

MARCH 2015

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THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Leonard D. Cullup
ABAN, V-2
1967-70

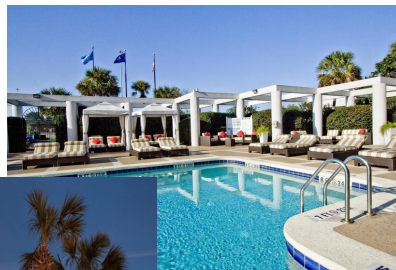
Charleston, SC is Ready for Coral Sea Assoc.

The Association's 2015 annual reunion, spear-headed by Chairman Bill Johnson, is set for Oct. 8-11 at the Charleston Plaza Hotel.

If you'd like to do a little research, you'll find our hotel located at 4770 Goer Dr. in North Charleston. And you're welcome to make your reservations NOW by calling (843) 747-1900.



Be sure to mention the Coral Sea Assoc. for your discounted rate of \$124.85



like to extend their stay.

This beautiful coastal area includes such noteworthy attractions as the Historic Charleston City Market and Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum. You'll find many more details about our planned tours to these popular visitor attractions in the next issue of the *Sea Breeze*.

What could be easier? The Association has planned your next vacation for you! Save those dates now and look for details in our next issue!

per night, including sales tax. And that rate will be available a few days prior and after our reunion dates for those who would

President's Corner

Hello Shipmates,
Well here we are in 2015. Doesn't seem possible but it's here. For those of you who live in the snow belt, you've gotten more than your share of winter. My Grandson in RI has already had 6 snow days. In California, we need your snow. Our snow packs are a major source of water and we need wa-

ter.
Anyway, things are moving along with your association. Bill Johnson, our Charleston reunion chair has come up with some interesting tours. Our hotel hosts between 35 and 40 military reunions annually, and they've received a lot of B Z's over the years. Because of the hotel's size we were only able to get a block of 400 room nights. So why do I mention this? Well if you

snooze you lose and you might end up in a nearby over flow hotel.

John Ranson has done a fantastic job updating the roster and getting dues notices out with the December issue of the *Breeze*. In fact I only had two returned for incorrect addresses. Speaking of the *Breeze*, shipmate Dick McClellan (VQ-1) contacted me and said his

(Continued on page 6)

A Few Photos to Get You Thinking about "Reunion Charleston" 2015!



TAPS

Claudia Aitcheson
 wife of RADM
 George Aitcheson
 Former Coral Sea
 CAG and CO
 Feb. 4, 2015
 2455 Alta Cerro Cir.
 San Diego, CA
 92109

**Herman W.
 Doernbach**
 EM, E Div.

**Robert D.
 Kercheval**
 ABCH, V-1 Div.
 1959-62

Sal T. Lisi
 FN, M Div.
 1967-71



Huge Group of "First Timers" From V-2 Div. Get Together at Nashville Reunion.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Association member Tom Pukalski, a group of shipmates who served together in V-2 Div. during the late 1960s to early 1970s enjoyed each



Shown l. to r. - Tom Gartin, Pet Navarro, Jim Sackett and his wife, and Jake Jacobberger.

other's company again for the first time in more than 45 years! Tom got the

'old gang' together for the 2014 national reunion in Nashville. Thanks for this great example of rekindling camaraderie among shipmates!

Dateline 1953—F4D Skyray Test Planned on Coral Sea.

The holder of the world air speed record for a measured course has revealed that he will test the record-setting Skyray aboard the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea late in October.

LCDR James B. Verdin, USN, who holds the record, also reports the landing speed of the Skyray is comparable to that of today's jets which makes it easy to operate from a carrier.

The actual landing speed, Commander Verdin says, varies with the pilot but it ranges from 105 to 130 mph.

The commander said the temperature was 99 degrees when he set his record. He said that he was very comfortable throughout the test because of an excellent cabin air-

conditioning system, and added that he was not packed in ice as some reports indicated.



Structure integrity was one of the main reasons for making the speed run, the pilot revealed. The airplane was flown at higher "Gs," higher forces, and higher speeds than ever before to see how the structure would hold up under stress and strain. The test pilot said the plane handled well a high speeds.

—Submitted by
Edward Hamilton
Williamstown, NJ

Ed. Note: See the F4D Skyray perform on Coral Sea by entering this URL, or go to You Tube and search "skyray coral sea" to view the clip.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gwz7nRcpM8I>

Secretary's Corner

Greetings Shipmates,

Here's hoping that all of you had a great holiday season. Now that spring time is almost here, please consider attending a "spring fling" reunion in your region.

For example, the Midwest Spring Fling once again is in Springfield, Illinois at the Northfield Inn from April 23-26, 2015. Check out the registration form in this issue for all info. Please note that the reunion registration cost is for the hospitality room only. The hotel will charge \$100.00 per night for the hospitality room if attendance at this

reunion does not exceed 50 room-nights total. We will refund a portion of the registration cost for each attendee if sufficient room bookings occur. The cost of Saturday night dinner is not included in the registration cost. We're looking for bids for the 2016 and later Midwest spring flings. I will have a proposal for Northern KY. All of you are welcome to make a proposal. We look forward to seeing many of you at this event. Make your plans now!

I'm pleased that so many of you have paid your dues. I'm asking all of you to please make sure that your mailing info is accurate, as well as the expiration date of your membership. Of

course, all plank owners pay no dues as well as any shipmate who is 80 years old as of 12/31/2012. Also, I need your input regarding deceased shipmates. Please contact me so that I can update the records, as needed.

