



# USS Seattle AOE-3

## Veteran's Association Newsletter



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Issue # 19                      2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter - 2017                      Issued: May, 2017

Editor: Dale Eicker                      Contributing Editors: David Holton, Rich Toma, Vic Hellberg and Bill Norris

**TIME to Think About our Next Reunion**  
 Preparations are underway for reunion # 9 in San Francisco, CA. With plans for some tours, meals, and such in the works and an Itinerary almost set.  
 Have you made your reservations yet? More information about the reunion including an itinerary will be ready by the next newsletter – check the website for updates also – the sooner everyone makes reservations, the better.

<b>Your Officers:</b>	<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Phone</i>
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	Member at Large #4	Ray Pierce	<a href="mailto:Ray.Pierce1950@gmail.com">Ray.Pierce1950@gmail.com</a>	(817)503-0325

### DUES for 2017

**Shipmates,**  
 The association is not about money, but it needs money to operate and that is the primary reason for annual dues. Each year dues are due by January 15, so the association has tried many things to remind our membership to pay their dues. This activity has been time consuming and expensive so we have sought out other methods of reminders. PayPal offers to send out email invoices at no charge to the association allowing the member to pay online through PayPal. PayPal tracks payments and sends out email reminders all at no cost to the association. Members that prefer to pay their membership dues by check can still do so by mailing a check to the treasurer and the treasurer will update PayPal that payment has been received. We are excited about this new method and can only see benefit for the membership and the association.

**Make checks payable to:**  
 USS Seattle AOE3 Veterans Association

**Send checks to:**  
 USS Seattle AOE3 Veterans Association  
 Ray Pierce, Treasurer  
 5108 Abby Road  
 N. Richland Hills, TX 76180

## Letter from The Association President

Shipmates,

Several weeks ago the USS Ross and USS Porter fired 59 missiles into Syria. This attack was accomplished with exact execution and precision. I went on-line and watched videos from the Department of Defense. That awesome display of power I saw could not have compared to what the experience was for the sailors aboard.

It got me thinking about all the training and preparation that had taken place aboard those ships before that launch could be made. The weapons design and testing. The rocket launching design, assembly, and maintenance over the years. The computer program coding and their backup systems. Stationing the ship at an exact location so the rockets could reach their target. And of course the skills and hours of training by hundreds of sailors and officers who had to be 100% certain that the equipment was ready and the communications crisp and clear.

It wasn't until many years after leaving the Navy that I realized the vast majority of the ship's complement was under 25 years of age. I doubt it has changed much since then. An awesome responsibility is given to all our service men and women and their ability to rise to each occasion.

They deserve our gratitude, admiration, and prayers.

David Holton,  
President, USSSVA

## Seattle Sailors on Deck

We put out a newsletter several times a year. One of the ideas for articles in each newsletter is a feature about shipmates who served aboard Seattle and who now do special community service all across the country. Each of us has time to do good things as a volunteer where we live. We have become aware of several of our members who do good things in their communities.

We are going to highlight our former shipmates with their stories as we learn about them. So, with those we have identified we will start our series. From you who are reading this, we need you to tell us your stories. It may be about yourself or it may be about a shipmate you know, and we want to know all about it. If you can't write your story we will interview you via email, skype, Facebook or phone. We want to highlight shipmates doing community service.

Send your stories to Dale Eicker, our newsletter editor. Dale is a professional editor. He makes all of our newsletters look professional no matter how we send the information to him. He does not care about your spelling or grammar. He makes us all look good, so send your stories to [deicker@comcast.net](mailto:deicker@comcast.net).

David Holton,  
President, USSSVA

## SHIP'S STORE ITEM

### Shipmates,

Each year, at our reunion, a free gift is presented to each shipmate when checking in. It is then added to the ship's store as a permanent item for sale. As an example, last year, we gave a curved glass picture frame which holds a 4 X 6 picture. The area beside the picture is etched with our association logo above and a silhouette of our ship below. This is the picture of mine with the picture of the Seattle wreath being presented at the Tomb of the Unknown. This item is now in the store for \$33.00 (item #48)



This year our reunion is in San Francisco. We are doing something different this year and announcing before the reunion our main gift. We have already received into inventory USS Seattle AOE-3 Veterans Association selfie sticks and cases. And for those who are not able to come to this year's reunion it is for sale in the ship's store \$25.00 (item #49).



