your shipmates.

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Name:

Ted Yadlowsky

Email:

[tedy@usnfsa.org](mailto:tedy@usnfsa.org)

Date:

Friday, 02. June 2006

## Comments

<http://armedservices.house.gov/NDAA2007CommitteeReport.pdf> pg. 68 of the House Armed Services Defense Bill 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 the 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. This means that the USS Wisconsin and her sister ship USS Iowa will be treated as a Mobilization Asset that the Navy will still have to care for and have plans for rapid reactivation. In the Conference Report it was clear that the Iowa Class Battleships are the ONLY remaining source

of Credible Naval Service Fire Support ( NSFS) to support our soldiers.

Comments from Dom: As of this date, the above bill has not been signed. You can access the following: [Federal Register: March 29, 2006 \(Volume 71, Number 60 Page 15708-15710 of The Defense Appropriation Bill, which became law earlier this year. This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to transfer the USS Iowa and the USS Wisconsin from the Naval Vessel Register.](#)

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Name:

MS1 Thomas Flom USN

Email:

[tflom@carterhall.navy.mil](mailto:tflom@carterhall.navy.mil)

Date:

Tuesday, 23. May 2006

### Comments

For those looking for contact, I can be reached [tflom@carterhall.navy.mil](mailto:tflom@carterhall.navy.mil) I served in S-2 88-91. I am looking for old shipmates to talk about good times.

Comments from Dom: Thomas, I hope you get some e-mails from former shipmates.

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Name:

George E. Matthai

Email:

[matthai@fuse.net](mailto:matthai@fuse.net)

Date:

Tuesday, 23. May 2006

### Comments

Does anyone have any suggestions about attending the reunion in a motorized scooter? I don't walk too good anymore and was wondering how you get to the various tour sites? is there transportation available or do you just use your own car?

Comments from Dom: George, at our last reunion we had two shipmates with motorizes scooters and they got around fine. On bus tours, the scooter was stored in the luggage compartment of the bus.

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Name:

Bradshaw Family

Email:

[outsiders@adelphia.net](mailto:outsiders@adelphia.net)

Date:

Saturday, 13. May 2006

## Comments

Can't wait for her to be opened. My Dad was in the Navy, and although I did not follow him, I have an appreciation for the "Boats" and the people that served on them. We enjoyed the "Whisky" very much. During dinner I asked my six year old what the best part of his vacation was, "Being on that big ship", he said with a smile. We have been on several ships and always enjoy them. I remember being aboard several ships with dad and the smell of the Wisconsin brought back good memories. Thanks Guys.

Comments from Dom: Hi Bradshaw Family, thanks for your comments, especially your six year old son, he said it all **"Being On That Big Ship"**.

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Name:

Tom

Email:

Date:

Friday, 12. May 2006

## Comments

Served on the USS IOWA as a member of the Marine Detachment in the 80's. Went to Desert Shield/Storm to do what Marines do best and cannot tell you how happy we Marines were to have the Wisconsin covering our butts. The only time I felt safer was knowing that both the Whiskey and the Mighty Mo was just off the Kuwaiti coast. The Iowa class ship is the most impressive ship ever built! No ship today has the lines that these impressive battlewagons had. Can't wait to take my son to see one.

Comments from Dom: Hi Tom, I'm glad the Wisconsin and the Missouri were there for the Marines. Too bad they couldn't keep them active until something as powerful came along.

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Name:

Gere Mullican

**Email:**

[steelman37086@wmconnect.com](mailto:steelman37086@wmconnect.com)

**Date:**

Friday, 05. May 2006

## Comments

Dom, they were just plain knit (I think) navy blue (or black) trunks. The only kind I can find now are those that come down to the knees or below. I am sure that is the style now days, but not my style. The legs balloon when you get in the water and not very good in my opinion. I don't want those spandex looking things either. I found my seabag yesterday and the only things left in it are flat hat, 1 dress blue, 1 undress blue, knit gloves and first aid kit. Help!! Gere

Comments from Dom: I just don't recall what the bathing suits looked like. I also have my seabag, dress blues, whites, ( I think they are yellow now) flat hat and white hat.( I think that's yellow also, oh well it will go with the yellow whites.)

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**Name:**

Gere Mullican

**Email:**

[steelman37086@wmconnect.com](mailto:steelman37086@wmconnect.com)

**Date:**

Wednesday, 03. May 2006

## Comments

I have been searching high and low for a pair of swim trunks like I was issued when I enlisted in 1952. If any one on active duty can locate a pair for me I would appreciate an e-mail, I have searched the internet frontwards and backwards with no luck. I don't know where naval personnel purchase their clothing around Nashville. I will appreciate any info. Thanks Gere

Comments from Dom: Gere, I don't recall what they looked like.

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**Name:**

Alan Ownbey

**Email:**

[ownbey1@brinet.com](mailto:ownbey1@brinet.com)

Date:

Thursday, 20. April 2006

## Comments

I served on the Wisconsin from 1987 to 1991. My wife & I lived in Mississippi & she became good friends with a shipmate's wife. Over the years we have lost touch. My wife has tried over the internet to find them. The shipmate was Kevin Jones he was in Personal & his wife was Pat Jones. They were from Kentucky & the last we heard they were in Indiana. If anyone has any information on them PLEASE e-mail us. Thank You!!

Comments from Dom: Can anyone help our shipmate, Alan?



Name:

Leigh Blanton

Email:

[tuck417@hotmail.com](mailto:tuck417@hotmail.com)

Date:

Friday, 07. April 2006

## Comments

My father was on the Wisconsin during WWII and I'm trying to find anyone who may have known him. His name was Frank Lee Blanton, from Kings Mountain, NC.

Comments from Dom: Can any of our 1940's crewmembers help Leigh?



Name:

Irving Howard Zimmerman

Email:

[howspar@aol.com](mailto:howspar@aol.com)

Date:

Saturday, 01. April 2006

## Comments

I recently became a member of the Wisconsin family. I served on the Whisky in 1956 and 1957. In going through the membership log I came across a lot of familiar names and contacted each

one with an email address. Needless to say I got a couple of responses, but the best was from a shipmate that I hadn't seen or or heard from since he left the ship in January of '57. Turns out he comes to the SF Bay area on a regular basis on business and we got together for dinner and recounted good times aboard our ship. Now we continue to keep in touch. Thanks for the site. I look forward to the newsletters and updates.

**Comments from Dom: Glad you made contact with some former shipmates. Also, I'm glad that this website works when it comes to reuniting former shipmates.**



**Name:**

Van Gates

**Email:**

[vghillbillycat@aol.com](mailto:vghillbillycat@aol.com)

**Date:**

Thursday, 30. March 2006

### **Comments**

My dad served on the Whiskey in 1946. His name was John Hughes Gates. He passed away in 1981. I would like to know if anyone aboard knew him. If so, you can email me. He was so proud of being a member of the crew of BB64. I have never seen her, but my wife and I are going to go see her this summer.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Van, I hope you hear from your Dad's shipmates.**



**Name:**

Curt Croy USAF Ret.

**Email:**

[netexplorer3@aol.com](mailto:netexplorer3@aol.com)

**Date:**

Thursday, 23. March 2006

### **Comments**

Just was on the Navel Vessel Register site and sadly noticed that the USS Wisconsin has been stricken as of 17 Mar 06 Sure would of loved to see her sail the seas once again, but after she is opened up I will be there to see her in her new glory. I wish all of you Navy folks the best and take good care of her.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Curt, thanks for the information. I have been checking the N.V.R. for**

the past month and saw the change in status. The city of Norfolk is taking very good care of our ship.



Name:

Brett Walters

Email:

[jus4sports@yahoo.com](mailto:jus4sports@yahoo.com)

Date:

Wednesday, 22. March 2006

### Comments

Amazing site...must be all-consuming. I served onboard from June '90 thru August '91. Started as a non-rate...Left as a non-rate on my way to CT (A) school. Spent time in fire pit 2,3,AND4...Was in an offshoot deck division to help paint the ship and make the inside bright as daylight for Distinguished Visitors. Glad to see the pictures of those CPO candidates scrubbing the teak...Lord knows enough of us 'nobodies' at the time did it daily. Only 'funny' story I can relate is of my father speaking to my wife at the time...upon pulling into Nor VA from Gulf I, after hearing her stories, he was in major denial. We pulled around back of another ship...I THINK it was Enterprise, don't remember much else about that day except just getting home, but as we pulled from her back...my father is quoted as saying..."That's not so big...."....then more of the ship came into view..."It's still not THAT big...."....then MORE...and finally this progressed to his last words being spoken on the subject were "Oh MY GOD that thing is HUGE." Finally got out in 2000...can't wait to see the ship again. Gonna show my kids what daddy was up to when he was 18....young, dumb and fulla...well...u get the idea.

Comments from Dom: Hi Brett, thanks for stopping by and sharing your stories with us. We would sure like to have you as a member of our Wisconsin Family.



Name:

Ken Weber

Email:

[kjweber2658@yahoo.com](mailto:kjweber2658@yahoo.com)

Date:

Monday, 20. March 2006

### Comments

I finally got a chance to walk her decks again back in Feb and brought my wife with me. It felt

so good to be back onboard her. After spending a few hours on her, My wife knows why I love that big ship of ours.

Comments from Dom: Hi Ken, I know the feeling. I get to see the ship two or three times a year and each time I board her, she takes me back in time.



Name:

Ted Yadlowsky

Email:

[tedy@usnfsa.org](mailto:tedy@usnfsa.org)

Date:

Monday, 13. March 2006

### Comments

I thought some of you would enjoy seeing these photos. <http://www.usnfsa.org/bbg61/bbg.pps>  
This is a MS Power Point presentation that has been shrunk to allow you to view these detailed photo's of the Iowa class BBG. This model was built in anticipation that the Iowa and Wisconsin would be return to active service because the USMC Leadership in November of 2004 called for their reactivation. Politics stepped in and the Iowa's are now closer to becoming permanent museums. Below is a link for a MS Power Point viewer if you don't have Power Point. This is free to download. <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=428D5727-43AB-4F24-90B7-A94784AF71A4&displaylang=en>

Comments from Dom: Thanks Ted, great photos, 80 in all, of this great model. I enjoyed looking at them. Thanks for sharing it with us.



Name:

Joe Brown

Email:

[washcapsfans@cox.net](mailto:washcapsfans@cox.net)

Date:

Friday, 10. March 2006

### Comments

Hey all! I am a big fan of the Wisconsin and was wondering if the legislation to transfer the ship to the City of Norfolk is getting anywhere. The last I heard the Marine Corps was resisting this legislation in order to keep the Wisconsin in Ready Reserve status. Hopefully, the prospects

are good and that more of the ship will be opened up. Great website!! Keep up the good work. And to all of the officers and men who served on this magnificent ship, THANK YOU! Joe Brown Virginia Beach, VA

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Joe, thanks for your comments and compliments. I believe the only thing left, is for the secretary of the Navy to sign some documents, and then the ship will be released.



