



THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Eugene East 1st Gunnery Div.

SGT 1st Class 1947-51

Lou Hannaford RM2. Radio Div. 1947-48

Curtis Inlow ABF2, V4 Div. 1979-80

Frank Matthews YN3, 9th/F Div. 1950-53

Claus Martens AQI, VF-21 1981-83

Shipmates Enjoy St. Louis Annual Reunion.

Our 33rd annual reunion was held at the Crowne

Plaza St. Louis Airport on October 6. Every effort was made to make this one of our most affordable and enjoyable reunions ever!

Even though the turnout for the St. Louis reunion was a bit short of expectations, all went well and

all in attendance surely had fun. The tours of local St. Louis attractions were a lot of fun, especially the Budweiser brewery!



The Shadow Knows—This photo, taken by Association member Jim Johnson, captures the shadow of the famous Gateway Arch in St. Louis, MO, as it 'stretches' into the city. The Gateway Arch is the tallest monument in the US.

At our annual business meeting, the Association decided to donate \$1,000.00 to our Sea Cadet program. Many of us feel that doing so

> publicizes the Association in a very positive way.

Join me in welcoming Andy
Wright aboard as
the newest
member of our
Board of Directors. You'll find
Andy's contact
information on
our updated officer's page in this
issue.

It was good to see several

first- time attendees and

(Continued on page 7)

President's Corner

Greetings Shipmates, Here's hoping that all of you have had a Happy Thanksgiving.

The annual reunion has come and gone and I want to thank shipmate Mil Phillips for a job well done. Also thanks to

Mike Perry for his help as our "boots on the ground" in St. Louis. Welcome aboard Mike!

If you missed this reunion, you missed a great time. Many thanks also go to Iris Phillips and Betty and Ben Bernardy for their help. Special thanks, too, to Bill Eanetta and

Chuck Whitcomb for their help selling raffle tickets at the dinners. Lastly, Ben Bernardy deserves a big thanks for his generosity in donating his winnings on the split-thepot raffle. The scholarship fund has increased due to shipmate Ben's generosity.

(Continued on page 6)

Making the Best of General Quarters.

The day arrived for our final, normally back-breaking, battle problem provided by the Guan-

tanamo Staff.
They rode to
sea with us each
day, doing their
best to make us
better able to
properly fight
our ship.

I did my normal 04:30 check and report, and then took to the comfortable

deck in the anchor windlass room. At 07:45 the Sea & Anchor Detail was called away and the other men arrived to pull the hook at 08:00. Everything went fine and we could feel the *Coral Sea* put out to sea as we awaited the

an- to sea as we awaited the The s

message for the Sea & Anchor Detail to be relieved.
Suddenly, the general alarm sounded and the

announcement was made for all men to "man you battle stations."

The ship was buttoned up

in three minutes.
All watertight
doors were closed
and secured. Nobody will break
watertight integrity after those
three minutes.
However, nobody
walks away form
the Sea & Anchor
Detail until being
relieved, either.
And we had not

been relieved!

Ten minutes into general

(Continued on page 3)

Welcome Aboard

Douglas McComas BT3, B Div. 1972-74

Glen McKnight SN, B Div. 1967-69

Paul Toups YN3, VA-155 1962-64

Taps

Mike Distefano

Past Association President and Participating Founder Medford, NI

Vice President's Corner

Ahoy, Mates!

The reunion in St. Louis has come and gone. The numbers were not large but it was great to see old friends and make new.

By the time you get this newsletter, we will have already had Thanksgiving. I hope you all had a good one. Lynn and I send wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are looking so forward to our grand-daughters coming home from college from Boston and Arizona. We have really missed them since

(Continued on page 6)

Secretary's Corner

Hope you and yours are well.

Hope everyone who was able to attend our Annual Reunion in St. Louis this past October enjoyed themselves as much as Sandra and I did. We went on the Busch Gardens tour, as well as the "Gateway to the West".

Thanks to Mil Phillips. He did a heck of a job, and the hotel was very nice and accommodating.

Next year will be San Antonio, Texas. Our hotel will be on River Walk. This reunion promises to be a big one. More info to

follow.

Well it's off to The Pfeffers for the Annual Army/ Navy game. More Snipes than you can shake a stick at! GO NAVY!

Happy Turkey Day and Christmas to all!

Again, please note for all future correspondence that I am dropping the P.O. BOX 4235 and only using our street address: 651 E Saginaw Way, Fresno, CA 93704.