**Vic Hellberg**  
Ship's Store Manager

## The LIFER's Club

Albert Kaspar (1969)	Don McVey (1968)	Myron Carter (1969)
Bill Norris (1968)	Earl Boutell (1968)	Pete Lowry (1968)
Bill Tirrell (1968)	George Hastings Jr. (1968)	Peter F. Leon (1970)
C. E. "Andy" Anderson (1973)	Gordon Sterling (1971)	Raymond Pierce (1968)
Charles Rudd (1981)	Jerry Mason (1979)	Rich Toma (1971)
Chester Clark (1968)	Jim Pease (1969)	Richard Patty (1973)
Craig Honour (1991)	Keith Jones (1968)	Robert Miller (1969)
Dale Eicker (1970)	Lance Briggs (1975)	Roger W. Kane (1974)
David Caldwell (1968)	Mark C. Giraldi (1973)	Steven Firks (1996)
David "Frosty" Frost (1984)	Marland Townsend (1971)	Stu Tyson (1968)
David L. Holton (1971)	Michael Miller (1969)	Vic Hellberg (1968)
David Stein (1969)	Mike Stanaszek (1969)	William A. Wadsworth (1975)
	James Conn (1969?)	

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### New Life Members --- 2017

James Conn – 03/21/2017 – became our newest life member.

### New Members

Paul Netopski joined 4/24/17 To Date: 37 life members & 60 regular members (97 total)..

### Renewals for Feb./Mar. 2017

We have received 6 renewals for February and 6 renewals for March 2017.

Wallet cards and receipts have been sent to each via snail mail.

## SHIPMATE SPOTLIGHT

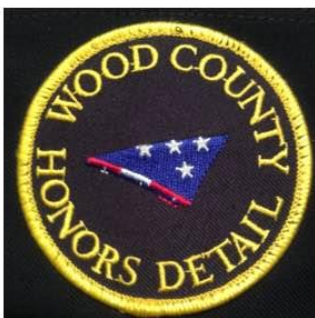
Ron Goebel

In January 1968 I was sent to San Diego for pre-commissioning training. That's where I met a good friend, Vic Hellberg. Upon arriving at the USS Seattle (AOE-3) we met Captain Bruce Keener, who personally took a group of us aboard our new ship.

After commissioning it was on to Home Port, Norfolk Virginia. Training was conducted in Guantánamo Bay Cuba. I received an early out in June of 1970.

After discharge, I worked in mobile communications for two years. Became a Deputy Sheriff, a position I held for 28 years.

My father passed away 2010 and received military honors at his funeral. This inspired me to become part of the group that performed those military honors so that I could help to honor others. The former leader of the Honors group passed away last December and I was chosen by the other members of our group to carry on the responsibility.



## A TID-BIT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Most of us at one time or another stood a quarterdeck watch while in port or a bridge watch while underway. This copy of a deck log, one of several thousand that were filled out during Seattle's 36 years should bring back a memory or two. This particular copy was obtained from Craig Honour's personal memorabilia collection. Original deck logs from 1969 through 1978 are located in the National Archives Building in College Park, Maryland. As of three years ago, the Navy had not yet released more recent logs. If approved after a short vetting process, the public is permitted to "hands on" review of these documents. I had the opportunity to sit there for almost 8 hours browsing over these logs for research. I actually got a few goosebumps after reading a few pages that I had filled out while on watch back in the early 70's over 40 years ago. Great experience.

