

USS FISKE

DD/DDR 842 NEWSLETTER

Volume 30 - Number 3 - August 2014



Reunion Planning Accelerates

Treasurer James Rapson Assumes Role of Reunion Host



President's Letter

Shipmates,

Memorial Day has come and President Gil Beyer gone. By the time this newsletter hits the mail Independence Day and baseball's All-Star game will have been played too. Pre-Season NFL Football will be on TV and people will be wondering if the Seattle Seahawks can defend their Super Bowl Crown. And, the count-down has begun for our 2015 Reunion. Slightly more than a year from the time you read this letter we'll be in Gettysburg for our 15th reunion.

I look forward to these biennial gatherings. They give me an opportunity to re-live my time on board what is in my humble opinion the best damned 'Tin Can' ever to have sailed most of the Seven Seas. It also gives me the opportunity to renew acquaintances with shipmates that I served with and to make friends with shipmates that served at other times and in other places during FISKE's thirty-five career in the US Navy.

I would encourage all our members – old and new – to make every effort to join with us in September 2015. I don't recall ever regretting making the trip to wherever we

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met. There has always been something memorable at each location. And, I don't have any doubts that Gettysburg will provide memories too. Until next quarter may you all have fair winds and following seas.

-Gil



*** Attention On Deck ***

NOTICE

Effective 31 May of this year, Jeff "JD" Davis resigned his position as 1st Vice President and Reunion Host for personal reasons. James Rapson, Treasurer, has assumed the role of Host, with President Gil Beyer, 2nd Vice President Sandie Siciliano and Secretary Jeff Kovite rounding out the reunion committee.

The Officers of the Association applaud JD's efforts in laying the groundwork for the Gettysburg reunion, thank him, and wish him well.

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

It is with great pleasure that I assume the role as your Reunion Host in 2015. I had planned to be the "background person", but I am willing to step in and be the Host for 2015.

Geri and I spent two days last September after the Charleston Reunion with Jeff and Janet Davis in Gettysburg, and we were able to accomplish the bulk of the heavy negotiations for many of the early details. Our thanks go to them for their excellent preliminary work

.....continued on page 3



From the Editor's Desk



Sandie Siciliano,
ETN2/USNR 1975-1980

Dear Shipmates,

As we approach the final dog days of summer, I am reminded that two thirds of this year have already flown by. The feeling that time passes faster as we age is a common thought, but in reality, it is only an illusion.

What is not an illusion is that our reunion next year in Gettysburg will be here before we know it. What it also means in terms of our Association is that final preparations will soon be shifting into high gear.

For those who are considering attending, but are not yet sure, let me reiterate why Gettysburg was chosen:

One of the issues discussed at the General Meeting in Charleston was about the age of our membership, and because we are getting older, that travel can be a challenge if there are health and mobility issues to consider.

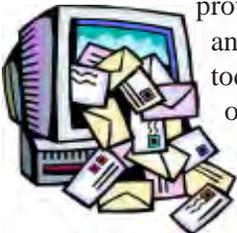
As luck would have it, our Treasurer, James Rapson, had already done an analysis of our membership population by states and numbers. When Gettysburg was mentioned as a possible location, his analysis showed it to be "near to the center of 56% of our membership", thus, voting for it was a very easy choice.

James also put it this way: "that percentage places 336 shipmates who live within a 400 mile radius, and under seven hours driving time. 151 live in the South, and 114 west of the Mississippi, for a total roster of 601."

Judging by the positive response we have had, we feel that Gettysburg was absolutely the right choice. We also feel confident in saying that we expect a large number of shipmates to attend. I sincerely hope you will be there too, but if you are still undecided, there is time to reconsider.

On another note, by the time our next issue is published in November, the national "mid-term" elections for senators and representatives in congress will have been completed. We often hear that one should "exercise their right to vote", but it is also a privilege - and one that can be taken away - either by loss of freedom or in civil matters. It is important to remember that when we served, we did so to protect that freedom, as did our forefathers and the active men and women serving in today's military. But what is most important of all is that you participate in our democracy in November by casting your vote for the candidate of your choice.

- Sandie



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ARE YOUR DUES CURRENT?

