



USS FISKE

DD/DDR 842 NEWSLETTER



Volume 31 - Number 2 - May 2015

Reunion Reservations Rolling In!

Navy Reserve Commemorates 100th Anniversary - Story on Page 4



President's Letter

Shipmates,

Because most everything about our upcoming Gettysburg reunion has been covered previously, the only new thing I have to say is that this year - 2015 - marks the Centennial of the formation of a formal Navy Reserve establishment. That was 58 years before the Fiske became part of the Reserve Fleet in 1973.

The Navy is celebrating this significant milestone with numerous events throughout the year. Scheduled events nationwide started earlier this year with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Pentagon's Navy Reserve exhibit on March 2nd and will end with a parade in San Jose, CA on Veterans Day, November 11th. You can see a list of all events by visiting the Navy Reserve Centennial website <http://navyreservecentennial.com/centennialevents/>. Visit this site and participate at an event nearby.

While part of the Reserve Fleet the Fiske had many reservists cross her bow from September 1973 through June 1980, some of those reservists were true ground breakers - women serving onboard a warship.

One of these ground breakers was our very own Sandie Siciliano, ETN2 USNR. I'm proud to know her and salute

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all those other women that helped pave the way for today's fully integrated Navy.

Until next time, I wish everyone fair winds and following seas.

- Gil



On the Road to Gettysburg... with James Rapson, Treasurer & Reunion Host

The months are winding down until the 15th Bi-Annual Reunion in Gettysburg, PA on September 24th to 27th, 2015. I have taken the option of repeating much of my last article as it contains the basic information that you will need. The reunion is open to ALL former shipmates AND the families of passed shipmates who may wish to come and meet shipmates who served with their fathers, brothers or other family relationship. Our goal is to extend to all, the history of the USS Fiske, the United States Navy and the stories about the friends that we made while serving our country.

Please remember that the Eisenhower Hotel has requested that ALL room reservations be made directly with them and to please use our Group Code of 300670 when making your reservations. They have given us a rate of \$95.00 per night for a Double plus appropriate taxes and fees. These rates will also apply for three days prior to and after the Reunion for those who wish to make an extended stay in the Gettysburg area.

.....continued on page 8



From the Editor's Desk



Sandie Siciliano,
ETN2/USNR 1975-1980

Dear Shipmates,

May 25 - Memorial Day. Six weeks later, July 4th celebrations. Then, nine weeks of summer until Labor Day, and 16 short days later - Gettysburg!

As a native of New Jersey, I remember the blustery winds of winter that chilled me to the bone. The very thought of living "up there" again gives me the shivers! Even so, I do long for the fall colors of Indian Summer, and the anticipation of seeing them again makes the thought of driving to Gettysburg so much more exciting!

Since Gil and James have covered reunion news to the fullest, I'd like to speak a little about the Navy Reserve from a personal perspective.

Because of some fluke circumstances, I found myself at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station in 1975, where a Navy Chief was more interested in recruiting me than the veteran sailor I was with. After testing and appearing before a review board of five Navy Officers, they offered me an E5 under 4 rating under the APG (Advanced Pay Grade) Program, upon which I swore to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

While they originally wanted me for cryptography at a secret civilian location, I turned that down for Willow Grove NAS. But, Willow Grove did not seem very "Navy" to me - probably because my father had served on a destroyer in the Pacific during World War II. Thanks to the terms of the APG program, eventually I was able to muster out, then reenlist to join a unit out of Little Creek, Virginia - finally getting my wish to become a blackshoe. We drilled at different sites, and on several ships, but my favorite was the Fiske. More often than not, I would calibrate the radar repeaters in CIC for the SPS-29, or perform other tasks the CO had listed for us that weekend. It was never dull!

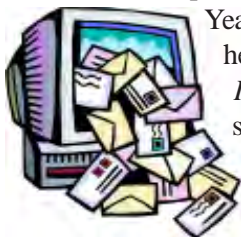
Thanks to the Navy Reserve, I had a swell adventure, but most of all, I cherish the "Fiske Mates" I've met over the past ten years since becoming active in the Association.

One final thought: When I enlisted, I was an *IBM Field Engineer* in Northern New Jersey doing diagnosis and hardware repair of electro-mechanical systems and machines.

Years later, when talking to shipmate Lou Nigro, he said that after the Navy, he had become an *IBM Field Engineer* in New York City - same ship, same rate, same job - what a small world!

Until next time, may you sail with fair winds and following seas.

- Sandie



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Update Your Profile by Contacting Steve Gilbert at
WEBMASTER@USSFISKE.ORG

No email? Write to
Steve at the address on
the top of this page.



