

USS KING (DLG-10/DDG-41) ASSOCIATION NEWS LETTER



PUBLISHED BY:
DAVE NESBITT
7983 BRADWICK WAY
MELBOURNE, FL 32940
dnesbitt@cfl.rr.com



A Blast with Shipmates from the Past San Diego Reunion 2002

Photo by:
B. Brewer



The IC Crew circa 1968



Board of Directors
Outgoing

Photo by:
J. Kammen



Irv Trinkle and son

Photo by:
J. Kammen

Message from the USS King Association President Jonathan Kammen, GMG3 Retired

Dear King Shipmates and Families,

It was really great to see all of you at the first King reunion in San Diego, California. Reunions are all about seeing old friends, meeting new friends, and sharing memories. The reason the reunion was successful was because you and your loved ones were in attendance. We all had a great time at our first King reunion. Are you ready for the next reunion in Norfolk, Virginia? I would like all hands to maximize their efforts in locating and contacting as many King shipmates as possible. I am optimistic and truly believe that we can double or triple the attendance for the next reunion. Wouldn't that be great? It can only be done with your help. There is no other way to meet such a challenge.



Photo by:
J. Kammen

PLANKOWNERS



1964—1967

Photo by:
J. Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



The Board of Directors Incoming

Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen

With the new USS King Association Board of Directors in place and with our two outgoing members and fellow shipmates stepping into advisory positions along with our new found volunteers, we are off and running to get ready for the next reunion.

If any shipmate is willing to volunteer, we will not turn anyone away that desires to help. YOU are our King Association and without YOU, there would be no association. King Newsletter - Feel free to send in any stories, information, comments, photos, or ideas, for the King newsletter to Dave Nesbitt (dnesbitt@cfl.rr.com) the newsletter editor. We desperately need your help to find missing shipmates. There will be ongoing recognition for the shipmates that locate the most new association members who join our membership. Please make sure that you have the new member annotate his or her application as to who contacted him or her. If you locate a shipmate and they are skeptical about joining, either have them contact us or we can contact them as well.

King Ships Store: Remember that your ship's store has items available for sale that make great gifts and something a little different for birthdays, holidays, or just because you want to send a gift to someone. If there are items you would like to see and they are currently not listed in our inventory please let us know.

Checks, balances and auditing: An independent audit process has been put into place to review all the financial records and keep track of funds related to the USS King Association. I am pleased to announce that your fellow shipmate, Dave W. Bilby, Sr., L.T.C., has volunteered to review our books. A financial report will be submitted for review at each reunion.

Non Profit Organization: The appropriate documentation and approvals have been put in place so the USS King DLG-10 / DDG-41 Association is able to operate as a nonprofit association run by and for the King shipmates and their loved ones.

Finance and expenditures: Any monies received at the ships store, go into new or restock of merchandise for the ships store. Any monies received by the association from annual membership dues are first used for operating expenses as noted. Funds are expended to keep the King web site going. Newsletter expenses such as postage, envelopes, paper and/or printing fees are covered. Stationery, and postage used in the search for missing shipmates are necessary. Up front expenses for future reunions including required deposits, telephone costs, again postage and stationary items for business or personnel contacts are all necessities in the operation of the association.

Please be aware that the association board of directors and advisors do not earn any money or take any payment for what we are doing. We are strictly volunteers. For the past three years, we on the original board of directors, were using our own money to pay the costs involved to start, run, and keep an association going. We were only too glad to do so because of our vision to have a viable association and a successful first reunion. With you becoming members of the King Association and your attending the reunion, we succeeded.

Your USS King Association can only survive and be successful



Photo by:
J.Kammen

with your help and volunteering. We on the King Board of Directors are your representatives but we can only do so much by ourselves. We need your help and input to become even stronger and have a bigger membership. Our goal is to locate every shipmate that ever served on the USS King and have that shipmate join the brotherhood of the finest ship that was ever in the US Navy.....the USS King.

May you and yours stay healthy. Feel free to contact me anytime.

NORFOLK REUNION: July 24-28, 2003!

Norfolk! Why Norfolk? The first reunion was held in San Diego because it was the King's first homeport (61-74). When preparing for the King's modernization/overhaul (which truly turned into a real mid-life crisis) decommissioning in 74 in New Orleans, it was learned the ship was going to be transferred to the Atlantic. I understand the King was first home ported in Mayport, FL then later to Norfolk, VA. TRUE???

In following the ship's history of homeports, to share the burden of personal transportation expense by putting the next reunion on the east coast, Norfolk was the logical choice. More about Norfolk in the newsletter.

Why 2003? The Board thought it would be good to have the next reunion the next year so everyone who could not make the first in San Diego would have sooner opportunity to meet old shipmates than deferring to 1.5 and 2 years later. Also, the San Diego reunion was such a smashing success, everyone is eagerly looking forward to the next.

By participant vote in San Diego, the unmistakable majority directed the next reunion be either July or August—even with knowing Norfolk was the city being discussed. We hope by having this weekend set now everyone can better arrange for their participation.



