



USS Seattle AOE-3

Veteran's Association Newsletter



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REUNION # 10 coming 2018 in San Antonio, TX.
 Preparations are underway for reunion # 10 in San Antonio, TX. This issue is all about what is going to be happening, where and to provide as much information as possible. Prepare to register for a great reunion, fun times and camaraderie to be had by all. Look forward to seeing everyone there.

Your Officers:	<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Phone</i>
	President	David Holton	davidholton@gmail.com	(704) 841-7301
	Vice president	Rich Toma	richtoma16@yahoo.com	(440) 669-9615
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	Treasurer	Ray Pierce	Ray.Pierce1950@gmail.com	(817) 503-0325
	Ships-store	Vic Hellberg	Plankowner4@gmail.com	(641) 752-6882
	Web-master	Myron Carter	MyronCarter@gmail.com	(770) 432-1564
	Legal Advisor	George Hastings	GoodNewsFinancial@sbcglobal.net	(615) 504-0071
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	Member at Large #1	Lance Briggs	docnav@aol.com	(845) 551-0504
	Member at Large #2	David Caldwell	dcaldwell1247@aol.com	(360) 731-2351
	Member at Large #3	John Marino	marinoic4@comcast.net	(717) 449-2575
	Member at Large #4	Bob Dunphy	bob@REDSYSTEMS.COM	(617) 819-4077
	Emeritus Member @ Large #1	Bill Norris	bnorris5248@gmail.com	(281) 785-6415
	Emeritus Member @ Large#2	Vic Hellberg	Plankowner4@gmail.com	(641) 752-6882

DUES for 2018

Shipmates,
 The USS Seattle Veteran's Association will begin its ninth year this year and we are very lucky to have each of you as a member. Even though the USSVA is relatively small we do still have expenses that the officers and board members try very hard to keep to a minimum. Thanks to our raffles and fund raising at this past reunion in San Francisco, we are again able to keep our yearly membership dues at \$30.00. You can also become a Lifetime Member if you choose. These dues are based on your age and can be found on www.ussseattleaoe-3.org.

Membership dues are due by January 15th, 2018. We will begin collecting on January 1st. They can be paid online at our website or paid by check mailed to :

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,

Another year-end is approaching. The time of year when families gather and where holiday feasts and traditions are shared. Thanksgiving is a time of celebrating the harvest of the year. A time to count our blessings and reflect on the year's events. Christmas is a season of joy and hope. Joy because of the excitement we see in children, the music, decorations, and memories we recall. Hope for those who seek comfort. New Years is a time of renewal. A time for looking forward and setting new goals. For sure 2017 was not the best year for some of us. Death of a loved one, illness, and catastrophic events touched many of our members this past year. When we knew about them, we tried to reach out and share our concern for them.

To every member and their families, the Board and Officers extend a warm and sincere wish for good health and daily blessings for 2018!

David

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.

David Holton,
President, USSSVA

SHIP'S STORE ITEMS**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.



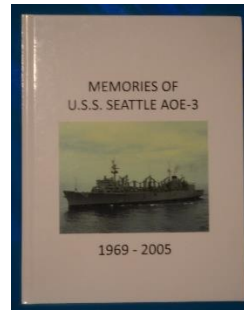
This year's gift was a selfie stick with our association logo and a carrying case also with the logo. It was very well received and as always it is added to the ship's store to be available for all. Here is the link and it is item #50 http://www.usseattleaoe-3.org/class_custom.cfm?page_id=241509

This is one of my favorite piece from our ship's store. I have it sitting right above my keyboard in my computer room. It requires being especially made for each shipmate. As you can see we need the name and rate of the shipmate and years on the ship. Our own Bill Norris makes these and needs the time to get them prepared and sent to you. Go to items #47 and 48

More Ship's Store items on next page.

SHIP's STORE ITEMS (continued)

During our Washington DC reunion our gift was this beautiful curved glass picture frame for a 4 X 6-inch picture. Our association logo and silhouette of the Seattle will make your picture look great!! It is item #49 at the ship's store.



The last item highlight is one that every single shipmate of Seattle should own. That is the story of our ship researched by our own Rich Toma. He spent over five years putting this together and it is a fine work. This is a hard cover book that measures 11 1/2 X 9 inches and 183 pages. You will spend hours reading and learning about the 36 plus years of her life. It will also help you share your ship with your children and grandchildren. Item #29 is this wonderful book.

The link to the ship's store is:

<http://www.ussseattleaoe-3.org/>

There's plenty of time before Christmas to select items for gifts. Those which require your name/rank or other information take a bit longer to fill, so please order soon.

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 (1968)	Phil Buckler (1968)	David Dykhoff (2003)

Member Incentive Program (MIP)

What Is It?

As a USSSVA member, you know firsthand the value membership provides in supporting your association and in strengthening veterans in our communities. The Member Incentive Program (MIP) offers the ideal opportunity to share the many benefits of membership with non-members USSSVA. By simply reaching out to your network and encouraging fellow shipmates to become a member, you pass along the benefits of membership. In turn, USSSVA will reward your efforts in referring new members*.

