



# Newsletter of the USS BAINBRIDGE ASSOCIATION

March 2003

## 2002 REUNION IN RAPID CITY



An impressive welcome in Rapid City.

For those of us who gathered in Rapid City, South Dakota on September 26 through 29 at the historic Hotel Alex Johnson, right in the old downtown area, this reunion offered lots of the old and plenty of new. Meeting in this mid-United States city, far from any seaport, lent an interesting twist to a Naval reunion. (Is this a pattern, the last one was in the desert!?) The weather was great, the scenery was terrific and reunion was one of our best.

Hosted by Jim Iozzo, who did a terrific job organizing most of it from his home 900 miles away, with a few trips to Rapid City to finalize plans, this reunion attracted over 60 Bainbridge crew and their families. In fact, even though we weren't near any of Bainbridge's duty stations, we had quite a few "new" faces to greet.



Mary and Herb Filer at movie set.

Among the activities we enjoyed were a cowboy-style breakfast on the movie set of "Dances with Wolves". The movie was largely filmed in the area

of the Lakota Indians who originated in this area. We also enjoyed some amazingly beautiful drives through the Black Hills of South Dakota. We rode through state

and federal parks, stopping at resorts that even Presidents have enjoyed and marveling at the fantastic formations of the hills. A highlight was our visit to Mt. Rushmore, where we had plenty of time to view historical sights, take pictures and do some required souvenir shopping. Another special treat was seeing the Crazy Horse Monument, which is still in the construction phase but nonetheless very imposing and has a terrific visitor center and art gallery. On one of our excursions we even stopped at Deadwood City, a colorful western-style town where every store, hotel and shop featured a casino, or at least a battery of slot machines, in the front of the establishment. We also visited the site of what was once one of the largest and most prolific producing silver mines in the world.

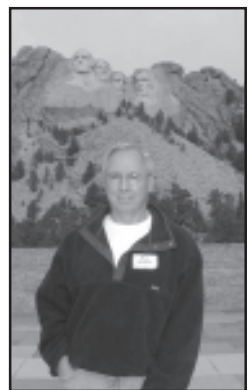


Is this an interesting meeting, or what?

While all of the sightseeing was a lot of fun, the best part of the entire reunion was the mingling and meeting and reminiscing of shipmates and their families. We were able to visit throughout the reunion in a spacious hospitality room the hotel provided. For the final evening banquet we gathered in a large, elegant room with plenty of space to hold our annual auction and enjoy a delicious meal. As usual, the auction was a lot of fun and raised money for the Bainbridge fund.

At the annual meeting, which is always held before the reunion is over, shipmates made suggestions, decided on future reunion sites, and elected the officers for the coming year:

While all of the sightseeing was a lot of fun, the best part of the entire reunion was the mingling and meeting and



Raese Simpson and the presidents.

## REUNION 2003 WASHINGTON D. C.

Next BAINBRIDGE reunion plans are brewing!  
Please mark your calendars for September 18, 19, 20  
and 21, 2003, and join us in Washington, DC.

Our headquarters hotel is just outside the district, the Hilton Arlington & Towers in the Ballston section of Arlington, Virginia. We have negotiated a special rate of \$99 per night, which extends beyond the reunion dates, so you can add an extra day or two to see even more of the DC area. If you are driving to DC, we have a special parking rate at the hotel parking garage, too. (You can bring kids or grandchildren, too; much of what we see or do is at little or no cost for them, if they are under 12 !)

The Ballston area is loaded with a wide variety of restaurants, shops, malls, cafes, etc. At the hotel, there will be an arrival reception; we'll have a hospitality suite, and the traditional banquet and



departure breakfast. As a very special feature, we feel most fortunate to have for our Banquet speaker our plank owner communicator, then LTJG Jim Roche, now the Honorable Dr. James G.

Roche, Secretary of the Air Force, as the banquet speaker. We are delighted that his wife, Diane, will accompany him.

We will visit the Navy Memorial viewing a film about modern Task Group Warfare and witness a wreath laying ceremony honoring our Bainbridge shipmates who have passed on. The U.S. Navy will supply an active duty Honor Guard and Bugler for the event.

The hotel is right on top of the DC metro, which we will use as our principal travel tool, along with the Tourmobile. Tourmobile riders may get on and off at any of the major points of interest along the mall and at Arlington National Cemetery. It goes to attractions such as the Capitol Building, the IMAX theater in Air and Space Museum, the Museum of Natural History, the National Art Gallery, the American History Museum, the Vietnam, Korean & WWII War Memorials, the FDR, Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, the Washington Monument and many

other attractions around the Mall. See the pandas at the National Zoo, too. We're working on special Metro and Tourmobile rates and on adding exclusive tours of the Pentagon, and the White House. A special event is a Sunday cruise down the Potomac, a chance to "get back to sea" while schmoozing with your shipmates on the way to Mount Vernon, with lunch and shopping available.



