



USS Providence (CL82-CLG6) Association Newsletter

"A Tradition of Honor"

<http://www.ussprovidence.org>

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February 2018

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USS OKLAHOMA CITY CLG-5 Reunion Sept 25 – 30, 2018, Norfolk, VA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – REUNION INFO

By Jim Chryst

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and you are looking forward to a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Our 2017 reunion in Buffalo was a great success, with 91 attendees, including 16 first timers and 2 Plank Owners from CLG-6. The Memorial Service and tour of the USS LITTLE ROCK CLG-4 were the highlights, as all shipmates had the opportunity to walk the decks and passageways to recount their days past. One group of officers were enjoying time on the bridge reminiscing about their days as OOD or JOOD and interface with Captain Hollyfield or Captain Aubrey.



Front Row Lou Meier, David Ward, Ron Sutton. Rear – Jim Lowe (Niski), Jim Koelmel, Phil Ziegler, Skip MacLeod, on the bridge.

The banquet was highlighted by a presentation from Rear Admiral Samuel Cox, USN (Ret), who discussed the history of the Cleveland Class Cruisers, the importance of the 6-inch gun turrets, and PROVIDENCE from the CL days to recommissioning as a CLG. Many did not know that the PROVIDENCE was a "class" of reconfigured cruisers to CLG, which included the terrier missiles and flag configuration.. Admiral Cox is the Director of the Naval History and Heritage Command and Curator of the Navy. He was responsible for providing historical articles for our memorabilia display.



Memorabilia displays



Front: 1959 CLG-6 Commissioning pennant, silver gun cover (tompson) and brass clock from Chief's Mess. Left rear – Navy Unit Commendation Flag for CLG-6 and two silver napkin rings from the Admiral's Quarters.



Cruise books, newsletter articles; PROVIDENCE history books for CL-82 and CLG-6; ship and military awards; many personal and official photos; original building plans for CL-82; and personal memorabilia donated by shipmates. Far too much to mention in this

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

Each day there were scheduled tours such as the Peller Estate Winery Tour in Canada, which included a few hours in the quaint town of Niagara-on-the-Lake; the Maid of the Mist, boat ride up to the base of Niagara Falls; and the Buffalo Harbor/River cruise. All were exciting in their own way. For those who elected not to go on a tour, the hospitality suite was always open.

During the ship's company meeting, we voted upon future reunion schedules, which will be on a 2 year cycle as a stand-alone reunion. The next reunion is tentatively scheduled for October 9-13 2019 in San Antonio, TX, hosted by Jim Chryst, with assistance from Phil Hays, Jim Lowe (Niski), and Lou Meier. It was also resolved to investigate a potential reunion with the USS OKLAHOMA CITY CLG-5. **Since our reunion I have contacted John Baker, President of the OK CITY Association and they have invited us to their next reunion during September 2018 at Norfolk, VA.** All the information, registration forms, tours, and plan of the week are contained in this newsletter. This will be a great opportunity, as many shipmates served on both ships and shared the same experiences, not only as ship's company, but Flag as well.

Another item, voted upon by those in attendance, is to increase dues from \$20 to \$25 per year. This increase will assist our webmaster, Sam Villa, with restructure and expansion of our website, to include more links and offerings. We continue to maintain our memorial display cases on board LITTLE ROCK and USS SALEM CA-139 in Quincy, MA. In addition, we publish the newsletter twice per year, forwarded to you via email or USPS if you do not have access to a computer. One other item that has shown promise is the [uss providence clg-6](#) Facebook page, where 190 shipmates post stories and personal photos of their service on PROV. This is a closed site, offered to shipmates, families and friends, so you will need to sign on and Sam Villa or I will approve. Since the reunion, 25 new members signed on to the Facebook page.

Officers were elected for the next two years as follows:

Jim Chryst, President

David Abdouch, Treasurer

William Wulff, Secretary

Bob Stephens volunteered to be Asst. Editor of Newsletter.

Note Bill McCubbin elected to retire as Treasure after 17 years of faithful service. See article in this newsletter.

After the Ship's Company Meeting we conducted a raffle of items donated by shipmates, that included books, pictures, memorabilia and many other naval treasures. The raffle netted \$750 for the Association. We also conducted a 50/50 raffle and room night raffle. Bill Wulff won 2 free hotel nights. Ron Pagalario, Jim Lowe (Niski) and Skip Brown each won \$100, but, elected to give the winnings back to the Association.

Quilt Auction:

John Altree's wife Chris generously donated a quilt to the Association, which she laid out and had sewn in fine Naval tradition.



Chris Altree explaining the idea for the quilt

The quilt was the subject of some aggressive bidding and went back and forth for a number of raises, ending at \$500. Joe and Gail Luszczy (66-68) were the high bidders. They are shown below with Christ Altree. Another huge THANK YOU!!!!!!

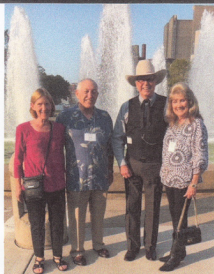


Joe told me "I am going for the quilt" His wife, Gail agreed, thankfully!

REUNION INFO (continued)

After the Saturday banquet, Ron Sutton 67-69 took to the podium to announce a special gift of honey from his recent harvest. Ron has been keeping bees for many years at his home in Clarence Center, north-east of Buffalo. He is renown in the area for having the best honey, and he awarded each shipmate with a one-pound jar of the sweetest honey one can taste.

Ron was a Quartermaster in N Division on PROVIDENCE. Upon arrival, back in CONUS in 1969, he was assigned to a destroyer going to WESTPAC because the Navy needed qualified Quartermasters with Vietnam experience.



Plank Owner's Left Jack Butler and his wife Carolyn
And C. J. Wiechold and his wife Jolene.



THE REUNION

By: R. E. Stephens
JO-3, X Division 65-67



The author on the lee helm trying to get flank Speed from the LITTLE ROCK.

We all have had many friends in life, but none like shipmates

Living together aboard PROVIDENCE, working side by side, comrades on liberty ashore, knowing each other's background and family history, being team players while living and working in cramped compartments.



Dave Arnold, Al Schmidt and the Author.

And what could bring shipmates even closer than the now tame ritual of becoming a Shellback. How do you explain that to a civilian? We've got stories that would far surpass any hazing or college initiation stateside, and, pictures don't properly convey the actual sting of a shillelagh.

No matter how many years you served aboard PROVIDENCE, it left a lasting impression because it was such a big part of our lives, especially for an 18-21-year-old. But, we enlisted. We were doing what we believed in and it was all the more memorable on a fighting ship, a cruiser, the PROVIDENCE.

In my job aboard PROVIDENCE in PAO I was responsible for the "PROVIDENCE Journal", liberty port brochures, press releases and newsletters. (also the "suspicious confirmed" cartoons that the XO hated). I had access to pictures of our ship that mostly were destined to Officers' requests. Admittedly, I also used them for "cumshaw" purposes. Color photos for larger favors and B&W for smaller ones.



Suspicious confirmed Eggs on the fireroom deck.

After the transition back to civilian life, that feeling was still there in the backs of our minds. We took pictures and kept mementos, but, most of all, the memories. Many of us joined a VFW or American Legion. It gave us a chance to still share our stories, plus it was easier to talk "Olongapo" with someone who had been there. "Oh yeah, I saw that show."



The Reunion (memories continued)

Where was I headed? Ah, the reunion in Buffalo. I had been to a few on the west coast, but this was a chance to head east where we would have the incredible fortune to tour a CLG. In this case #4, the LITTLE ROCK, now a floating museum. There were, of course, only six CLG cruisers, numbered 3 thru 8 (in alphabetical order as well) GALVESTON, LITTLE ROCK, OKLAHOMA CITY, PROVIDENCE, SPRINGFIELD and TOPEKA.

I wasn't about to miss this chance of going back 50 years to walk the decks with pals from the past.