**Name:**

Danny R. Medlock

**Email:**

[danny.medlock@navy.mil](mailto:danny.medlock@navy.mil)

**Date:**

Monday, 27. February 2006

### **Comments**

I have been looking for a DVD version of the Gulf War cruise video. My VHS version is going down the tube quick. It is also hard to find a VHS for letting my current troops see what the big guns were really like. If anyone has info on getting a copy, please let me know. I'll be heading to Iraq soon with the new Riverine Squadrons, so I'm not sure how often I will be accessing my email.

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Danny, those videos' are no longer available. Perhaps someone has an extra copy or can make you a copy.



**Name:**

Irving Zimmerman

**Email:**

[howspar@aol.com](mailto:howspar@aol.com)

**Date:**

Friday, 24. February 2006

### **Comments**

Dom, You did a fantastic job cleaning the picture up. Thank you. Howard

**Comments from Dom:** Your welcome Howard. Pictures like that are a challenge, sometime they clean up good and sometime they don't.



Name:

Irving Zimmerman

Email:

[howspar@aol.com](mailto:howspar@aol.com)

Date:

Sunday, 19. February 2006

### Comments

Anyone know where I can get a copy of the 1955/56 cruise book? Was there one for '57?

**Comments from Dom: Cruise books are hard to find. No cruise books after the 1955/1956 book.**



Name:

BM1 SW CHARLES BROWN USN RET. USS IOWA

Email:

SOON

Date:

Saturday, 18. February 2006

### Comments

DOM NOW THAT THE IOWA'S ARE OFF THE NAVY'S LISTS. WHEN DO YOU BB 64 SHIPMATES EXPECT TO OPEN HER UP WHERE VISITORS CAN GO IN SIDE.

**Comments from Dom: Boats, hopefully the city of Norfolk will own the ship, and it will be up to them to set the opening date.**



Name:

Irving Howard Zimmerman

Email:

[howspar@aol.com](mailto:howspar@aol.com)

Date:

Friday, 17. February 2006

## Comments

I just found this web site. I am now trying to contact old shipmates. I served from 2/56 to 8/57 in OI (radar). To recall who I am, think back to the beauty pageant smoker when I was named Miss Wisconsin . Dr. Kanter was the emcee.

Comments from Dom: Irving, I was not aboard at that time, but I wish I had been there to see that smoker. If anyone has pictures of this event, please send or email them to me and I will put them on this site.



Name:

George E. Matthai

Email:

[matthai@fuse.net](mailto:matthai@fuse.net)

Date:

Wednesday, 15. February 2006

## Comments

I spent three thoroughly enjoyable years on the Wisconsin from 1953-1955. I quit high school to join the Navy because I was sure I was going to be drafted into the Army. While aboard I studied and passed the GED High School Equivalency test and was told I would get a high School diploma which I never did. Well here I am 51 years later still waiting. I called the high School I went to (Purcell) and they said they would be happy to present me one but wanted to do it at a ceremony. It seems someone from WW2 and Viet Nam are also getting one. They have arranged to present them to us in front of the student body and also have a Q & A period. My point in telling you this is if anyone is from the Cincinnati, OH. area and would like to attend let me know with your email. As soon as I get a date I will let you know, George

Comments from Dom: George, what is that saying, "Better late than never"



Name:

Al Proctor

Email:

[darpro29@yahoo.co](mailto:darpro29@yahoo.co)

Date:

Monday, 06. February 2006

## Comments

Seeking information in finding ship log entries USS Palau, CVE-122, Feb. 01, 1953-Feb. 28, 1953. Also want to make contact with any members os Squadron VS-32 who served in VS-32 during that same month.

**Comments from Dom:** Al, you will have to contact the National Archives at College Park, Maryland, for the ship's logs.



**Name:**

**BARRY**

**Email:**

[BARRY6364@YAHOO.COM](mailto:BARRY6364@YAHOO.COM)

**Date:**

Tuesday, 31. January 2006

## Comments

I ENJOYED THE NEW PICS. I SAW A LOT OF OLD FRIENDS. I WAS 5TH DIV. DECK 88-91.

**Comments from Dom:** Glad you liked the pictures. I have a lot more to put on, just need the time to get them ready.



**Name:**

**Mike Brown MS3**

**Email:**

[mike.b1@comcast.net](mailto:mike.b1@comcast.net)

**Date:**

Sunday, 29. January 2006

## Comments

Hey whiskey shipmate it's the cook that fed you guys for 3years.I also found a lost shipmate from cally Scott Campbell. It's been a long time but I can remember the good times we had in Norfolk, VA. It's sad that our buddy Dave Dugger, that hung out with us passed away.:{ Well looking forward to South Carolina hopefully to see some shipmate that I sailed with,+ to hear stories of 1944 1955 stories.

**Comments from Dom:** Glad you found a lost shipmate and looking forward to seeing you at the

reunion.



Name:

MMCM JAMES H.RUFFIN Jr.

Email:

[jimandkat@charter.net](mailto:jimandkat@charter.net)

Date:

Monday, 23. January 2006

### Comments

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY HELLO TO ALL THE ENGINEERS WHO SERVED WITH ME (1988-1989). A SPECIAL HELLO TO LT. BOSMAN; MMCS BARKER, MMCS BITTLE. MMC OLSON OF M=DIV. TAKE CARE SAILORS.

Comments from Dom: I hope you get some "Hello's" back.



Name:

Glenn Bailey Jr

Email:

[imperialgraphix@gmail.com](mailto:imperialgraphix@gmail.com)

Date:

Friday, 13. January 2006

### Comments

Hello. I'm sorry to say that, my Grandfather, Glenn Bailey passed away September 2005. He served on the Wisconsin in 1956, during the time of the collision with the USS Eaton. When I was 10 years old I remember traveling with my family to Mississippi to participate in the reunion and reactivation of the BB64. I can't say in words of how proud and honored my Grandfather was when he spoke of his times onboard the decks of the USS Wisconsin. I know that it is unlikely, but if anybody would have any information on my grandfather, or may have known him I would love to hear stories that I have never hear or got the chance to ask. he also went by (heaston Glenn Bailey) thank you: Glenn Bailey Jr.

Comments from Dom: Hi Glenn, you forgot to include your email address. Email it to me and I will insert it above.

01-18-06 Glenn, thanks for sending me your email address, I listed it above.



Name:

Dan

Email:

[ChopprBluez@aol.com](mailto:ChopprBluez@aol.com)

Date:

Thursday, 12. January 2006

### Comments

Greetings, I would like to know if there is anybody aboard who can answer select questions on Wisconsin's power plant material status and perhaps a few others. Thanks Much Dan

Comments from Dom: Dan, you do know that the ship does not have a crew. Hopefully someone will answer your questions.



Name:

Terry Holder

Email:

[pt0872@msn.com](mailto:pt0872@msn.com)

Date:

Friday, 06. January 2006

### Comments

Hello, I tried emailing someone from the Deck Log regarding the Wisconsin DVD from 1991. The email came back undeliverable. So if someone has this DVD or VHS please let me know. I never got a copy when I was onboard and really would love to have one. Thanks so much.

Comments from Dom: Terry, I hope someone helps you out on this.



Name:

Richard Mullins

Email:

[Richardmullins2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Richardmullins2000@yahoo.com)

Date:

30 Dec 2007

## Comments

I was lucky enough to come onboard a few days before commissioning so missed most the work but went to a great party and saw Ray Stevens do the same act 4 times in the same day (smile) . It was only after serving on the Wisconsin that I realized that Justice Thomas (his Nephew was on our ship) and the like don't visit all ships. From Jamaica to Oman you could see the pride in all us young kids I think we all had a great time (either then or hindsight) Poker Games in the 4th Division Berthing( I was there ) Never dull Red led Paint ( we used up what was left ) Paint paint and more paint. The site and Ship bring back great memories .. I hope and wish all my fellow service members have a great holiday season ..

Comments from Dom: Thanks Richard for your reminiscing of your time aboard our ship. Now how about joining our Wisconsin family and coming to our reunions and share your stories face to face with other former crew members.

To get started just click on the following [Membership](#)

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Name:

Joseph Cox

Email:

[joe\\_cox@mac.com](mailto:joe_cox@mac.com)

Date:

24 Dec 2007

## Comments

Hi All, Just wanted to provide some way of contacting the following: FC3 Barry Inman 89-91 (FM division) FC3 Brian McPhillips 89-91 (FM Division) FC3 Joseph Cox 90-91 (FA Division) We all currently work for the Federal Aviation Administration and live in Virginia.

Comments from Dom: If you do make contact with them, see if you can get them to join our "Wisconsin family"

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Name:

David Boyd

Email:

[dumptruck224@hotmail.com](mailto:dumptruck224@hotmail.com)

Date:

22 Dec 2007

## Comments

I do have a copy of the USS Wisconsin tour that had the operation desert storm, my wonderful wife has researched and found a place locally that will place it on DVD for us for 20.00 for those that lost theirs just let us know we are getting this done after the first of the year, Merry Christmas and Hoary New Year ALL Wisconsin mates... We will have the grandbabies here for the holidays and a new era to carry on the legacy of the mighty lady

Comments from Dom: That's great David, I heard they do a very good job.



Name:

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

Email:

[hmcDonald1532@att.net](mailto:hmcDonald1532@att.net)

Date:

18 Dec 2007

## Comments

Just wanted to take this time to wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It's been awhile since I have written, so I thought I had better appear so all will know I am still around . Dom is there a way I can find an old shipmate if he doesn't belong to the assn? His name is James Geracia, he was from Indiana, Pennsylvania, he was aboard at the time we were in 3rd div. You may remember him too .Thanks MAC

Comments from Dom: Yes Mac, I do remember Jim. He and I were compartment cleaners (now that's a nice title)

for the three months I was in the 3rd division. We got along great. I remember he had a bad back and was wearing a metal back brace. I don't know an easy way to find people, sorry.



Name:

RICHARD M. ALLEN

Email:

[allwis64@yahoo.com](mailto:allwis64@yahoo.com)

Date:

13 Dec 2007

## Comments

Hello to all, I am still looking for C. E. Richardson, 4th div. 1951 to 1954. Looking forward to the reunion, bags packed and ready Pete

Comments from Dom: Good luck Pete.



