

USS TOPEKA CLG-8 Reunion Association Newsletter

Volume 11, No. 3

August 2000



Committee:

*John Reynolds, President; Jack Timmons, Secretary/Treasurer;
Al Jefferis, Assistant Secretary; Dudley Cass, Reunion 00 Chairman;
Jack Connery, Newsletter Editor; Ken Noble, Web Master*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A GREAT BIG THANKS TO MR. T

As we approach another reunion we can glance back and see a lot of effort that many have put into bringing another reunion to reality. Among those who have dedicated many hours of their time and talents to this project has been our new Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Jack Timmons.

A lot of activity goes on registering new members, keeping the finances straight, preparing meeting agendas, recording minutes, and keeping all the communication going. It's a lot of work to keep all these things up and running. So, when you see Jack at the reunion give him a smile and a big THANK YOU. I am sure he would appreciate it.

See ya in 'Diego!

* * * *

Jack Connery starts a new feature in this edition of the newsletter called "Who's Doin' What?" It's about interesting things our shipmates are doing with their time. Are you doing something a little different? Let Jack know and he will share it with the rest of us.

John Reynolds

TAPS

Fred Jenkins, SH3 (60-63); April, Union City, MI

BINNACLE LIST

James Bond, YN3 (64-67), recovering from a severe auto-pedestrian accident.

Don Cameron, LT (60-62), San Diego.

Carol Buse, LTJG (64-66), Reedsport, OR

John Campbell, LT (61-63), Waco, TX

John Courtney, MM3 (59-62), Charlotte NC

Dave Small, RD1 (62-66), Denton, TX

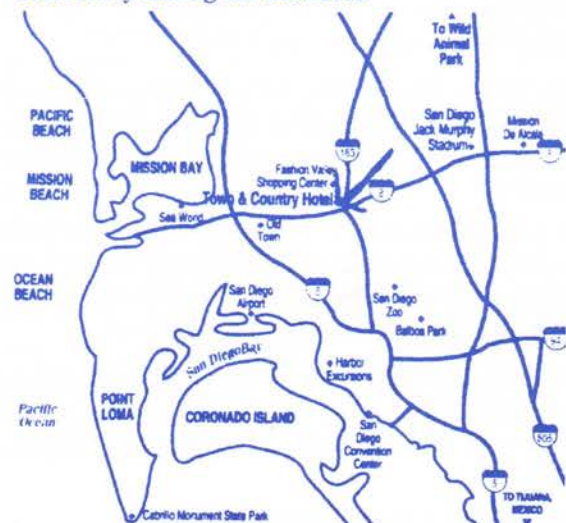
NEW MEMBERS (SINCE MAY 2000)

William Bodine CS3 (63-66) Honolulu, HI,
Ricky Kettwig SN (66-69) Andover, NH,
Lance Turner EM3 (63-66) Windham, ME,
Rollin Jones SK3 (68-69) Albany, NY.

REUNION UPDATE

Late reunion information includes:

- The color guard presenting the colors at the Saturday banquet will be the Marines from Marine Corps Recruit Depot. They will be our guests at dinner.
- The Navy Surface Warfare Command will provide a ship for us to tour on the "Navy Gray" tour. We will have a buffet lunch at the Island Club, North Island Naval Air Station. Cost is \$6.00, which will be collected ahead of time.
- One shipmate asked about the Friday \$15.00 cost for a hamburger or hot dog. This daily reunion fee not only covers the hot dog or hamburger, but a share of the other reunion costs, ie beverages/food in the Hospitality Room, liability insurance, name tag expense and other miscellaneous costs. Our intent is to provide a quality reunion environment at the most reasonable cost we can negotiate, and spread those costs fairly among the attendees.



Town and Country Hotel

WHO'S DOIN' WHAT?

Tom and Jutta Eagling (60-63), Tucson, probably have a claim to fame that no other Topeka sailor can touch. Members of the Vistoso Hiking Club, they hiked with 17 other hikers across Grand Canyon -- from rim to rim -- the end of May.