Do you have a New Home Address or Email?
Contact James Rapson above

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Notable Quote

"It is the function of the Navy to carry the war to the enemy so that it is not fought on U.S. soil."

Chester W. Nimitz
Fleet Admiral

Chief of Naval Operations

Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet during World War II. A brilliant strategist, he commanded all land and sea forces in the central Pacific.



Notes from the Secretary

Jeff Kovite
SOG2 1959-1961

Shipmates:

We have had a boatload of new members join the Association since the last newsletter and just in time for the reunion:

Unfortunately, we also lost a few good men. We will not forget them.



Raymond Fisher, who passed on August 8, 2006. Ray was a TM2, 1946-48, aboard when the Fiske was still new.

Keith G. Seaman, STG3 on board 1964-67 who died May 2, 2015; His brother **Dennis F. Seaman**, SFP3, who served with us 1967-69, and was a past president of the Association (1998-99), passed in 2014.

As you are packing for Gettysburg, don't forget to grab those books - all things military - to add to the book table that will be in the Hospitality Room. Bring them with you and exchange them for some new ones to take back home. I wish you fair winds and calm seas,
- Jeff



Lawrence Altero, an ETN3 who sailed with us from 1964 to 66;
Justice Mahlon, an ETR2 who joined the Fiske 1966-67;
Daniel Terrick, RD3, who served on DD842 1966-67;
Mark Reinard, GMG1, who kept our guns in shape from 1976 to 1977;
Charles Weigand, RMCS who was aboard 1978-80;
Howard Weiss, SN, who kept us shipshape in 1974.

A hearty welcome to all these new shipmates and we hope to see you in September at our Gettysburg reunion.

Just Sayin' anyone working as a Navy nurse in a military hospital's emergency room is required to introduce themselves by their rank and full name.

One nurse usually refers to himself as Ensign Mike Payne, but one busy day, he rushed into a patient's room and blurted, "Hi, I'm Ensign Payne."

"Hi," the patient responded. "I'm in some pain too."

What's Up with Web Master Steve Gilbert will resume soon!



Steve Gilbert
YN3 1958-1960

SEPTEMBER - 24-27 2015

SAVE THE DATES!



GETTYSBURG, PA

15th BI-ANNUAL REUNION

Chaplain's Corner



W. Frank Stancil
GMG3
1959-1963

No two of God's people are exactly the same. Our needs as well as our gifts and abilities to serve and minister can vary, but each of us is equally called to "do good unto all men".

All that remains for us to do is to open our hearts and eyes to see the needs and opportunities, and to go for it!

I wish for you calm winds, smooth sails and safe travels.

- Frank



REMEMBER THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!





Gilbert E. Beyer,
ETSN/ETR3 1960-1963

Ship's Log Entries...

Historian's Report

A majestic ship was she, that sailed the seven seas, we were her crew, we saw it through, and logged our history.



Over the course of the past eight years I've been looking through lots and lots of files and records in an effort to fill gaps and holes in Fiske's history. Several months ago I managed to get copies of most of her annual Operations Reports. Granted, there are still some holes, but I did find one little gem in the report submitted for 1980.

1980 was the Fiske's last year as part of the US NAVY. As most of you know she was transferred to the

Turks in June. As part of the Fleet Reserve Fiske continued to be the 'Can Do Can' in the regular Navy. So much so that Fiske had young officers assigned to start, or complete, their Surface Warfare Qualifications.

Two of these young officers, assigned to the Fiske in early 1980, were LT(jg) Sheryl Krupski and Ens. Beulah Galvin. Yep, Fiske had women serving aboard. They were assigned specifically to get their SWO quals.

Now, I've been unable to find any additional info on Lt(jg) Krupski of

yet but have ascertained that a LT(jg) Galvin was the 'B' Division Officer aboard the USS Piedmont (AD 17) when she was decommissioned in September 1982.

And, it looks like CDR Beulah Galvin was the CO of the USS Platte (AO 186) from 1996 to 1998.

Based on what I've found, it would appear that the Fiske again did her job well and started a young officer on a successful Navy career.

- Gil

Navy Reserve Marks 100th Anniversary 1915 - 2015



"The mission of the Navy Reserve is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to the Navy and Marine Corps team and Joint forces, in times of peace or war."

NAVY RESERVE MISSION STATEMENT



March 3, 2015 marked the 100th anniversary of the US Navy Reserve, thanks to the dedicated campaign by Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels and his assistant (future president Franklin D. Roosevelt).