Name:

Chris Shepherd

Email:

[tribefan911@cs.com](mailto:tribefan911@cs.com)

Date:

07 Dec 2007

## Comments

Today is Pearl Harbor day, the day when America went to war. I don't know how else to do or say this, as I wish I could stand next each one and say this to each of them individually. I'd like for each veteran to know how much I admire them and how much I am humbled by them and the efforts they put forth to defend my country and the generations that would come after them, namely mine. It was a soldier buddy of my grandfather's who shot and killed a sniper on an island in the Pacific that kept my grandfather alive, and thus allowed him to go on and have children, one of whom was my mother. I owe my life to that man, a fellow soldier of each one of you, whom I don't know. But equally as much to him, it is my freedom I also owe to all of you who lived and served on the battleship Wisconsin. For that I want to offer my lasting respect and my deepest gratitude. I know you may say you did simply what needed to be done, but in simply doing your duty, you kept my country and your fellow Americans free. More than any monument of stone or granite or medal, you are America's greatest and most priceless treasure. I want to tell you all, thank you for what you did for me, for my family and for each and every American who has lived and breathed freely since then. May the Lord God bless and keep you all, you are real heroes. Most sincerely, Christopher Shepherd Holland, Ohio

Comments from Dom: Christopher, that was powerful and I thank you for expressing you feelings. Not to many people today thank or remember our veterans and the real heroes who have paid the "the supreme sacrifice" to keep this country free.



Name:

David Holmes

Email:

[dholmes@music.ucsb.edu](mailto:dholmes@music.ucsb.edu)

Date:

06 Dec 2007

## Comments

I am trying to find my grandfather's dates of service aboard the USS Wisconsin during world war two. I believe he was a Lieutenant and his name is Michael F. Cassel. If anyone knows where I could find this type of info, please e-mail me. Thanks!!! David

Comments from Dom: Sorry David, I do not have rosters of Officers that served aboard the Wisconsin.

You can try to obtain his military records through the following web site.

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>



Name:

David Holmes

Email:

[dholmes@music.ucsb.edu](mailto:dholmes@music.ucsb.edu)

Date:

06 Dec 2007

## Comments

I am trying to find my grandfather's dates of service aboard the USS Wisconsin during world war two. I believe he was a Lieutenant and his name is Michael F. Cassel. If anyone knows where I could find this type of info, please e-mail me. Thanks!!! David

Comments from Dom: Sorry David, I do not have rosters of Officers that served aboard the Wisconsin.

You can try to obtain his military records through the following web site.

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>



Name:

BM1 SW CHARLES BROWN USN RET BB 61 AND BB62

Email:

HOOKING UP SOON

Date:

05 Dec 2007

## Comments

DOM AND TO ALL BB64 SHIPMATES THE BEST TO YOU THIS HOILDAY SEASON. AND PLEASE DONT FORGET YOUR SISTER SHIP IOWA NEEDS ALL THE SUPPORT SHE CAN GET. FAIR WINDS FOLLOWING SEAS. BOATS

**Comments from Dom: Boats, nice to hear from you, Merry Christmas and a Happy New year to you and your family also.**

**We hope our sister gets all the help she needs to get her a place to call home.**



**Name:**

**Walter Brough Dorny II**

**Email:**

**[azbunch@aol.com](mailto:azbunch@aol.com)**

**Date:**

**28 Nov 2007**

## Comments

**Wonderful effort by all who have put this site together and kept it going. I appreciate your efforts and feelings in displaying your photos, thoughts, and feelings about this great ship. The people who served on her over her history should truly be proud of her, their efforts and the honorable history she made. My best wishes for a continued future of peace and hope.**

**Comments from Dom: Thanks Walter for the kind words about our site and the people who served on the Wisconsin.**

**Many of our former crew members are proud of this ship that we call our home.**



**Name:**

**Brenda Stockton**

**Email:**

**[zadyd\\_311@yahoo.com](mailto:zadyd_311@yahoo.com)**

**Date:**

**27 Nov 2007**

## Comments

**My grandfather, Robert Mayfield, was on the USS Wisconsin. I don't know what years, but was wondering if anyone knew anything about him?**

Comments from Dom: Hi Brenda, as I stated in my email to you, your grandfather was on board from April 16, 1944 and was transferred off on Nov. 29, 1945. His Rate was S1C, I don't know what division he was in. You stated he passed away in 1984, I have added his name to our In Memoriam list.

If anyone remembers Robert, please email Brenda

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Name:

lee Howard

Email:

[lhoward@grede.com](mailto:lhoward@grede.com)

Date:

14 Nov 2007

### Comments

Would like to receive any tourism info available , we would like to visit the bb-64 and need info , we are very proud to be from the state of Wisconsin and are looking forward to a visit in 2009, thank you for serving our country lee&Nancy Howard Baraboo, Wisconsin

Comments from Dom: Hi Lee, as for tourism, check out the following site

<http://www.norfolkcvb.com/>

For information on the Wisconsin, click on the following

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

Enjoy your trip.

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Name:

Leon Hamilton

Email:

[tellmewhy1982@hotmail.com](mailto:tellmewhy1982@hotmail.com)

Date:

09 Nov 2007

### Comments

Hello, I'm a student who is very interested in the history of the US Navy, especially during the period of WWII. Can you tell me what a role USS WISCONSIN played during the war? I think leadership is very important in war. Can you tell me the performance of Captain Stone in the WWII? Did he get any award for his service?

Comments from Dom: Leon, click on the following for USS Wisconsin's history. [USS Wisconsin BB-64](#)

This is what we have on our web site about RADM Earl E. Stone.



## **CAPTAIN EARL EVERETT STONE, USN**

**Captain, USS WISCONSIN 4/16/44-2/20/45**

in charge of fitting the USS WISCONSIN and was her first C.O. taking command with rank of Captain upon her commissioning 16 April 1944. A US Naval Academy graduate, Class of 1918, Rear Admiral Stone served aboard the USS CLEVELAND in the war. He was Executive Officer aboard the USS CALIFORNIA when that battleship was damaged 7 December 1941 at Pearl Harbor. Rear Admiral Stone holds the Legion of Merit with one Gold Star for his services while attached to the Division of Naval Communications. In January, 1946, Rear Admiral Stone became Chief of Naval Communications. Retired as RADM

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**Name:**

**Cheryl Ashton**

**Email:**

**[cyagha@aol.com](mailto:cyagha@aol.com)**

**Date:**

**08 Nov 2007**

### **Comments**

**My dad, Martin M. Stapleton, served aboard the Wisconsin in 1947/48. He had been a member of the association before he passed away in July, 2004. After the Wisconsin was docked at Nauticus he made 3 attempts to get back to Norfolk where he was stationed when he and my mother married 60 years ago. Each trip was stopped short due to family emergencies; he never made it back to his ship. On 10/28/07 my sister and I along with our husbands and my mother made the trip in memory of my dad. My mom had been on board once during their time in Norfolk, but, of course, it was a first for my sister and me. Seeing the size of the ship made me remember that, when I was small, my dad used to tell me about the ship and told me it was so big that they carried submarines for life boats! It was an emotional trip for us, but we were so happy to be able to board the ship and look around. My dad was so proud to have served on the Wisconsin and we were happy to make that trip for him. Thanks to all those who work so hard to keep the ship and her crew alive for all of us.**

**Comments from Dom: Very nice and touching story, Cheryl. Thanks for sharing it with us. Glad you and your family had the chance to walk the decks of this beautiful ship, that we as crew members, called home.**

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**Name: Julie Hill**

**Email: [soapplepie@aol.com](mailto:soapplepie@aol.com)**

**Date: 06 Oct 2007**

### **Comments**

Hi.. Just wanted to thank you for adding my "Pop", Donovan Truluck to your In Memoriam list. Pop was a great man, our families "Rock" and we will certainly miss him. We are all going to try to make it for the reunion/ceremony next August. Pop always looked forward to being able to show us all the Boiler Room where he worked, and I am sad that he will not be able to do that himself. I am very excited to be able to finally see it with my own eyes after many years of hearing the stories about it. Pop sure was proud of his service on the BB64, and he told many stories to help us all know just how important serving his country was to him and to all of you that served along side him. Thank you so much, and I know that his memories will live on in the USS Wisconsin Association. See you in August!

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Julie, as I said when I received your phone call, we are very sorry to hear of the passing of our shipmate, Don. Yes he will be remembered by us that knew him and he will be remembered in our Memorial Service at our August reunion. Looking forward to seeing the Truluck family.



Name: Tom Nolan

Email: [tomnolan@mac.com](mailto:tomnolan@mac.com)

Date: 06 Oct 2007

### Comments

Thanks for your help Gerald. If you keep in contact with any of shipmates from that time. Thank them for me as well. It was only our collective butts you saved. Like I said in my post earlier, it seemed like it took forever to support. But once we started talking to someone, other than black list, that would have been you guys. That's about the time that all hell broke loose. The Iraqi's didn't run. I'll give'em that much credit. They stayed and died. I've seen some pretty devastating weapons that were used over there, to include the "Daisy Cutter" 15000lbs bomb. and the "Fuel Air Devices" We called for an air strike late one night near the boarder while the air war was still going on. And the Air Force dropped a fuel air bomb. Don't know if you've ever seen what those things are capable of but I still don't think anything beats those 16 inch guns. Thanks again Tom

**Comments from Dom:** Thanks Tom for the additional information.



Name: Paul Bowen (FC1)

Email: [pbow47@yahoo.com](mailto:pbow47@yahoo.com)

Date: 05 Oct 2007

### Comments

Hi Don I was in GM div. Form Feb 90 until Sept 91 I was looking over the web site and found A shipmate on the memoriam page FC1 Carl Robinson Not where you want to find someone who you went through A war with. I was wondering if anyone knew what happened to him. He was from Dallas TX. And also A good shipmate. When I think of my 10 years in the Navy

I think of WISCONSIN first. Thanks

**Comments from Dom: January 24, 2000, Carl sent me an email stating he had Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS). November 2000, we were informed that Carl had passed away.**



Name: kelli boyd

Email: [kellidiane2000@hotmail.com](mailto:kellidiane2000@hotmail.com)

Date: 27 Sep 2007

## Comments

My husband David Mark Boyd was aboard the Wisconsin from 1987-1991. He has told us many stories about the ship and his mates. Our children have done projects about the gulf war and the ship. I know that the military is who shaped his goals to how he is today. He fondly speaks of his travels and this buddies. Well would like to thank the ones that remember my husband David Boyd a.k.a. Wheelie. We are definitely planning our vacation to Norfolk for the reunion, and he is excited to show me the lady of his life when he was upon that big ship.... Looks forward in seeing all.Thank you all for everything ya all have done to allow us to sleep at night.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Kelli, thanks for you entry in our Deck Log. I hope David hears from some of his shipmates.**



Name: John Goheen

Email: [kb2adl@comcast.net](mailto:kb2adl@comcast.net)

