



# Frank E. Evans Footlocker Talk

Footlocker Talk  
Newsletter  
Third Quarter  
2007

## 2007 USS Frank E. Evans Reunion

Plans are well underway for our reunion this year in Excelsior Springs, Missouri October 4, 5 & 6. We have mailed over 400 invitations to register and attend this year's reunion. This looks to be an exciting reunion filled with tours, evening programs including entertainment on Thursday and Saturday evenings. Please mark you calendar now and come and enjoy the changing of the leaves, we only hope Mother Nature will ensure the leaves don't turn early or worse yet start to fall before we arrive.

**If you have not made your reservation, please do so today! Contact the Elms resort; make sure you inform them you are with the USS Frank E. Evans Association. The phone number is 1-800-843-3567. Next please complete and return the "Blue Registration Form" that was mailed to your residence in early June.**

This year's reunion promises to be outstanding. Maybe, the Best Reunion Yet! On Thursday evening we will be hosting the men who served aboard the USS Caldwell, DD 605. We are sharing our evening meal and program with the Caldwell group. Our entertainer for the evening is the renowned Bill Grigsby. We have been guaranteed that Bill will keep us in stitches.

On Saturday evening, we will be privileged to have as our guest, Vane Scott, President of the USS Radford, DD-446 Association. He will present an entertaining program on the "Many Faces of Old Glory". During his program he will describe the evolution of our current American Flag and provide an overview of American history with an emphasis on the early years.

Vane has appeared across America before groups of all ages and backgrounds for 30 years. He has been a professional supper club entertainer and a big band vocalist. His program should leave all of us with a patriotic feeling, proud to be an American and with a great deal more respect for our Flag.

## Mount Washington Cemetery

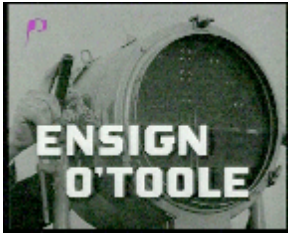
The Washington Cemetery has expressed there deepest thanks and appreciation for the Associations donation to the cemetery.

The construction of the flag pole and plaque is complete. This is one of the first in a series of plaques dedicated to all that ever served on board the USS Frank E. Evans. Sharon Shirk and Pete Peters have worked diligently planning the placement of plaques not only to our "Lost 74" but to all that have serve in USS Frank E. Evans. The Board is working toward putting in place a long term plan to establish appropriate memorials across the United States. At the present it appears that National cemetery's are best suited as placements for our recognition plaques and memorials.



# ENSIGN O'TOOLE & The USS APPLEBY

By Frank Jablonski



From 1962-1964, the USS APPLEBY roamed the peacetime waters of the Pacific Ocean finding its way to such exotic locations as Hong Kong, Korea, the Arctic, San Diego, and, of course, the South Pacific. The crew aboard included a very clever, know-it-all named Ensign O'Toole who was an expert at avoiding work; the very ambitious, but vain LTJG Rex St. John, the ship's supply officer; the cantankerous Chief Petty Officer Homer Nelson, the ship's executive officer LCDR Virgil Stoner who delivered orders from the ship's unseen Captain (only heard over speakers), and a trio of Seamen Gabby DiJulio, Howard Spicer and Claude White.

On a day-to-day basis, O'Toole's duties onboard ship might entail convincing the captain that he's really not "that old," or convincing the crew the CO is not that bad so they will ship-over, or dealing with a foreign admiral who is only 12 years old, or getting a seaman to loose weight before he gets 86ed.

The ship used as the USS APPLEBY was, in reality, the **USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD754)**. It was launched 4 October 1944 and commissioned 3 February 1945. CDR J. E. Feaster, Mike McGuire, and LTJG John Lucas from the EVANS took the television production crew team to sea for a day of shooting for the pilot program. Afterwards, they went to the studio to check the validity of what the set designers had put together. Surprisingly, the pilot house, bridge and CIC were very exact except for one port hole that went in the wrong direction. The EVANS' officer's names were listed as technical advisors on the trailer, but they never got to see their names on the screen as the network broke for a commercial.

Produced by Four Star Productions, the series was based on books "All the Ships at Sea," and "Ensign O'Toole and Me" written by Bill Lederer.

Thanks in part to LTJG John Lucas 1960-1963.

