



# THE BRIGHT PENNY

June 2004

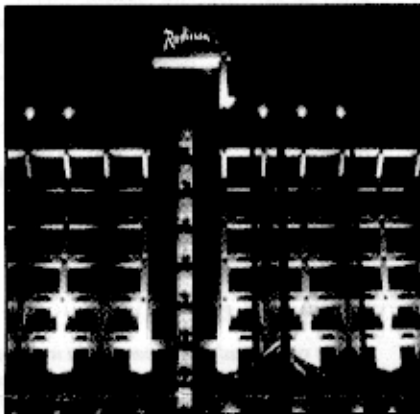
A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) ASSOCIATION

## PREPARATION FOR REUNION IN FINAL STAGE

### 2004 Reunion

The 2004 reunion committee is in their final stage of setting up the reunion in Branson.

As was stated in the March *The Bright Penny Newsletter*, a block of rooms have been reserved at the Radisson Hotel Branson. There will be a hospitality room assigned to the USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) Association from Thursday through Sunday. On Friday evening there will be a welcome reception. On Saturday evening there is the banquet dinner, dancing will follow the dinner.



### Radisson Hotel Branson

Excellent service, fine cuisine, and warm personal service are everyday amenities at the Radisson Hotel Branson. The ten - story, 472 room Branson Hotel remains one of Branson's premier full service hotels. Situated in the heart of the theatre district (just off highway 76) and overlooking the Ozarks, the Radisson Hotel Branson's ideal location makes it attractive to visitors of all kinds. The Branson hotel is especially lauded for its convention space, excellent location and experienced staff.

Radisson Hotel Branson has dining in the full service restaurant at the Veterans Café which offers buffet breakfast and full menu service breakfast. Radisson Hotel Branson has a lounge on the property, the R&B Bar with television, full beer, wine and spirit selection.



Room rates are \$78.00 per night. Reservations are to be made directly to the hotel. Toll free number is (888) 566-5290. The hotel will honor reservations received by August 26, 2004 at the group rate. Reservations received after this date are subject to space availability and at prevailing room rates.

When making your reservation it would be advisable to state what group you are with: (USS BERKELEY (DDG-15) ASSOCIATION).

### Schedule

#### Thursday, September 30

Check-In: (4:00 PM) Free Time/Sight Seeing.

16:00 to 20:00 - Hospitality Suite/Ship Store Open.

#### Friday, October 1

Check-In: (4:00 PM) Free Time/Sight Seeing.

14:00 to 22:00 - Hospitality Suite/Ship Store Open

18:00 to 22:00 - Welcome Reception.

#### Saturday, October 2

10:00 to 11:00 - Business Meeting

11:00 to 14:00 - Hospitality Suite/Ship Store Open.

17:30 to 1900 - Cocktail Hour.

19:00 to 23:00 - Banquet Dinner and Dancing following dinner.

#### Sunday, October 3

10:00 - No Host Breakfast.

12:00 - Check Out Time: (12:00PM.)

### Banquet

Cost of banquet dinner is \$45.00 per person and includes 28% tax and gratuity. A no-host cash bar will be available. Dinner choices will be Prime Rib, Stuffed Chicken Breast, or Salmon. Forms for banquet will be mailed the first week of July to all who indicated an interest in attending.