Date: 26 Sep 2007

## Comments

Well, we had a great two days here aboard Battleship New Jersey with Ken Garvin and Rolf Johnson. We sent them back to Norfolk with their heads spinning! We gave them the GRAND tour and let them see everything that they could in the short time that they had. Of course, we had many suggestions and gave them some data that will be valuable for the restoration effort. Regardless of how much of the ship will opened to start with; the job will be BIG! But I'm certain everyone supporting the effort will get the job done. As for me, yes, I have been invited to come down to Norfolk as often as necessary to assist in the restoration of specific systems on Wisconsin. And I am very much looking forward to the visits (sure there will be more than one). It looks like the opening target date is about next October, but we'll see.... Anyway, let the effort begin! John Goheen, BB62 Curatorial Support Services (and that includes sister ships, as well))

**Comments from Dom: Thanks John for the update. We hope it will be sooner than October.**

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Name:

Gerald R. Wendrick

Email:

[mipets@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mipets@sbcglobal.net)

Date:

26 Sep 2007

### Comments

**(Received permission from Jerry Wendrick to list the email he sent to Tom Nolan in response to Tom's 17 Sep 2007 Deck Log entry)**

Hi, My name is Gerald R. Wendrick I was on the ship from 1988 to 1992. We arrived on station in the Persian gulf just 6 days after the invasion of Kuwait. We were the first ones in the gulf, played lots of cat and mouse games with Iraq while you guys were getting ready in the desert. The one that stands out the most was when we were sent up 2 miles off the coast of Iraq by ourselves just to see if Saddam wanted to play, even though we knocked nobody would answer the door. I guess the best is when we got calls for fire missions. Just to hear the big guns going off was satisfaction knowing they were going where they needed to. Yes to one of your questions, we had an R P V. Sometimes we went looking for our own targets but when we needed to be there we could. We even got to watch some of the fire missions on the ships TV system. That was pretty cool. One night the R P V picked up an Iraqi supply truck traveling by itself, we followed it until it stopped, it looked like a bunch of roaches running for food. In less than a minute the guns let loose and it was awesome. Big black dots started showing up and there was no more truck or bunkers. I do believe this was after you had called for fire. It was after your call that we were ordered to seek and destroy and clear a path the best we could along the shore line going into Kuwait. Before I forget the big guns had a range of over 26 miles, we carried two different 16in projectiles 1800lb bombardment and 2700lb armor piercing. The gunners mates form turret 1, 2 and 3 are the guys that did the job for you and the other guys.

Thanks for just doing your job, anything else just let me know

**Comments from Dom: Hi Jerry, thanks for letting us list your email to Tom Nolan. Your memories of what happened are interesting also.**

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Name: John Goheen, USN, Retired

Email: [kb2adl@comcast.net](mailto:kb2adl@comcast.net)

Date: 21 Sep 2007

### Comments

Happy Days are ahead! Next week, I am meeting with Ken Garvin and Rolf Johnson from the Battleship Wisconsin staff here on Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial, in Camden, NJ, about the restoration and operation of the inside, yes, the inside of the "Whisky" with particular emphasis on the General Announcing System, 1, 2, and 5MC. We will also be discussing exhibit planning and construction, as well. I am looking forward to this meeting very much and am hoping to come down to Norfolk and assist in the restoration of the 1,2, and 5MC, in particular. I know you folks are anxious to see the ship

opened up to the public and I am too. John Goheen, BB62 Curatorial Support Services .

**Comments from Dom:** Hi John, thanks for the good news and yes we are very anxious to see the ship opened. I hope you get your wish to assist in the restoration of our ship. Keep us informed and thanks again



**Name:** Ernie Tibbetts

**Email:** [irontrainer2002@yahoo.com](mailto:irontrainer2002@yahoo.com)

**Date:** 18 Sep 2007

## Comments

Does anybody remember Franklin Ward? I met him today and he spoke of his tour in WWII with tear filled eyes. He's very proud of his service. I would just like to put him in touch with some of his old friends. I am retired military myself, but recently.

**Comments from Dom:** Ernie, that's nice of you to do this for Franklin. This is what I have on Franklin Wesley Ward.

He is listed on the Commissioning day roster, April 16, 1944 as a S2C, I do not know what Division he was in. He was transferred to Jacksonville. FL. on Nov. 29. 1945, his rate at that time was S1C. If anyone remembers Franklin, drop him a line or two through Ernie's email address.



**Name:** Robert Joiner

**Email:** [rmj313@aol.com](mailto:rmj313@aol.com)

**Date:** 17 Sep 2007

## Comments

Hi Dom, Could you look and see if you have any information on my father? He served on the Wisconsin during WWII. His name is Joseph Louis Joiner. All I have are his discharge papers, but I do not have them with me. Let me know what information that you will need and I will see what I can find. Thanks, Robert Joiner

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Robert, this is the only information I could find on your father. He came aboard the Wisconsin on Nov. 25, 1945. The last roster he was on was April 1, 1946, he is not on the May 1st roster. He came aboard as a seamen 2nd class and left with the same rate. I don't know what division he was in.



**Name:** greg short cpl usmc 88-91

**Email:** [gtts4u@yahoo.com](mailto:gtts4u@yahoo.com)

**Date:** 17 Sep 2007

## Comments

does anybody have a copy of the video that was made in 1991 of the ship with the ACDC

soundtrack. I lost my copy somewhere. i visited her this year with the kids. was surprised at how unkept she is. it would be nice to organize a 'painting the whisky party' at the reunion next year. it made me really appreciate how well we kept her on active duty. thanks

**Comments from Dom: Hi Greg, I'm surprised you found the ship to be unkept. When I saw her in May she looked good. I know Nauticus is in the process of getting her ready to be opened to the public, perhaps this has something to do with her appearance. I will be visiting her again shortly, I will have to check her out again.**

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Name: Thomas Nolan

Email: [tomnolan@mac.com](mailto:tomnolan@mac.com)

Date: 17 Sep 2007

## Comments

**Thank you USS Wisconsin Captain and Crew**

**My name is Tom Nolan, prior to the start of US offensive ground operations of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gulf War; I was serving with a US Army Special Forces Detachment. We were attached to the Kuwaiti "Al Phata" brigade (Approx. 1800 men, 1 battalion of tanks, APC's, Armored Cars and a Recon Company). Our mission was to spear head the invasion of Kuwait and Kuwait City... If we survived.**

**I'm alive today because of the crew and captain of the USS WISCONSIN.**

**We were sent home about 6 weeks after the war was over. I tried to get a message to the crew of the Wisconsin at that time but was unable.**

**There is a point to this, please bare with me.**

**Keep in mind the unit we are with is a Mechanized Infantry Brigade. It's much less than one quarter the size of a Division. The Iraqi divisions were around 25000 men plus, a tank brigade, light armor, supporting units, such as air, and artillery and a lot more. So for the record the score is about 25000 to 1800, the twelve of us and a USMC ANGLICO (Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company) Detachment.**

**OK I'll get on with it now. The night was pretty uneventful. The next morning the ANGLICO detachment went forward for a look. I was hanging out with the rest of that detachment when we started taking incoming fire. By the sound of the explosions, I thought it might be chemical weapons, thank GOD I was wrong. We also had a team forward that night. They came back down the road at about 60mph slammed on the brakes and said, it was the Iraqi 5th Mech Division. They were spread out in attack formation and moving south. Intentions were hostile. My CO. advised the Kuwaiti CO to have the brigade spread out in a defensive position and get ready for the fight of his life. The ANGLICO detachment called in and advised their position was compromised and they were on escape and evasion.. Two minutes later they took a round from a T-72 tank killing all three men. Somewhere around ten to fifteen minutes later we started taking heavy fire from their tanks. The ANGLICO detachment that was left called, Black List (Some coordination multi force network).**

**Requesting fire support. The answer was "NEGATIVE" The Artillery unit backing us up was busy taking out another target. The Kuwaiti Air Force refused to get in the fight. U.S. close air was busy helping out the USMC elsewhere. We were told that Naval Gun Fire was out of the question. The reason for that, the coast hadn't been cleared far enough in of mines and other Iraqi gun boats with anti-ship missiles. Basically we were screwed. At this point we pretty much accepted that we were more than likely going to die. But we were going to take as many of them with us as possible. We were using AT-4 (anti-tank rockets) and the Kuwaiti's were actually having some luck with their RPG's. By this point we had eyes on the Iraqi's. We were screaming to Black List to get us any kind of support. It wasn't more than a**

couple of minutes later when we heard a voice come over the radio that said, "Serpent 29, cac me a grid... Over" The reply was, "standby, on the way." It seemed like it was taking forever. We had no clue who we were talking too. We came back over the radio and said, "Black List, 29er, what's the story?, over". The same voice comes back over the radio and says something to the effect, "standby one, we are putting the coordinates into the fire control computer." So we kind of looked at each other and said at the same time, "Fire control computer?" Who the hell are we talking too?" Next came the voice again, "29er, 29er, on the way, spot fire and advise." Reply, "29er roger that" Then the next thing I heard and felt was..... it felt like the whole damn world shook, the noise was incredible. I looked to our right flank the second I felt everything shake and the enormous BOOM. I grabbed our radio guy and said, Woody look at that!" It was a small fire ball just over the horizon. Meaning it was you Wisconsin. The first round hit right in the middle of them. We came back over the radio and said, "You're right on target! FIRE FOR EFFECT!" Needless to say it seemed like it was never going to end. I mean the fire support we got from you all, It just kept coming and coming. We would try to have you all adjust your fire and before we could give out new coordinates it had already been adjusted. Finally we got through and asked to adjust. Who ever was on the other end of that radio told us to keep our heads down that they were already on it. Now I can't swear to this because I never actually saw it, but if I had to guess, you guys had a drone over head looking down on us. That's the only thing we could think of.

When the firing finally stopped we went out to clean up anything that was left. Weren't many that survived from that division, you could say that none survived. The Kuwaiti's weren't the least bit interested in taking prisoners.

I had to say that that was one of the best and worst days of my life. We still had to clear out that town down the road and then push into the city the next day.

But I can't say thanks enough to the Skipper and crew of the USS Wisconsin for saving our butts.

We owe our lives to you guys!