Buffalo is no San Diego, but there was plenty to see and do. Besides the prime attraction - LITTLE ROCK. Attendees could cruise on the "Maid of the Mist: at Niagara Falls, a wine tour across the border in Canada and a Buffalo River Cruise. Many of us also found the Anchor Bar where buffalo wings were born. Then at the end of the day, reunite with your shipmates at what was an incredible hospitality suite - very well stocked: snacks aplenty, hot items including chicken and pizza. Several brands of beer, mixed drinks, sweets, and "mid rats" - nothing left to chance. Well done to Jim Chryst and Dick Zweber and the Adam's Mark Hotel who also provided complimentary breakfasts. It provided an atmosphere for camaraderie. There along the starboard bulkhead was an unbelievable display of photos, cruise book and memorabilia. Add a dedicated section of ship's store, items, and on clearance to accommodate the savvy shopper. After all, there were many wives in attendance. Every single one of us at this reunion were there to go back in time, get salty and reminisce with those that know. I never went to my 50th high school reunion. I just didn't have the same kinds of friendships that I intimately acquired just a couple years later upon enlisting.

Back to the LITTLE ROCK. We sat for a moving memorial tribute to fallen fellow comrades followed by a fantastic fancail feast featuring "beef on weck", a Buffalo exclusive. I hated having to exit the gang plank. I spend a good deal of time staring over the port lifeline, just remembering.

A final thought. Everything about the Navy wasn't all R & R. There were long hours, working parties, inspections, field days, GQ and officer's harassment. Just some of the negatives, but it's human nature to focus on the good times - and there were plenty! And that is why we have reunions. To re-establish the positive memories, the good vibes and have the opportunity to once again embellish some sea stores, with those who served with us.



Jim Chryst and Bob Stephens (R.E.) 1967

Other reunion photos



THE CLG CREW



Left to right - Chris Altree, Trish Thomas, Charmaine Hays and Jolene Weichold.

USS LITTLE ROCK LCS-9 COMMISSIONING

By Jim Chryst



On Saturday, 16 December Dick Zweber and I were pleased to accept an invitation to attend the Commissioning of the new USS LITTLE ROCK LCS-9 in Buffalo, New York. LITTLE ROCK is a Freedom-Class Littoral Combat Ship, built by Lockheed Martin in Marinette, Wisconsin.

Captain Brian Roche, ret (USCG), the new Director of the Buffalo Naval Park, invited us to a breakfast buffet overlooking the Commissioning Ceremony, which was attended by numerous dignitaries and the former Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, who served on board the USS LITTLE ROCK CLG-4, currently a museum ship at the Buffalo Naval Park. During his tenure as SECNAV, he attended a CLG-4 reunion in Buffalo and promised his shipmates that the new LITTLE ROCK would be commissioned alongside the CLG-4. He fulfilled that commitment and LITTLE ROCK's were moored fantail to fantail on the Buffalo waterfront. This was a first in Naval history - a newly commissioned ship alongside her namesake.

Captain Roche was gracious in accommodating my request for a tour of the new LITTLE ROCK. He introduced Dick and I to the OPS Officer, who gave us a detailed tour of the ship, which included the hanger deck, mess decks, bridge, CO's Cabin, and a look into CIC, which is now called CC (Command Center). This was a great opportunity to view the "new Navy" - quite a bit different than my days aboard PROVIDENCE.

The ship is 378 feet long, beam 57 feet with a slight draft of 13 feet. They have 2 Rolls-Royce gas turbine engines and 2 diesel engines, with steerable water jet propulsion. (No propellers or rudder)

The hanger deck has room for 3 helos, but they

Crew size is about 75. 4-6 sailors share a stateroom, which has a head and shower, and they are responsible for cleaning and maintaining. The Officers have separate staterooms and are responsible to hold their own "Field Day"

The bridge is fully automated and has operation chairs for the OOD and JOOD, with only one other watch stander. You can see in the photos that the helm and lee helm are all one control for each engine and the water jet steering.



The helm and lee helm can be operated by each watch officer. Port and starboard controls.

There are no paper, navigational charts, as all charts are digital disc and fed into the navigational computer, to interface with the ship sensors.



There is no Bos'n Mate of the watch. Bos'n piping are on a computer. Press a button and you get the required piping call.

The forward gun-mount has a 57MM IvakanM/50 is fully automated and capable of firing 200 rounds per minute. It also contains a decoy launching system.

The stern can open and dispatch high speed craft capable of 50 knots, with a Seal team aboard.



Most of the officers' multi-task. I talked with a LT who was the Navigator, Ship's Secretary, Training Officer, Personnel Officer in addition to a few other shipboard responsibilities. The CO, XO and Division Officers conduct most of their business on computers, so there are no paper files (perhaps a few), no file cabinets, no ship's office.

Basically the ship is one, all hands working party as it relates to mess cooks, watch standing, and field days.

I was a Yeoman in the Captain's Office aboard PROVIDENCE, and this set-up is quite a stretch for me. The New Navy is here!!!!

As I write this article on January 25, the new LITTLE ROCK is ice-bound on the St. Lawrence in Montreal. She could not get out of the Great Lakes in time before the ice closed in, so, instead of enjoying the sun of her new homeport of Mayport, FL, she is in the ice.

One footnote:

Most of the new Littoral Combat Ships are, or will be named after Cruisers.



Pictured above is USS PROVIDENCE CLG-6 and USS PUEBLO AGER-2 in Yokosuka, Japan during the Christmas Season 1967. Pueblo departed Yoko on Jan 3 and went to Sasebo and then to the Sea of Japan, while PROVIDENCE proceeded to the gun-line in Vietnam. PUEBLO was seized on 23 JAN and PROVIDENCE was ordered off the gun-line and steamed to Subic Bay, arriving at 2205 on the 26th. We took on fuel, ammunition, stores and cold weather gear and got underway at 0015, on the 27th (2 hours to complete the work - all hands on deck). PROVIDENCE departed for the Sea of Japan at flank speed to lead Task Group 70.6, which included USS ENTERPRISE, and her support ships; USS YORKTOWN and her support ships; USS RANGER and her support ships; USS OZBURN; USS O'BANNON; and USS CANBERRA. PROVIDENCE arrived on 29 JAN. CANBERRA was designated as the "tow ship" which would enter Wonson Harbor, with air support from ENTERPRISE, YORKTOWN, and RANGER, and tow PUEBLO out of the harbor with gunfire support from PROVIDENCE and the Destroyers if needed. That, of course, did not happen as the diplomats negotiated and negotiated.

Meanwhile, the TET Offensive broke out in Vietnam and PROVIDENCE was ordered back to the gun line in early Feb, for off-shore support of the Marines in Danang and Hue. After many call-fire missions PROVIDENCE proceed back to Yokosuka, arriving 23 Feb.

During JAN and FEB PROVIDENCE was at sea 49 continuous days and conducted 82 help operations, refueled and rearmed 21 times, and replenished 4 times (25 UNREPS). In addition, we fired 7993 rounds of 5 and 6 inch ammo. During that time, PROVIDENCE exhausted the entire supply of six-inch ammo, held afloat in the South China Sea, better known to us as the Tonkin Gulf.

BILL McCUBBIN

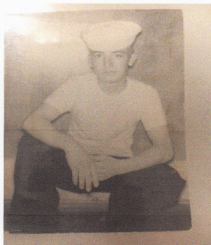
By: Jim Chryst

The shipmate who retired 4 or 6 times

Our Treasurer, Bill has elected to retire from his position after 14 years of faithful service to the USS PROVIDENCE Association.

How many people get to retire 6 times? This is the story of shipmate Bill McCubbin:

1. Navy - 20 yrs.
2. Louisville/Nashville Railroad 1 ½ yrs.
3. U S. Postal Service - Covington, KY - 20 yrs.
4. School bus driver, Covington, KY - 7 yrs.
5. Elsmere Honor Guard, Elsmere, KY - 21 yrs.
6. Treasurer, PROVIDENCE Association - 14 yrs.