In service, your secretary,



Don Colwell Secretary

Florida Spring Fling Mini-Reunion: March 10, 2012

It is will soon be time for the Florida Spring Fling Mini-Reunion of the USS Coral Sea

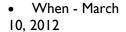
Association members.

This year we are again inviting local carrier sailors to join us. In the past, we've welcomed sailors from the FDR, the Midway and the Shangri-La. We sure hope you can make it again this year. Any flat -top sailors are invited as well.

Social hour begins at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served between 12 and 12:30 and will be a choice of char-broiled hamburger or cheeseburger, basket of chicken tenders, tuna or egg salad plate w/cottage cheese and chicken salad croissant with fresh fruit garnishes. The burger or tenders basket comes with fries, chips or coleslaw. The

tuna or egg salad plate comes with fresh sliced tomatoes, coleslaw and/or hard

boiled egg.



- Where American Legion NO-VEL
 Post 159, 1770 East
 Venice Ave., Venice,
 FL 34292
- Cost Dinner is \$20.00 per person,

tax included. For more info:

Bud McKay, 151 Hoosier Place, Sarasota, FL 34232; Ph. (941) 371-3790, or

Bill Johnson, 322 N Portia Street, Nokomis, FL 34275; Ph. (941) 485-4360 (leave a message, calls will be returned)

For meal reservations, please complete the form and return it to Bud McKay at the address above.

MAKEN HEST Will find the Con-

Taps Ernest A

Ernest A. Akromas USS Coral Sea 1948-1952

Terry Cordle USS Coral Sea 1968-1970 Rome, GA

Capt. James E.
McIndoe
USS Coral Sea, Engi-

neering Dept.
1959-1962
Escondido, CA

Milton J. Miller Braintree, MA

Bill Thayer
Past Association
Secretary and USS
Coral Sea Plank
Owner
Weymouth, MA

Name:				
Address:				
	St./Zip:			
	Ph.:			
# Attending:	# of Reservations @ \$20	Amount	Encl	
Burger Meal:	Chicken Tenders:	Chicken Tenders: Tuna Salad:		
Egg S	alad: Chicken Salad C	Croissant:		
(Please	e make check payable to USS (Coral Sea Reun	ion.)	
I served on t	he Coral Sea (circle one): CVB	-43 CV-43	CVA- 43	
Years Serve	d: Division:	Rate:		
OR Name Your S	hip:			

(Continued from page 2)

Making the best of GQ...

quarters and, almost as an afterthought (which it probably was), we realized the predicament in which we found ourselves. Where could we go? Nowhere!

We passed the word of our situation to the engineering officer and asked that my repair party be notified of the reason for my absence.

Making the best of an

unusual situation, we discovered that we could enter a sleeping compartment next to the windlass room without

(Continued on page 12)

Anna Fazzini Awarded First Place Scholarship.

Why We Need to Keep Our Armed Forces Strong.

Ed. Note: Anna Fazzini is the first place recipient of the tenth annual Coral Sea Association Scholarship contest. She is the granddaughter of Kenneth Stickel, an Association member from Belle Vernon, PA. Ken served in F Div.

From 1948 to 1951. Since I have existed in this world, there have been some notable lines drawn in the sand. When the threat to erase these lines swelled to a point of total political unrest, our armed forces had to be dispatched to protect them. As a country we found ourselves actively engaged in the invasion of Iraq, the Iraq war, the Haitian rebellion and the war in Somalia.

This is not unlike the history that had taken place before

my birth. My predecessors witnessed death and destruction on a much larger scale with World War I, World War II and the Vietnam War. And yet, we have sustained as a country. The ideology our country was founded on has been protected. And carried from generation through generation there is a stark realization that the liberties and freedoms I enjoy today were the direct result of the men and women who chose to fight in

these conflicts and wars.

And yet, it is these men and women that become the subject of political debates that ensure every time our country enters into a conflict. Should we send them? When do we pull them out? Should we finance this political operation? How do we finance it? Where will the money come? What can be taxed? What should be cut? The debates are endless.

Yet our men and women continue to sign up and serve as the banter between political rivals continues. No matter how passionate or eloquent the spoken viewpoints are when debating the pro's and cons, the one question that can silence them all is "Where would we be without the Armed Forces?"