Thomas Nolan

**Comments from Dom: Thanks Thomas, I'm sure our guys were only too happy to help brothers in need.**

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Name: bt 3 john britt

Email: [ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com](mailto:ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com)

Date: 10 Sep 2007

## Comments

i served on whisky punch during desert storm as a boiler tech, i followed my pappy he was a bt as well during ww2, he was in 3 wars. ill never forget this gray lady i miss her greatly but july 2008 ill get to see her. the things i got to see over seas was incredible the experience will last a lifetime, the jokes we played on each other, mail buoy watch or sending some pour soul to get some bulk head remover. i was in the honor guard when they decommissioned her. hey if anyone has a video cruise book i would pay for a copy i ordered one but never got it

**Comments from Dom: Hi John, thanks for visiting the Deck Log again and for your entry.**



**Name: jerry wendrick**

**Email: [mjpets@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mjpets@sbcglobal.net)**

**Date: 09 Sep 2007**

### **Comments**

It has been awhile since my last visit. have seen and talked to a few old shipmates. Planning a visit to the old girl hopefully next summer. after hearing some info of some of the gulf vets who served on Wisconsin, is there any truth to some of them having any strange unexplained rashes or other medical problems that may stem from the gulf war. Or is most of what you here a myth?

**Comments from Dom: Jerry, our next reunion will be in Norfolk, VA. Aug. 25- 31, 2008. Try to plan your trip to see the ship around that time. Additional information and forms will be in our April Badger and on our web site. As for your question, some of our Gulf vets have been corresponding with each other on this subject.**



**Name: Edmund Maul**

**Email: [edmaul@optonline.net](mailto:edmaul@optonline.net)**

**Date: 09 Sep 2007**

### **Comments**

Anyone have a story about life aboard the Wisconsin, funny stories, characters and their actions. events, etc. I am writing about the crew not exactly what the ship did. Don't let life aboard the Wisconsin disappear forever from history. Ed ET3 1951-1955

**Comments from Dom: Hi Ed, I hope you get some good feed back.**



**Name: QMC (SEL) Doug Newman**

**Email: [dougn\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:dougn_98@yahoo.com)**

**Date: 04 Sep 2007**

### **Comments**

Visited Wisconsin during the CPO selectee day. Awesome tour. It's not very often you can take a tour down Broadway onboard a great ship.

Comments from Dom: Doug, thanks for serving. Glad you enjoyed your tour of Broadway. Good luck in your Navy Career.



Name: John Schroppe

Email: [jfschrop@msn.com](mailto:jfschrop@msn.com)

Date: 31 Aug 2007

### Comments

My grandfather was on the Wisconsin during WWII, his name was Charles Clayton Kolbe. I was wondering if you had information about him or what he did aboard the Wisconsin. Thanks.

Comments from Dom: John, the only information we have is what is listed on our "In Memoriam " page. Your Grandfather was in "E Division-Electricians", 1944-1945. Hopefully some of his former shipmates will see your request and contact you.



Name: Gere Mullican

Email: [steelman37086@peoplepc.com](mailto:steelman37086@peoplepc.com)

Date: 30 Aug 2007

### Comments

Dom, I really appreciate the information. The info appears to be correct. I believe the Wisconsin was about to take another cruise and I didn't have enough time to complete it so was transferred to the Tutuila. I regret not staying in the Navy and continuing serving aboard the Wisconsin. In hindsight, it appears that wouldn't have been for long, since it was decommissioned soon afterwards. Thanks again for you hard work. Gere

Comments from Dom: I also regret not staying in the Navy. I knew the the ship was going to be decommissioned and I think that was the reason I did not ship over. Dumb, Dumb, Dumb!



Name: Gere Mullican

Email: [steelman37086@peoplepc.com](mailto:steelman37086@peoplepc.com)

Date: 27 Aug 2007

### Comments

Dom, I would appreciate it if you could find my dates aboard the Wisconsin. I don't have all

my records so I don't have the inclusive dates. Thanks a ton Gere Mullican

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Gere, the following is what I found. You reported aboard the ship on June 16, 1955 and you were transferred to the USS Tutuila (ARG-4) on Sept.6, 1956. Hope this answers your question.



**Name:** Marge Hoffman

**Email:** [tmhtoday@gmail.com](mailto:tmhtoday@gmail.com)

**Date:** 22 Aug 2007

### **Comments**

My father was on the USS Wisconsin, and we found a picture of him on the ship, but we have no other information. He has passed away and never spoke about the war, only the ship. I believe he was a welder, but not sure. His name: John Esley Casey, born Sept 12, 1928. After looking at the pictures on your webpage, I can see why he was so proud! Any information would be helpful. His grandson has plans of going to Annapolis, and so loved his grandfather. It would be great to be able to give him some family history.

**Comments from Dom:** Marge, sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad. The only information I could find on your Dad is that he was aboard from March 1, 1947 to December 1947. He had the rate of a ship fitter, SF3.

I hope you hear from some of his former ship mates with additional information on him



**Name:** daniel mitchell

**Email:** [mitchmi77@netscape.net](mailto:mitchmi77@netscape.net)

**Date:** 21 Aug 2007

### **Comments**

Hello I WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT ANY INFORMATION ON MY FATHER ENGLEBERT MITCHELL DURING HIS TOUR OF THE KOREAN WAR. I KNOW HE FIRED THE 16 inch GUNS. MY DAD PAST AWAY IN 1994 OF CANCER. SO ANY THING I COULD FIND OUT ABOUT HIM WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO ME AND HIS GRANDCHILDREN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. DAN MITCHELL.

**Comments from Dom:** Dan, sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad. This is what I found on your Dad. He was in the 2nd Division as a Gunners mate 2nd class, assigned to turret NO.2 (16 inch guns). His time aboard was from 1951 to 1954.

I hope you hear from some of your Dad's former shipmates.



Name: Carlos E Rivera Frances

Email: [carloserver@yahoo.com](mailto:carloserver@yahoo.com)

Date: 16 Aug 2007

## Comments

Hi! I'm Carlos E Rivera Frances, and I'm a former Seabee of the US Naval Reserve and I like military History, especially about the Navy, and our great battleships contributed bravely to the foundation of our nation, thanks to all. PO3 Carlos E Rivera Frances/SEABEE 14-14 Roosevelt Road NS

Comments from Dom: Hi Carlos, thanks for your service and for visiting our site, come back anytime.



Name: john britt

Email: [ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com](mailto:ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com)

Date: 08 Aug 2007

## Comments

long live whisky punch!

Comments from Dom: I'll second that, John.



Name: Donald R. Beutel

Email: [drb0606@hotmail.com](mailto:drb0606@hotmail.com)

Date: 02 Aug 2007

## Comments

My father, E. Donald Beutel, was a crewmember and the only thing I remember him telling us was that he worked in the radio room. I guess I am a little curious to find out more about his service. My family is planning a trip to the East Coast in August and would like to visit the Wisconsin. Is that possible? How close can we get? Are there any crew member photos that might include my father? Thank you. (p.s. I didn't like the water, I joined the Army and served with the 101st Airborne at Fort Campbell)

Comments from Dom: E. Donald Beutel was in CR Division, 1945-1946. Any of you former CR Division crew members that recall Beutel, please contact his son with any information you have.

Yes you can visit the Wisconsin, however you can only walk her main decks and three

decks above. At the present time the inside of the ship is closed to the public.



Name: John Britt

Email: [ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com](mailto:ibarpirate55@embarqmail.com)

Date: 01 Aug 2007

### Comments

Clicked on homecoming it went to jimmy buffet page??????? Hope to come see the gray lady in July of 08 I miss her.

Comments from Dom: Hi John, so you got Jimmy Buffet, I don't know how that happened. Click on the following: [Wisconsin Homecoming](#)

Our 2008 reunion will be in Norfolk, VA., Aug. 25th to the 31st, it would be great to see you there.



Name: Mark Carey

Email: [mark@va360.com](mailto:mark@va360.com)

Date: 31 Jul 2007

### Comments

My father was Jesse Burton Carey and he was a plank owner who served for 1944-46. He never talked about the war. I uncovered a few photographs and several issues of the ship's newspaper, "The Badger". I have no idea what division he was in but would like to find a group photo with him in it. He was a S1c. He faked his age to join up, was tall and thin and was originally from Lynchburg, VA. Thanks in advance for reading this. Mark Carey

Comments from Dom: 1940's crewmembers, if you remember Jesse please contact Mark with any information you have about Jesse.



Name: Brough Dorny Major USA Ret.

Email: [azbunch@aol.com](mailto:azbunch@aol.com)

Date: 30 Jul 2007

### Comments

Another visit to your wonderful site. The pictures are great and the memories of your ship

and those who served our great country on her is held in high regards. Keep up the good work, don't let her die.

**Comments from Dom: Thanks Major for visiting our site and for your kind words.**



**Name: Horn, B.G.**

**Email: [bhorn34@hotmail.com](mailto:bhorn34@hotmail.com)**

**Date: 27 Jul 2007**

### **Comments**

Some of you guys from FA div. during late 53 to early 55. I'm looking for any information on W. D. Maynard. I left the ship in January '55. Please forward any info to "[bhorn34@hotmail.com](mailto:bhorn34@hotmail.com)" Thanks a lot.

**Comments from Dom: I hope you get some responses.**



**Name: bt3 john britt**

**Email: [againibarpirate55@embarqmail.com](mailto:againibarpirate55@embarqmail.com)**

**Date: 21 Jul 2007**

### **Comments**

Looking forward to hearing from all crewmembers of the badest ship in the navy and reunions etc etc can't wait to visit her ill probably cry a little but I do miss her.

**Comments from Dom: Hi John, our next reunion will be in Norfolk VA, August 25-31, 2008. Information will be posted on our site early in 2008. OH yes, do bring tissues, you will cry when you visit MAMA.**



**Name: Rick Jolly**

**Email: [frj2007@earthlink.net](mailto:frj2007@earthlink.net)**

**Date: 20 Jul 2007**

### **Comments**

Great site, I wish I could have served aboard this GREAT ship and I almost did. I was in the last 16" gun school and with about a week to go they came and told us that the ship was

going to be decommissioned. So I had to go else where and I really wished I could have been apart of the men who had served aboard.

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Rick, I know what it feel like to be a day late and a buck short. You would have loved serving aboard her, she really was and still is a great ship.



**Name:** Tim Hobin

**Email:** [thobin76@netnet.net](mailto:thobin76@netnet.net)

**Date:** 13 Jul 2007

### **Comments**

Thank you from a native Wisconsinite and Green Bay fan for preserving the ship that bears our homes namesake. The Microsoft flight sim community will soon launch a tribute to USS Wisconsin BB-64. Carry on and keep BB64 safe for centuries to come.

**Comments from Dom:** Tim, you have to thank The Hampton Roads Naval Museum and Nauticus The National Maritime Center, for preserving the ship. Keep us informed about the tribute to the Wisconsin.