Boot Camper

Bill enlisted in the Navy 8 FEB 1959. After boot camp he reported TAD to Newport News, VA and then to the pre-commissioning crew of CLG-6 as a Plank Owner, SA. He served 5 years aboard CLG-6 on the deck force, under Bos'n Craft, attaining the rank of BM-3.

His other assignments were as follows:

- 1964 - USS WALKER DD-723 Long Beach, CA
- 1965 - USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN CV-39 Quonset, RI
- 1966 - USS KANKAKEE AO-39 Rank BM-2 Newport
- 1967 - USS NEPTUNE ARC-2 Boston and Hawaii
- 1968 - Naval Degaussing Station, Norfolk Rank BM-1
- 1969 - Jungle Survival School - Mare Island, Vallejo.
- 1970 - Vietnam River Assault Division 153, Mekong Delta, Boat Captain and Patrol Officer, Rank BM-1
- 1971 - 1975 - USS SHENANDOAH AD-26, Norfolk
- 1975 - 1977 - Naval Weapons Station, Crane, IN
Special Services Manager
- 1977 - 1978 - Diego Garcia, Indian Ocean
Dock Supervisor.
- 1978 - Retired from Recruiting Center, Cincinnati, OH
Rank BM-1



Shipping Over

Bill and Beverly attended all but 2 PROVIDENCE reunions over the past 27 years. Beverly has been Bill's bride for 49+ years and has worked alongside Bill in the Treasurer's position. A few words about Beverly. She and Bill were married in 1968 and she quickly became a true, and tested "Navy Wife", when Bill attended Survival and went to the River Divisions in Vietnam. She is considered a shipmate to us, for her extended service to the PROVIDENCE Association. Although Bill was Treasurer, Beverly was the go-to-person. Most shipmates are not aware of the time to process dues payments, forwarding donations to various organizations, issuing funds for officer's expenses, and maintaining the data base. BZ and a job well done.

The PROVIDENCE Association elected to recognize the McCubbin's for their hard work and loyalty over the past 17 years. In December, I traveled to Covington, KY to present Bill with a ceremonial sword and display stand, which is now at a place of honor on the mantle of the "Navy Room" at their home. In addition, Beverly was presented with a lap quilt, donated by Chris Altree, wife of John Altree 67-70. They were overwhelmed and most appreciative of our thoughtfulness. See letters to the editor.

Boatswain's Mate is the oldest Navy rating in continuous service from 1775 to present. For a period in 2016, the rating was scheduled for elimination, but the proposed change was so unpopular with both sailors and Navy Veterans and was reversed in December of that year. Looks like the "New Navy" did not win this one.



Ceremonial sword with display



Beverly with her lap quilt

We wish them well as they recover from Bill's eye lid operation and mini stroke, and Beverly's debilitating Guillain Barre Syndrome.

Bill and some of his Plank owner shipmates keep in touch – John MacBride who sends Facebook messages and C. J. Weichold who attended the 2004 Buffalo Reunion "to see how Bill turned out".



Sam Villa, our Webmaster, made an a certificate of Appreciation which reads as follows:
 "Your shipmates are indebted to you for your unselfish leadership, unfailing loyalty and perseverance all these years as Treasurer to the USS PROVIDENCE Association. We owe you a great deal of gratitude for your contribution to the PROVIDENCE Association and its crewmembers"
 "Wishing you the best always with fair winds and following seas. From your friends and shipmates."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear James-

Thank you so much for keeping Providence alive, and also for looking out for our forces adrift. I am sending a check to our treasurer to help with expenses.

That said, I served on two cruisers, a destroyer and three submarines, and will not be traveling to any future reunions. I try to send checks to those reunion groups who are still active (and in touch with me) but my membership days are over.

With regard to the 2019 reunion in San Antonio, I recommend that your attendees visit the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas (not too far away). The Providence bridge and helm (steering wheel) are on display there. You may have to ask a guide to tell you where the display is located. The wheel came from my first ship, Juneau CLAA 119, and replaced the original in Providence during her conversion to CLG 6.

My very best to you and all my shipmates,

Larry Valade (1959-61)

Jim:

My name is James Leland Long and I was in the 5th Division In Sept of 1959, when we commissioned the PROVIDENCE CLG-6, I transferred off in Sept of 1964 as an SK-2

Those 5 years were the proudest of my Naval career. I retired in 1979 and I still take great pride in calling everyone on the big "P" shipmate. My dues are paid thru 2020.

Your shipmate forever Jim Long

Jim:

Thank you for sending me a copy of the USS PROVIDENCE deck log for Tuesday, 13 OCT 1959. This copy that you sent is the only copy of a deck log that I have from any of the ships in which I served. I stood many watches as Officer of the Deck, in port and underway, on USS KENNEBEC AO-36, USS CALOOSAHATCHEE AO-98, PROVIDENCE, USS HANSON DD-832 and USS HORNE DLG-30 (CG-30). I was the first officer qualified as OOD underway when PROVIDENCE was recommissioned in 1959.

The copy of the deck log that you just sent me brought back some very happy memories. Thank you so much.

Rudolf Bredderman, Fremont, CA 59-61

Ahoy Jim: August 2017

I'm really looking forward to this year's reunion. It's going to be like being aboard the PROVIDENCE again and re-living those glorious times when we were young and immortal.

Thanks for all you and your helpers do to keep alive the memory of our fine ship. I'm sure the task of organizing the reunion must be daunting. Here's one guy that really appreciates your work.

Looking forward to seeing you and the rest of the crew. I know we'll have a grand time.

Best Regards, "Ozzie" Osredkar 66-70

Jim:

It was my honor to make a plaque in the memory of William P. Craft, Jr., CWO-4, Ship's Boatswain.

The wood decking was from USS LITTLE ROCK CLG-4. I have had this piece for many years hoping to someday be able to place it in the PROVIDENCE Memorial Display Case on LITTLE ROCK.

The Bos'n was a wonderful man who was much honored and loved by all.

I served under him in 1967-1968. He got me through my early days on the Deck Force, 1st Division. He enabled me to become a stronger man. This meant so much to me. I treasure his guidance and friendship. May he rest in peace.

SHL-3 Leslie Manning, Rochester, NY CLG-6/CLG-5



Les Manning at the PROVIDENCE Reunion with his memorial to Bos'n Craft. Made from original decking from the LITTLE ROCK CLG-4 and on display in the PROVIDENCE Memorial Display case in the Cruiser Room (chief's Mess) on LITTLE ROCK.

Letters to the Editor (continued)



Former XO, Kendall Simmons recently passed away. The following are a few recollections of Charlie Sullivan, MARDET 59-61

Our Providence XO was a bit stern but, he was the sheriff. He was selected for Captain and became the CO of the USS OK CITY CLG-5

He was in the Annapolis class of 42, but was sent out to the fleet, after the attack at Pearl. Ensign Simmons went to the MINNEAPOLIS CA-36 and was assigned to a turret just in time for the Battle of Midway. After I retired from DEA, Captain Simmons and I had lunch several times in Northern Virginia, where he settled. Since I've studied that famous battle, I asked him what he remembered about that week in June 1942. He told me he didn't see much, but the noise was horrible.

He was not selected for Admiral and decided to use his PHD teaching in Michigan. We recalled our time on Providence, including a burial at sea detail off San Francisco. A Commander had wished to be buried at sea. Our machine shop made a handsome urn from a 5-inch shell case. We stopped about 30 miles out. Commander Simmons was ready to pour the ashes and I raised the sword and gave the commands- just as the winds changed. I was sure that the ashes that hit my face were eyeballs or something. The five riflemen had been perfect in their dress uniforms with white ducks, etc. The XO's beautiful white uniform was covered in ashes. The second volley sounded like a machine gun. Forty-five years later it was funny.

