



Newsletter of the USS BAINBRIDGE ASSOCIATION

February 2002

2001 REUNION IN TUCSON

The U.S.S. Bainbridge's second inland reunion took place in the Sonoran Desert, the last weekend of September 2001 in Tucson, Arizona. Nearly 60 of your shipmates made the trip to Arizona to enjoy sunny, hot days crammed full of activities. This reunion was all the more special as it came in the wake of the horrific events of September 11, when many folks were forsaking airplane travel and staying close to home. Those who made the trek to Arizona agreed that our gathering was all the more significant as we came together to not only celebrate our Bainbridge years, but this great country we all served so proudly. It truly was a real red, white and blue event.



Reunion attendees at the Rodeo Museum get a ride in the historic jail wagon pulled by a pair of draft horses.

Among the many events participated in was a private tour of the Tucson Rodeo Museum. It houses a collection of non-motorized vehicles from the early days when Arizona was only a territory, and crossing the desert was a grueling and dangerous trip. Docents led tours through buildings containing Conestoga wagons, buckboards, carriages and the many-wheeled vehicles maintained by volunteers. We even got a ride in an old jail wagon pulled around the rodeo grounds by two beautiful horses. Other activities were a tour of the Pima Air Museum and our own docent-narrated bus tour of the boneyard, the largest collection of retired aircraft in the world. The museum is the largest private collection of aircraft in the country.

Many of the attendees also went to the San Xavier Mission, a beautiful, recently restored historic church on Native American land.

Our last full day together saw most of us traveling over the Tucson Mountains and into the desert dotted with thousands of saguaro cactus to visit the world famous Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. This state-of-the-art combination zoo and museum features plants and animals of the Sonoran desert displayed in their native habitat. Some of us enjoyed the special treat of a tour led by our own Liz Davies, who is also a docent for the museum. Next was a visit to Old Tucson Studios where many of the western movies and television series have been filmed. Our group saw shootouts, caroused with dance hall girls and walked the same streets as John Wayne once did.

Before and after the tours and whenever the occasion allowed, attendees gathered on the lawn, under the trees outside of our hospitality rooms. Here shipmates and wives got acquainted or re-acquainted, caught up with each others lives, and exchanged sea stories.

Our final evening together was a banquet gala with decorations both western and patriotic where we enjoyed a delicious and lavish buffet of southwestern favorites. During the evening we were honored to enjoy a talk by Admiral Peet, who attended with his wife, Dian. Toasts were offered to our shipmates who have passed, to the President of the United States and to all of our shipmates no matter where they may be. At the end of the evening there was a raffle for, the benefit of the Bainbridge Association, of all the wonderful items generously donated by the attendees who brought mementos from their home state, Bainbridge memorabilia or just gift items others might enjoy. It was a great success.



Cont'd next page.

Sunday, September 30, those shipmates who did not have to catch early transportation were invited to a breakfast buffet at the home of Bob and Liz Davies. We reveled in the opportunity to enjoy each other one more time before everyone headed home.

We have high hopes that we will all gather again in 2002 for the next reunion in Rapid City, South Dakota. We hope those of you who were not able to make this one will start your plans to join us then as it is always wonderful to see friends from the past.

The shipmates, spouses and friends who attended this year's reunion are:

Jim and Kay Andrus, Harold and Deanne Beers, John and Charlotte Bradley, John and Nancy Browning, Bob and Liz Davies, Herb and Dee Filer, Jerry and Carol Fulk, Joseph and Ruth Gray, Ed and Lydia Haggerty, Richard and Roberta Hawkins, Mack and Barbara Hayes, Jim and Celia Hillman, Dick and Leta Holloway, Glenn Hostetter, Jim Iozzo and Carol Hettinga,, RADM Bill and Colleen Neel, Ray Noyes, VADM Ray and Dian Peet, John and Charlotte Perry, George Phillips and daughter Sarah, John and Judy Peirson, Tom Doc and Dot Pogue, Rodney and Vera Richardson, Bob and Merna Rittenhouse, Clay Selby, Raese and Ann Simpson, Bonnie Wehle (formerly Snyder), Jim and Carol Wharton, Michael and Jerrie White, John Wood and Jean Wilcox.



Visiting and renewing old acquaintances under the trees outside the hospitality room in Tucson.

Looking for Shipmates

The Association is trying to find lost shipmates, maybe you are, too. If you know of anyone who may not be on our mailing list, or would like to locate a shipmate, please let us know. We are correlating the roster on the website (see article next column) with our mailing list which will garner many new names for the Association. But we can always use your help, and we might be able to help you, too.

REUNION 2002

Start Planning Now

The Bainbridge reunion for 2002 is set for the 26th, 27th and 28th of September at the Alex Johnson Hotel in Rapid City, South



Dakota. This is a unique part of the country with lots of sights to see. Some of the trips we are planning in the area are Mt Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park, Needles Highway, and Deadwood City with its Boot Hill.