That question can hit a nerve in every American. The underlying fear that you could be living differently and perhaps not so comfortably, deepens the sense of appreciation one has for the freedom

and liberties we enjoy today. Imagine living under dictator rule, in impoverished conditions without the hope of rising out of those conditions. Or living in fear because of the religion you practice. Cowering in fear and lacking education because the fact you are a woman isn't deemed worthy enough.

There are a number of dissimilarities we can make between ourselves and the coun-



'Salty' Humor

Mature Truths:

I think part of a best friend's job should be to immediately clear your computer history if you die.



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Runner-up Scholarship Essay...

tries that surround us. We were taught during middle school and high school history classes about the effects of a dictatorship, how it is to live under the rule of communism and the differences between a socialist and anarchist form of government. We are constantly riddled with news reports about human right violations in other countries and other current event stories that highlight living conditions in other countries that seen improbable.

Most often we conclude that we are better off living here in the United States than we would be anywhere else. And that simple conclusion is at the very core of why we need to keep our Armed Forces strong.

We are fortunate that over 200 years

ago, the founding fathers had the foresight and integrity to establish a country based on true and lasting principles. Yet even solid foundations get tested. Over and over again in history we have been witness to other countries and factions attempting to crack our foundation. We defeated them. Not always by words but by actions. Actions that were a direct result of the Armed Forces strategically deployed to protect our foundation. If we had not risen to the occasion, if we did not have the trained military equipment and manpower in place, where would we be now? So to answer the question succinctly as to, "Why We Need to Keep Our Armed Forces Strong?" look at it from the angle of another question: "Where would we be without the Armed Forces?"



'Salty' Humor

Mature Truths: How many times is it appropriate to say, "What?" before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,

As you read this, we will be well into the December round of holidays!

Christians will be celebrating the birth of Christ and Jews will be celebrating Hanukkah, the "Festival of Lights". And most everyone will probably have a decorated tree in their home and welcome family and friends in for holiday cheer.

Gift-giving is a hallmark of this season, and well it should be. The baby Jesus was a gift of God to His people, and the gift of the eight day oil supply in the temple is celebrated by the lighting of the menorah in Jewish homes and synagogues.

Maybe we shipmates of USS CORAL SEA can do a little gift-giving of our own. What do you think? I would challenge all who are able to do so, to give a gift of a one-year membership to a shipmate who is not a member of our association. Think over those with whom you served, check to see if they are a member yet, and then offer to give them a wonderful gift that will help them and help our association at the same

time. You can tell them Santa gave it to them if you like!

From the Halley house in Suffolk, Virginia, to you and your family wherever you might be, we wish you a most pleasant and happy holiday season and the joy of giving gifts to others!

Your shipmate and chaplain,

Michael

Michael D. Halley CDR, CHC, USN, Retired Association Chaplain

USS Coral Sea Association Membership Application/Renewal Form

Membership in the USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) ASSOCIATON is open to all Navy, Marine Corp and Air Force personnel who served aboard the ship (CVB/CVA/CV-43) for a period of at least 90 days. Also, any person who was assigned to the commissioning crew (plank owners), even if fewer than 90 days were spent aboard, shall be eligible for membership. <u>DUES</u>: Association membership dues are \$15 per year. Dues for membership are not limited to one year. The Association is a Non-Profit Organization formed by former crew members.

			eck/money order \$eck/money order \$
NAME			BIRTH DATE
ADDRESS	(Please PRINT First name, middle		STATE
ZIP+4	PHONE:	E-MAIL	
NEXT OF KIN			
	HIP AS CREW MEMBER:	visionRank/	Rate on Roard
(Month/Ye	ar) (Month/Year)	VISIOIIRAIN	(Lt/RD/FN/SN/Sgt)
Military Retireme	nt: No[] Yes[]	Retired as: USN	[] USMC [] SCG [] R [] USAF [] USA []
Mail application of Secret 651 E.		SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION A-43 ASSOCIATION	Office Use Only Received: Check: Amount: Expires:



Salty Humor

Nothing sucks worse than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.

(Continued from page 2)

Vice President's Corner...

they've been away, but they've been having a good time with learning, playing softball and making new friends.

A word about the reunion in St. Louis: The memorial service was good. It really honored our fallen shipmates. Please remember that if you hear of a shipmate going on to the Everlasting Cruise in the Sky, to please call one of the officers and let us know.