He also remembered the time he was up on the bridge and watched our Marine XO and another Marine paint a "globe and anchor" on mount-51. When they finished, he called down to them that they would chip and sand the area of their art work. I'm glad he never found out who hung the Confederate Flag up on the foremast. It was snowing that night in Norfolk. As Providence headed south, the frozen stars-n-bars thawed out and was discovered. I'll bet it would have been cold in Portsmouth, NH as well.

Ken Simmons was a good man. He deserves a bravo zulu. Semper Fi Charles Sullivan.

Charlie was a Corporal and served as Captain Veth's orderly, then Captain Kefauver, and NCOIC of the Flag Marines.

We went to Gitmo for our "shake-down" during the Spring of 1960. When we completed training, a Commodore inspected our readiness to join the fleet. The XO instructed me to stay with Commodore Sullivan, who wanted to go aft to look at our missiles. Our Marine XO saw me coming down the port side and hollered down from his fire control post: "Hey Sullivan, we should strap your ass to that rocket!". The old Commodore stopped short and looked like he was going to have a heart attack. I quickly explained that I was the Sullivan to whom the unidentified sailor was referring. When the Flag shifted to the OK CITY during September of 1961, I took my pal, John Purness with me. When I left at the end of October, John took over my job, but had to ride a tin can over to Yokosuka. By the end of the year he too went back to the FMF. As you know, John went to his last Marine post in heaven during September 2012, but I still have lots of great memories of a great friend.

Semper Fi, Charlie S.

Note: There have been a number of posts on the Providence Facebook page. One, from a Marine, who served with Charlie, said "He was the most squared away Marine I ever saw. I guess he was, as he later served in Embassy duty.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Bill McCubbin:

Jim.

After reading the article, I'm thinking about signing up again. Just kidding. I want you to know you have become a dear friend of Beverly and me. During the past 14 plus years, Bev and I have run into some of my old shipmates from my days aboard USS PROVIDENCE CLG-6. Then the multitude of shipmates who were on board after my time. Also the crew of CL-82

To have received the Ceremonial Sword and Stand means more to me than words can express. Also the certificate that Sam Villa designed is beautiful. I will treasure it forever. Also, the quilt Chris made for Bev, to say the least, is that, it's beautiful and she enjoys it's comfort.

As for our health, I'm Holding steady and doing exercises. Bev is getting better a little each day. She's come a long way, but still has a way to go.

Smooth seas,
your shipmate Bill

Dear James:

My name is Joseph Norcross, PHC (Ret). In May of 1952 I reported to the "Pre-Commissioning" crew of the USS PROVIDENCE at the Boston Naval Yard, where she was being overhauled and converted to CLG-6

I reported to a newly commissioned Supply Warrant Officer, I can't remember his name, who mustered me in each morning. I was able to effect a few changes to the photo lab, such as having a hot water line in place beside the cold water tap (much needed for mixing chemicals).

I was on board until April 1962, and very much chagrined that I was never allowed off the ship to take pictures of her underway. I do remember a YN-1 Edward J. Perry who ran the post office aboard. I also remember some really steep rolls we took on the 'shakedown' out in the Atlantic. Bos'n Craft was the senior CWO Boatwain in the Navy.

Lost my wife of 65 years earlier this month, and I am not much of a joiner, anyway, so I will decline joining the PROVIDENCE Association. But, I would appreciate a newsletter from time to time.

Best wishes, shipmate
Joseph Norcross



George Sarno (66-69) donated this patch to the Association. He was proud to be in the print shop during his time on Providence. They worked 24 hours per day printing the Plan of the Day, the Providence Journal, the Privateer, items for your personnel file, and other demands of the 1st and 7th Fleet Flag Staff.



George in the day - 1968



I think this was Hank Cosgrove SHB-3 who was the officer's barber from 62-64

MORE REUNION PHOTOS



Fantail lunch of a Buffalo "Beef on Weck"



David and Anna Abdouch, Ken and Ron Pagliaro. They were the only known brothers to serve on PROV.



Cruisin on the Buffalo River and Harbor.





CLG-6 crew and wives or significant other or relative



Ladies of the PROVIDENCE



Beef on Weck, on the fantail



Guest speaker, Captain Brian Roche, Director of the Buffalo Naval Park.



Larry Kurtz is posing. Din Din at the Banquet



Banquet.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

2018 Winter newsletter submission

Someone said to me recently, "What a year this is turning out to be, the world is going to hell in a hand basket and I don't know what the future holds.." It's hard to face the future when you do not know what's coming next. In Matthew 6:25-34 we are told, "For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' For the unbelievers eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

People have many fears. Three times in these verses Jesus says, "Do not worry." Don't get me wrong, I am not saying that believers shouldn't plan for the future, of course we should. There is a difference between being concerned about the future (making preparations and taking precautions) and being worried about the future. Sometimes we forget that God is not only control of our lives, but He's also in control of this entire universe. When you worry, you stop trusting God and start trying to take control of your life. But God's Word promises, "God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19)." If God can handle every single thing in this world, He can handle everything in your life.

Instead of worrying about your future, Jesus says in verse 33, "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." He continues in verse 34 saying, "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Jesus isn't saying, don't plan for the future; He's saying, don't worry about the future. Don't worry about how you're going to handle the problems of tomorrow; focus on the problems of today. There is enough trouble in each day without adding the distress of worry to it. Jesus promises, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9). God promises His grace for tomorrow and for every day thereafter. But He does not give us grace for tomorrow now. He only gives His grace a day at a time as it is needed, not as it may be anticipated.

So I say to you, as we walk in this world of uncertainty, don't worry about the future and what's in that hand-basket, but instead, walk in God's grace and prepare for tomorrow in the knowledge that God is in control. As believers in Jesus, we can have peace in the midst of uncertainties because we have the assurance that our heavenly Father loves His children and cares for our needs. We can bring all our concerns to Him with an attitude of thankfulness, trusting Him to meet our needs and give us peace.

Let us pray

Our Heavenly Father, hear us now who come to you, sometimes trusting, sometimes fearful, sometimes falling. Draw us to your loving heart, where our fears may be quieted and our tears wiped away. You are all-wise, all-powerful, and all-loving. In the midst of uncertainties, help us to rest in the certainty of who You are. I thank You that Your peace will guard our hearts. Amen.

Chaplain Dave

**USS PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

NAME _____

**MAILING
ADDRESS** _____

CELL PHONE/LAND LINE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

SHIP/YEARS ON BOARD _____

RATE AND DIVISION _____

YEARLY DUES (\$25) _____

**ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION
WEBSITE/DISPLAY CASES** _____

TOTAL CHECK _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **USS PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATION
C/O DAVID ABDOUCH
127 AMBERWOOD DR.
WALNUT, CA 91789**

Your yearly dues provide maintenance for our website (ussprovidence.org); our two memorial display cases located on board USS LITTLE ROCK CLG-4 in Buffalo, NY and the USS SALEM CA-139 in Quincy, MA; and our twice per year newsletter. Through your generous support, we continue to expand our memorabilia items and rotate the displays yearly. Additionally, many items are brought to the regularly scheduled reunions. The cost to maintain our website continues to rise, as we expand our offerings of information, which includes; pictures, news articles, web links, cruise books and other PROVIDENCE periodicals. Sam Villa, our webmaster, has invested a considerable amount of time to bring you the most complete website of any Navy organization on the web. We also maintain a social media page on Facebook (ussprovidence.org). Currently there are 163 members who share pictures and sea stories, so you may wish to consider signing on to that social media page.

Those shipmates who have contributed cash or memorabilia are highlighted on the membership page of our newsletters. If you have an item you wish to donate, contact Jim Chryst, 334 Snyder Hollow Rd, New Providence, PA 17560, cell 973-222-5499 or jchryst@embarqmail.com.