## PERPETUAL WATCH

It is important to update you on the status of the Perpetual Watch Program. In 2005 the Association implemented the program. This program was formed as a means to honor our "Lost 74". Our first key objective for this program was to have those individuals that adopted one of our "Lost 74" obtain information and a photograph. To date we have only completed 19 of the 74. We ask your support in fast tracking this objective. If you have taken one (or more) of the "Lost 74" Perpetual Watch cards please continue your research and send the information to Steve Kraus. If for some reason you have not been successful or are unable to conduct the research please contact Steve at [kraussa@cox.net](mailto:kraussa@cox.net) or by phone at 760-941-8184.

## **Rescue of Fisherman From Okinawa**

George Koenemund FT3 1958-1961 wants to know if anyone remembers the USS Frank E. Evans rescuing a fisherman from the island of Okinawa. He believes the fisherman had been adrift for about 10 days. He also thinks it was sometime in the summer of 1959. If you have any information on this event please let us know so we can expand on this story. Thanks George for helping us walk down memory lane.

## **LOLLYGAGGIN, Jokes, Sea Stories & Tall Tales** **By** **Kelly Orozco, ET1**

### **Are you TRUE Navy Blue and Gold?**

Me and Willy were lollygagging by the scuttlebutt after being aloft to boy-butter up the antennas and were just perched on a bollard eyeballing a couple of bilge rats and flangeheads using crescent hammers to pack monkey sh\*t around a fitting on a handybilly.

All of a sudden the dicksmith started hard-assing one of the deck apes for lifting his pogy bait. The pecker-checker was a sewer pipe sailor and the deckape was a gator. Maybe being black shoes on a bird farm surrounded by a gaggle of cans didn't set right with either of those gobs.

The deck ape ran through the nearest hatch and dogged it tight because he knew the penis machinist was going to lay below, catch him between decks and punch him in the snot locker. He'd probably wind up on the binnacle list but Doc would find a way to gundeck the paper or give it the deep six to keep himself above board.

We heard the skivvywaver announce over the bitch box that the breadburners had creamed foreskins on toast and SOS ready on the mess decks, so we cut and run to avoid the clusterf\*\*k when the twidgets and cannon cockers knew chow was on.

We were balls to the wall for the barn and everyone was preparing to hit the beach as soon as we doubled-up and threw the brow over. I had a ditty bag full of fufu juice that I was gonna spread on thick for the bar hogs with those sweet bosnias. Sure beats the hell out of brown bagging. Might even hit the Acey-Deucy club and try to hook up with a WESTPAC widow. They were always leaving snail trails on the dance floor on amateur night.

If you understand this, you're true Blue and Gold!

# The Ultimate Cruise Book

We Still Need Your Help!!

*Historian, Frank Jablonski sent the following report.*

The response to the call for information for the Ultimate Cruise Book has increased dramatically during May.

1. The following men have responded to our "Call for Help" and have sent information.

Francis L. Anderson, ICI, 50-51	Jack A. Jones, MM2, 65-68
Fred Atkins, LTJG, 45-46	Carl J. Jungjohann, BT3, 50-54
Thomas James Benson, MM2, 55-58 (Relative)	George LaLiberte', RD1, 68-69 Lost
Hubert Lee Blankenship, BM3, 50-54	Donald Lee, PN3, 65-67
Lowell Brandt, RD2, 66-69	Douglas Reid Legg, LTJG, 52-55
William H. Branum, Jr., BMSN 50-52	John R. Lucas, LTJG, 52-55
Charles E. Clark, FT1, 58-60	Carl A. Maiorino, CS3, 59-63
Danny Victor Clute, SOSN, 68-69 Lost (Relative)	David L. Marsh BT2, 50-54
Jack Coen, BM3, 52-55	Myron E. McMillan, FTG2, 67-69 (S)
Richard T. Cohagan, EM3, 55-56	Leonard J. Needham, DC2, 51-52
Billie Joe Davis, MM3, 50-54	Blake L. O'Neil, QM3, 54
James Wilburn Davis, ETR3 67-69 Lost (Relative)	Donald L. Pisarczyk, BM2, 50-54
Sylva Vesta Dove, Jr., Slc, 45-46	Charles S. Raflowitz, FTG2, 55-57
Lewis W. Easter, MM2, 55-56	Thomas Rodman, RM2, 64-67
Stan Edwards, CS3, 63-64	Jerry L. Stephenson, BT2, 62-62
Stanley R. Elder, RM2, 54-55	William Culbertson, BMSN, 64-68
William H. Ezell, LTJG, 49-50	Jerry Sutton, GMG3, 65-66
Casey Garcia, SK1, 61-63	George R. Taggert, FTG2, 65-69
Robert Dean Hall, BT3, 55-57	George S. Tatge, GMM3, 50-51
Delbert J. Hanson, YN3, 45-46	Ken Thraikill, BMSN 68-69 (S)
Gerald Haugen, EN2, 57-59	Thomas E. Vargo, BMSN 68-69 (S)
Harold Holland, EM2, 62-65	Peter J. Wallis, Jr., EN3, 57-58
Charles F. Hoog, BT2, 52-55	Dick L. J. Warson, YNC, 66-67
James Hook, EM3, 64-65	Clayton C. Wright, YNC, 66-67
Frank Monroe Jones, RD3, 52-55	Dennis R. York, BMSN, 63-67