OPNAV 3100/99 (Rev. 7-84)  
S/N 0107-LF-031-0486

### SHIP'S DECK LOG SHEET

IF CLASSIFIED BY AMP SECURITY MARKING HERE

USE BLACK INK TO FILL IN THIS LOG

SHIP TYPE	HULL NUMBER	YEAR	MONTH	ZONE	DAY
DA	AOE-003	3	Q	R	01

USS SEATTLE

AT / PASSAGE FROM PIER 4 EAST

TO NWS EARLE NJ

POSITION	ZONE	TIME	POSITION	ZONE	TIME	POSITION	ZONE	TIME
0800			1200			2000		
L		BY	L		BY	L		BY
λ		BY	λ		BY	λ		BY

LEGEND  
1 - CELESTIAL  
2 - ELECTRONIC  
3 - VISUAL  
4 - D. R.

TIME	ORDER	CSE	SPEED	DEPTH	RECORD OF ALL EVENTS OF THE DAY
18 - 21	23 - 29	30 - 32	33 - 38	37 - 40 41	77
					0000 - 0400 (CONT)
					AND BEHINDS IT KEEPS US BOYS FROM SIN
					FOR OUR LOVED ONES THIS EVENING MAY BE SAD
					BECAUSE THEY ARE WITHOUT DEAR OLD DAD.
					I SUGGEST THEY ALL STAY MERRY AND HAPPY
					CAUSE TOMORROW THEY WILL SEE THEIR PAPPY.
					SO HERE IS SOME ADVICE FOR THE NEW YEAR TO COME
					LET US BE SAFE AND ACT AS ONE.
					HAPPY NEW YEAR!
0024					SK3 KENNETH HARTMAN, 066-72-9504, CHECKED IN FROM LEAVE
0100					DC CENTRAL REPORTS CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0205					DC CENTRAL REPORTS CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0238					SHORE PATROL RETURNS
0308					DC CENTRAL REPORTS CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0345					WATCH PROPERLY RELIEVED BY ENS GIVENS
					MJ ELBERT ENS
					MJ ELBERT ENS
					0400 - 0800
0345					ASSUMED THE WATCH MOORED AS BEFORE
0400					DC CENTRAL REPORTS ALL CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0500					DC CENTRAL REPORTS ALL CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0600					DC CENTRAL REPORTS ALL CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0700					DC CENTRAL REPORTS ALL CONDITIONS NORMAL FMP 158/158
0745					WATCH PROPERLY RELIEVED BY MMI BURKE
					R.D. GIVENS ENS
					R.D. GIVENS ENS
					0800 - 1200
0745					ASSUMED THE WATCH MOORED AS BEFORE

REPORT SYMBOL

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USS SEATTLE AOE-3 (cover). SN Price and SN Filighia, eds. N.p., (1971); Unpaged, white hardcover with green printing and green silhouette of the Seattle Tower.



Seconds. Dave Holton, ed. Norfolk, Virginia: Lloyd's of Norfolk, Ltd., (1972). Unpaged, black hardcover with white printing and white outline of the ship.

**SEEKING FRONT COVER SCAN**

U.S.S. SEATTLE AOE-3, MED Cruise 1973.



USS SEATTLE AOE-3 Mediterranean Deployment, Jan 76 - July 76. Cover: USS SEATTLE 1976. JO3 Cotton and MS3 Agnew, eds. Norfolk, Virginia: Liskey Lithograph, (1976). 128 pp., light brown hardcover with black printing and sketch of Indian headdress.



King of the MED. Cover: USS SEATTLE (AOE-3), Mediterranean Cruise, July 1977 - January 1978. LTJG Spalding et al, eds. Norfolk, Virginia: Tiffany Publishing Co., (1978). Unpaged, white hardcover with blue printing, blue piping, and blue ship's crest.



USS SEATTLE AOE-3, MED Cruise '79, 16 January - 13 July. Anon. Norfolk, Virginia: Tiffany Publishing Company, (1979). Unpaged, black hardcover with white printing and white piping.



U.S.S. SEATTLE, Voyage 1981. Cover: Voyage 1981. Anon. N.p., (1981). 112 pp., brown hardcover with raised printing, raised piping and embossed gold ship's crest.



Doing It With the "Slew," 84 MED Cruise (cover). MMCM E. Bruun, and MMCM Webster M. Wallace, eds. Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Company, (1985). (76) pp., blue hardcover with gold printing and embossed gold ship's crest.