We don't mean to nag, but your \$10.00 helps maintain the Association. We need every dollar that comes in, since so many either forget, or are unable to send their dues. We need your support! If you are not current, please try to send yours in today. You'll find a clip-out form on page 8. We'd also like to send a special note of appreciation and thanks to other generous shipmates who contribute extra amounts to help offset those unable to pay.



The USS Fiske (DD/DDR-842) Association, Inc. is a Not for Profit Corporation under the IRS Code 501 © 19 rules and incorporated in the State of New Jersey. This newsletter is published quarterly and distributed to all members of the Association.

Chaplain's Corner



W. Frank Stancil
GMG3
1959-1963

Pressure – the answer to pressure is prayer. Please begin each day with a prayer. No matter where you are in life or what situation you are in, prayer works! When you pray, please remember to thank God for His mercy and His grace. Ask for wisdom for all of your daily decisions and remember your shipmates and our country in your prayers.



May God bless each of you and your families!
Anchors aweigh and God's speed! - Frank

SAVE THE DATES!
SEPTEMBER - 24-27 2015



**15th Bi-Annual Reunion
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**

**REMEMBER THESE
UPCOMING EVENTS!**

Monday
September 1



Thursday
November 11



Tuesday
November 4



I WANT YOU



Notes from the Secretary

Jeff Kovite
SOG2 1959-1961

Shipmates,

As usual, the past quarter has given us some good and some bad news.

Good news first, and welcome aboard to our new members:

John Naldrett	STG3 1964-66
Carl McDaniel	TM3 1966-68
Vincent Rositani	FT3 1955-58
Terry Oldham	RM2 1966-68

I look forward to seeing these new faces in Gettysburg and some old faces too. It is wonderful to know and be friends with people for 50+ years, and I consider myself fortunate to have had the privilege of serving on a great ship and with a great crew.

Since the last newsletter, I have been notified that we lost the following shipmates:

Michael J. Hoffhine
IC3 - 1963-66: (April 2012)
Joseph A. Coffman - Plankholder
SN - 1945-46: (12/15/2013)
George V. Tweed
QM3 - 1947-52: (03/28/2014)

Their names will be added to the *Honor Roll of Deceased Shipmates* and read at the Gettysburg Reunion banquet to the tolling of the bell.

Until next time, I wish you fair winds and calm seas.

- Jeff

con't from page 1

and we will build on their efforts. The list of planning details is long, but with constant review they will all fall into place. We already have several shipmates and their Ladies who have "volunteered" to help on site. No reunion should be attempted without invoking the assistance of others, especially those who have "been there before", and those who are willing to pitch in and be part of the team. You'll never know when YOU may be called upon, and I'm willing to bet that all we will have to do is ASK!

- James



**UPDATE
YOUR
PROFILE!**

Email
Steve Gilbert

at:
WEBMASTER@USSFISKE.ORG

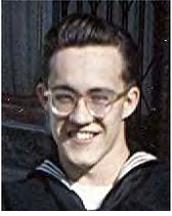


Notable Quote



"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."

Abraham Lincoln,
16th U.S. President



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.



In the last newsletter I mentioned that I had anecdotal information that one Fiske crewman was injured by shrapnel in April 1966. Shipmate *Terry Oldham* informed me that he was standing bridge watch that day and saw those funny 'little splashes' that were getting closer. Oldham brought them to the attention of the OOD and he – the OOD – made a tactical move to the rear at FLANK speed. Thanks Terry! – I hope to see you in Gettysburg.

I also mentioned that I was still awaiting some older Ops Reports from the Navy History & Heritage Command. On the spur of the

moment I called my contact there. He said that he had some from the 1960's but nothing before that decade, so I asked him to send me what they had. About a week later, I received an email with attachments for what he found.

To say I was underwhelmed would be an overstatement. There were four reports - 1960, 1963, 1964 and 1967 - with a total of ten pages - excluding the cover letters.

The item that I found most intriguing was the rescue by FISKE of 39 sailors from the SS Pearl of Victoria, a British merchant ship on June 9th 1967. That ship had gone aground off Jidda, Saudi Arabia.

The other item that was clarified for our history was the date that CDR Cyrus H. Butt was relieved as Commanding Officer of Fiske.

CDR Butt was then relieved by LCDR John J. Bradbury on March 2, 1964.

Bradbury was CO all during the FRAM conversion and he, in turn, was relieved by CDR John R. Ewing on October 7th 1964 shortly before FRAM was completed.