How the Program Works

1. Your membership must be current and remain current.
2. "Leads" do not count toward the incentive program. You must bring in valid new member that is ready to commit to membership.
3. The new member* can apply online or by filling out a PDF application, and must include the referring member's name and contact information on the application in order for the referring member to receive credit.

What You Get

You will receive **50% OFF** your next USSSVA membership renewal for each new member that you sign up. The discount will be capped at two (2) new members per calendar year. Life members will receive a 20% discount in the ship's store**.

What They Get

Make it easier to refer! Your referred USSSVA member receives an 8 X 11" Sustaining Member certificate (suitable for framing), Member's coin and Lapel pin.

*New member is classified as a shipmate that qualifies for USSSVA membership and is not a current member of the association or that has lapsed in USSSVA membership for more than three (3) years from the new sign-up date.

**Value is not to exceed the value of the referrer's membership (\$30.00).

SHIPMATE SPOTLIGHT

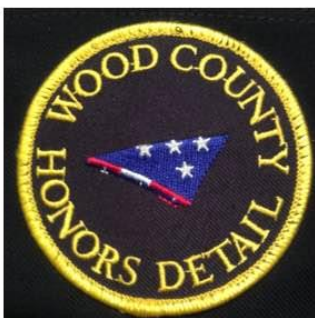
Ron Goebel

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.



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Seattle Shipmates,

First of all, I hope each and every one of you and your families have a fabulous Christmas and a safe and a happy new year.

Every year our association picks a location somewhere in the U.S. to hold our annual reunion. We crisscross this great country so that no matter where you live, a reunion will be held within a few hours to give each of us a chance to attend. This year (2018) we will be heading to San Antonio, TX. We will be meeting October 3rd through October 7th to avoid the Texas heat. Keep these dates in mind while planning your vacation schedule. Information and registration will be available on our website in the very near future.

We had one of our best reunions this past year in San Francisco. Three former Commanding Officers were in attendance; our second C.O, Capt. Marland "Doc" Townsend '71, fifteenth C.O., Capt. Craig Honour '91 and twenty-third C.O., Capt. David Dykhoff '03 (this year's guest speaker). Our guest speaker after Friday's dinner was B.C. Thomas a SR-71 pilot with more flight hours logged than anyone else. We also had a chance to visit Pier 39, enjoy a Hornblower's sunset dinner cruise and relax on a bus tour of the city of San Francisco.

I am asking everyone to PLEASE log-in and review and update, if necessary, your details page (e-mail, address and phone number). In many cases this has not been done for a number of years. This information is needed by the association so that we are able to communicate to you anything new happening, especially details about our reunion in October, 2018 being held in San Antonio, Texas.

This is also a good time to contact any shipmates that you may have served with and try to get them to join this great association. It might be the first step for you to get together at the next reunion if you haven't seen each other in a while. If you do know someone that is interested, please contact me anytime at richtomal6@yahoo.com and I will begin the process by adding his or her name to our website.

Rich Toma
V.P. USSSVA

USS Seattle AOE-3 Veteran's Association

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



Seconds. Dave Holton, ed. Norfolk, Virginia: Lloyd's of Norfolk, Ltd., (1972). Unpagged, 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: 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). Unpagged, 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). Unpagged, 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.



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), 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: ISS 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.

UPCOMING REUNION INFORMATION

Shipmates,

Save the Dates: October 3rd through October 7th of 2018.....

Planning for the 2018 reunion in San Antonio, TX is now complete, and we will soon be opening the registration right after the first of the year. We have an exciting day planned for Thursday starting with our annual association meeting and then start an exciting and informative tour of a museum dedicated to the history of Texas followed by an IMAX story of the Alamo followed by a guided tour of the Alamo. We will have lunch in the museum.

After the Alamo tour we will take a short walk to the Riverwalk and one of the oldest Mexican restaurants in San Antonio, where we will enjoy a great meal. After dinner you are free to stroll along the Riverwalk for shopping or enjoying the night life. When ready you can stroll along the Riverwalk back to Wyndham hotel or take one of the river shuttles or taxis back.

Friday morning, we will get an early start to Fredericksburg, Texas, National Museum of the Pacific War just an hour up the road to visit the WWII Pacific campaign Fredericksburg happens to be the childhood home of Fleet Admiral Nimitz's and they have turned the family hotel into a great museum dedicated to WWI Naval action. I think everyone will enjoy walking through all the venues and dedications. Plan to spend 3 hours or more. If you take a quicker tour you're in luck, the museum is located right down town and you have walking access to several shops along main street. Lunch will be on your own. We will board the bus back to San Antonio no later than 1500 (3:00) to give us some free time before dinner at the hotel.

Saturday will be a free day with an optional show and tell. We will be providing information or excursion you can take on Saturday, like the San Antonio Hop-on Hop-off tour, bus tours of the various missions around SA, city tours, shopping and much more.

Bill Norris

A FEW NOTES

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.

I wear my shirts nearly every day when the weather permits (in Texas that's the majority of the year) and have had people stop me regularly to ask about the ship, when I served or just to thank me for my service. These shirts, hats and jackets are a great way to bring attention to our organization. It has provided me the opportunity to meet other sailors from other ships, some that attend their own reunions, and some that just wanted more info about it because they hadn't heard of this type veteran's organization.

Let me hear about your experiences..... Dale

Fair Winds & Following Seas