Divided into three groups, or pods, Eagling's pod of six started down from the north rim at 4 a.m., still in the dark. They descended 5,800 feet onto the canyon floor and 111 degree temperature, 20 degrees above normal. Efforts exerted and heat reflecting off the rock made it seem 20 degrees hotter.

Once down and across the Colorado River and canyon, then began the 9.8-mile climb to the south rim. After hiking a total of 23.8 miles, the group reached the south rim 21 hours later at 1 a.m. the next morning, exhausted. As they approached the top, they could look back and see the lights on the other side, where they began.

"It was spectacular, to say the least," says Eagling, approaching his 76th birthday. "The temperature is what got to us. We all had trouble with the heat -- I more than the others. They poured water on my head to keep me going. We trained hard for seven months in 90 degree hikes, and were physically ready, but there is just no way to get ready for the extreme heat."

* * * *

Dick and Joanne Walker (66-68), and family, Mendon, Mich., familiar to most reunion-goers, will not be with us in San Diego. We will miss them.

Instead, they will be at the Great Lakes Recruit Training Command, watching their son Casey complete the first step in the "Sailor to Admiral" Program. He graduates on August 18.

After completing this step, he will attend Operations Specialist school at Dam Neck, Va., then either serve an operational time at sea or go directly to the Naval Academy prep school, then on to USNA.

Casey comes from a long line of military history that dates back to the War of 1812. His older brother Chris is an Army Ranger serving with the 82nd Airborne Division.

The younger Walker is a veteran of several Topeka reunions. He remembers listening to the stories of John Hojaboom and the other "old salts." He hung around the Hospitality Room too long and we got to him.

Dad thinks that Casey will be a fine sailor, and will make a splendid officer. "The officers and men of the USS Topeka were influencing factors in the choices Casey has made."

CONGRATULATIONS, CASEY!!

LETTERS

Dear Ed:

I found out about the Topeka website on MILITARY.COM. I found a listing for SK1 Elmer Alexander, but unfortunately, he does not have an e-mail site.

I retired from the U. S. Navy Reserve in 1993 as a SK1. Would appreciate correspondence from shipmates on board from June, 1968 to decommissioning June, 1969.

Rollin Jones (68-69)

NAME THIS COUNTRY

709,000 regular (active duty) service personnel

293,000 reserve troops;

Eight standing Army divisions;

20 Air Force and Navy air wings with 2,000 combat aircraft;

232 strategic bombers; 13 strategic ballistic missile submarines with 3,114 nuclear warheads on 232 missiles

500 ICBMs with 1,950 warheads;

Four aircraft carriers, and; 121 surface combat ships and submarines, plus all the support bases, shipyards and logistical assets needed to sustain such a naval force.

Is this country Russia? . . . No

Red China? . . . No

Great Britain? . . . Wrong Again

Give up??

These are the American military forces that have disappeared since the 1992 election of the current administration.

Sleep well, America.

Submitted by Jack Bock (62-65)

ATLANTA IN 2001?

Looks like we may be going to Atlanta in 2001 by default. Two cities were nominated in Branson for the 2001 reunion, Atlanta and Buffalo.

Buffalo was placed in nomination on behalf of a shipmate who was not at that meeting in Branson. It was done so on the belief that he would be in San Diego to formally present Buffalo. He will not be coming to this reunion either. Therefore, a Board decision has been made to drop Buffalo from consideration for 2001.

WHO'S COMING TO SAN DIEGO?

If you're not planning on coming to San Diego, and you see your best liberty buddy on this list, you better change your mind, come join us, and re-live old times.