USS PROVIDENCE CHANGE STATUS FORM

NAME _____ SPOUSE _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE: CELL _____ LAND LINE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CL -82 _____ CLG-6 _____ DATES ON BOARD _____ DIVISION _____

HIGHEST RATE/RANK ATTAINED _____

OTHER SHIPMATES WE MAY CONTACT

NAME _____ AGE _____

(First, middle initial, surname)

LAST KNOWN STATE OR ADDRESS _____

VOLUNTEER DATA: IF YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER FOR A POSITION IN THE ASSOCIATION

CIVILIAN EXPERIENCE _____

VOLUNTEER SERVICE EXPERIENCE _____

RECRUITING _____ REUNIONS _____ NEWSLETTER _____ SHIP'S STORE _____

BOARD ADVISOR _____ OFFICER _____ SOCIAL MEDIA ASSISTANCE (MONITORING) _____

WEBSITE ASSISTANCE _____ OTHER _____

DUES PAYMENT \$20 per year. – UP TO 4 YEARS IN ADVANCE _____
(2yrs recommended to save on effort and postage)

SEND FORM TO:

JIM CHRYST
34 SNYDER HOLLOW RD
NEW PROVIDENCE, PA 17560

717-284-6996
jchryst@embarqmail.com

2018 Roster. Below is the up-to-date paid membership. It is requested that you review the info and submit updates and changes to Jim Chryst using the "change form" in this newsletter. While I understand some of the info is incorrect we are working to update the database with accurate information.

New members in the Association are highlighted in bold.

Hull # is CLG-6 unless otherwise noted.

Name	Hull #	Years	Division	Rank	Donation	Plank Owner	Dues paid thru date
Abdouch, David		66-68	1ST	BM-3	YES		2019
Altree, John W		67-70	X	YN-3	YES		2019
Ammend, Richard		66-68	1ST	SN	YES		2018
Arion, Ellsworth E.		66-69	CR/7th FLT	CWO-2			2017
Armstrong, John D		62-63	FLAG	CTR-1	YES		2019
Armstrong, John W		69	B	BT1/BTC			2018
Armstrong, Ray L	CL-82	46-47	A	MM-3	YES		2020
Arnold, David		67-68	1st	SN	YES		2023
Baden, Joseph		71-72	M	LTJG	YES		2021
Bailey, Richard		68-71	OI	RD-3			2018
Bakken, Lowell		67-69	1st	SN			2018
Barbookles, James		67-70	OI	RD-2	YES		2020
Barnett, Robert		62-64	B	MM-2	YES		2021
Barnicle, Daniel	CL-82	46-48	MARDET		YES		2018
Bastin, Donnie		65-66	1st	SN/BMCS	YES		2019
Batchelder, Richard		66-69	G	LTJG			2016
Bechtold, Robert		65-68	B	BT-2			2019
Becker, Robert		70-73	M	MM-3	YES		2016
Beidelman, Ray		66-68		YNSN	YES		2022
Belvin, Houston		65-68	R	FN	YES		2019
Bennert, Harry		67-69	H	LCDR	YES		2018
Berger, Robert		60-62	OR	RM-2			2016
Blackson, Marc		70-73	OI	RD-3	YES		2018
Boyce, Harvey W.		70	FLAG	LT	YES		2017
Boyd, Henry Allen		59-62	SUPPLY	DK-3	YES	YES	2018
Bozeman, George		62-65	E	EM-2			2016
Brandseth, Robert		62-64	S-4	SKSN			2018
Bredderman, Rudolf		59-61	2nd	LT	LT	YES	2018
Brent, Gerald		69-72	N	LCDR	YES		2016
Brinza, Anthony			E	EM-1	YES		2018
Brown, Larry		59	B	BT-3	YES	YES	2015
Brown, Walter		66-70	R	SFM-2			2019
Bruckman, Thomas		70-72		RM-3	YES		2018
Bunn, John		70-73	OE	ETMC	YES		2016
Burge, Jr., David		68-69	SUPPLY	LTJG	YES		2020
Butler, John J.		59-63	1ST/OE	ETR-3	YES	YES	2018
Canfield, Al		68-69	X	CWO-4			2019
Name	Hull #	Years	Division	Rank	Donation	Plank Owner	Dues paid thru date
Cappa, Ron		68-73	B	BT-2	YES		2018

Carnegie, Colin		59-62	6TH	GM-3	YES		2017
Cashman, William							2018
Cester, Don		66-69	N	QM-3			2017
Chacon, William		68-69	FLAG	BM-3			2015
Chambers, Ken		70-73	A	FN			2019
Chase, Alan B		68	E	ENSN	YES		2020
Cheek, Arthur	CL-82	47-49	MARDET	LCPL	YES		2019
Cheever, Gary		70-73	1st & X	SN			2018
Chryst, Jim		66-69	2nd & X	YN-2	YES		2019
Clark, Keith		61-63	OI	RD-3			2017
Coe, Gary		65-69	OL & 1st	BM-3			2019
Collier, Bob		71-72	SUPPLY	SK-3			2018
Connelly, Allan		66-69	OL	BM-3	YES		2018
Cook, Michael		65-66	FG	FTG-3/FTCS			2019
Cook, Ronald		61-63	OI	RDSN			2018
Cosgrove, (Hank)		63-64	S-3	SHB-3			2019
Cotter, Paul		66-68	1st & FM	LTJG	YES		2019
Cox, William		68-70	A	LTJG	YES		2018
Cozine, Jim		61-63	N/1st/3rd	LTJG	YES		2019
Craig, Steven		67-69	Supply	SK-2	YES		2018
Cramblett, George		70-73	R	HT-2			2019
Crater, Don		70-72	Supply	CS-2	YES		2018
Crawford, Gerald		66-70	E	IC-2			2018
Cromwell, Robert		61-62	FLAG	SN			2018
Crossman, Richard		68-69	CS	SM-2			2016
Culley, (Randy)		69-71	OPS	LTJG			2017
Davis, Dan		70-73	MARDET	CPL			2017
Dawdy, Benny		68-69	OPS	LT			2019
Dee, Joseph	CL-82	46-48	3rd	SN 1/c			2018
De Nure, Bill		66-69	X	YN-2	YES		2018
Diemand, Kim		72-73	MARDET	LCPL	YES		2020
Dillon, Paul		67-68	FLAG/CR	RMC	YES		2017
Dolman, John							2017
Dorman, Dale		65-70	OC/CR	RM-3	YES		2017
Doxtator, Carl		66-70	R	DC-2	YES		2022
Duhon, Joseph			Supply	SN			2018
Dutcher, David		68-71	ENG	LT			2021
Edwards, Robert		62-64	OC/FLAG	RM2			2019
Eggersdorfer, Tim		68-70	OL	BM-3	YES		2016
Ellis, Lloyd	CL-82	45-46	G	S/2C	YES	YES	2016
Erdner, Tom		70-72	OI	RD-2	YES		2018
Name	Hull #	Years	Division	Rank	Donation	Plank Owner	Dues paid thru date
Farrar, Walter		62-64	S-4	DK-3			2019
Feurer, Walter, Sr	CL-82	48-49	40 MM	SN			2019
Foreman, Albert		66-68	3rd	BM-3			2018
Franclemont, David		67-70	3rd	BMSN			2019
Franklin, G. Wayne		63	OR	RM-3			2018

