



The Bosun's Pipe

Passing the Word

USS Frank E. Evans (DD-754)

Spring, 2008

Volume II Issue 1



Ahoy Shipmates,

In our part of Texas, Mother Nature has had a hard time getting Old Man Winter to leave. Several times during the months of March and April, we thought spring had arrived. The temperature would be near 80 degrees one or two days, only to have the thermometer drop back into the 30's or 40's within days. Most days have been warm and sunny or windy with clouds. Several times we have had storms with extremely high winds and a little rain, leaving the landscape scattered with tree limbs. We have been fortunate not to have had damage to our home. Our thoughts have been with those of you who live in the states further north and to the east of Texas where greater damage has occurred.

Smooth Seas,
J. C. Campbell

Welcome Aboard, Gentlemen

We are sending, via this newsletter, a warm welcome to our newest members of the USS Frank E. Evans Association.

1. Larry A. Freeberg is a 2nd Watch Member * who lives in Huntingdon, PA. He first learned about the association while reading a VFW magazine in 2002. He called Texas seeking additional information about the Evans organization. An overview of our activities was discussed with Larry. We sent him additional information about the association, a welcome package, a Photo Book and information on the St. Louis, MO reunion.

Larry is a close friend of Don A. Fagan whose son, SA Stephen Don Fagan, was lost in the accident on 3 June, 1969. Mr. Fagan joined our membership last year.

Larry, we are pleased to have you have as a member of our organization. We look forward to meeting you at a future reunion. Family members and friends of our 74 lost shipmates hold a special place in our hearts and are a major part of the USS Frank E. Evans family.

*(Editor's note: * A "second watch" member is a wife, child, family member or friend of a former Frank E. Evans sailor or someone who shares the same goals and objectives of the association.)*

2. Lloyd L. Schaller (1968-69 S EM3) lives Bakersfield, CA. now but was from Monterey Park, CA. After the accident, he spent the last 6 months of duty at the Long Beach Pike on shore patrol. He contacted us last June seeking information on the reunion. We are hopeful he and his wife will join us for our 2008 reunion since he has a 30 ft. fifth wheel. His fellow survivors would enjoy trading "sea stories".

3. Jack R. Shue (1953-56 Cook) really isn't a new member. He attended the 1997 reunion in San Diego, CA when he lived in West Covina, CA. We hadn't heard from him since 1998. Recently he sent us his new address in Murrieta, CA along with his 2008 dues. Jack thanks for helping us to keep our roster updated. We like to keep in contact with our shipmates. Hope to see you again in September.

4. Paul Sherbo, is a 2nd Watch Member who lives in Lakewood, CO. Paul is a retired Naval Officer and author. Paul is writing a book about Frank E. Evans (DD-754) destroyer. Paul attended our reunion this past year in Excelsior Springs. Paul is always looking for information and unique stories about our ship.

Searching the Murky Waters of Naval Records

Our historian, Frank Jablonski, has been examining the “Official Muster Rolls” to verify the information of the 278 members on the last cruise. The process has been slow, if not difficult at times. The bottom line is: Great progress has been made and further research continues daily.

Frank’s research has and will continue to provide the necessary information needed in the development of the “Official List” for all future records, publications, banners, website information, books, etc. The correct spelling of the 74 lost shipmates’ names, Rate/Rating and Home of Record are most critical before additional memorial markers are ordered.

From the Mail Bag

(Editor’s note: On March 27th Gerry Hemphill (sister of SA James W. Kerr, lost in the 1969 accident) sent J.C. and Sylvia an email. Below are a few of her comments re: last fall’s reunion in Missouri, how she is learning to live with ALS, updating us on her mother, Fern Kerr’s, health and planned move to California.)

“(We) enjoyed our one night at the reunion so much. The flag program with Vane was excellent. I’m doing fairly well, but my voice is almost unintelligible. So, I carry around a small white board and markers in order to converse with people. I’m happy that I can still work the computer. I’m still able to walk, but have had 3 bouts of stomach virus since Jan. Ist that have kept me in bed for several days each time. That has weakened me so I’m still gaining back my strength.

“Mom has decided that the altitude is too high for her and she is moving back to CA as soon as a place opens up in a retirement home in San Luis Obispo where my brother Fred, and his wife Judy, lives. We’ll miss her, but I am limited in what I can do with/for her, so this is probably the best thing for her. She will have a couple of grandchildren and their families out there plus a brother and his wife.

“Hope the New Year is going well for you and that you both are in good health!

Blessings,

Gerry Hemphill”

(Editor’s note: Dale Mann, wife of Joe Bob Mann, requested her note be included in the newsletter.)

“To the Members of the USS Frank E. Evans (DD 754) Association,

“At the reunion in September, some of you knew I, Dale, was having trouble with my heart (atria afibulation). I finally had my heart ablation done on Tuesday, April 1, at Baylor Heart Hospital in Dallas, Texas. The doctor believes my heart is fixed and will not race again. I am so happy about that prospect! Joe Bob and I returned home on Thursday, April 3, and are doing well. In fact, I went back to work on Monday. (April 7th)

“On March 26th on our way to Dallas, we stopped at the VA Hospital in Amarillo for a scan of Joe Bob’s kidney and two doctors’ appointments. We are so excited about his report, too. The doctor says blood had collected in front of his kidney blocking the view of it. Now, the blood is clearing and his kidney is healing. Thank God for both good reports.

“Therefore, the Mann’s are on the mend and are much happier about our health. Thank you ALL for your concern and prayers. However, we would appreciate prayers until we are 100% again...which should be very soon.