Paul Abrahams LT 66-68
Marion Adams YN3 65-67
Don Anderson ET2 62-64
Mike Angulo CWO3 65-67
Al Ansorge LCDR 61-63
Jesse Aragon BM1 59-62
Steve Archbold SKSN 60-63
Charles "Chuck" Beardsley BM3 62-65
James Bennett RDSN 60-61
Jack Bock LTJG 62-65
John Bockius CS3 60-61
Robert Bond DK3 63-65
Ernie Boutte RD3 62-65
Jim Boyd ETN3 63-66
Ray Bradbury SH3 63-67
Phil Brooks MR2 63-65
Joseph Buda GMC 60-62
Thomas Bussel RD3 62-66
Parker Butcher FTM2 63-66
Charles Campbell BM2 60-65
Dick Campbell LT 60-61
Bill Carver BM3 60-63
Dudley Cass LTJG 61-64
Jim Van Sant Friend of Cass
Jack Connery LCDR 64-66
Iyre Couch BM1 60-65
John Courtney MM3 59-62
Jerry Craig FTM2 66-69
Walter Crane RD3 63-66
Walter Davidovich GMC 59-63
John Deford SA 64-67
Tom Eagling GMC 60-63
Don Ervin QMC 60-61
George Grupe LTJG 62-65
Don Habener RD1 59-62
Steven Hall SFFN 65-67
Will Hays LT 60-61
Carl Hemenway RM3 62-64
Joe Heeney CWO4 63-66
Gordon Herigstad MM1 62-65
Mike Hight RD2 60-62
Norbert Howe SDC 60-60
Adam Howey GM1 59-62
Allen Jefferis CDR 67-69
Dick Jolliffe LT 64-66
Terry Jones GMG3 67-69
Jerry Judge FTCS 63-66
John Keith RD1 59-60
Ervin "Ski" Klodzik BTC 60-67
Art Krohnert RD3 63-64
Ken Kucin RD2 64-66
Calvin Ladd MM3 63-66
Lewis Loudon RD3 61-65
Larry MacDonald, IC2 60-62
Don McFarland PC3 63-66
Norm Malmberg LTJG 60-63
Vince Manion LCDR 60-62
Larry McCammon MM3 61-63
Robert McCullough GM1 68-69
Ray McHugh MM2 59-63
Raymond Michalski SMSN 60-62
Charles Monroe II GMG3 65-68
Don Nellis CDR 63-65
Loy Nix GMM1 59-63
Ken Noble RD2 59-62
Joe Nolan SMC 64-66
Doug Olson MM2 63-66
Jim Ownby LT 62-65
"Parky" Parkhurst FTCM 63-66
Jerry Pennington RD3 63-64
Joe Peragine CWO3 60-66
Gale Pfund LTJG 62-64
Cal Ratcliff BT2 60-63
John Reynolds FTM1 61-66
Joe Ripley LTJG 59-63
Paul Ruby LTJG 62-65
Andre Seaton RD2 59-62
Leroy Servin BM3 62-64
Robert Schramm GSC 61-62
Austin Schroder LCDR 59-63
Dick Schuder RM3 62-65
Alonzo Simmerman BT2 67-68
Ron Smart RD3 59-62
Eddie Sowards MM3 59-61
Ray Spatz CS3 67-69
Jimmy Starr GS2 60-61
Tom Stumpf Capt (USMC) 64-66
Chuck Timmons IC3 59-61
Jack Timmons LTJG 63-65
Tracy Tipton SFM2 64-67
Leonard Van Gemert ET1 63-65
Tom Victory SFCS 60-64
Mike Wallace RD3 65-67
Richard Wallace SMSN 60-63
Egon Werdelman CDR 60-61
Phyllis Shultz, friend of Werdelman's
James Whisennand SF3 65-67
Willie Williamson SH1 63-65
James Willis HM1 61-63
John Woolston FTG2 59-62
Bud Zimmerman GMT1 59-62

**MOVING? MOVED?
WAS YOUR NEWSLETTER FORWARDED?**

Then drop a card to Jack Timmons and let him know your new address.

2000 ELECTIONS

The Board of Advisors will present the present slate of officers for 2001:

- President: John Reynolds
- Secretary/Treasurer: Jack Timmons
- Assistant Treasurer: Al Jefferis

No changes are recommended for the Board of Advisors.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor for either the Board of Advisors or one of the officer positions.