Friend, Lawrence		68	FLAG	CT-2	YES		2018
George, Joseph H			3rd	SN	YES		2018
Gibbs, George		62-64	N 4/6/7	LTJG	YES		2019
Giesse, Phillip			E	EMCS			2018
Godsil, Leonard		64-67	FG	FTG-3			2019
Goldsmith, Al		61-65	M				2018
Goodworth, Ron		68	COM7thFLT	CYN-3			2017
Grayton, Abraham		59-62	B	BT-3		YES	2019
Greathouse, John		61-63	S-2	LTJG	YES		2017
Greenwalt, Bill		66-68	X	YN-3			2018
Grieser, Robert		67-70	R	DC-2	YES		2018
Grindle, Robert		66-68	FLAG	MU-3			2018
Haas, Richard		59	6th & X	LT			2016
Hambleton, Duane		59-60	E	IC=2		YES	2017
Hargraves, Bruce		61-65	1st & 3rd	BM-3			2019
Hays, Phil		66-69	OE	RD-3	YES		2017
Hayter, Edwin		69-70	X	YN-3			2017
Hennessy, James		61-63	S-2	CS-3			2018
Hicks, Laurence M.		65-68	2nd	BM-3			2017
Hocking, Fred		61-62	F	FTM-2	YES		2017
Hoffert, Thomas		68-70	OL	BM-3			2016
Holley, John		67-70	FLAG & X	YN-2			2019
Hollyfield, Amy		Associate			YES		2017
Hunt, Robert		70-73	OI	RD-2	YES		2016
Jacobs, J. Wesley		60-63	6th	MT-2	YES		2018
Jaeger, George		63-65	MARDET	PFC			2017
Johnson, Creighton		65-67	S-1	LCDR	YES		2020
Johnson, Dave		66-68	E	EM-2			2019
Johnson, John J.		61-64	OI	RDSM	YES		2019
Jones, Tim		62-65	OI	RDSN	YES		2020
Kennard, John		71-73	DENTAL	LT			2018
Kitchens, Kyle		67-68	E	IC-2			2023
Koelmei, James		68-70	X - PAO	LTJG	YES		2018
Kozisek, Fredrick		71-72	G	GMG-2			2018
Kurtz, Larry		68-71	FM	FTM-1			2018
Lamppa, Carl		69-72	OE	ETN-2			2018
Lane, Robert		72-73	CR/7th FLT	RM-3			2018
Lee, Robert		67-68	OE	ETN-3	YES		2018
Lepper, Monty		60-63	X	YN-2			2018
Lester, Allen		59-60	OR	SN	YES		2021
Name	Hull #	Years	Division	Rank	Donation	Plank	Dues paid
						Owner	thru date
LoBue, Sam		65-67	F	FTG-2			2018
Long, James		59-64	S-1	SK-2	YES		2020
Lowe, James (Niski)		68-70	WEPS	LT/CAPT	YES		2020
Lung, Charles(Bud)		66-67	OE	ET-1			2020
Luszcz, Joseph		66-68	X	YN-2/YNC	YES		2019
Lyne, Christopher		68-69					2016
Lyon, Ken	CL82	45-46	C	RM-3			2016
Macbride, John		61-64	X	LI-3	YES	YES	2018

Macfeeley, William		70-72	R	HT-3	YES		2019
MacLeod, Skip		68-69		LTJG			2018
Mahaffey, Charles		66-69	FLAG/CR	CYN-3	YES		2018
Maher, Thomas	CL-82	46-48					2018
Mangiapane, Russ		66-69	E	EM-2	YES		2018
Manning, Leslie		66-68	S-3	SHL-3	YES		2019
Mapes, Barry		71-72	3rd	BM-3			2018
Markiewicz, Joseph		66-69	CR	RM-3			2018
Markowski Joseph	CL-82	46	F				2018
Martell, Jim		65-67	T	GMM-3			2018
Mason, Clyde G.		72-73	FLAG/CR	RM-2	YES		2015
McAlear, David		70-72	OI	RD-2			2018
McBryde, Walter		65-69		FTG-2			2018
McCubbin, Bill		59-64	1st/2nd/3rd	BM-3	YES		2019
McGough, Patrick	CL-82	48-49	CR	RM-3	YES	YES	2018
McNally, Patrick		71-73	3RD/A DIV	FN			2017
McVeigh, Michael		66-68	OI	JG/CAPT	YES		2015
McWethy, Robert		69-71	CO	CAPT	YES		2017
Meier, Lou		68-70	3rd & FTG	LTJG	YES		2018
Miller, Kenneth		59-61	X	PN-2			2016
Montgomery, Todd		65-67	ENG	LTJG			2018
Moore, James L.		60-64	OE	ETR-2	YES		2017
Moreton, Fred		61-63	4th	LTJG			2018
Muzio, Victor		61-64	A	MR-1	YES		2018
Myers, Bill		62-65	6th	LTJG	YES		2019
Nelson, William		65-66	E	EM-1			2019
Nordgren, Don			5th	GMG-1			2018
Oblasney, Frank	CL-82	48-49	X	YN-3	YES		2018
Oliver, Earl		66-68	OE	CDR	YES		2020
O'Malley, Patrick		68-70	E	IC-2			2019
Osredkar, (Tony)	Associate		USMC				2018
Osredkar, Florian		66-70	FM	FTM-3	YES		2018
Pagliaro, Kenneth		66-69	FM	YN-3	YES		2020
Pagliaro, Ronald		66-70	A	MM-3	YES		2018
Pape, Eugene			A	MR-2			2018
Penny, Robert		70-73	E	EM-3	YES		2019
Name	Hull#	Years	Division	Rank	Donation	Plank Owner	Dues paid thru date
Perno, Frank		64-66	B	BT-3			2023
Pettit, John T.		66-69	MARDET	L/CPL	YES		2019
Pierce, James		66-69	OI	RD-3	YES		2020
Pilger, Allan		65-69					2019
Prai, Charles		59-63	S-2	DK-3			2018
Prinsen, Edwin		68-73	FM	FTM-3		YES	2018
Pryor, Roger		71-72	R	LTJG/CAPT			2020
Quarry, John	CL-82	45-46	F		YES		2017
Quigley, William			X	SN	YES	YES	2018
Rea, Roland		73	2nd	SN			2018
Richardson, William		59-60	MARDET	PFC			2018
Rigg, Larry		62-64	FLAG/CR	LTJG			2017
Robertson, Rob		59-61	MARDET	L/CPL/MAJ			2023
Robinson, Ramon	CL-82	45-46	MARDET	L/CPL	YES		2018

Roeder, Richard		59-62		LTJG		YES	2016
Rudder, Lawrence	CL-82	45-46	CS	SM-3		YES	2016
Running, Brad		69-71	X	PN-3		YES	2019
Ryan, Jay		67-69	S-1	SK-3			2018
Saenz, Samuel		60-62	PN-3/PNC	X			2018
Sanders, Vernon R	CL-82	45-46	1st	SN 1/c			2016
Sarno, George		66-69	X	LI-3	YES	YES	2018
Saylor, Robert		59-60	6th	GMT-3	YES		2018
Schmidt, Allen		66-67	E	SN		YES	2019
Schreier, Edward		68-69	OE	ET-3			2020
Schuster, Robert		68-70	FG	FTG-3	YES		2019
Serra, H. Lawrence		67-68	N & 2nd	LTJG	YES		2019
Shively, Wayne		66	SUPPLY	AKAN			2018
Siefers, Robert		67-69	1st	SN			2018
Shanks, John		69-70	FM	FN	YES		2016
Smith, Cromwell	CL-82	45-46	I	RM-3	YES	YES	2018
Snodgrass, Redgie		62-64	FLAG/CR	RM-2			2016
Spencer, Chuck		64-65	OI	ET-2			2018
Steenburg, Charles		60-61	4th & F	MT-3	YES		2018
Stephens, James W		66-68	FG	FTG-3			2018
Stephens, Robert		65-67	X	JO-3			2019
Stubits, Joseph	CL-82		M	FN	YES		2019
Sullivan, Charles		59-61	MARDET	CPL	YES		2019
Sutton, Robert		71-73	SUPPLY	DP1/DPCS	YES		2018
Sutton, Ronald		67-69	N	QM-3			2020
Tamarra, Randy		62-64	MARDET	CPL			2016
Taylor, Terry		66-69	OI	RD-3			2017
Taylor, Bruce		66-69	ENG	LCDR	YES		2020
Terrell, Richard		59-66	SUPPLY/4th	SN			2019
Thompson, A. Keith		61-62	MARDET	2nd LT			2017
Tlumach, Hilary M.		59	OL	YN-2	YES		2021
Trolinger, John S		64-66	OI	CWO-3		YES	2016
Trosclair, John		60-61	X	YN-3			2018
Trosper, Harold		67-69	H	HM-2			2018
Troutman, Dwight		66-69	ENG	YN-3			2020
Troutman, Victor		62-64	CR	rm-3	YES		2019
Trujillo, George		69-70	B & M	FN			2018
Name	Hull#	Years	Division	Rank	Donation	Plank	Dues paid thru date
						Owner	
Uhlinger, Thomas		66-67	FLAG	CT-2	YES		2019
Uribe, Albert		65-68	M	FN			2016
Utterback, Kent		71-72	CS	SM-3			2018
Valade, Larry		59-61	F	LT	YES		
Valese, Anthony		71-72	OPS	RM-2			2018
Varela, John		63-65	OR	RM-2			2015
Vautour, Arthur		66-69	FM	FTG-2	YES		2020
Vellegas, Robert		71-73	BT-3/BTCM	B			2018
Villa, Sam		68-72	FM	FTM-3	YES		2019
Viruet, Tom		66-69	1st	BM-3			2018
Voelker, Rodney		65-69	E	EM-1			2017
Walters, John		70-73	M	MM-2			2018
Ward, David F		68-71	1st/3rd	LTJG/CAPT	YES		2018
Waterman, Rob		71-72	R	HT-3			2018
Wegener, John		65-68	A	MR-2	YES		2019
Weichold, Clarence		59-66	1 st	BM-1	YES		2018
Wein, Robert		66-70	FM	FTM-2	YES	YES	2018

