

USS TOPEKA

CLG8 REUNION

ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: DUDLY CASS



Volume 1, No. 4 November, 1990

COMMITTEE

Don Nellis, President
Irad Parkhurst, Vice President
Dudley E. Cass, Secretary
James F. Ownby, Treasurer
Jerry Judge
Dick Jolliffe
Joe Ripley
Bill Largent
John Reynolds
Jack Bock
Joe Heeny

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Thanks for coming. The Reunion Plankowners, listed in this newsletter, made the '90 Reunion the great success it was.

We're looking for a bigger and better BASH on the Queen Mary in Long Beach in '91. To get bigger, we need your help. Please send us the names, addresses and/or phone numbers of any TOPEKAMEN You know of. I promise you we will contact them and do our best to enroll them.

We also are interested in expanding the Newsletter to include your sea stories, anecdotes or experiences in or about TOPEKA. Send them on to us if they are "fit to print," we'll do it.

Thanks again,
Don Nellis

...FROM THE EDITOR

The first annual TOPEKA CLG 8 reunion, held in San Diego 16-20 August 1990, was a booming success. In this newsletter, I have attempted to capture, in a few words and pictures, a sense of what the reunion was all about. Our paid photographer had his reunion photographs stolen from his pickup. Thanks to the contributions of snapshots by others, and the work of Jim Ownby in putting together a collage, we have a glimpse of several TOPEKA shipmates, all of them looking happy except Jack Connery. I reckon if I had had that many good-looking young ladies with me, I would have looked worried, too. (Just kidding, Jack - your

daughters were lovely, and we're delighted they came.) In addition, you will find a summary of Association business items, and information of the reunion planned for '91.

...BACK, IN AN INSTANT, 26 YEARS...

It started Thursday morning, I had the Hospitality Room "duty" and was setting up the room, expecting a slow day. Boy, was I wrong! Before I got the first pot of coffee made, the first arrivals (Bill and Manona Herring) showed up - before I knew it the room was filled and everybody was having a ball. The atmosphere, the feeling, was like nothing I had ever experienced before. There seemed to be an intense ambience of comradeship and genuine delight in seeing shipmates last seen decades ago. All our plans and procedures for checking people in, taking pictures, etc., soon went by the board - the "duty checker-inners" were having too much fun.

A few years ago, I went to the 25th reunion of my high school class. I didn't recognize a lot of the people there. I was afraid it would be the same here. Not that way at all - I knew these guys! Maybe a few pounds more, and a few gray hairs, but those guys who walked in that door took me back, in an instant, 26 years in time - it was great! Thursday went in a hurry, but not before I knew we were on our way to a real blowout. Thanks, TOPEKA, you're something special.

Dudley Cass

JACK KEHOE CAME THE FARTHEST...

Jack Kehoe, Wellesley, MA., claimed the prize for coming the greatest distance to our San Diego Reunion. Jack served on TOPEKA 1961 to 1963. He is a lawyer, practicing trial law in Boston. Jack says he'll be at the next reunion "anywhere, anytime, barring acts of God."

... AND "BOOMER" HOJABOOM STAYED THE LONGEST

We planned a prize for the "earliest" plankowner present. Well, there were several plankowners at the reunion and we couldn't determine who was the "earliest" plankowner. John Hojaboom was one of those, but he was the only one who stayed aboard TOPEKA for eight years! -he earned our prize! John wouldn't say how old he was, but he joined the Army when he was 14, stayed in the Army 18 years, switched to the Navy in 1945, and retired from the Navy in 1973 after 28 years in the Navy. Needless to say, EVERYONE at the reunion knew John.

HODSONS THANK THE COMMITTEE

"My husband and I wish to thank you for a wonderful, well organized reunion. We know that untold hours went into the planning of this event and we appreciate your efforts. One of the highlights of the festivities was the Cocktail Party with heavy hors d'oeuvres held on Friday eve. Much tender, loving care went into that operation.

We look forward to seeing you next year and thank you for all."

Pat and Hal Hodson.

Thank you, Pat and Hal. We appreciate the kudo. You, and the many others who supported our efforts with your dollars, the names and addresses, and finally, your attendance at the Reunion, made it the success it was. Thank you all!