Photo by:
J.Kammen



Photo by:
J.Kammen

Biography of Jonathan Kammen

Served on the USS King DLG-10 from 1968 to 1972, as a Gunnersmate (GMG3/ASROC) in WA Division of which the personnel therein maintained and operated SONAR and ASROC equipment as well as the torpedoes. We were part of the Weapons Department. I was aboard King when we had the fire in the Tonkin Gulf during May 1969. As a result of the injuries I received from the explosion and fire, the Navy processed me out with a medical retirement.

I went to live in Stockton, California with my brother Alan Barnett. I enrolled in San Joaquin Delta College but my heart was in photography and motion picture making.

I worked as a freelancer for KOVR TV 13 doing motion picture filming and UPI wire service doing still photography. I worked for the San Joaquin County Sheriffs Department as a photographer. I was hired by the Federal Civil Service as a US Government Photographer and given various working assignments to include Department of Defense (DoD), Navy special projects at Mare Island Naval Shipyard



Photo by:
J.Kammen



Photo by:
J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen



Photo by: J.Kammen

(read Blind Mans Bluff by Sontage to get an idea what Mare Island's projects were), the US Treasury supporting ATF, Customs, Secret Service, IRS, and thru the US Treasury I supported local and state agencies. With the Veterans Administration I was the Chief of Medical Media. This entailed running the department to include medical photography, illustrations, video conferencing, motion picture and video production, in house and satellite TV production. I also was called upon to provide support for various other government agencies during my career. I was retired from Federal Civil Service due to the injuries I received from the fire on USS King.

I have been volunteering my expertise in photography and video to various government agencies and to the Department of Defense. Currently I am supporting XVIII Corp, 82nd Division at Fort Bragg Army Post and US Army Special Forces Command USASOC at Fort Bragg. I take the photos for the changes of commands, commanders portraits, unit group photos, family day, action photos in the field, military reunions, awards ceremonies and retirements.

I am proud to say I have never taken any money for my voluntary support of our fellow Army troops. I also volunteer to support the rest of the Fort Bragg family which includes the sister services including the Navy, Air Force, and Marines. I have been called upon to support the Pentagon and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with my photography. I take the soldiers and couples photos at the military formals and all ranks balls. I only charge the soldiers a minimal cost while providing them with the photo negatives to be supportive to our troops in uniform.

You, my shipmates, have made me feel that being a part of the USS King family, and the King Association is a major highlight of my lifetime.

HISTORY OF THE KING ASSOCIATION AND THE 1ST REUNION

In November of 2000, Terry Forsyth, with a new computer and access to the mystical world of the Internet, started searching for the King. His search paid off when he found ussking.com (Mike Lupino, webmaster) where there were many messages from former shipmates that he knew. For the remainder of the year 2000 Terry devoted all his waking hours to establishing contact with as many King crew as was possible, looking for leads to other databases which may include points of contact for other King crew. Terry's first assistant, Jack Dineen, come onboard at this time to help in the locating of senior King officers, many of whom had become Admirals and locating the Ship's Bell.

The King Association was born and the new organization had to have a Board of Directors/Steering Committee, these were:

Jonathan Kammen – President

Terry Forsyth – Membership/Treasurer/Ship's Store (selling videos)

Steve Cuddihy – Web Master

Jack Dineen – Director at large

Photo by:
J.Kammen



After querying a few of the shipmates, Jonathan Kammen found that there was interest in having a King Reunion, and the board started sending emails to message boards stating that “King reunion was in process ...”.

In January 2001, the board decided that the first reunion should be 2002 so that they would have enough time to get enough people contacted to ensure the turnout would be large enough to have this effort continue. IC2 Bill Brewer (68-69) provided guidance and wisdom to the board during this time period. The information provided included information that the Waddell (DDG-24) had researched and selected Military Reunion and Locator Services, Inc. (MLRS) of Hickory, NC as their reunion organizing company, the board contacted them about handling the King’s also.



Photo by:
J.Kammen

Late January 2001 brought Irv Trinkle on the scene, Terry discovered him listed in "Tin Can Sailors." In March Irv was asked if Terry could publish his contact information to which he agreed. Then after hearing from Jonathan was invited to join the reunion committee and the Association's executive board. Since that time, Irv has heard from many shipmates of old and made many new friends too.

In April 2001, the board had to determine where to have the first reunion; a survey was created and emailed.

By late May the returns stopped their return. San Diego was the first choice with Seattle a close second. Norfolk, Chicago and Las Vegas were the runners up. The announcement was made in June 2001 that San Diego was the location of the 2002 Reunion.



Photo by:
J.Kammen

In January 2002 Alan Barnett became the ship’s store operator. By now the Steering committee members were:

- Jonathan Kammen, GMG3 69-72, President
- Terry Forsyth, YN3 72-74, Membership Chairman/Treasurer
- Steve Cuddihy, BT2 69-72, Webmaster
- Alan Amilinzazzo-Barnett, PN2 69-72, Ship's Store
- Jack Dineen, OS2 78-81
- Irv Trinkle, ET1 69-72

In February 2002 the board received from MLRS the proposed brochure of the weekend. The brochures were reviewed, edited and mailed out by the end of March.