Weightman, Fawn	CL-82		2ND		YES		2018
Weiking, Robert		66-69	X & N	SN	YES		2019
West, Tom		59-61	A & B	EN-3			2016
Wilkeson, Wayne		60-62	OE	ETR-2		YES	2019
Williams, J. R.		67-69	3rd & X	SN	YES		2018
Williamson, James		59-61	MARDET	CPL			2019
Winters, Ronnie		66-70	T	GMM-3		YES	2019
Witherspoon, Rex	CL-82	46-47	H	LTJG-DC	YES		2018
Woody, Gene		62-64	CR	RMSN			2018
Wright, Kenneth		63-68	E	EM-1	YES		2018
Wulff, Gilbert		70-72	M	MMFN	YES		2018
Wulff, William		65-69	OI	YN-3	YES		2019
Yeatts, Gary		62-64	E	LTJG			2016
Yeutter, Philip		71-73	ENG	LCDR/CAPT	YES		2017
Yohanan, Robert		62-64	1st & R	ENS	YES		2018
Ziegler, Philip		66-68	F	LTJG	YES		2017
Zweber, Richard		66-69	OI	YN-2	YES		2019

MEMBERSHIP

Jim Cozine has spend a considerable amount of time with the aid of complex computer programs to update the roster of current and past members of the PROVIDENCE Association. The update includes current address, phone numbers, cell numbers, email addresses, dates on board, division and rank /rate. This is an exhausting process, which will be on-going for some time. Therefore, I ask that you use the "change form" in this newsletter to update your file. You can also use the form to provide names and last known address of your shipmates who are not currently members of the Association.

Form can be sent to me at: Jim Chryst, 34 Snyder Hollow Rd, New Providence, Pa. 17560'

Last month Dick Zweber and I sent out 750+ mailers to all data base hipmates, in the hope of obtaining additional members for the Association. So far this has been a very successful venture, in that we received many past due payments, 56 new members, and 22 new Facebook members.. I encourage you to get involved, so we can continue to grow the Association.

U.S.S. OKLAHOMA CITY ASSOCIATION

CLG-91

CLG-5/CG-5

SSN-723



"Keeping the Memory"

December 5, 2017

To: All U.S.S. Providence Association Members

The U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association will be holding its annual reunion in Norfolk, VA, in September 2018, and would like to extend an invitation to all members of the U.S.S. Providence Association to meet up with them for a joint reunion.

This has been talked about in both Associations and Jim Chryst and I have been in contact over past few years about such a reunion. We have found that members from both groups are now favorable to such a reunion and John feels inviting Providence members to one of the OkCity reunions is the simplest way to "test the waters". Jim also thinks this would be a good way to do that and maybe begin future joint reunions. We both feel this is a positive step in guaranteeing the future of our respective Associations.

As for the reunion itself, the groups will share the hospitality room but will have their own registration, ship's store, and displays. Each group will have its own business meeting and memorial service. Tours and activities will be for members from both groups as well as a joint banquet and farewell brunch.

The U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association has contracted with the reunion hotel and tour company and therefore must handle all monies directly related to the reunion. Payments will be made to the U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association and can be made by check, money order, or credit/debit card. Please use the Registration Form provided with this letter. All other reunion information is also included.

I cannot say enough about making your hotel reservations early. Even if you're not sure if you will be attending this reunion, please do make them now so we will be in a better position to add rooms to our block at the contracted rate whereas later on the chances of getting additional rooms and at the same rate are less favorable. You can cancel your hotel reservations without penalty 24 hours prior to your arrival date.

If you should have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Jim or me.

Best Regards,

John Baker, President
U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association
rlbfb@cox.net
620-399-3999

Jim Chryst
U.S.S. Providence Association
jchryst@cmbargmail.com
973-222-5499

Attachments

Official 2018 Reunion Notice

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel
777 Waterside Drive – Norfolk, VA 23510
800-325-3535

GENERAL INFORMATION – This will be the 26th Annual Reunion of the Association and we will be returning to Norfolk after a twenty year absence. We will revisit some of the venues from that reunion along with some new ones. And, members from the U.S.S. Providence Association have been invited to join us to test the waters for future joint reunions.

WHO CAN ATTEND – Any and all current and former crewmen, including Flag Staffs and Marines, of U.S. Naval ships christened *Oklahoma City* or *Providence* are invited and encouraged to attend this reunion. This invitation extends to spouses, friends, children, grand children, as all are welcome to attend.

HOTEL – Attendees are to make their own hotel reservations by calling the number above. Make sure to tell them you are with the U.S.S. Oklahoma City reunion to get our special rates from **\$109 for singles, doubles, triples, and quads (all plus tax)**. The hotel is ADA compliant and attendees need to make these needs known at the time of making hotel reservations. Rates are good 3 days before and 3 days after the reunion subject to room availability at time of making reservations. Hotel reservations made after September 6, 2018, will be accepted at the discretion of the hotel and will be based on availability and at the prevailing rate.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE HOTEL – Westbound on I-264: Take Exit 9 onto Waterside Drive and turn left at first traffic light. Hotel will be on your right. Northbound on I-264: Take Exit 9 and follow loop to the right around to Waterside Drive and to first traffic light. Turn left and the hotel will be on your right.

AIRPORT SHUTTLE – The hotel does not provide airport shuttles but does to the Amtrak station. To pre-arrange airport shuttle service, contact Airport Connection (aka James River Transportation) at **866-823-4636**. Make these arrangements at least one week prior to your arrival.

PARKING – Discounted self-parking is **\$8.00 per car/per day** and vouchers can be purchased at time of check-in. Vehicles displaying ADA parking tags can park in the valet lot at the discounted self-parking rate.

FOOD & BEVERAGE – Attendees will receive a **15% discount** at the hotel's **City Dock** restaurant on published food and non-alcoholic beverage prices. All food and beverages consumed in the hospitality room must be provided and served by the hotel.

TOURS & ACTIVITIES – Members will participate in the same optional tours and activities (except as noted). An ALL HANDS dinner cruise is included with the Basic Reunion Package. There will be no refunds once guarantees are made.

JOINT & SEPARATE ASPECTS OF REUNION – Both groups will share the hospitality room but will have their own registration, displays, ships' stores, money makers and collection of dues. Groups will join up for all tours and the ALL HANDS dinner cruise. Each group will have its own business meeting. There will be a joint banquet as well as a farewell brunch along with a joint memorial service.