2. Contact has been made with the following people, but information hasn't arrived as of now.

Tommy Gordon Anthony, SN, 67-69 (S)	Charles E. Clark, FT 58-60
Robert (Bob) Berweger, EM3, 68-69 (S)	Eugene W. Garrity, FT, 50-52 (son, Mike
Vernon H. Cash, MMC, 68-69 (S)	John Townsend Norton, 68-69 (Brother, Ken)

3. A very special "Thank You" to LTJG/CDR/Professor Doug Legg. He has been a tremendous resource for information in the 1952-1955 era. Thanks Doug!! Bravo Zulu

4. Special thanks to Stan Edwards and Tom Rodman for submitting cruise books which have been scanned and returned to their rightful owners. We now have cruise books from 1958, 1962, 1963-64, 1966 and 1967-68.

5. We are especially grateful for the participation of two members of the USS Kearsarge CVS-33 who "were there" on 3 June, 1969. Thanks to Randy Slaughter for the photo and copy of the ship's paper, "Kearsaga" and his account of the events of 3 June. George Murphy and his wife, Linda: Author(s) of "The Turn". *Editor's Note: In 2000 the FEE Board of Directors made George Murphy the first 2<sup>nd</sup> Watch Member in the Frank E. Evans Association.*

We want to remind the membership to submit your data sheets, stories and photos to Frank Jablonski. He will scan and return your pictures if requested. Please identify your photos: who, when, where, what. The most efficient way to get your input to Frank is by email: [fjab333@earthlink.net](mailto:fjab333@earthlink.net) or you may mail your information to the address below:

Frank Jablonski  
4027 N. Waterbridge Circle  
Port Orange, FL 32129-9606  
  
Telephone: 386-322-5523

**Remember!**

**This was YOUR ship. This is YOUR story. We need YOUR help. Send YOUR information now.**

## JFK Decommissioned After 38 Years



Mayport, FL. -- The aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) was decommissioned in Mayport, Fla., March 23, 2007

After a 17 gun salute, USS John F. Kennedy Commanding Officer Capt. Todd Zecchin addressed the more than 5,000 guests, former commanding officers, city officials and distinguished visitors. In his speech, he described his feelings for the ship and the legacy of its crew.

"While preparing for today, I realized that serving on this ship is akin to having a relationship with a tried and true friend," Zecchin said. "Saying goodbye is a sublime melancholy.

"Zecchin described the level of dedication the crew revealed. He illustrated their pride in professionalism in terms of a recent port visit to Boston, when 21 degree below zero wind chills made working conditions at night unforgiving.

None of the watch standers complained. In fact, I had to order them back inside the skin of the ship because they were so intent on getting the job done. "The ship's commanding officer took time not just to remember the crew's efforts, but of those backing each of them. Nobility of purpose, service to people, devotion to a cause and a deep belief in each other is what sustains us. We could not have done it without the support of family and friends," he said.

Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command Admiral John B. Nathman talked about the ship's history and the deployments to the Middle East that made headlines in the 1980s, 1990s and the present decade. "You have served with honor and distinction," Nathman said, addressing the crew. "I commend you for facing challenges head-on and for welcoming your responsibility. Feel privileged to bear your responsibility. Wear it as a mantle on your shoulders with the pride it deserves."

## June 3, 2007 Memorial Ceremony

Each year on June 3rd several Evans sailor's, wives and friends gather at the Long Beach Memorial to honor our fallen 74. This year Tommy Anthony traveled from his home town in Texas and Richard Burke & Dean Wyse drove 400 miles to attend. The Memorial Ceremony was organized by Pete Peters. This year's memorial was filled with tributes including a fly-by by the Los Angeles US Coast Guard, coordinated by Duane Conely. 74 white Doves flew over the ceremony symbolic of those that we lost on that fate full night of June 3. Taps were played following the reading of the 74 names. The group met after the ceremony and enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Buba Gump Shrimp, a fine close to a wonderful day