"J" "W" PERKINS FEATURED SPEAKER

The Reunion Banquet featured an entertaining address by "J" "W" Perkins who shared some of his remembrances as XO of TOPEKA. Tom Buell contributed to the program with a very appropriate invocation. The Reunion Committee thanks "J" "W" and Tom for their part in making the program a success.

SILENT AUCTION FOR TOPEKA PHOTO

RADM R. W. Paine, Jr (Ret) donated two large framed photos of the TOPEKA to the Reunion Association. One of them was sold by silent auction at the reunion to Steve Manley of Escondido. The second photo will be retained by the association for display at future reunions.

TOPEKA TEE SHIRTS AND CAPS HOT ITEMS

Tee shirts, with the TOPEKA logo we use on our newsletter, and caps, with a unique logo designed by Jerry Judge, proved to be a sellout. If we hear from enough of you interested in buying caps and/or tee shirts, we will sell them by mail.

NEXT YEAR FOR SURE!

Among those who would have liked to attend the reunion, but couldn't: Father Bob Gately, Chaplain Robert Goffrier, Jack Mansfield, Ray Kraft, Bill Hawkins, Don Cates, Bob Lamey, and Jim Carey. Jack Gelke had to cancel out at the last minute, and "Robby" Robbins was hit with a sudden illness on the way down. ("Robby" is reported doing fine now.) Hope to see you all next year!

TREASURY IN THE BLACK

After the dust settled, and after we paid a \$500 deposit to the Queen Mary for next year's reunion, the Treasurer reports a balance of \$1,379 from a total income of \$8,414 for the year. A summary of expenses:

Banquet	\$4,173
Cocktail party	195
Hospitality Room (Beverages)	291
Shirts and caps	531
Photos	128
Printing, Postage, Supplies	712
Entertainment	200
Miscellaneous	200
Refunds	105
Deposit (1991 Reunion)	500
Total Expense	\$7,035

NEXT REUNION AUGUST 1991 IN LONG BEACH, CA

At the Business Meeting held at the Reunion, Long Beach, California, was selected as the site for the next reunion. Other cities considered were San Diego, Reno, Las Vegas, Laughlin (Nevada), Orlando, Topeka, Chicago. The date for the reunion has subsequently been set for August 15-19, 1991.

The Association members present at the Reunion unanimously re-elected the Association officers and Committee for a second year of duty. John Reynolds was selected to head up the Long Beach Reunion Committee and Joe Heeny and Jack Bock were added to the Reunion Committee.

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DUES SET AT \$15

The annual dues for the Association were set at \$15 for the year commencing 1 January 1991. The annual dues are used to defray operating costs of the association such as preparation and mailing of newsletters and press releases. Association members, and anyone joining the association, may submit the annual dues to the Secretary.

DIRECTORY FOR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

A directory containing names, addresses, and phone numbers for everyone on the Association mailing list was made available to reunion attendees, and mailed to the members who couldn't make the reunion. An updated directory will be mailed to all members on receipt of their 1991 annual dues.

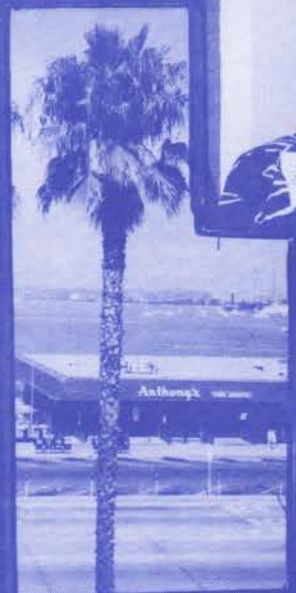
REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SAYS REUNION '91 TO BE EVEN BETTER

Things are all in place for our next get-together. We have contracted for the Queen Many in Long Beach. The setting is perfect. There are so many things to do and places to explore in the Long Beach area that it will be difficult to get it in in four days.

Our dates are August 15-19. The planning has already started and this one proves to be even better than our first one. Staterooms on the Queen Many will go for prices ranging from \$78-\$98 plus 10% tax. More information will be forthcoming on prices, deadlines, etc. Keep in touch and we will be getting back to you with all the important stuff.