REGISTER NOW – The U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association has contracted with the hotel and tour company and therefore must handle all monies directly related to the reunion. Payments can be by check, money order, or credit/debit card by sending your completed Registration Form **prior to September 1, 2018**, to the Treasurer of the U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association at the address on the Registration Form. But, do go ahead and make your hotel reservations now as you can always cancel these reservations without penalty (See Cancellations below).

CANCELLATIONS – To avoid hotel cancellation charges, notify the hotel at least 24-hours prior to your scheduled arrival date. To cancel your reunion reservations, please notify the **Richard Harvey, Treasurer of the U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association**, at **813-468-8379 by September 1, 2018**.

See You in Norfolk!

U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association
CL-91 CLG-5/CG-5 SSN-723

(With Members of U.S.S. Providence Association in Attendance)

2018 Reunion Itinerary

(Members of both groups will participate together in all events except as noted)

September 25, 2018		Early Bird Arrival Day
Tuesday	3:00pm	Hotel Check In
	3:00pm	Set Up Hospitality room
	4:30pm	Officers' Meetings
		Dinner and Evening on Your Own
September 26, 2018	9:00am	(Optional) Depart on tours of Norfolk, the Norfolk Naval Base, Nauticus & the Battleship Wisconsin, & the MacArthur Memorial (Lunch Included)
Wednesday	3:00pm	Hotel Check In
	4:00pm	Tour Returns to Hotel – Hospitality Room and Cash Bar Open
	8:00pm	Cash Bar Closes
	10:00pm	Hospitality Room Closes
		Dinner & Evening on Your Own
September 27, 2018	8:30am	(Optional) Departs on tours to Williamsburg, Jamestown Settlement, and Yorktown (Lunch on Your Own)
Thursday	3:00pm	Hotel Check In – Hospitality Room & Host Bar Open
	4:30pm	Tour Returns to Hotel
	5:30pm	One-Hour Welcome Reception
	8:00pm	Host Bar Closes
	10:00pm	Hospitality Room Closes
		Dinner & Evening on Your Own
September 28, 2018	9:00am	(Optional) Depart on tour to Virginia Beach and the Military Aviation the Virginia Surf and Rescue Museums (Lunch Included)
Friday	3:00pm	Hotel Check In – Hospitality Room Opens
	4:00pm	Tour Returns to Hotel
	6:00pm	Hospitality Room Closes
	6:15pm	ALL HANDS – Depart for Dinner Cruise aboard the <i>Spirit of Norfolk</i>
	10:00pm	(Approx) Return to Hotel
September 29, 2018	8:00am	Separate Association Business Meetings
Saturday	10:00am	(Optional) Depart on tours to the Thoroughgood Education Center, the First Landing State Park, Old Cape Henry Lighthouse, and the Young Veterans Brewery (Lunch & Beer Tasting Included)
	3:30pm	Tour Returns to Hotel – Hospitality Room & Cash Bar Open
	5:00pm	Joint Reunion Photo Session
	6:30pm	Joint Banquet (No Tie) – Hospitality Room Closes
	9:00pm	Cash Bar Closes
September 30, 2018	8:00am	Joint Memorial Service
Sunday	8:30pm	Joint Farewell Brunch & Mystery Box Auction
	11:00am	Reunion Officially Over – Hotel Check Out Complete

See You Next Year in Seattle Southside!

U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association
CL-91 CLG/CG-5 SSN-723

2018 Reunion Tours and Activities

Each tour is optional except as noted and will require a 35-person minimum participation. If minimums are not met, tour(s) may be cancelled and monies refunded less applicable cancellation charges. Costs shown include motor coach transportation except where indicated. Guide service, admissions, taxes are included. Meals are included where indicated. Gratuities for drivers and guides are not included and are at the discretion of tour participants. No refunds will be made after guarantees are made.

Norfolk's Military & Maritime Heritage

9:00am to 4:00pm, Wednesday, September 26, 2018

This outing will include tours of Norfolk, the Norfolk Naval Station, Nauticus and the battleship *Wisconsin*, and the MacArthur Memorial. Lunch is included. **Cost: \$75 per person based on 35-person minimum.**

Virginia's Historic Triangle

8:30am to 4:30pm, Thursday, September 27, 2018

This tour takes you to the early beginnings of our country with tours of Colonial Williamsburg, the Jamestown Settlement, and the Yorktown Battlefield. Lunch will be on your own. **Cost: \$65 per person based on 35-person minimum.**

Virginia Beach Air and Sea

9:00am to 3:00pm, Friday, September 28, 2018

This tour includes the Military Aviation Museum at the Oceana Naval Air Station, and the old Coast Guard Station which is now the Virginia Surf and Rescue Mission. Lunch is included. **Cost: \$85 per person based on 35-person minimum.**

Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise

6:30pm to 10:00pm, Friday, September 28, 2018

This is an ALL HANDS event. There will not be bus transportation to this event as it is only a couple of blocks from the hotel and we will walk from the hotel to the dock and return. The hotel shuttle will be available on a limited basis for those with mobility issues. **Cost: Included in Basic Reunion Package.**

Virginia Beach & Beer Tasting

10:00am to 3:30pm, Saturday, September 29, 2018

This tour featured the Thoroughgood Education Center, First Landing State Park, Old Cape Henry Lighthouse, and the Young Veterans Brewery for a tour and beer tasting. Lunch is included. **Cost: \$90 per person based on 35-person minimum.**

Reunion Photo Session

5:00pm to 6:30pm, Saturday, September 29, 2018

It costs nothing to have your photo taken to be included in a Reunion Memory Book. This is a good way to remember the reunion, names and faces too.

Joint Banquet

6:30pm to 9:00pm, Saturday, September 29, 2018

The joint banquet will feature a 3-entrée buffet to satisfy the pickiest of pallets.

Joint Memorial Service and Farewell Brunch

8:00am, Sunday, September 30, 2018

Separate memorial services will be followed by a joint farewell brunch and the Mystery Box Auction.

U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association
CL-91 CLG/CG-5 SSN-723

2018 Reunion Registration Form

*****This Form to Be Used by Members of the U.S.S. Providence Association*****

(Please read all reunion information before filling out Registration Form)

	Date _____
Name(s) _____	Email _____
_____	Phone _____

Address _____	
_____	Zip Code _____

Do you or your guest(s) have special dietary needs? Yes No If yes, please explain _____		
Do you or your guest(s) use a cane, wheelchair, walker, or scooter? Yes No If yes, please circle what is used _____		
In case of an emergency, who do you want us to contact? Name _____		
Relationship _____	Phone _____	OR _____

Basic Reunion Package

Includes registration, welcome reception, dinner cruise, business meeting, reunion photo session, banquet, memorial service and farewell brunch.

\$185 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Optional Tours, Etc

Norfolk City Tour including Naval Station (Lunch Included)

\$75 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Williamsburg, Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown (Lunch on your own)

\$65 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Aviation Museum, Surf & Rescue Museum (Lunch Included)

\$80 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Virginia Beach, Museums & Beer Tasting (Lunch Included)

\$85 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

YOUR TOTAL (Total column to the Right)

\$

Please make your hotel reservations no later than **September 6, 2018**, by calling the hotel direct at **800-325-3535**.

Complete this form and mail it before **September 1, 2018**, to **Richard Harvey, Treasurer, U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association, 647 Weathersford Drive, Dunedin, FL 34698-7435**. Please include your check or money order made payable to the **U.S.S. Oklahoma City Association**, or fill out the credit/debit card information below.

Credit or Debit Card Authorization

Name on Card _____	(Circle One) Visa M'Card Discover AmEx
Card # _____	Expires _____ Code _____
Type of Card (Circle One) Credit Debit	Signature _____

Please note a 3% transaction fee will be added to the total amount due