I'll keep searching for nuggets. Until next time, please continue sending in your Fiske stories. Every little bit helps.

- Gil



United States Navy Honored on D-Day

A synopsis of remarks by Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert on June 6th, 2014 during his attendance at the commemoration ceremonies in France of the 70th anniversaries of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. You can read the complete story by visiting www.navy.mil/local/cno/

Normandy, France: In a special naval

tribute before the main ceremony, Greenert placed a wreath in honor of D-Day at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Sainte-Marie-Du-Mont. *"Those that came before us made an amazing sacrifice,"* said Greenert. *"They were bold, they stood up and allowed us to be free and who we are today."*

While at Utah, he was joined at the ceremony by Sailors from USS Oscar Austin (DDG 79), whose crew were on hand to participate in demonstrations supporting the anniversary events.

The memorial, a 12-foot bronze statue atop Utah Beach is the only

permanent memorial commemorating the valor of U.S. Navy personnel in Normandy.

Greenert was also emotional about the significance of D-Day events and drew parallels to what the Navy is doing today. *"We're standing here today in what could be a very different situation, here and around the world,"* said Greenert. *"It was the scared young men that stood up when the time came just like our shipmates are doing today, that are standing the watch. We need to remember that, for it is our legacy."*

D-Day and the subsequent liberation of Europe, relied heavily on the part played by the U.S. Navy, whose vast logistical operation landed thousands of

troops and hundreds of thousands of tons of vehicles and equipment on Omaha and Utah beaches in June 1944.

The naval component of the operation, code named Operation Neptune, comprised large numbers of warships, auxiliaries and landing craft. In all, Britain, Canada, and the United States, as well as the navies-in-exile of France, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Greece, supplied 1,213 warships for the invasion. Their main task was to provide shore bombardment firepower for the troops going ashore, to guard the transports, and to conduct minesweeping and antisubmarine patrols on the flanks of the invasion corridor.

- Editor

MILITARY DISCOUNT
FOR ALL MEMBERS, PAST & PRESENT



Did You Know?

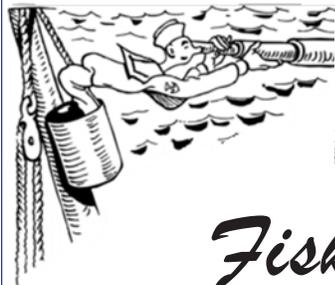
Military families and veterans can receive all kinds of discounts as a well earned thank you for their service.

If you have a computer, you can get the most up-to-date listings by doing a simple *google* search for "military discounts". There are pages and pages of companies that offer discounts to active, reserve, and retired members of the US Military and their immediate family members.

You can still find many of these discounts even if you do not have a computer. Simply ask about them whenever you dine at a restaurant, make hotel reservations, book air, rail or bus travel, buy insurance, go to an amusement park, rent a car, and so on.

If given, the discount might be equal to, or, in some cases, even exceed those offered through credit unions, AARP, fraternal organizations, the American Auto Association (AAA), other groups, and senior citizens. You have nothing to lose and may be pleasantly surprised, so don't be afraid to ask!

- Editor



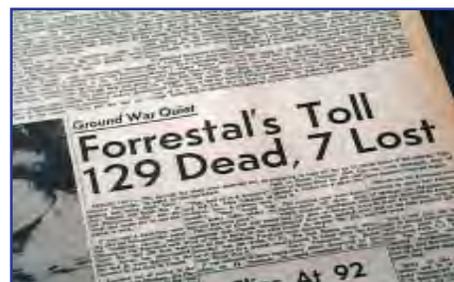
Fiske Mates

CHANCE MEETING OF SAILORS 46 YEARS LATER

In 1967 the Fiske traveled from New Port through the Suez Canal for deployment in the Persian Gulf.

But, for the return home, the Suez was closed to all deep draft vessels due to the "War of 67" between Egypt and the Israelis. If the canal is not dredged on a daily basis the desert sands fill it in. This condition would require sailing around the Cape Of Good Hope in South Africa. At the same time, the aircraft carrier *Forrestral* was on it's way home after serving in Vietnam and sustaining a devastating fire aboard.