Reunion coordinator Jim Iozzo has reserved 50 rooms for those dates. The rates are \$65.00 plus tax per night for either a single or double room. If you want to come earlier or stay later the rates will be the same. You can fly into Rapid City. The hotel's phone number is 800 888 2539. You can e-mail Jim Iozzo at Coppo175@aol.com.

NEW WEBSITE

The Bainbridge Association has a new website that is well worth checking out. The website address is www.bainbridgeassociation.org. A rousing rendition of Anchors Aweigh plays while the Home Page is open. The site is full of interesting information. Some of the pages you can visit include: Ships General Statistics; Mission; History; biographies of the first and last Commanding Officers; reunion information; meeting minutes; and a roster of shipmates. The roster contains the names of over 800 shipmates, together with their rank, years onboard, and e-mail address. This is great way to re-connect with old friends.

The webmaster of the new site is Ed Haggerty. Ed took the site over from Jason Lloyd, who operated it for five years. Jason and Ed are to be congratulated on building an excellent website.

Executive Board Action

Acting in accordance with the Association By-Laws, paragraph 3. Membership, the Executive Board voted Bonnie Wehle a member of the USS Bainbridge Association. This paragraph allows that a person not related to someone who served on the Bainbridge, may be voted a member if they have an extraordinary relationship to the Association. Bonnie was extremely touched by the Board's action.

DECK PLATE PLAQUES

A section of deck plate from the after missile control space was obtained from the shipyard prior to the scrapping of the Bainbridge. This deck plate was cut into 2 inch by 3 inch plates which were surface milled for a polished finish. Each plaque consists of a polished piece of deck plate mounted on a black walnut plaque. The plaque is pictured in the photo below. A blue and white label mounted to the plaque reads:

USS BAINBRIDGE DLGN/CGN 25
DECK PLATE

Deck plate plaques are available to all dues-paying members of the association. Checks should be made out to REH Hardwood Designs in the amount of \$31.00 (which includes shipping). Non-dues-paying members may obtain the deck plate plaque by joining the association and purchasing the plaque at the same time. Checks for membership dues should be made out to the USS Bainbridge Association in the amount of \$15.00. Both checks should be mailed to:

Richard E. Holloway
Treasurer, USS Bainbridge Association
11415 Calhoun Rd
Omaha, NE 68152

Questions concerning the deck plate plaques may be directed to Richard Holloway at 402-451-0485 or rehhardwood@earthlink.net.



Admiral Peet accepting a deck plate plaque from Bob Davies at the banquet. Earlier Admiral Peet presented the Association with the commissioning pennant, which was displayed throughout the reunion.

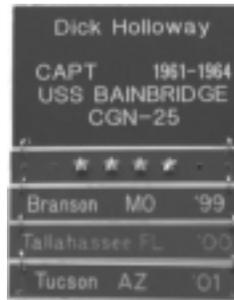
Published by the USS Bainbridge Association
Editors: Bob and Liz Davies
Design and layout: Bonnie Wehle

Association Officers

President: Bob Rittenhouse (roberrittenhous@aol.com)
Vice Pres.: John Browning (jnbrowning@gallatinriver.net)
Secretary: Bob Davies (edavies@gci-net.com)
Treasurer: Dick Holloway (rehhardwood@earthlink.net)
Webmaster: Ed Haggerty (haggerty@nlcsinc.com)

REDESIGNED REUNION NAME TAGS

Each year the Association provides a blue 2" by 3" engraved name tag for those attending the reunion for the first time, and a blue 1/2" by 3" reunion location tag identifying the city, state and year of the reunion. The reunion location tag is attached to the name tag. For those attending multiple reunions the location tag is added to the name tag to show the total number of reunions the member has attended. We have had seven reunions so far, so it is possible that a members could have a total of seven location tags on his name tag. It is apparent that the size of the name tag for some of the members is getting out of hand.



In an effort to reduce the size of the name tag, we will provide an alternate name tag which replaces the multiple location tags with a single 1/2" by 3" blue tag. The single tag will have provisions for the attachment of up to eight silver stars, each star signifying attendance at a past reunion.

These tags will be made available to all members by mail or at future reunions. The cost of the alternate name tag is \$3.00 for the blue tag and \$1.00 for each silver star desired. For those ordering by mail please identify the number of stars desired and add \$3.00 for shipping cost. Requests may be sent to Richard Holloway, at the addresses given in the previous article.

MORE REUNION PHOTOS



Relaxing under the trees outside hospitality room.



Reunion attendees at Pima Air Museum, awaiting bus for Boneyard tour.

USS BAINBRIDGE ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 65198
Tucson AZ 85728



PLEASE JOIN US

If you are not a member, we would love to have you join. Your dues help support the organization.
Annual dues are \$15.00. Checks should be made out to: USS Bainbridge Association and sent to:
Richard Holloway, Treasurer, USS Bainbridge Association, 11415 Calhoun Rd. Omaha, NE 68152

I would like to support the USS Bainbridge Association with my membership.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City and state: _____ Zip: _____
E-mail address: _____