### Former crewmembers planning to attend reunion

Alley, James R.	CTMC	67-71	Hanson, Gerald K.	FTM2	67-72
Barlow, Carl W.	SK1	62-64	Hudson, Jerry R.	FTM2	62-66
Barrett, James L.	CDR	65-67	Johnson, Alan R.	HM3	64-66
Bartlett, Ray R.	GMM3	63-66	Johnson, Dale G.	RD2	65-68
Bess, Benjamin L.	YN1	62-64	Johnson, Rolf	RD2	62-64
Billups, James R.	FTM1	62-64	LeDoux, Duane E.	MMCS	62-66
Bjerke, John J.	OSC	67-69	Mason, Bruce P.	FTM2	66-71
Carmichael, John J.	BT3	65-68	McCarthy, Brian E.	RM2	80-83
Chetwynd, Jon F.	FTG2	65-67	McNeil, Doyle	RD2	63-66
Clark, Louis E.	GMM1	62-65	Meier, Al W.	RD3	66-67
Codispoti, Ed	QM2	62-64	Meier, David A.	RD3	64-67
Cody, Richard F.	RD3	65-67	Mitchell, Sammy	BM3	80-81
Collins, Larry K.	GMCS	84-87	Nielsen, Dale A.	ICC	62-66
Cooke, John E.	YNC	75-78	Norris, Larry G.	SM2	68-71
Costello, Tom E.	MM2	62-63	Oldham, Dave E.	RD1	65-66
Creel, Carroll W.	FN	69-70	Olson, Richard F.	SK3	62-64
Davis, Charles R.	FTM2	62-65	Peters, Lee R.	FTCS	65-72
Davis, Robert H.	BT3	62-64	Ramos, Armando R.	QM2	63-68
Deaton, Victor A.	BT1	78-79	Remakel, Ralph A.	OS2	70-73
De Bey, Tom	RDSN	72-72	Rorman, Troy L.	MM3	81-85
Dertinger, Ed B.	RD3	65-67	Schmer, Conrad J.	CDR	62-64
Dombroski, ED A.	GMM3	64-66	Sims, William M.	CAPT	76-79
Edwards, Willie F.	GMCS	62-64	Stobaugh, John L.	OS1	69-73
Elmes, Ray J.	RM2	62-64	Trout, Richard L.	OS1	87-91
England, Ed E.	TM3	69-72	Wallace, Michael C.	FCCS	67-69
Ferrell, James E.	LCDR	70-73	Werling, Robert	CAPT	62-65
Fogerty, William K.	CAPT	67-68	Wilkins, Arthur R.	MM1	63-68
Fritchey, John G.	MM2	62-64	Williams, Jeff S.	GMM3	84-88


#### \*Special note:

As of June 15, 2004 56 former crewmembers and 54 of their guest's are planning to attend the 2004 reunion in Branson, Missouri.

You sure don't want to miss this reunion. Mark your calendar if you haven't already done so. The 2004 Branson, Missouri reunion is probably going to be one of the best turn outs ever.

Make plans now to attend. Spend four days site seeing, attending shows, meeting old friends, and making new friends. When Donna and I first attended a USS Berkeley Association reunion, we looked forward to meeting someone that I served aboard the Berkeley with. The added benefit was the many new friends we have made at each reunion. We impatiently wait for this reunion so we can, of course, see our old friends and we look forward to meeting new friends from all eras.

**USS BERKELEY ASSOCIATION**  
 P.O. Box 267  
 Claremont, CA 91711-0267  
 (909)-981-7587  
 E-Mail: [u.ussberkeley@verizon.net](mailto:u.ussberkeley@verizon.net)  
 Website: [www.USSBerkeley.com](http://www.USSBerkeley.com)  
 Annual Dues: \$20.00  
 Association Director/ Editor & Webmaster:



Ray Bartlett

**For the Record**

It was reported in the March newsletter that one of the ships CDR Barrett served aboard was the USS WEEDEN (DE-79.) It should have been that he served aboard the USS WEEDEN (DE-797.)

In 1964 for the Berkeley History it was reported that the Berkeley was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for the role she played in the Tonkin Gulf PT boat incident in March. It should have been in 1964 the Berkeley was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for the role in the Tonkin Gulf PT boat incident.



**BERKELEY HISTORY**  
**June**

**40 Years Ago, 1964**

For the year 1964 the only item of record is a written letter by the Commanding Officer CDR Michael D. Ricinak.

**30 Years Ago, 1974**

01-03, Inport, San Diego California. 04-07, Mobile Training Team (MTT), SOCAL of AREAS. 08-09, Inport, San Diego, California. 10-12, OPPE, SOCAL OP AREAS. 13-18, POM, ITR-SQT, San Diego, California. 19-21, FLEET EX 2-74. 21-30, Escort CTG 37.6, enroute, Subic Bay, R.P. INCHOP, Seventh Fleet.

**20 Year Ago, 1984**

01-06, Enroute Diego Garcia. 07-14, TAV USS PROTEUS/Diego Garcia. 15-22, Enroute Fremantle, Western Australia. 22-26, Port visit Fremantle. 20-30, Enroute Subic Bay, R.P.

**10 Years Ago, 1994**

Ex-Berkeley in service with the Hellenic Navy of Greece.

**Mysterious Pallets**

Another pallet sighting reported by another Berkeley crewmember.

Thomas Barry, RD2, spotted a USS Berkeley pallet while servicing a Xerox laser printer in a hallway on the floor outside a classroom at a Philadelphia Community College about four years ago. He said he didn't take a picture of it because he had no camera with him.