**Name:** McDonald, H.T. 3rd div 53 to 56

**Email:** [bigmac1532@insightbb.com](mailto:bigmac1532@insightbb.com)

**Date:** 02 Jul 2007

### **Comments**

Hi Dom, And all the other former ships crew members . Just wanted to take this time to wish all of you a safe and happy 4th of July. Just remember ,,,,He that comes forth on the fourth with a fifth may not come forth on the fifth .Something that I have tried to instill on my friends for years. (Have a Happy Fourth) MAC

**Comments from Dom:** Well said Mac



**Name:** Arsell Bridges

**Email:** [arsellbridges@yahoo.com](mailto:arsellbridges@yahoo.com)

**Date:** 02 Jul 2007

### **Comments**

I am trying to obtain a copy of the 1990-1991 cruise book. Any assistance would be greatly

appreciated.

Comments from Dom: Arsell, the only original books available are being sold on EBay. They are being sold from \$350.00 to \$600.00 each. You could try the following [www.heritagearchives.com/Pages/USSWiscBB64.html](http://www.heritagearchives.com/Pages/USSWiscBB64.html)

They were selling a PDF e-Book on a CD of the 1990-1991 cruise book. I have seen the CD, they did a good job on reproducing the book on CD.

-



Name:

Maureen Tobin

Email:

[mctobin@earthlink.net](mailto:mctobin@earthlink.net)

Date:

June 26, 2007

### Comments

Mr. Menta:

My father, Bernard ('Bun', 'Bunny') Tobin, was in the Navy from 1950-1954. He served part of that time on the Wisconsin, working in the navigation field - perhaps as a coxswain. He died of natural causes in 1978, shortly after his 46th birthday. He had married his high school sweetheart, Joan Smalley, right after his discharge and they had 5 children. My mother also passed away at a young age in 1986. Now that my siblings and I are reaching middle age we find ourselves wondering about Dad's service time. I've put his name and some information about him up on [navy.togetherweserved.com](http://navy.togetherweserved.com). If any of the veterans at the reunion remember him and have stories to share my siblings and I would love to hear them. Thanks. Maureen Tobin

Comments from Dom: Hi Maureen, your Dad came aboard the ship on March 7, 1951, assigned to "Q" (Quartermaster) division as a signalman. On August 25, 1951 he was transferred to RecSta

(I think that stands for Recruit Station) Brooklyn, N.Y. for TD in straggler status. (What ever that is). Sept. 14, 1951 he was transferred back to the ship. August 22, 1952 he was transferred to Submarine Base New London Conn., for COI in Sub School. This is all I could find on him.

I'm not sure if he was assigned to "Q" Division when he first came aboard or after he came back from Brooklyn. The rosters I have do not list the Division's of the crew members. I went through the 1951-1952 cruise book and found his photo in "Q" Division.

**Following is an explanation by our former crew member Dick Hamann, 3rd Div.1951, as to the meaning of "Rec Sta" & Straggler status.**

Hi Dom:

In reading your reply to Maureen regarding her father Bernard Tobin, let me share a little more detail. In August 1951 the Wisconsin was anchored in the Hudson River near Manhattan's 76th Street, when we were pushed aground by high tides and strong winds. The USS Lindenwald (LSD-6) flooded in tank and sent about 20 LST's to hold us off the Jersey mud. After the city tugs succeeded in getting us off the mud, the ship was moved to Gravesend Bay, Brooklyn just off Coney Island. Most of the crew somehow found the

new location of the ship but some, unfamiliar with New York did not. So when we sailed from New York we had some stragglers. These were directed to the Brooklyn Receiving Station (not Recruit Station) and then transferred as a group back to the Wisconsin. Stragglers were not punished since they missed ship through no fault of their own. If they had not heard about the Wisconsin grounding, they had no idea the ship was no longer up the Hudson River at 96th Street. Hope this info helps. Dick

Yes Dick, it did, thanks.



Name: Jeriann Rice-Medenblik

Email: [jlmedenblik@yahoo.com](mailto:jlmedenblik@yahoo.com)

Date: 26 Jun 2007

#### Comments

Dom, I have written to you before concerning my grandfather Roy E. Rice. I believe he served on the Wisconsin from the time it was commissioned until his discharge in 1946. He never spoke about the time he spent aboard the ship; except that he had never been so seasick. That came from a man who spent his life fishing the upper Mississippi river for a living. I would like to hear from anyone who may remember my grandfather and could tell me some stories about life aboard this great ship. And I would like to know any information you might have on exact dates he was aboard. Thank you, Jeriann Rice-Medenblik

Comments from Dom: Hi Jeriann, your Grandfather was aboard from 1943 to 1946, his rate was S/1c, this is all the information I have on him.



Name:

Benjamin Tobin

Email

[benjamin.tobin@navy.mil](mailto:benjamin.tobin@navy.mil)

Date:

20 Jun 2007

#### Comments

My grandfather was a GM2 on the big 16" guns. (Jim Wyrick) I followed his steps and enlisted and I am now Petty Officer 2nd Class. Seeing the one picture on your site is great. I was hoping to see more. If anyone has more pictures of him please email me at [benjamin.tobin@navy.mil](mailto:benjamin.tobin@navy.mil) Again I love the history I see on this website and thank you.  
Benjamin Tobin  
USN FTS

Comments from Dom: Hi Benjamin, I don't know if you have seen the video, "USS Wisconsin, The Last Battleship". In this video, your grandfather gives his version of the

collision we had with the USS Eaton (DD- 510), May 6, 1956. He does a great job in telling this story and they have a nice close up of his face. You can purchase this video / DVD through Nauticus.

Hopefully you will hear from some of your grandfathers shipmates.



Name:

Paul Zentmyer, OS1 (Ret)

Email:

[dadpaulz@comcast.net](mailto:dadpaulz@comcast.net)

Date:

26 May 2007

### Comments

Hello Everyone, Sorry I've been away so long. Dom my dues are in the mail Tuesday. We've recently moved and just getting things in order. I served on the Wisconsin from Feb 1988 to July 1990. In fact I came back to active duty specifically for the Wisconsin. I am also looking for a Marine buddy of mine SSGT Dennis Hyde. If anyone has information on Dennis please let me know.

Comments from Dom: Hi Paul, we have updated your email address.



Name:

Patrick J. Moran

Email:

[patbarb1@verizon.net](mailto:patbarb1@verizon.net)

Date:

23 May 2007

### Comments

Dom: I have written you before, about being aboard the four Iowa class Battleships serving with Com Bat Div 2 from 52 to 55. Is there any details of me serving on the Wisconsin in the ship's records? My Discharge papers from the Marines show all my activities with the Navy and the Marines including each ship's name and the date I came aboard and left. Does the ship's records, if any, show me as a visitor or part of the ship's company? In reading some of the deck log letters from people about relatives being aboard the Wisconsin you are able

to tell them when their relatives came aboard and left. Can you do that in my case?

**Comments from Dom: Sorry Patrick, the records I have do not list information on the Marines or Officers that served aboard the Wisconsin. I am sure there are records that contain the information you are looking for at the National Archives at College Park, College Park, MD.**



**Name:**

**Alice Valdivia Isenbart**

**Email:**

**[imallyv@aol.com](mailto:imallyv@aol.com)**

**Date:**

**18 May 2007**

### **Comments**

**A couple of years back, I had the privilege of visiting the USS Wisconsin in Norfolk, VA. It was a special moment when I boarded the Wisconsin knowing that many decades ago my father had walked these same decks. Since my father will probably never be able to see Her again, I'm glad that I could so that I might be able to take photos to share with him. His name is Juan Valdivia and he possibly served in 1945/1946? I would love to hear from anyone that might have served with him, and anyone who might have photos that include him. Respectfully, Alice Valdivia Isenbart**

**Comments from Dom: Hi Alice, your Dad reported aboard on September 7, 1944 and transferred off on January 28, 1946. I do not know what division he was in. He came aboard as a Seamen 2nd class (S2c) and left as an SSMT 3C, sorry I do not know what that rate is.**



**Name:**

**Steve Bridges**

**Email:**

**[sbridges3@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sbridges3@cfl.rr.com)**

**Date:**

**16 May 2007**

### **Comments**

**I'm trying to reach an old shipmate, John Kendall. If anyone knows how to reach him please**

get in touch with me. Also, anyone else I served with please feel free to contact me.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Steve. We do not have a good email or home address for John. If you hear from him, please ask him to contact me also.**



**Name:**

**Julie McGilvery**

**Email:**

**[Julie.A.McGilvery@JCI.com](mailto:Julie.A.McGilvery@JCI.com)**

**Date:**

**15 May 2007**

### **Comments**

Hello, my husband's father served during WWII on the Wisconsin. His name was Albert Megyesi. How can I search for information on his time in the navy? My husband knows very little about his father's service in the war, and he has passed away now. I would love to find pictures, or anything I can, on his father. He would be delighted. Thank you, Julie

**Comments from Dom: Hi Julie. The only information I could find on Albert is that he came aboard on Jan. 25, 1946 and left the ship on or about Aug. 27, 1946. He was a seaman 2nd class, but I don't know what division he was in. If you don't have Albert's discharge papers, you can send for them. Click on the following URL and follow their instructions, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>**

**I have added Albert's name to our "In Memoriam" list. He will be remembered in our Memorial Services at our 2008 reunion.**



**Name:**

**Bob Sposito**

**Email:**

**[rfssposito@adelphia.net](mailto:rfssposito@adelphia.net)**

**Date:**

**06 May 2007**

### **Comments**

**Best wishes on the 51st Anniversary of our chance "meeting" off the coast of Virginia,**

Sunday, 6 May 1956.

Comments from Dom: Hi Bob. How well I remember the day of the collision.



Name:

Linda Looker

Email:

[l\\_s\\_loo@yahoo.com](mailto:l_s_loo@yahoo.com)

Date:

05 May 2007

### Comments

My dad was on the Wisconsin in WWII. I believe he was a plank owner. His name is Jacob Donald Sparks from Iowa. He worked changing sea water to drinking water. He died at 83 in January this year. If anyone has pictures or stories that include him please email me. Thanks Linda

Comments from Dom: Hi Linda. Sorry to hear of the passing of your Dad. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and your family. I have added our shipmate Jacob's name to our "[In Memoriam](#)" list. He will be remembered in our Memorial Services at our 2008 reunion. Yes, your Dad was a plank owner. He was aboard on April 16, 1944 and was transferred to Bremerton, Washington on Oct.4, 1945. His rate when he left the ship was MM3. (Machinist Mate 3rd class) Any of our 1940's shipmates that recall Jacob, Linda would like to hear from you.