On a sad note, a couple of our shipmates' wives passed away in the weeks just prior to the reunion. Please remember Jim Johnson and Dave Eastman in your prayers. They are long time members of the association and I know they would appreciate it.

I would like to invite all the

members of the association to come to the Florida Spring Fling at the American Legion in Venice. See the information elsewhere in the newsletter.

Any other sailors you know are also welcome to come join us to swap sea stories and fellowship.

Until I see you again, smooth sailing.



Bill Johnson Vice President (Continued from page 1)

President's Corner...

I've got to give a 'shout out' to Mike "Oscar" Pfeffer for the fine job that he does as Master-at-Arms. Thanks, Mike, for seeing to it that all the flags, banners, etc. make it to the reunions. Thanks to all, both to those who worked as well as those of you who came and had fun. October 2012 will be here before we know it, so make your reservations now for the reunion next year. Also remember the 2012 "Spring Flings".

Several By-laws changes were approved by the membership at this past reunion. A revised version of the Association By-laws

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 1)

Shipmates Enjoy St. Louis Reunion...

four plank owners also in attendance.

Needless to say, lots of "sea stories" got told and retold, which helps to make the reunion

experi-



Shown I. to r.— Ben Bernardy being recognized by Coral Sea Association President John Ranson at the reunion banquet.

walk. The hotel

address is 217 N.

St. Mary's St. San

78205. The tele-

phone is 210-224

rates are \$86.00

tax, for a total of

Antonio, TX

-2500. Room

per night, plus

\$100.41 per

ence so good for everyone. We all hope that you all had a good time and will make your plans now to attend reunions in the future.

The 2012 reunion will be in San Antonio, TX, beginning Wednesday, Oct. 4 and ending Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. As usual, this is over

the Columbus Day weekend. More information regarding cost, agenda, tours, etc. will be in the March 2011 issue of Sea Breeze. This is all

a work
in progress at
this time.
The site
for the
Reunion
is Holiday InnSan Antonio
River-



night. This applies to single and double rooms. This hotel has a parking garage and parking is included in this price. I advise not arriving in any large vehicles. Ask the hotel about van parking availability. Please make your room reservations now!



Several Coral Sea (re-commissioning) Plank Owners were in attendance at the reunion.



'Salty' Humor

Mature Truths:

I have a hard time determining that fine line between boredom and hunger.

(Continued from page 6)

President's Corner...

will be available on the CVA-43 Association website soon. Several ideas were discussed during the business meeting, including good ideas to save the Association money. One possibility is reducing the number of copies of Sea Breeze that are sent by U.S. mail. As you on-line shipmates know, Sea Breeze is posted on the Association website. There may be many of you who would be just as happy to get it there – in full color - rather than continue receiving the black-and-white mailed copy. I'd like to hear feedback regarding this idea, be it positive or negative. Just an idea, but his would save your Association money.

Shipmates, this Association does not operate automatically or by remote control. A lot of work is needed to put on reunions and take care of the routine business of the Association. Your help is needed. All volunteers for any task will be quite welcome. Several important jobs were taken over by several shipmates at this past reunion and I'm very thankful to

them for volunteering. If any of you have any good ideas to make this a better operation, please contact me or any association officer. Our names and addresses are in this—and every—issue on the officer's directory page. Please get in touch.

To all of you, I wish a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Godspeed!



John Ranson President

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Product & Price List





Association Logo

Ship's Logo—CVB, CVA, CV

Item No.	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
1001	Reg. Style Cap (Blue or White), CVB/CVA/CV	\$12.00
1002	Mesh Back Cap (Scrambled Eggs) CVB/CVA/CV	\$14.00
1003	Marine Cap (Red) Marine Det., CV	\$14.00
1004	Windbreaker Jacket (Blue), all sizes**	\$42.00
1005	Micro Poly Casual Jacket (Blk, Dk Grn, Maroon, Navy,	\$46.00
	Red, Royal or Stone) all sizes**	
1006	Sweatshirt (Blue or White), all sizes**	\$25.00
1007	T-Shirt (Blue or White), all sizes**	\$17.00
1008	Denim Shirt (SS or LS), all sizes**	\$32.00
1009	Titan Twill Shirt (SS or LS), (Navy, Dutch Blue, French	\$32.00
	Blue, Khaki, Black, Butter, Crimson, new Olive,	
	Smoke or White), all sizes**	
1010	Polo Shirt (Blue or White); all sizes	\$28.00
1011	Pin, CV-43 (Hat/Lapel)	\$ 5.00
1012	3-inch Patch (Older Bolder, CVA-43, Decomm)	\$ 4.00
1013	4.5-inch Patch (Older Bolder, CVA-43)	\$ 6.00
1014	License Plate Frame (Chrome-Plastic), CVA-43	\$12.00
1015	Photo, Coral Sea Straight Deck (8" x 10")	\$ 4.00
1016	Photo, Coral Sea Angle Deck (8" x 10")	\$ 4.00
1017	Coral Sea Mouse Pad	\$ 6.00
1018	Coral Sea Coffee Mug	\$ 8.00
1019	Watch Cap, CVB/CVA/CV	\$12.00
1020	Coral Sea Decals	\$ 2.00
1021-1	Optional Embroidery (Name, Div, Year, etc.)	\$.50/ltr.
1021-2	Full Back Logo for Jackets	\$30.00
1022	Coral Sea Challenge Coin	\$12.00
1023	Coral Sea Pin (CV-43 or CVA-43)	\$ 3.00