One hundred and thirty-four sailors died in that fire. We joined the *Forrestral* as her escort. While attending the AARP driving course in Jacksonville, and swapping sea stories with Bill Hudson, we discovered that we had both been aboard at the same time. He on the *Forrestral*, and I aboard the *Fiske*. It is amazing that after 46 years, to have met someone



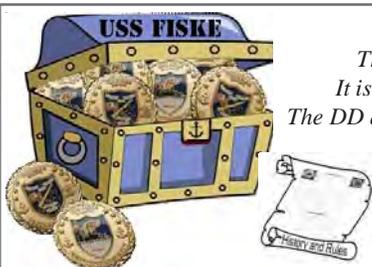
with such a shared experience. Even more amazing was that he had taken the pictures below from the USS *Forrestral* CV 59 in August of 1967, shortly after the Equator crossing and was kind enough to share them with me. Although it was a sunny day those were some pretty steep waves. (The Fiske crossed the Equator twice - in 1966, and again in 1967.)

The lesson here is that wearing your Fiske hat or another sign of your service can bring some very interesting meetings with other Navy personnel.

Narrated by Dave Taylor, LTjg '66-68



8/25/1967 USS FISKE in heavy seas and high winds - photo by Ken Killmeyer, (USS Forrestral) courtesy of Dave Taylor.



Fiske Challenge Coins

This beautiful coin measures 1 5/8" between its crisscross edges. It is two-toned shiny and textured gold with silver/nickel highlights. The DD and DDR ship's patches are featured in full color (one on each side). Finished and sealed with an epoxy coating, the coin is contained within a clear poly envelope. Yours to treasure for years to come! Free History and Rules with every order.

Order From Ship's Store



\$13.00 ea, or 2 for \$25.00



Steve Gilbert
YN3 1958-1960

A Special Report by Webmaster Steve Gilbert

Identity theft is a life-altering crime for its victims - one we all hope doesn't happen to us. This easy-to-understand report will help you take steps to protect your private information with the use of strong effective passwords.



What's Up With Security?

Passwords:

Let's be honest, these days, we need a password or PIN everywhere. We have so many that we can't keep track of them all. We forget to update them; and when we do, it's difficult to come up with effective ones that we can still remember, so we procrastinate changing them for months, even years. We all know this is bad, but the alternative – the painful, irritating password creation and memorization process – is sometimes more than we can tolerate. There is hope!

Passwords don't have to be complex cryptograms. A few simple methods can help make living with passwords a little easier.

While we may find them annoying, and even take them for granted, it is important to remember why they are so important: Passwords are often the first (and possibly only) defense against intrusion and identify theft.

They protect personal information that we don't want anyone and everyone to know. In our personal lives, this means financial information, health data, and private documents.

How to Choose Good Passwords:

Now that we have established their importance, we can discuss ways of creating good, strong and effective passwords. It is often helpful to keep in mind some of the methods by which they may be cracked. Let's begin with what NOT to do when choosing passwords.

No Dictionary Words, Proper Nouns or Foreign Words:

Password cracking tools are very effective at processing large quantities of letter and number combinations methods until a match for the password is found, therefore you should avoid using conventional words as passwords.

By the same token, you should also avoid regular words with numbers tacked onto the end and conventional words that are simply written backwards, such as 'nimda'. While these may prove to be difficult for people to figure out, they are no match for the brute force attacks of password cracking tools.

No Personal Information:

One of the frustrating things about passwords is that they need to be easy for you to remember. Naturally, this leads many of us to incorporate personal information into our passwords. Sadly, it is alarmingly easy for hackers to obtain personal information about prospective targets. As such, it is strongly recommended that you not include such information in their passwords.

This means that the password should not include anything remotely related to your name, nickname, or the name of a family member or pet.

Also, the password should not contain any easily recognizable numbers like phone numbers, birth days, or addresses or other information that someone could guess by picking up your mail.

Length, Width and Depth:

A strong, effective password requires a necessary degree of complexity. Three factors, length, width, and depth, can help you to develop this complexity:

1. **Length** means that the longer a password, the more difficult it is to crack. Simply put, longer is better. Probability dictates that the longer a password the more difficult it will be to crack. It is generally recommended that passwords be between six and nine characters. Greater length is acceptable, as long as the operating system allows for it and you can remember the password. However, shorter passwords should be avoided.