The first official U.S. Navy Reservists in World War I hunted enemy U-boards from the cockpits of biplanes. In 1930, the Naval Research Laboratory hired Albert H. Taylor and Leo C. Young for a project titled "Detection of Enemy Vessels and Aircraft by Radio". Their continuous work through the 1930s eventually led to the first practical modern RADAR systems.

As volunteers with the motto "Ready Now, Anytime, Anywhere",

each reservist signs a contract to serve at a moment's notice. Through the decades, Reservists have been engaged in both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, and the Global War on Terrorism. In the past several years, more than 52,000 Navy Reservists have been mobilized and deployed to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Prior service enlistees might be able to affiliate with the Navy Reserve in their active duty rating and pay grade.

Non-prior service enlistees are sent to boot camp located at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois to qualify for a specific billet in order to make their rate permanent. Very few ratings are available to non-prior service personnel, however, in the 1970's, the Navy Reserve began a program to actively

recruit non-prior service individuals under an "APG" (Advanced Pay Grade) program. Thus, men and women with critical and specific skill sets joined the Reserves with the intent to enhance technical support in their areas of expertise.

Many Fiske sailors transitioned to the Reserve after active duty, and some of us were recruited under the APG program. The reality is that all of us served with pride on the best tin can of all - the USS FISKE!

The 100th anniversary logo is shown above on the Reservist Challenge Coin. For \$12.00 you can order one of these coins by going to: <http://shipsstore.navy memorial.org>

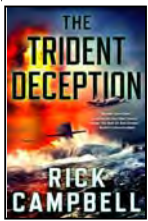
- Editor

Store Keeper's Special



Shipmates,

In 2013 we were approached by new author, Rick Campbell, with a request that we pass the word about "The Trident Deception" - his first novel - and one that draws on his extensive knowledge of submarine warfare.



In return, he graciously donated two books that we sold in Ship's Store. The book (now in paperback), received rave reviews from critics who said it

was the "best submarine novel since Tom Clancy's classic - The Hunt for Red October".

In February, his sequel was released to spectacular reviews.



"Empire Rising" was selected by Barnes & Noble as one of their Top-12 February thrillers, stating "Campbell has created what might be the perfect military thriller".

Rick makes us and the Navy proud! He attended the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and spent over thirty years in the Navy, serving on four nuclear-powered submarines. He was one of the two men whose permission is required to launch the submarines' nuclear warhead-tipped missiles.

Once more, he has kindly donated two autographed copies of his second book to us. You can support the Fiske and buy one of these copies for only \$35.00. And thanks to his generosity, all proceeds go to our treasury in support of our Association.

You can also visit his website at: <http://www.rickcampbellauthor.com>

- Sandie

P.S. Fans will be happy to know that Rick is hard at work on books three and four in this series - due for release in 2016 and 2017!



James R. Rapson
ENS/LTjg - 1964-1967

The Treasurer's Report

For those of you who have been following my quarterly input, you are aware that it takes the Editor to send the MAA searching all of the lower decks, ladders and passageways for me as I'm nearly always the last to submit my article. So is the case again for this issue as I seem to think we just printed the last newsletter and it can't possibly be time for another submission.

All is well with our finances, all obligations have been paid, there are no items forecasted for the near future that we cannot cover and there is a slow return of annual dues monies from the shipmates. That said, we can always appreciate your response to sending in your \$10.00 dues amount each year. I have suggested in the past that you pick a time during the year that will "trigger" your payment. We would even be OK with you sending two years at a time to coincide with the Reunions. This will avoid the costs of sending out dues notices to all shipmates, saving your Association considerable dollars.

Annually, the records of the Association are sent to our independent accountant for verification, the appropriate federal tax return prepared and the necessary filing with the State of New Jersey to maintain our corporate status. The accountant has reported that all is well with the (your) records.

Again, thanks to all shipmates who have sent their dues and a reminder that it is YOUR dues that keep the Association afloat and able to provide the level of service to YOU.

- James

Prices includes S&H from supplier. Details and Order Form on Page 6

Fiske Coffee Mugs



Black, Almond, and Cobalt Blue

Charleston Souvenir

2 GB Flash Drive - \$8.00



Fiske Challenge Coins



\$18.00 ea or 2 for \$30.00

Free History & Rules

Fiske Beer Mugs

Gettysburg Reunion
DD or DDR 842



Dishwasher & Freezer Safe
Individually Boxed
Any Service Branch!