^{**} These are embroidered items; please choose either the Association Logo or Ship's Logo

Please Note: Additional embroidery of your choosing is available on any item. Add \$.50 per additional letter.

6/09

Mail: USS Coral Sea Association Small Stores Account

PO Box 1697

Powder Springs, GA 30127

Fax: 770-222-4833

E-mail: georgerogers@bellsouth.net **For more information**: 770-943-3818

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Order Form







Name						
Address						
City/State	/Zip					
Phone			E-mail			
Item #	Qty.	Description (Color, I	Logo, Sleeve Length)	Size	Price Ea.	Total Price
	4.5			Mercha	ndise Total	\$
Method	of Pay	<u>ment</u>		Shippin	g Charge**	\$
☐ Check	(make pa	ayable to USS Coral Sea	Assoc.)	Total Ar	nount	\$
☐ Visa				6 CO	BAL	~CDR4/ ~
☐ Master	Card			5		60° - 10° 00°
☐ Americ	an Expre	ess		0	200	CVA-415
Credit Ca	rd Numb	per	Exp. Date		ciation go	Ship's Logo CVB, CVA, CV
Name as	it Appea	ars on Card				
Signature)					
Fax: 770-222-4833			**Priorit	y Mail S/H Cost		
Mail: U S P	SS Coral mall Stor O Box 16	gers@bellsouth.net Sea Association es Account 197 orings, GA 30127			\$25—\$5 \$51—\$7	24.99\$ 7.0 60\$ 9.0 5\$12.0 5\$15.0

Credit card orders will appear on your statement as "ICU Stitching."

Coral Sea Cadets Get 'High Seas' Experience.

Cadets from the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet

Corps, Coral Sea
Div., based in Upland, Calif., got the
opportunity last August to become real
salt-water sailors.
They served in a
week-long training
evolution, on board
SS Lane Victory, a
restored Liberty
Ship built during
World War II, and
currently berthed in
Los Angeles harbor.

Under the command of LTJG Brad Webster of the Coral Sea Div, five male and four female cadets swabbed decks, stood watches, handled mooring lines, loaded cargo, and assisted the crew of Lane Victory as they hosted over 700 passengers for a day-long cruise from San Pedro through Angel's Gate to Santa Catalina

Abandon Ship drill, directed 'land lubbers'



around the ship, kept the

catering staff stocked with ice, and staged a very moving memorial service for the

crew of a Merchant Marine vessel who

rine vessel who were killed in action during WWII. Sea Cadet gunners also fired the ship's anti-aircraft weapons, successfully driving off a squadron of Luftwaffe fighter planes (that somehow ended up off the coast of California!).

Coral Sea officers LTJG Peggy Betz, INST Jeffrey Shelton, and INST Perla Borrayo assisted the COTC in directing the cadets during the training. Cadets visited the US Coast Guard stations at San Pedro, touring the newest of the armed patrol boats, the USCGC George Cobb, and the galley. The next day, they visited LA County Fire Dept. station, during which they went on a halfday cruise on the department's newest fire boat, sharing the coastal waters with dolphins and a pod of

blue whales.
These newest Old Salts worked hard, slept little, and in all re-

spects had the time of their lives! The captain and crew of the Lane Victory, and the passengers of the cruise, couldn't have been more complimentary about our cadets' discipline, military bearing, and enthusiasm. In all respects, the Coral Sea Div. was a credit to the proud heritage of their namesake, CVA-43.