Also in February, the need was realized that another avenue to raise money for the projected \$2500.00 inventory deposits expected in March or April. Membership dues were established.

During the San Diego Reunion, Business Meeting, the election of the Board of Director took place. The following is the list of Directors for the next year and the support staff:

KING ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jonathan Kammen, President
- Alan & Lisa D. Milinazzo-Barnett, Ships Store
- Steve & Connie Cuddihy, Web Manager



Photo by:
J.Kammen



Photo by:
J.Kammen



Photo by:
J.Kammen

Terry Forsyth, Secretary-Treasurer
David Sellars, Historian
Paul Rick, Board Member at large

KING ASSOCIATION SUPPORT STAFF

Dave Nesbitt, Editor, King Newsletter
Dave W. Bilby Sr., L.T.C., King Auditor
Bill Brewer, King Advisor
Jack & Jennifer Dineen, King Advisor
Irv & Kim Trinkle, King Advisor



Photo by:
J.Kammen

King's 1st Reunion 20-23 June 2002—Shipmates started arriving Wednesday evening and by Thursday's first assembly, a Welcome Reception the reunion was off on a rousing start. Friday morning saw the business meeting with acceptance of new board members, ship's store sold out and various group pictures taken. There was an amazing amount of personal memorabilia about: Pictures, cruise books, three-ring binders, crew lists, plaques and more. The luau that evening was well attended and included the meeting of people who arrived that day. Saturday morning saw more arrivals at breakfast, the tour of the USS Stethem (DDG-63) and the banquet that evening with 148 attending. Afterwards, one of the most exciting groups was five BTs from forward fireroom who served together in the 69-71 period reuniting for the first time. Truly, the apex for which we sought while assembling this event. Sunday's breakfast was full of anticipation of the coming Norfolk reunion, it was incredible.



Photo by:
J.Kammen

ESTABLISHING THE KING'S CREW DATABASE **Terry Forsyth, Database Mgr**

Watching the growth pace and achieving the final count of the King's entire crew has been exciting. This has been accomplished by researching message boards in various databases, cruise books and crewmembers contacting other crewmembers.

How many are there of us, anyway? I first calculated about 4500. With the ship averaging 400, average turnover is 3 years and King existed 60-91, we should be about 4132 then rounded up a few hundred. With that, I currently have 3435 names in the main database. I am passing 700 with either snail mail or email only as some are not forwarding their mailing address.

Cruise books. There were nine cruises in the 60-74 period and an unknown number in the second period. I have copies of at least the division photos of 61, 62, 63-64, 65, 67-68, 70, 72-73, 74 decom, 77 recom, 79, 81, 83. The last published cruise book, I have learned, is the 86. There were two cruises afterwards with years unknown. Would someone let me know if they could furnish a copy of the division photos from those missing cruise books? Interestingly, there are also admin guys who made personal lists of crew which contain first names and am currently using such a document to enter first names



Photo by:
D.Nesbitt



Photo by:
D.Nesbitt

and those missing between cruise books.

The President has written for everyone to forward our efforts to any Kingsman they know and to also forward any address they may have—hometown and past or current address of former shipmates so we can try to locate them.

KING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

TERRY FORSYTH, MEMBERSHIP

In early 2002, the association was facing the need for a probable \$2500 deposit requirement for ship store merchandise at the reunion plus other administrative expenses. The board is proud to announce that because of those who paid their membership, we were able to pay all merchandise deposits as needed. Currently we have 57 dues paying members, of them, 14 paid for two years and others contributed additional money to get us over the hump.

The majority of cash requirements facing the organization are continued increase of ship store inventory, newsletter printing and distribution to non-email crew of the King and operational expenses.

By becoming a dues paying member, besides the need for the association to remain solvent, it entitles you to several benefits:

- Eligible to vote on Association business matters
- Eligible to hold Office or serve on the Board of Directors
- Attend business meetings during reunions
- Serve on committees
- Receive future copies of the USS King Newsletter
- Most importantly, it provides you the opportunity to voice in deciding what directions the Association will take in the future and what projects the Association will support.

Below is the Membership Application form. If you have not yet become a member, we encourage your consideration to take that next step in participating with your shipmates.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Home address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____
Home phone: _____ Email: _____
Years served in the United States Navy: _____ to: _____
Years served aboard the USS King (DLG-10/DDG-41): _____ to: _____
Highest rate/rank you achieved while aboard the USS King (DLG-10/DDG-41): _____
Highest rate/rank you achieved while in the US Navy _____ Plank owner: 1960: _____ 1975: _____
Department: _____ How were you contacted or found out about the King Association? _____

The information provided on the form will be used for Association business only. If you wish to keep your information private initial here _____ . Please make your \$25.00 check payable to the USS King (DLG-10/DDG-41) Association and send to:

Terry Forsyth, Treasurer
USS King (DLG-10/DDG-41) Association
685 Spring St., #157
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

King Association Newsletter Publisher
7983 Bradwick Way
Melbourne, FL 32940



Photo by:
J.Kammen