SHIP'S STORE ORDER FORM

Make your selection from items shown throughout the newsletter



Sandra Ehlers Siciliano
ETN2 (USNR)

MissChopin@TampaBay.RR.com
(813) 920-6833



2015 Dues

Only \$10.00
Please Pay Yours Now
We Need Your Support



These are just some of the items we have in stock. You can view the complete ship's store on our website.
WWW.USSFISKE.ORG

All shirts and caps are \$14.00 each.



Ball Caps
Summer or Winter



Summer "trucker" style cool mesh back

"Proudly We Served" - heavy duty magnetic clip or squeeze stress ball \$2.50 ea



Shirts are blue or gray - S to 2X.

Patches \$5.00 for small, \$7.00 for large. Supply is very limited, small DDR is sold out.



Remember, ALL caps are embroidered with your choice of DD or DDR-842.

Fiske Beer Mugs (or other service branch) - Circle the Logo of Your Choice
\$35.00 ea - or 2 for \$60.00 shipped direct to you - (OR) - Prepay now and pickup at reunion for \$30.00 ea
(Multiple mugs do not have to be the same! - Pre-Paid orders must be received no later than August 1, 2015)

Name or Nickname



Rate: _____

Years: _____

DD (or) DDR

GETTYSBURG REUNION

Fiske Personalized Coffee Mugs - Select Your Choices

\$28.00 ea - 2 for \$54.00 shipped direct to you (OR) Prepay now and pickup at reunion for \$25.00 ea
(Multiple mugs do not have to be the same! Pre-Paid orders must be received no later than August 1, 2015)

(Optional)
Reunion Mugs

- 2007 - Newport
- 2009 - Post Falls
- 2011 - Milwaukee
- 2013 - Charleston
- 2015 - Gettysburg



- Cobalt Blue
- Off-White (Almond)
- Black

Name or Nickname

Rate: _____

Years: _____

DD (or) DDR

Item #	Quantity	Description	Color	Size	Price	Total

Shipping: Please help us keep it free! Contribute any amount here if you can, with our thanks: \$ _____

SHIP TO: Make checks payable to the USS Fiske Assoc., Inc.
Please print clearly to avoid errors!

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

Name	Street Address
City	State Zip
Phone	Email Address:

MAIL TO: Sandra Siciliano, USS FISKE - Ship's Store Keeper - 6528 Steeplechase Dr. - Tampa, FL 33625



USS FISKE

DD/DDR Association, Inc.

15th Bi-Annual Reunion at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2015



REUNION RESERVATION FORM

Name _____ Name of Spouse or Guest(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone: Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

E-Mail _____

Years served on board _____ Rank/Rate _____

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

All hotel reservations are to be made directly with the Eisenhower Hotel
2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325

Front Desk: 1-800-776-8349 Online: www.eisenhower.com - Mention Group Code 300670

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY TO AVOID ERRORS! DEPOSITS ON GRAND TOTAL ACCEPTED!

MANDATORY FEES FOR ALL ATTENDEES

Hospitality Room Fee:	Number _____ @ \$15.00 PP	Total \$
Contingency Fee to support Reunion:	Number _____ @ \$ 10.00 PP	Total \$

BANQUET MENU MEAL OPTIONS:

Make your choice and indicate how many below

Sliced London Broil	Number _____ @ \$30.00 PP	Total \$
Roast Tom Turkey	Number _____ @ \$30.00 PP	Total \$
Baked Sugar Cured Ham	Number _____ @ \$30.00 PP	Total \$
Vegetarian or Special Needs;	Number _____ @ \$30.00 PP	Total \$

Please specify

BANQUET ONLY

Choose from menu and list total number of meals here: Number _____ @ \$45.00 PP Total \$

TOURS

(Battlefield Tour Includes Lunch at General Pickett's Buffet)

FRIDAY 9/25:	Battlefield Tour All Day	Number _____ @ \$46.00 PP	Total \$
SATURDAY 9/26	Tea with Mamie (Ladies Only)	Number _____ @ \$15.00 PP	Total \$

If you have not paid your dues, or wish to make a contribution, please add here: \$

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

USS FISKE (DD/DDR-842)
Association, Inc

GRAND TOTAL:

Amount (or 50% Deposit By July 15) Enclosed: \$

Balance Due Not Later Than August 15, 2015: \$

Mail To:

USS FISKE (DD/DDR-842) Association, Inc.
c/o James R. Rapson, Treasurer
244 Park View Avenue
Warwick, RI 02888-2541

VOLUNTEERS!