NAMES/TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Chairman, Board of Advisors

Don Nellis, 12735 Abra Dr., San Diego, Cal., 92128, Telephone 858-487-4595

President

John Reynolds, 916 Esplanade, # 107, Redondo Beach, Cal., 90266, Telephone 310-540-7817; E-mail: canrc@hotmail.com

Secretary-Treasurer

Jack Timmons, 2661 Poinsettia Dr., San Diego, CA, 92106-1121; 619-224-8928; E-mail: JETimmons@aol.com

2000 Reunion Coordinator

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Web Master

Ken Noble; 613 Fairfield Ln., Louisville, Co., 80027. 303-665-7468. Topeka@usstopekacig8.org

USS Topeka Website

<http://www.usstopekacig8.org>

USS TOPEKA (CLG-8)
Reunion Association Newsletter
c/o Jack Connery
9814 E. 83rd Pl.
Tulsa, Ok 74133



USS TOPEKA CLG-8 Reunion Registration

San Diego, CA, August 16-19, 2000

Name _____ Plankowner? ___ Number in party _____
 Staying at the Town and Country Hotel? _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone (____) _____
 Any Handicap and/or Special Dietary Requirements? _____

Names for nametag(s) (if you haven't previously received permanent nametag):

Reunion Fee: The Reunion Fee includes the cost of the Hospitality Room, the Friday nite Picnic Buffet, the Saturday nite Banquet, and other fixed costs of the Reunion. Reunion Fee for adults attending all four days: \$80. For those not attending all four days: No charge for Wed.; \$15 for Thu., \$15 for Fri., \$50 for Saturday. For children attending the banquet: \$18 12 years and younger; \$35 for teenagers. No reunion fee for children not attending the banquet.

<u>Days Attending</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Cost</u>
All four days	_____	\$80	_____
Not all four days			
Wednesday	_____	\$0	
Thursday	_____	\$15	
Friday	_____	\$15	_____
Saturday	_____	\$50	_____
Children at Banquet	_____	\$18	_____
Teenagers at Banquet	_____	\$35	_____

Reunion Fee Total _____

Banquet Entree Choices (give number)

Prime Rib _____ Halibut _____ Vegetarian _____

Child's Plate (12 and younger) _____

(Chicken strips/fries/fruit cup/milk/cookie)

Golf

Thursday AM (tee-time, cost TBD) ADM Baker _____

Friday AM (tee-time, cost TBD) ADM Baker _____

"Gourmet" _____

"Gourmet" _____

(Continued on Reverse Side)

TOPEKA Reunion Registration (continued)

Group Events

<u>Event</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Event "A" - "Forever Plaid" Wed. pm	_____	\$24	_____
Event "B" - "Navy Gray" Tour Thu. am	_____	\$23	_____
Event "C" - Harbor Dinner Cruise Thu pm	_____	\$56	_____
Children 14 and younger	_____	\$30	_____
Event "D" - Viejas Casino/Outlet Fri am	_____	\$00*	_____

Events Costs Total _____

Tickets

<u>Event</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Ticket "E" - Sea World (adult)	_____	\$35	_____
(children 3-11)	_____	\$25	_____
Ticket "F" - San Diego Zoo (adult)	_____	\$21	_____
(Children 3-11)	_____	\$11	_____
Ticket "G" - 2 Hr. Harbor Cruise (Day)	_____	\$9	_____
Ticket "H" - Old Town Trolley Tour	_____	\$22	_____
(Children 6-12)	_____	\$13	_____

Tickets Cost Total _____

Reunion Fee, Events, and Ticket Costs: Total: _____

Deadline for Payment of above costs is July 10, 2000

Make checks payable to TOPEKA Reunion Assn., and mail to:

Jack Timmons, 2661 Poinsettia Dr. , San Diego, CA 92106-1121.