“Thanks again,

Dale Mann, Director of Communications

USS Frank E. Evans (DD 754) Association, Inc.

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Gerry Hemphill and her family are in need of our prayers.

(Editor's note: Steve Kraus forwarded an April 30th message from Alan Hemphill on Gerry's condition. Her breathing capacity has continued to decrease and is now a very serious problem. Alan's last paragraph reads as follows.)

“So, pray for us, that these temporizing measures will help some, at least. And especially for heavenly wisdom as we try to decide how far to go with these life / death prolonging technical pieces of equipment and procedures, and when to just leave it all up to the Lord.

“In His Loving Care, Alan”

We Mourn the Lost of the Following Shipmates

1. **Daniel R. (Doc) Nichols, (1950-54 BM3)** lived in Citrus Heights, CA and passed in October 3, 2007. He arrived on the Evans the same day as Nick Nichols and B. J. Davis according to records sent to us by Tom Nobles. “Doc” had been a dues paying member since 2001 but his medical problems had prevented him from attending a reunion.
2. **Jack M. Dalton, (1965-67 FTG)** lived in New Baltimore, MI. He passed away on October 30, 2007 from a struggle with cancer. Jack was the ringleader of the Gun Fire Control Technicians on the Evans with friends Tom Landolt, Jerry Simoneit, Dean Wyse and Ed Holsopple. Jack and his wife, Jean, attended the Milwaukee, WI reunion in 2005. Thanks to Ed Holsopple and Tom Landolt for the timely notification.
3. **Johnny L. Yearwood, (1962-64)** lived in Snellville, GA. John Coffey notified us of the December 23, 2007 death of Johnny at the age of 63. He was a Hospital Corpsman on the Evans. After graduating from Georgia Southern in 1971, he worked for Eastern Airlines. He had been a high school teacher for several years.

John Coffey met Johnny Yearwood in boot camp and they remained close friends during their four years in the Navy. Johnny served as John Coffey's best man.
4. **Thomas (Tom) J. Manley, (1967-69 S BT3)** suddenly passed away on February 9, 2008. He and his wife, Mary, lived in Long Beach, CA. They joined the association on May 8, 2001. He was deeply dedicated to getting the 74 lost shipmates' names on the Vietnam Wall. He started working immediately toward that goal. Within two weeks we were receiving emails seeking information for the Manley's to pass on to officials and/or the newspapers in Long Beach.

Tom's service, planned by Mary and their son, Christopher, was a celebration of Tom's life. He was laid to rest in the National Cemetery in Riverside, CA.
5. **Lloyd A. Voorhees, Jr. (1950-51 Yeoman 2C)** lived in Monroe, LA and passed on March 13, 2008 at the age of 80. He reported aboard the DD-754 Reactivation Group on August 15, 1950 in San Diego. Former shipmates, Jerry Wages and Emmett Tidd (both USN Retired Officers), remembered Lloyd as a very genial, solid sailor who did an excellent job.

He first joined the association in 2000 but had not been able to attend a reunion. His wife had sent a message earlier this year stating Lloyd was in ill health in the Veterans' Home. Additional survivors include 2 sons, 3 daughters and their extended families. Condolences were sent to the family from the association's membership.

6. **Vincent D. (Stan) Stanislawski (1966-68 RD 2C)** passed on March 9, 2008 at the age of 60. Stan had joined the Navy at the age of 17 in North Dakota but had lost track of his fellow shipmates through the years. He and his wife lived in Rancho Cucamonga, CA.

In January, 2008, we received an email from his daughter, Krystina, who had found us thru the Frank E. Evans web site. She was seeking information on how to find the location of the Frank E. Evans Memorial site in Long Beach, CA. She and her sister had planned to take Stan to the site. Sadly his pancreatic cancer prevented the trip. A military service was held and he was laid to rest in the Riverside, CA Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Stan is survived by his wife, 2 daughters and a son. Several officers of the Association sent their condolences to the Stanislawski family.

2008 Reunion Information

The 17th Frank E. Evans reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Patriots Point in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina during the second weekend of September 11 thru the 13th.

Reservations

Holiday Inn at Patriot's Point: Telephone Numbers are: 1-800-290-4004 or 1-843-884-6000:

If you haven't made your reservations yet, make them now. (See below for incentives.)

1. Tell the reservationists you are with the **USS Frank E. Evans (DD 754)** group.

Our group rate is: **\$99.00 per night plus taxes beginning Sunday, 7th thru Tuesday, the 16th.**

2. Request a confirmation number when you make the reservations. Ask for a copy of the reservations to be sent to you via e-mail or regular mail. Check the confirmation information carefully to be sure your reservations are correct.

NOTE: After August 1st the unreserved rooms in our block will be released back to the hotel.

Incentives for Early Registration

Postmarked by June 1st: **5 Tickets** for drawing to win a **FREE night's stay** at the Holiday Inn.

Postmarked by July 1st: **2 Tickets** for drawing to win a **free night's stay** at the Holiday Inn.

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Special thanks to Steve Kraus for sending this issue to the members who have email.

Late Breaking News

(Editor's note: J. C. received the following notice from a member of his Tin Can Sailor group in Fort Worth. He thought some of you might be interested.)

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, History Channel International will premiere the first three episodes of "HERO SHIPS", a 13 part series of one hour programs featured in high definition with gripping interviews and an insider's look into the real stories told by the sailors who were there.

USS ARIZONA (8:00 pm EST)

USS ENTERPRISE (9:00 pm EST)