In early summer we plan to send you a complete package that will include the activities we have planned as part of the reunion, as well as other attractions available in the area should you be able to stay longer. Please use the mailing coupon on page 5 to indicate your preference, and drop it in the mail at your earliest convenience. If you know of any shipmates who are not receiving materials from us, please let us know and we will contact them as well. Feel free to call either of us (Bill or George) if you have any questions or need help with your plans.

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### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Ahoy Shipmates! It will soon be time for all Bainbridge crew members to muster on station! Our reunions are not just about seeing old familiar faces. We also get to see new places. Believe me, the effort put forth for these reunions, and the results of those efforts, are fantastic. If you miss just one, it will probably be the best ever. Washington D. C. happens to be my favorite place to visit and I am sure this will be the best reunion ever! Why don't you plan on being there?! I got an e-mail the other day from a Bainbridge sailor, Walter Nielsen. Walter had the opportunity to sail on the Bainbridge for her second West/Pac cruise. Walter works at Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine, as a ship fitter. A new and improved USS Bainbridge is being built, DDG96. Her hull number is 477. [See article on page 4]. I hope Walter will be able to attend the reunion and fill us in on this new ship.

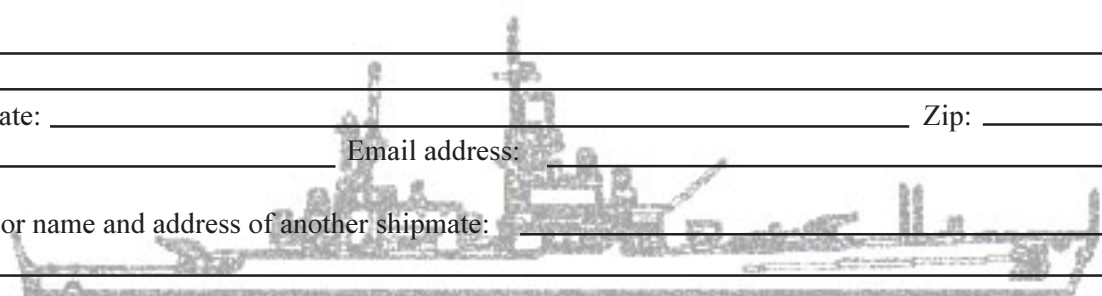
Until we meet again I remain, Bob Rittenhouse,  
President, Bainbridge Association.

**Please check your preference and return by April 30th.**

Return to George Phillips at address on page 2.

- Yes, send me the full reunion package. I hope to attend the Washington D.C. reunion.
- No thanks, I cannot, or do not care to attend.
- Please remove my name from the Bainbridge Association mailing list.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City and State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments or name and address of another shipmate: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



-----clip here and return -----

**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. 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 (\$15.00 annual dues) 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.

**REUNION PHOTOS  
AVAILABLE ON CD**

The association is in the process of producing a CD that contains many photos of your shipmates, guests, friends and activities taken during the last four reunions. It has one section for each of the reunions in Branson, Missouri (1999), Tallahassee, Florida (2000), Tucson, Arizona (2001) and Rapid City, South Dakota (2002). If you have at any time in the past paid dues to the Bainbridge Association, a copy of the CD will be mailed at no cost to you in the near future.

Photos taken at our Washington DC reunion and subsequent reunions will be added to the reunion photo CD and an updated CD will be sent to all current dues paying members. Due to the costs involved in producing and mailing the Photo CDs, the Association has decided to limit our mailing of all future reunion photo CD's (after the Washington DC reunion) only to current dues paying members. Naturally, if you decide to become current dues paying member of the Bainbridge Association, the Association will send an annual reunion photo CD to you too.

Members desiring to have their digital photos from past reunions included in the reunion photo CD are encouraged to send their photos to Richard Holloway (see article on Deck Plate Plaques for address) for incorporation into the master reunion photo CD. All photos included in the master CD will be credited by name to the shipmate providing the photos.

USS BAINBRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
4237 N. Osage Drive  
Tucson AZ 85718



## 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 by e-mail to [rehardwood@earthlink.net](mailto:rehardwood@earthlink.net), or by mail to:

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

## NOTICE THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER

Past newsletters have been mailed to all shipmates on our master list, regardless of whether they are dues paying members or not. Due to the expense of mailing newsletters the Association cannot continue this policy. Future newsletters will be mailed only to those members that are current (paid up) members of the Association. Please check your address label on this newsletter for the status of your membership. If you are a current dues paying member the year 2003 will show up on the label. If you have paid dues in the past but are not a current dues paying member, the last year you paid dues will be indicated. If you have never paid dues the year 0000 will be indicated.

Those shipmates not in a current dues paying status are requested to fill out the dues notice form provided in this newsletter and mail the form and check to Richard Holloway at the address provided on the form.

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