MED. Cruise 85-86, United States Ship SEATTLE (cover). Maroon hardcover with gold printing and embossed gold ship's crest.



United States Ship SEATTLE, MED Cruise 87-88 (cover). LT James W. Doyle, ed. Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Company, (1988). 128 pp., dark gray hardcover with gold printing, gold piping, and embossed gold ship's crest.



USS SEATTLE (AOE-3) 1990-1991 Operations DESERT SHIELD/STORM. Cover: DESERT SHIELD - DESERT STORM 1990-1991. LTJG D. Justynski, LTJG A.L. Creed and QMCS(SW) Gary E. Miller, eds. Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Company, (1991). (128) pp., green hardcover with gold printing and embossed gold ship's crest.



USS SEATTLE (AOE-3), Operation PROVIDE COMFORT, 1993. Anon. Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Company, (1993). 128 pp., blue hardcover with gold printing, gold piping, and embossed gold ship's crest.



USS SEATTLE (AOE-3), Cover: USS SEATTLE (AOE-3), 1997-98 Mediterranean Cruise, Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. Anon. N.p., (1998). 104 pp., green hardcover with light green printing, light green piping, light green silhouette of the ship and embossed gold ship's crest.



USS SEATTLE AOE-3, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, February/August, 2002 (cover). Green hardcover with gold printing and embossed gold ship's crest.



USS SEATTLE AOE-3, We Feed the Fight, Last Deployment Cruise Book, Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, 7 JUN - 14 DEC, 2004. Cover: USS SEATTLE AOE-3, We Feed the Fight, Final Deployment Cruise Book, Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, 7 June - 14 December 2004. LT E. Reeves Flint, CHC, et al, eds. N.p., (2005). 80 pp., blue hardcover with gold printing and gold piping.

## USS SEATTLE (AOE-3)

ALL OF THE KNOWN COVERS OF THE SEATTLE CRUISE BOOKS.

**CURRENT REUNION SCHEDULE of EVENTS**

Day	Event	Time	Comments
Wednesday	Arrival - Check-in		
	Member registration fee		
Day Total			
Thursday	Kickoff & General meeting	8:30 am – 10:15 am	
	Show and tell	10:30 am – 11:30am	Hope to get Doc
	Bus Leaves for Pier 39	12:00	
	Alcatraz tour	2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Lunch on your own on Pier
	Bus returns to Hotel	4:15 PM	
	Hornblower Bay tour & Dinner Bus leaves	5:45 pm – 10:00 pm	
	Return to Hotel	10:45 PM	
	Cost of Bus		Cost per person
Day Total			
Friday	Leave for SF City tour	9:00 AM	
	Return from City Tour	4:00 PM	
	Mixer	6:00 PM	Cash bar
*	Hotel Dinner Guest Speaker	7:00 PM	Vic to provide exact cost
	Cost of Bus		Cost per person
Day Total			
Saturday			
	Free time for families	8:00 am – 2:00 pm	
*	Show and Tell Time	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Light refreshments provided
	Mixer	6:00 PM	Cash bar
	Banquet	7:00 PM	Vic to provide exact cost
Day Total			
Sunday	Brunch		

Pricing still being negotiated – update as soon as board gets everything finalized.



## A FEW NOTES

### Recent Board Meeting

*Work continues on the reunion plans. Pricing hasn't been finalized because the Board is trying to get some improved pricing on tours and other items.*

*Plan to update everyone on status and costs within the next month or sooner if they can get it done.*

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## Show Your USS Seattle Spirit!

*(Show your Spirit with shirt, hat, jacket, decal, license plate cover and more from Ship's Store)*

We are beginning a new series of articles each newsletter where showing your USS Seattle Spirit has led to a conversation about the ship from a stranger, many of whom served on the ship. Send your story to Dale Eicker at [deicker@comcast.net](mailto:deicker@comcast.net).

Submitted by David Holton, PN3 1971-1972.

**Fair Winds & Following Seas**