If you might be able
to help in Hospitality,
please check here: _____

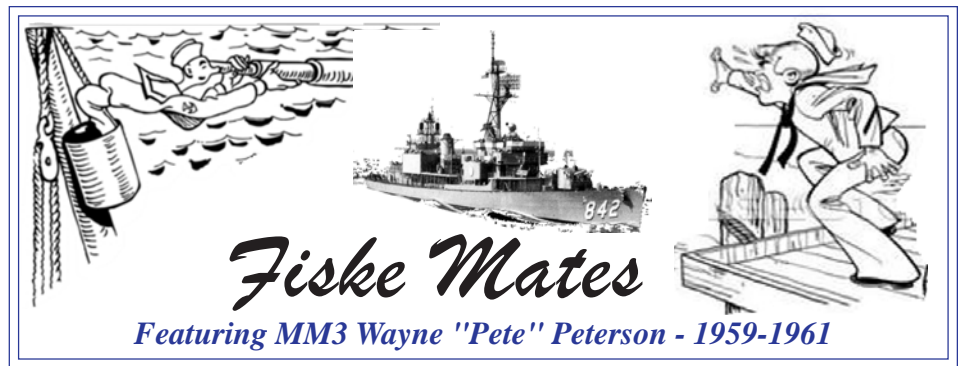


One of the reasons that Gettysburg was selected was that it was within four (4) hours driving time for nearly 65% of our Shipmates. Following this rationale, it was felt that many Shipmates would prefer to break into smaller groups for exploring, sight-seeing, etc. Our aim is not to over structure you, but to allow you the time and ability to mix with "old" friends, make some "new" friends, just "do your own thing" or just "hang out" in the Hospitality Room. There will be ample brochures in the Hospitality Room showing various activities, places to go and things to see in the Gettysburg area. For those who are so inclined there are also many excellent golf courses nearby.

There is only one scheduled tour on Friday the 25th to the Gettysburg Battlefields, but it is a great offer for the price. You will start off at 9:45 AM from the hotel with a two hour, guide accompanied tour of the Battlefields, then on to lunch at the General Pickett's Buffet followed by a tour of the Gettysburg Diorama (an excellent presentation) with a return to the hotel at approximately 2:45 PM. I have already done portions of this and it is well worthwhile and again, a great value.

On Saturday the 26th, at 2:00 PM, while the Shipmates are at the Annual Meeting of the Association, the Ladies will be hosting a "Tea with Mamie", a one woman costumed performance of "Mamie Remembers Gettysburg".

Please see the Reservation Form in this newsletter to complete your reservation. Please make sure that all of the contact information is complete so that you may be identified properly to someone you may not have met before. We hopefully have kept the prices within reason, made the offerings



USS Fiske DDR-842 was in dry-dock at the Boston Naval Shipyard after suffering damage from a storm when I boarded her for the first time.

It was January, 1959 and I was an MM fireman assigned to aft engine room. Arriving late in the evening, the OOD had me throw my seabag down the hatch to the sleeping quarters for the engineering department.

Climbing down the ladder into a semi-dark space, I didn't know where to go so I lay on my seabag (and as I found out later) on a pile of laundry bags for my first night's sleep on a Tincan.

A year later I advanced to MM3 and was put in charge of the ship's fresh water systems. This duty required the operation and maintenance of the fwd and aft evaporators as well as hooking up to the fresh water line whenever we docked after our time at sea.

In March of '61 the forward engine room evaporator ceased providing water pure enough for our boilers and personal hygiene. Unfortunately, this was in the middle of some Naval exercises. The salt content was too high and could not be corrected, so a major overhaul had to be done.

Working around the clock for three days (the picture above is from the cruise book, and that's me in the evaporator), several of our crew chipped and clawed our way back into production. This was to the great relief of our ever-present Engineering officers, LTJG William Merritt and LTJG Peter McKenna - who were on our butts most of the time - because they had to report to our Captain, CDR Clifford Hunter, on the progress.

Although we were exhausted, we were proud to have finished in such a short time. It was a "Job Well Done" - and I'm also sure the rest of the crew was glad to get real showers again. - Wayne (Pete) Peterson MM3

interesting, and the opportunity exciting for you. If you wish to split your costs over several payments, that is acceptable. Send 50% with your reservation and the remainder no later than August 15th. A master list of all reservations will be kept and you will be duly recorded for all that you wish to do.

As always, please email me with any questions, concerns, etc. (see address on newsletter). Please keep a watch on the Fiske website, and by all means utilize the internet to contact the local Chambers of Commerce for the Gettysburg area. There is a lot of information out there, so research it to make your Reunion the best.

Jim and Geri Rapson, Reunion Hosts