—Submitted by Richard Satchell, USN, Retired



'Salty' Humor

Mature Truths:

Can we all just agree to ignore whatever comes after Blue Ray?



Island. During the cruise, they assisted with an

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association

Officers

President:

52 Woodland Place Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605

irsr3843@fuse.net

Treasurer:

Clarence A. Neander 47 Redwood Manor Pontiac, IL 61764 accrane@msn.com 815-341-5928

Chaplain:

U.S. Navy Chaplain Ret.

Rev. Michael D. Halley

mhalley43@gmail.com

Historian: Mike Pfeffer

mpfeff53@aol.com

Vice President:

John Ranson (859-781-2536) Bill Johnson (941-485-4360) 322 N Portia Street Nokomis, FL 34275-2342 cva43bill@hotmail.com

Immediate Past President:

Mil Phillips 4995 Maynard Street San Diego, CA 92122 milphillip@aol.com

Storekeeper: **George Rogers** 5075 Hopeland Drive Powder Springs, GA 30127 GeorgeRogers@bellsouth.net

Retention Committee:

TBD

Secretary:

Don Colwell (559-222-9456)

651 E Saginaw Way Fresno, CA 93704 doncolwell@att.net

Board of Directors:

Jon Lickey—2012 jjlickey47@yahoo.com George Haase—2013 ghaase@msn.com Andy Wright—2014 andrewwright08@comcast.net

Master-at-Arms:

Mike Pfeffer mpfeff53@aol.com

Locator:

Hubbard Glassett hglassett@cs.com

Committees

Reunion Committee John Ranson, Chairman—2012 Reunion in San Antonio, TX

By-Laws Committee

Chairman: John Ranson, Members: **Bob Nerbetski**

jrsr3843@fuse.net cvb4312@verizon.net **Bill Eanetta** cvb43@rochester.rr.com

Scholarship Committee

Chairman: Mil Phillips milphllip@aol.com **Bill Williams** Members: welsh877@comcast.net

Audit Committee

Chuck Whitcomb Chairman: cwhitcomb1877@charter.net

Nominating Chair: **Bill Johnson** cva43bill@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian: **Bob Mackey** 708-891-6771

The Sea Breeze—Official Coral Sea Newsletter

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(Please send all address changes to Don Colwell at the address shown above right.)



Copy Submission Deadline:

Material for the March issue of The Coral Sea Breeze is due in to the publisher or copy editor by February 20, 2012.

The Coral Sea Breeze

John Ranson, Publisher 52 Woodland Place Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605

Email: jrsr3843@fuse.net



THE AGELESS WARRIOR

Enjoy Your Association Online at www.usscoralsea.org and see this issue of the Sea Breeze in full color!

(Continued from page 3) Making the best of GQ...

opening a watertight door. Knowing that general quarters would last up to four hours—and with nothing more pressing to do and no place to go—we found a nice spot on the deck. We triced up the racks, turned the bulkhead electric fans in our direction, and did what any typical sailor would do in that situation: Caught up on some more of that lost sleep!

But we did feel terrible about missing out on all of the 'fun' of the final battle problem. Do you ever wonder if the Russian Navy ran into any similar problems during the Cold War? I'd be willing to bet they did!

—Submitted by Len Protzline, EM I

Notice to Shipmates in the Northeast

After a 20-year run, there will not be a New Jersey area Spring Fling this year due to Bill Radogna's health difficulties. If someone else in the region would like to step up and coordinate this year's 'fling,' please contact:

Bill Radogna 4 N Garden Terrace Milltown, NJ 08850 Phone 732-821-9225

After 20 years, it would be nice to keep this fling going for a 21st annual shipmate gathering in NJ.

Your Midwest Spring Fling Preview

The Grand Rapids Airport Hilton again is the host site for the Midwest Spring Fling, April 26-29, 2012. Saturday banquet attendees must prepay by April 7, by sending your check or money order to:

Gary Maddox 2366 Riley Street Hudsonville, MI 49426

Banquet meal choices are:

- Chicken Romano, \$25.25 total
- Prime Rib, \$34.50, total

Make the check out to Gary and include name, number attending and the meal(s) chosen.

Room rates for this year's Fling remain the same at \$87, plus tax. A free daily breakfast is included.

For more information, phone 616-856-8152, or e-mail ut2garymaddox @gmail.com.