Tom did some searching around on the internet and came up with a conclusive theory that the pallet came from a swim club in Berkeley Heights, NJ. This is an Aquatic out door USS swimming club.

The picture of the pallet below was spotted in New Jersey recently.



**ex-USS Adams (DDG-2)**

The ex-USS Charles F. Adams (DDG-2) is the ship to save after a vote by the CFA Class Veterans Association.

The CFA Class Veterans have decided by a 4-1 vote and a 10-3 Ships Rep Vote, to proceed with putting all of their resources into saving her. She is presently on donation hold.

The ex-USS Barney (DDG-6) will most likely be stripped of parts for the Adams and be disposed of.

**Hawaii  
 Kahoolawe Island is  
 Handed Over to State**

The Navy completed its handover of Kahoolawe Island, withdrawing personnel and equipment and transferring power to the state after a 10-year, \$460 million cleanup of the former bombing site.

Kahoolawe is sacred to native Hawaiians who believe the island, near Maui and Lanai, connects them to ancestors. The island will be set aside for cultural and archeological activities.

**Northrop Grumman**

Said it got a \$1.39 - billion contract from the U.S. Navy to begin developing the next-generation nuclear - powered aircraft carrier.

The ship dubbed CVN-21 is slated to begin in 2007, with delivery scheduled for 2014. The expected cost about \$11 billion. The carrier would use a more efficient nuclear reactor and operate with a crew about 10% smaller but have a 15% greater aircraft-launching, capability.

The aircraft carrier would be produced at Northrop's Newport News shipyard in Virginia.

**NAVY CLOSES  
 MAJOR BASE**

**San Juan, Puerto Rico —**

The U.S. Navy officially shut down the Roosevelt Roads Naval Station in Puerto Rico in the latter part of March, abandoning what once was one of its largest bases in the world.

**Aircraft Carrier to  
 Become Artificial  
 Reef**

The retired U.S. aircraft carrier Oriskany will be sunk off the Florida coast near Pensacola this summer to serve as an artificial reef.

The 888-foot Oriskany is the first vessel in a new program designed to dispose of obsolete warships by sinking them as a cheaper alternative to the scrap yard. The ship will also serve as an underwater memorial.

Much of the emotion associated with the ship stems from a magazine fire that killed 44 crewmembers off the coast of Vietnam in 1966. Some of the Oriskany's pilots were also lost in combat.

**Did you Know?**

The Medal of Honor has been awarded 3,459 times to 3,440 individuals who fought to protect their country above and beyond the call of duty.

**Taps**



**1911 - 2004**  
**40th President and**  
**Commander in Chief of the**  
**United States of America**  
**Ronald W. "Dutch" Reagan**

President Ronald Reagan's resolve in the defense of freedom helped to change the course of modern history. Among his many legacies, he restored America's pride in the men and women who wear the military uniform. This modest man of good humor had the conviction and personal courage to provide our nation and the free world with directional leadership at a time when it was so sorely needed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and the Reagan family.



**Military Pride**

*Be very proud of our persons in uniform*

When Hurricane Isabel approached Washington DC, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They refused, "No way, Sir!"

Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said the guarding of the Tomb was not just an assignment; it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, since 1930.

The Commander took the shift when Isabel was unleashing her greatest fury, because he did not want to ask any of his men to do this. He felt it was his highest honor to be on duty during that time.

The Third Infantry Regiment at Fort Myer has the responsibility for providing ceremonial units and honor guards for state occasions, White House social functions, public celebrations and interments at Arlington National Cemetery; and standing a very formal sentry watch at the Tombs of the Unknown Soldiers. The public is familiar with the precision of what is called "walking post" at the Tombs. There are roped off galleries where visitors can form to observe the troopers and their measured step and almost mechanical silent rifle shoulder changes.

They are relieved every hour in a very formal drill that has to be seen to be believed. Some people think that when the Cemetery is closed to the public in the evening that this show stops. First, to the men who are dedicated to the work it is no show, it is "an honor." The formality and precision continues uninterrupted all night. During the nighttime, the drill of relief and the measured step of the on duty sentry remain unchanged from the daylight hours. To these men, these special men, the continuity of this post is the key to the honor and respect shown to these honored dead, symbolic of all unaccounted for American combat dead. The steady rhythmic step in rain, sleet, snow, hail, hot, cold, is uninterrupted, Uninterrupted is the important part of the honor shown.