2. **Width** is a way of describing the different types of characters that are used. Don't just consider the alphabet. There are also numbers and special characters like '%', and in most operating systems, upper and lower case letters are also known as different characters. Windows, for example, is not always case sensitive. (This means it doesn't know the difference between 'A' and 'a'). As a general rule the following character sets should all be included in every password:

- uppercase letters such as A, B, C;
- lowercase letters such as a, b,c;
- numerals such as 1, 2, 3;
- special characters such as \$, ?, &;

Changing Passwords: In order to ensure their ongoing effectiveness, passwords should be changed on a regular basis.con't on page 7

Ship's Store

with 2nd Vice President,
& Ship's Storekeeper, Sandie Siciliano



ETN2 1975-1980

These are just some of the items we have in stock. You can view the complete ship's store on the website. Please use the order form on page 8.

All shirts and caps are \$12.00 each.



Shirts are blue or gray.



Ball caps come in a beautiful stone beige, or navy. Or choose our new bucket cap in navy.



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



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

Can Koozies, Magnetic Clips, Letter Openers (not shown), and Stress Balls are all \$4.00 ea, 2 for \$7.00, or 3 for \$10.00. (items can be combined)



Genuine Buck Gent Knife - \$30.00



Handle has the Fiske hull numbers and image.



James R. Rapson
ENS/LTjg - 1964-1967

The Treasurer's Report

Once again, being the last to submit my article for the newsletter gives me the opportunity to see what all others have written and not run the risk of duplicating any of their efforts. I am constantly reminded also, that I should always follow the "KISS" principle - "keep it simple stupid".

That said, the Association thanks all of those members who have sent in their dues monies. Some of you are even paid several years ahead, so I would ask that you email me to determine where you stand before you send your payment.

We will continue to add the tear off portion on the back page of this newsletter to assist you in sending in your dues. I would suggest that you pick a date, within each year, that is an easy reminder for you to pay your Association dues; perhaps your birthday, the month you reported aboard (or left the ship) or the month of September, which is the reunion

month every two years. Whichever works best for you is also best for the Association.

In the spring of 2015 we will publish the sign-up sheet for the 2015 Reunion in Gettysburg. We are trying to put together the best package of activities for everyone with some organized tours balanced with free time to explore on your own or in small groups.

As in the past, ALL hotel reservations will be made directly with the hotel. Please wait for the spring 2015 announcement before you attempt to make your reservations as you will need the Group Code to ensure that you get the Association rate. Rest assured that we have ample rooms set aside and no one will be left out.

I believe that this completes my allotted space and the "KISS" principle. May you always have fair winds and following seas. - James



Changing passwords securely is fairly simple using the Windows Control Panel. Once every two or three months should be a good rule of thumb.

And, most of us have multiple platforms upon which there is a password: iPad, iPhone, PC, tablet, even the TV set and house phone. The temptation is to use the same password for all the devices. Not a good idea! Once a hacker has gotten one of your

What's Up With The Web....con't from page 6

passwords, they now have a gateway to all your other accounts. For sanity sake, I've created a listing of ten passwords and keep them safely tucked away in a book. I select a different password for each of my accounts from that list. So, no two accounts have the same password.

As always, should you have questions, please email me at

webmaster@ussfiske.org



- Steve

Make your selection from items shown throughout the newsletter



Sandra Ehlers Siciliano
ETN2 (USNR)

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



SHIP'S STORE ORDER FORM

Charleston Souvenir
2 GB Flash Drive - \$8.00
(sale - was \$10.00)



PERSONALIZED MUG
Black, White, Cobalt Blue or Green
SUPPLIER DROP-SHIPS \$25



Personalized Mug: Name or Nickname Color: Rate: Years: DD (or) DDR \$25.00
Please print clearly to avoid errors

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

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Your assistance will help us reduce the cost to print and mail notices with postage at .49 cents per ounce each!

2014

Clip this out and return with your check in the amount of \$10.00 made payable to the USS Fiske (DD/DDR-842) Association, Inc.

Dues

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Email: _____

NOTE: For Members who are either current or paid ahead, the amount will be recorded for the next open year.

Send To:

USS Fiske (DD/DDR-842) Association, Inc.
c/o 244 Park View Avenue - Warwick, RI 02888

Email: jrrapson@cox.net - Phone: (401) 781-5879



A contribution in any amount to help those members unable to pay their dues is always greatly appreciated.