Name:

Mike Kurz

Email:

[mr\\_mailman79@yahoo.com](mailto:mr_mailman79@yahoo.com)

Date:

04 May 2007

### Comments

I live in Elizabeth City NC, just down the road from Norfolk and always enjoy coming up to visit Nauticus and the USS Wisconsin. Although I never got to serve (was 18 in 1976 and had asthma) My 12 yr old daughter has gotten interested in possibly going into the military

and her grandfather (my dad) was in the Navy at the end of WWII. The only regrets I have is my mom who passed away 2 years ago never got to visit the ship. She grew up in Milwaukee and had expressed interest in recent years about visiting there. Mike

**Comments from Dom: Thanks Mike for your entry. Glad you enjoy visiting our ship, I'm sure your Mom would have enjoyed visiting the ship also.**



**Name:**

Deborah J. Laber

**Email:**

[djlaber@gmail.com](mailto:djlaber@gmail.com)

**Date:**

28 Apr 2007

### **Comments**

Hello, Does anyone remember my father, William "Vernon" Haddaway, DOB: 3/25/1926. He is still alive and I am hoping to plan a visit to the "USS Wisconsin" for him in the near future. I can't wait to show him this website. Thank you for the great site.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Deborah, I checked out your father and see he was on board April 16, 1944 to May 1, 1946. When he left the ship his rate was, S1c. I don't know what division he was in. Perhaps you could ask him and let me know.**



**Name:**

BYE, MICHAEL C. QM 2

**Email:**

hebejebe1

**Date:**

24 Apr 2007

### **Comments**

JUST CHECKING IN TO SEE IF I CAN GET A HOLD OF ANY OF MY BUDS FROM RECOMMISSIONING/DECOMMISSIONING.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Michael, thanks for your entry. How about giving us a better email**

address so that your shipmates can contact you.



Name:

Katherine Gay McGinn

Email:

[summerkgw@yahoo.com](mailto:summerkgw@yahoo.com)

Date:

22 Apr 2007

### Comments

Would be interested in knowing if anyone remembers my Father, Donald Joseph Gay. Email is [summerkgw@yahoo.com](mailto:summerkgw@yahoo.com)

Comments from Dom: Donald served aboard from 1946 to 1948.



Name:

Kenneth Pruitt

Email:

[Prune511@verizon.net](mailto:Prune511@verizon.net)

Date:

21 Apr 2007

### Comments

MY father was a maiden crew member.. I found a certificate for a plank..His name was Robert Allen Pruitt. He was a cook. He served on the ship in 1944 and 1945..I am looking for any info on his service on board, sailors who may have know him.. any one who may have info of any kind.. He died in 1959.. MY mother died last year.. we found his discharge and certificate in her effects.. my address is Kenneth Pruitt 114 Howard Drive Madison Heights, Va. 24572 MY phone number is 434 929 6208 email address is [Prune511@verizon.net](mailto:Prune511@verizon.net)

Comments from Dom: Records show Robert was in S Division. He transferred to Norfolk, VA., Nov. 1945 as a SC3C. If any of our 1940's crewmembers remember R. Pruitt, please contact his son. I'm sure if he hears from at least one of his Dad's shipmates, that will surely make his day!



**Name:**

**Lester Lefue Mongold**

**Email:**

none

**Date:**

20 Apr 2007

### **Comments**

My father was on the Wisconsin 1943-1945 as a GMG on the anti aircraft guns. He was in the 6th Division. He had a friend that my father named me after .I found his name in the Memoriam, but my dad spelled it different James D Lefew. I was really excited to find his name 'My fathers name is Lester S Mongold.

Comments from Dom: Hi Lester, thanks for writing in our Deck Log. Looks like your Dad and James were real good buddies. A lot of military personnel make friends for life. Ships records show your Dad was aboard from 04-16-44 to 12-01-45. When he left the ship his rate was S1c.



**Name:**

**Steven Brookshire**

**Email:**

[steven.brookshire@us.army.mil](mailto:steven.brookshire@us.army.mil)

**Date:**

19 Apr 2007

### **Comments**

Looking for any information on who to contact for the conformation of orders for the Kuwait liberation medal Kuwait

Comments from Dom: Hi Steven, check the following site, you should get your answer there.

**Navy Department Awards Web Service (NDAWS)**

[https://backup.vworkgroup.com/awards/webbas01.nsf/\(vwWebPage\)/home.htm?OpenDocu](https://backup.vworkgroup.com/awards/webbas01.nsf/(vwWebPage)/home.htm?OpenDocu)

ment



Name:

GMC(EXW/SW) Danny Medlock

Email:

[danny.medlock@navy.mil](mailto:danny.medlock@navy.mil)

Date:

18 Apr 2007

### Comments

Well, I'm back in the desert again. Iraq has a different view from the ground. I just wanted to drop a line to the deck log and say that visiting the site when I have a chance brings me a little closer to home. I'm with Riverine Squadron One now and we are working to secure the waterways here in the desert. I'm back working hand in hand with the Marines we sent 16" rounds over during the first war here to clear their push north. It is definitely a different war this time. The name "Wisconsin" still has recognition over here. We left a mark and I am proud to say that I was a part of a great crew. Take care.

Comments from Dom: Hi Danny, nice to hear from you. It's nice to know that the Wisconsin left an "explosive impression" when she was there. Thanks for the update on your status and please be safe. Our prayers are with you.  
Danny, thanks for your continuous service.



Name:

Michael P. Chiacchio, Sr.

Email:

[mchiacchio1415@comcast.net](mailto:mchiacchio1415@comcast.net)

Date:

17 Apr 2007

### Comments

Hello, My father, Carmen Chiacchio, served on the USS Wisconsin during the live-action Korean conflict. He was a five inch gunners' captain. He was aboard the USS Wisconsin from approximately 1951 through 1953. He was thereafter assigned to the USS Juno for one

year before receiving an honorable discharge. He is advancing in years and has recently become quite nostalgic about his time on board the USS Wisconsin. He recently recalled to me , for example, Ann Blyth coming aboard ship and how he "chickened out" in having his picture taken with her. And, the time the ship took a direct hit from a North Korean shell. He has recounted, from time-to-time, stories like this from the time when I was a small child. His desire to recall his days in the U.S. Navy, and especially his time aboard the USS Wisconsin, I have noticed, has become much more acute over these last several months. Those days are proud reflections for him. It would be nice for him, if possible, to connect with some shipmates, even if they never actually knew my father. I feel that such a connection would make him very happy. The photos on your web site brought to life some of the many stories my father shared with me over the years. Although I am his son and I love him very much, in my view, for him to have the opportunity to relive even just a few of those stories with his Navy bothers would bring him more joy than I can even begin imagine. Thus, if any one recognizes the name CARMEN CHIACCHIO, it would be great if I could could put my Dad in touch with you. However, even if there is no personal recognition of him, any recognition from a fellow USS Wisconsin shipmate would be greatly valued by my Dad.

Sincerely, Michael P. Chiacchio, Sr.

**Comments from Dom: Michael, I hope some of your Dad's former shipmates see this entry and contact you. I also feel this would be very good for him. Records show that your Dad came aboard on Sept.14, 1951 and he was transferred to the USS Juneau (CLAA-119) on Oct. 20, 1954. He was in the 5th Division and his last rate while aboard was Gunners Mate 3rd class.**

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Name:

Hunter Mckenna

Email:

[rackmasters1@yahoo.com](mailto:rackmasters1@yahoo.com)

Date:

13 Apr 2007

## Comments

I visited this ship on a field trip from Spring Valley School. I had a good time and bought a t-shirt of the USS Wisconsin. I am hoping to come back one day with my family to visit the ship to.

**Comments from Dom: Hi Hunter, I'm glad you had a good time on our ship. Enjoy your t-shirt.**

**Maybe the the next time you visit the ship with your family, you will be able to see the inside of the ship.**

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Name:

Chad Gibbons

Email:

[armyhardcore212521@yahoo.com](mailto:armyhardcore212521@yahoo.com)

Date:

10 Apr 2007

## Comments

I was wondering if you had a topside view of the top deck of the ship, I'm trying to make a computer model of the USS Wisconsin for NJROTC and I need either a blue print of the ship or at the very least a birds eye view from straight on top. I'd be much appreciated if you could do this, but if not I'll just keep working like a bee on it and I'll hopefully get it down for the most part, if not I'll resort to just sketching it to a poster board :\ thank you for spending the time to reading this.

Comments from Dom: Hi Chad, I emailed you a link to ["Live Search Maps"](#) showing a birds eye view of the USS Wisconsin



Name:

Kenneth E. Smith III

Email:

[kenneth.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:kenneth.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us)

Date:

08 Apr 2007

## Comments

I've been trying to find some pics or any info. about my grandfathers service on the Wisconsin. he was on the ship 1947 & 1948. He would probably be listed as seaman 1st class Kenneth E. Smith, but he would be known to his shipmates as Bill Smith. Any info you guys could give me would be greatly appreciated. Thanks Kenneth E. Smith III

Comments from Dom: Kenneth, I hope you hear from some of of your grandfathers shipmates.



Name:

**Scott Hanson**

**Email:**

[widell4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:widell4@sbcglobal.net)

**Date:**

01 Apr 2007

### **Comments**

My son Matt, will be playing with the Parker High School Band, from Janesville Wisconsin on the deck of the USS Wisconsin on Tuesday, April 3, 2007, we think it is quite an honor. My father, Gerald Hanson, Matt's grandfather was in the Navy for 25 years, on subs. He passed away in 2000 of lung cancer. He would be beyond proud to know his grandson was playing on this Navy Ship. The Navy was always a huge part of his life. We know our band members from Wisconsin are very proud to be the first band of 2007 to play on the USS Wisconsin. We hope they bring back many great memories. Thank you to all our veterans. The Hanson from Janesville, Wisconsin

**Comments from Dom: Hi Scott thanks for writing in our deck log. Good luck to Matt and the Parker High School Band, from Janesville Wisconsin, play it like you never played it before. I'm sure your Dad will be there in spirit to hear his grandson play.**



**Name:**

Adina Foreman

**Email:**

[adina@bcoonlaw.com](mailto:adina@bcoonlaw.com)

**Date:**

29 Mar 2007

### **Comments**

I am searching for fellow shipmates that were aboard the USS Wisconsin (BB-64) between 1954-1957 and might recall fellow shipmate David McRoy. I am looking for anyone that might recall Mr. McRoy OR anyone that recalls asbestos products being used on board the ship. You need not have worked with the products yourself, just have seen them on board. Please contact me by email ([Adina@bcoonlaw.com](mailto:Adina@bcoonlaw.com)) or via phone toll-free at 1-866-324-5949 if you recall David McRoy or have any other information that would help in my search or would be willing to talk to me further about what you remember.



**Name:**

**Bill Blankenship**

**Email:**

[whbprint1@yahoo.com](mailto:whbprint1@yahoo.com)

**Date:**

**20 Mar 2007**

## **Comments**

I had the opportunity to tour this unbelievable ship in Norfolk a couple of months ago. What a wonderful experience, knowing that my Father had walked so many years ago on those beautiful decks. Does anyone remember my Father, his name was one you wouldn't forget: Boy Blue Blankenship from Beckley West Virginia. I believe he was on board from 52-54. Anyone was his Buddy please email me and let me know. God Bless all of you who served. Thanks Bill Blankenship.