We are looking forward to seeing you in August and sharing sea stories, having a drink or two, dancing, and just plain having a good time with friends.

John Reynolds



FANTASTIC TURNOUT FOR SAN DIEGO REUNION

More than 70 TOPEKA crewmembers, many bringing spouses, children, and friends, showed up for the first annual TOPEKA CLG 8 Reunion. 128 attended the Reunion Banquet. Here is a list of those attending:

Mike Angulo
 Charles T. Armstrong
 George W. Ashford, Jr.
 George R. Badger
 Stanley J. Bartnick
 Rendall Bess
 Mrs. Doris L. Bieber
 Jack V. Bock
 Tom C. Buell
 Bill Bundy
 Tom Butler
 Don Cameron
 Dick Campbell
 Marv Davis
 Charles J. Dykeman
 Tom E. Eagling
 Herb Francis
 Mike Giampietro
 Mrs. Donna Glenn
 Robert D. Goe
 Stan Hayes
 Will Hays
 Joe F. Heeney
 William F. Herring
 Hal Hodson
 John C. Hojaboom
 Allen S. Jefferis
 Art Johnson
 John Johnson
 Dick Jolliffe
 Gerald J. Judge
 John Keepper
 John F. Kehoe
 John E. Keith
 Bob Kershner

Dudley Cass

Spring Valley, CA
 Seattle, WA
 Kailua, HI
 Alameda, CA
 Thousand Oaks, CA
 Dundee, OR
 San Diego, CA
 Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
 Coronado, CA
 Oxnard, CA
 Redwood City, CA
 San Diego, CA
 El Cajon, CA
 Atlanta, GA
 El Cajon, CA
 Shelton, WA
 Shelton, WA
 Harbor City, CA
 San Diego, CA
 San Pedro, CA
 Needles, CA
 San Diego, CA
 Torrance, CA
 Tallahassee, FL
 Palos Verdes Estates, CA
 Carson, CA
 San Diego, CA
 Cheltenham, MD
 North Augusta, SC
 San Diego, CA
 Chula Vista, CA
 Schaumburg, IL
 Wellesley, MA
 Portland, OR
 Southern Pine, NC

Bonita Ca

Keith Kincaid
 Donald K. Lamb
 Bill E. Largent
 Fred Lytle
 Norm R. Malmberg
 John F. Manley
 Steve Manley
 Rudy McAfee
 John N. Milliken
 John Mobley
 Donald P. Nellis
 Harvey G. Nelson
 William G. Noel
 Richard Olsen
 James F. Ownby
 Roger Warde Paine, Jr.
 Irad J. Parkhurst
 "J" "W" Perkins
 Jim Pflieger
 Gale Pfund
 Ira Price
 John D. Reynolds
 Joe Ripley
 Isaac Roberts
 Don R. Rodgers
 Paul Ruby
 Jim Rudeen
 Charlie Sampson
 Austin R. Schroder
 Ron Smart
 Tom Stumpf
 Thomas J. Victory
 Dick Wemette
 Egon Werdelman
 Bob White

Banning, CA
 Pensacola, FL
 San Diego, CA
 Lakewood, CA
 Fort Jones, CA
 El Toro, CA
 Escondido, CA
 San Diego, CA
 Ridgecrest, CA
 San Diego, CA
 San Diego, CA
 Ridgecrest, CA
 Canoga Park, CA
 Los Altos, CA
 El Cajon, CA
 El Cajon, CA
 Granada Hills, CA
 McLean, VA
 McConnellsburg, PA
 San Francisco, CA
 San Diego, CA
 Redondo Beach, CA
 Los Alamitos, CA
 Hixson, TN
 Lancaster, CA
 San Francisco, CA
 Ridgecrest, CA
 Palos Verdes Estates, CA
 Smith, NV
 Turlock, CA
 Mechanicsburg, PA
 Port Orchard, WA
 Chula Vista, CA
 San Diego, CA
 Joplin, MO

USS TOPEKA CLG 8 REUNION ASSOCIATION

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STAMP