**Comments from Dom:** Hi Bill, records indicate your Dad came aboard on Jan. 11, 1951 and the last roster that his name appears on, was March 16, 1952. I hope you hear from some of your Dad's shipmates.



**Name:**

**David Coleman**

**Email:**

[davidccoleman@comcast.net](mailto:davidccoleman@comcast.net)

**Date:**

**24 Feb 2007**

## **Comments**

I was doing a college research paper on these fine ships for a college course I am taking. I see that the ships are kept on the inactive reserve lists but I was wondering what are the chances that the battleship will get to serve again? Thank you for your time.

**Comments from Dom:** David, all four Iowa class battleships are off the inactive reserve list. The USS New Jersey BB-62 and the USS Missouri BB-63 have been donated as museums and memorials. The USS Iowa BB-61 and the USS Wisconsin BB-64 have been stricken from the list and as of March 2006, were available for donation as a museum and memorial. As you know the USS Wisconsin BB-64 has been berthed at Nauticus, The National Maritime Center, Norfolk VA. since April, 2001. Although these ships are no longer on the reserve list, the government can take them back

if needed.



Name:

Patrick J. Moran

Email:

[patbarb1@verizon.net](mailto:patbarb1@verizon.net)

Date:

20 Feb 2007

### Comments

Dom, I was reading your reply to Luke Rader in the Deck Log about the "one of a kind" picture of the four Iowa class Battleships steaming along together in that one day operation. I was aboard that day in June 1954. I was a Marine serving as the Admiral's Orderly with COM BAT DIV 2. I also took a picture of that great moment, but only got three ships being on the Wisconsin at the time. The picture you showed has all four cruising along together. It's a great shot, especially for me, since I served on all four ships with the Flag.

Comments from Dom: Hi Patrick, lucky for you to have served aboard all four Iowa's. Yes that was a sight we will never forget.



Name:

linda heflin

Email:

[putnammerorials@yahoo.com](mailto:putnammerorials@yahoo.com)

Date:

19 Feb 2007

### Comments

i am looking for info on my dad 'harry h stroupe' he trained at the great lakes in early 1944 and then went on the LST 726 for 2 yrs in japan. i have contacted some of the survivors of his ship but would like to have any and all info you can send me. he was a cook. he was at iwo jima,sasebo

**Comments from Dom: Sorry Linda, I don't have any information on the LST 726**



**Name:**

**Jones Brown**

**Email:**

**[jonesbrown@windstream.net](mailto:jonesbrown@windstream.net)**

**Date:**

**17 Feb 2007**

### **Comments**

**Dom, there was a father son day on the Wisky some time between 1954 and 1957. do you have a date when this was? I had a picture of me and my son on the fantail by turret 3. I have misplaced it. Do you have any info on this date? Thanks Jones.**

**Comments from Dom: Hi Jones, sorry I don't have the Date you are looking for. I do know it had to be after I left the ship, June 20, 1956. Let me know if one of our ship mates contacts you with the date.**



**Name:**

**Christopher w. Hall BT3**

**Email:**

**[feet.1st@hotmail.com](mailto:feet.1st@hotmail.com)**

**Date:**

**14 Feb 2007**

### **Comments**

**New e-mail address. Miss being able to visit my ships web site, you do a wonderful job, please keep it up. Thank you for your commitment. Respectfully yours BT3 Christopher Hall 1987-1991 Persian Gulf.**

**Comments from Dom: Hi Christopher, thanks for the compliment. I hope you hear from some of your shipmates.**



**Name:**

**(Former) AT1(AW) Luke Rader**

**Email:**

**Date:**

**11 Feb 2007**

## **Comments**

I was on the U.S.S. Saratoga during Desert Storm and had the distinct honor of coming home from that outing alongside the Wisconsin. I have to tell you that majestic lady steaming across the Atlantic is a sight I hold above everything else I ever saw at sea. I don't know what else to say. History came alive when I walked out on the catwalk and saw that battleship and there are no words to describe it. Perhaps some of you know what I mean.

**Comments by Dom: Hi Luke, I know what you mean, I was aboard when the four Iowa's got together for the first time off of Norfolk for a photo shoot, June 7, 1954. What a fantastic sight it was to see our three sisters sailing by. I wish I had been in the helicopter that was taking the pictures, just to see the four of them from above.**

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**Name:**

**Sue T**

**Email:**

**[JGHIRETIRE@aol.com](mailto:JGHIRETIRE@aol.com)**

**Date:**

**05 Feb 2007**

## **Comments**

Just wondering what the status is of opening up some of the ship. My Dad was on it 44-45 and would love to go see his station one more time. He was in "A" Division. Thanks for an update. Sue Trettin

**Comments from Dom: Hi Sue, we hope some sections will be open sometime this year. When we are informed what and when the ship will be opened, we will post it on this sight.**

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Name:

Kathy Freemon

Email:

[joekathyfreemon@charter.net](mailto:joekathyfreemon@charter.net)

Date:

31 Jan 2007

## Comments

I am so glad I found this website. I have been looking every where for anything I can find out about my Dad's service days. His name was William Paul May. He passed away in 1975 at the age of 52 from lung cancer. He didn't speak a lot about the bad things, but he was proud of serving our country, and he loved being able to serve on the USS Wisconsin. My Mom is also gone and I don't have any pictures to send or remember a lot of the details he told me, mainly because I was young when he talked about it, and it just didn't stick in my mind very well. All I know is that he was a proud American and he loved his country. If anyone has any information or pictures, I would truly appreciate it. I remember seeing a picture, once of a huge cake that the Wisconsin, received from another ship, or vice versa. I miss my Dad a lot, and had he lived, he would have just celebrated his 84th birthday on January, 26th. If anyone can remember him or knows anything about him, would you please email me at [joekathyfreemon@charter.net](mailto:joekathyfreemon@charter.net) ? He came from a small town (Leoma, TN.) His nickname here was (Pen) Again, I would greatly appreciate any information I can get. He was a gunner on the ship. Maybe, this fact will help in finding any information about him. Thanks again for you time and help.  
Sincerely, Kathy Freemon

Comments from Dom: Hi Kathy, I had sent you an email informing you that your Dad served aboard the Wisconsin, Sept. 7, 1944 to Feb. 1, 1945. I have added his name to our "In Memoriam" page. I hope you hear from some of our former crewmembers

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Name:

Lon R. Rogers

Email:

[lon14rogers14@cox.net](mailto:lon14rogers14@cox.net)

Date:

Sunday, 14. January 2007

## Comments

well as holiday menus, boxing announcements, church service handouts, etc. Does anyone remember my Uncle: Willard J. Rogers. He was one of the original crew members and I have a certificate that belonged to him that says he owned the right to a plank. My uncle has passed on, but I remember how proud he was to have served aboard the Wisconsin. My uncle also served aboard the New Jersey. I have several copies of each ship's news letters, the Badger for the Wisconsin, as

**Comments from Dom: Leon, sorry to hear of the passing of your uncle and our shipmate, Willard. I have added Willard to our 'In Memoriam' page. Willard was aboard 1944-1945 as a SK3c**



**Name:**

Jim D. Mann

**Email:**

[SKS671@aol.com](mailto:SKS671@aol.com)

**Date:**

Saturday, 13. January 2007

## **Comments**

My dad, James W. Mann, a.k.a. "Jay" or "J. W." was stationed on the Wisconsin, 1945-1946, in "R" Division. He passed away this past Monday, January 8 2007, at the age of 79. He was last able to re-visit the Wisconsin for the first time a few years ago and mentioned how much he would have enjoyed having a piece of the teak wood decking for his mantle over his fireplace. I have ordered a head stone through the VA. Hospital in Gainesville Florida and would love to bury a piece of decking from the Wisconsin when it finally arrives,,,,,,anyone with any information that could help me would be greatly appreciated by our family. To all Naval and Military Veterans--God Bless!! Jim D. Mann,,,, son of James William Mann, Crew Member of USS WISCONSIN .

**Comments from Dom: Jim, sorry to hear the sad news of the passing of your Dad. He was a member of our Association and will be missed. I added his name to our In Memoriam page.**

**01-28-07 Update: Someone has sent A piece of decking to Jim.**



**Name:**

Ray hibbard

**Email:**

[Raynjess4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Raynjess4@sbcglobal.net)

Date:

Saturday, 13. January 2007

## Comments

I never was in the military, but this ship is awesome. She is a true testament to the fine craftsmanship of our great nation. Also is it true that the Wisconsin is still kept in a ready state and can still be deployed if need be?

Comments from Dom: Hi Ray, yes the ship is awesome and if needed is ready to go to sea in a reasonable amount of time.



Name:

MM3 USERY,STEVE

Email:

[SUSERY@CHARTER.NET](mailto:SUSERY@CHARTER.NET)

Date:

Friday, 12. January 2007

## Comments

I WOULD JUST LIKE TO GIVE HELLO TO THE WISCONSIN FAMILY. ALSO, IF THERE ARE ANY GUYS FROM M DIVISION GIVE ME YELL(87-90)ENGINE ROOM #2.HOPE EVERY ONES YEAR IS A SAVE ONE.

Comments from Dom: Thanks for your message Steve, I hope you hear from your shipmates.



Name:

Lynn Randall Mitchell

Email:

[LynnFromVa@aol.com](mailto:LynnFromVa@aol.com)

Date:

Saturday, 06. January 2007

## Comments

I found this website today on what would have been my dad's 83rd birthday (January 6). RAYMOND WILBUR RANDALL served on the USS Wisconsin during WW II and manned one of the guns. He died in 1975 at the age of 51 from stomach cancer so I didn't have the opportunity to hear many of his Navy stories. This site offers much to check out. Thank you for the opportunity.

Comments from Dom: Hi Lynn, glad you found us. I have added your Dad's name to our "In Memoriam list" Your Dad was aboard the ship from April 16, 1944 (a plank-owner) to April 1, 1946. If any of our 1940's crew members remember Raymond, please email Lynn.



Name:

George Matthai

Email:

[matthai@fuse.net](mailto:matthai@fuse.net)

Date:

Monday, 01. January 2007

## Comments

I have read in the past deck log of crewmembers who were looking for copies of the "Keel" The yearbook from Training at Great Lakes Training Center. Although I do not have one I can Part with, I do have mine from 1951. It features Companies 503 and 504. If anyone is interested I could copy individual or group pictures and send them to whoever might be interested.

Comments from Dom: George that's very nice of you to do that.



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