I apologize for the delay in processing dues payments. My printer needed to be replaced; that has been done. I hope to have all dues cards in the mail to you all by March 1, 2015. Godspeed!

John

John H. Ranson
CVA-43 Assoc. Secretary



TAPS

William "Bill" Nicholson
MMI, M Div.
1947-52

Plank Owner
4161 Rolling Oaks
Dr., Winter Haven,
FL 33880

Tom R. Reinhold
AMS3, V-1 Div.
1960-62

Dominick E. Sano
MMFN, E Div.
1948-50

Daniel T. Schweikert
AD3, V-3G Div.
1953-55

Henry H. Walton

John H. Weber III
AB2, V-3G Div.
1951-54

USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association Midwest Spring Fling.

The Midwest Spring Fling is set for April 23-26, 2015 in Springfield, IL.

This year's "fling" moves to the Northfield Inn & Suites for the annual get together. It is located at 3280 Northfield Dr., Springfield, Il. 62702. Call (217) 523-7900 for reservations. Mention USS Coral Sea Association when making your reservation for the discounted rate.

Room rates are \$90.00 per night double, \$100.00 per night king Jacuzzi,

plus tax (current taxes, 12%).

The \$30 per-person registration cost includes the hospitality room only, so your hotel room and meals are additional.

Our Saturday dinner will be at the Chesapeake Seafood House, ordering from the menu.

Make your reservation by April 19. And note that a portion of the registration fee will be refunded if room -night bookings exceed 50 total.



Salty Humor

If you can smile when things go wrong, you probably have someone in mind to blame.

Midwest Spring Fling Reservation Form

Name _____ Guest _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Ph. () _____ - _____ Email _____

Hospitality Room, \$30 Per Person () Total: \$ _____

(NOTE: Registration DOES NOT include Saturday night dinner.)

Make checks payable to USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Assoc. and mention Spring Fling 2015!

**Mail check and reservation form to: Jon Lickey
1711 E. Crestwood Dr.
Peoria, IL 61614-7909**

Final Toast to WWII Doolittle Raiders: 'Peace'

—Reprinted from USA Today (online edition), Nov. 10, 2013

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Known as the Doolittle Raiders, the 80 men who risked their lives on a World War II bombing mission on Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor were toasted one last time by their surviving comrades and honored with a Veterans Day weekend of fanfare shared by thousands.

Three of the four surviving Raiders attended the toast Saturday at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. Their late commander, Lt. Gen. James "Jimmy" Doolittle, started the tradition but they decided this autumn's ceremony would be their last.

"May they rest in peace," Lt. Col. Richard Cole, 98, said before he and fellow Raiders — Lt. Col. Edward Saylor, 93, and Staff Sgt. David Thatcher, 92 — sipped cognac from specially engraved silver goblets. The 1896 cognac was saved for the occasion after being passed down from Doolittle.

Hundreds invited to the ceremony, including family members of deceased Raiders, watched as the three each called out "here" as a historian read the names of all 80 of the original airmen.

The fourth surviving Raider, Lt. Col. Robert Hite, 93, couldn't travel to Ohio because of

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Final Toast...

health problems.

But son Wallace Hite said his father, wearing a Raiders blazer and other traditional garb for their reunions, made his own salute to the fallen with a silver goblet of wine at home in Nashville, Tenn., earlier in the week.

Hite is the last survivor of eight Raiders who were captured by Japanese soldiers. Three were executed; another died in captivity.

A B-25 bomber flyover helped cap an afternoon memorial tribute in which a wreath was placed at the Doolittle Raider monument outside the museum. Museum officials estimated some 10,000 people turned out for Veterans Day weekend events honoring the 1942 mission credited with rallying American morale and throwing the Japanese off balance.

Acting Air Force Secretary Eric Fanning said America was at a low point, after the Japa-

(Continued on page 10)

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,

I hope you are surviving winter's chill! Here in Suffolk, VA, we are experiencing one of the coldest winters in my (poor) memory. But overall, we have little to complain about. Speaking of cold, you may agree that there are few colder places than out at the end of a pier walking to and from our beloved ship!

The other day I did some research on all the aircraft carriers the Navy has ever built, starting with CV-1, USS Langley, in 1922, all the way forward to 2015 with the building of CVN-78, USS Gerald R. Ford, a brand new class of nuclear carriers. (CVN-79 is projected to be USS John F. Kennedy, and CVN-80 will likely be named USS Enterprise.)

Though a bit smaller than our sister "super carrier" ships, we of USS Coral Sea still stood proud, didn't we? On her next-to-the-

last deployment, of which I was privileged to be a part, we never failed to meet a commitment and we did not ever have a day without fresh, hot water for our crew comfort! Our crew, as did all her crews, took loving care of our fine ship.

This, if you think about it, is a good life lesson? Let's take care of the things that matter to us. Let's care for all the things we hope to leave to our children and grandchildren, including a clean and unpolluted world. And let's make sure we educate coming generations on what it means to serve your country!

May the holy days of spring bring comfort and courage to you all!

Your chaplain,
Michael

Michael

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

Shipmates,

I'm experiencing the effects of good responsibilities. This year has seen the greatest response in requests for scholarship applications that I've seen in a number of years. With the cut-off date of February 15, I've had seven sponsors request scholarship packets for a total of 11 students. Several of our shipmates are having more than one student graduating this year.

With that in mind, shipmate brothers, it IS time to urge your students to be diligent in bringing their applications to completion. Those applications and essays are due to be in my possession at my address NO LATER THAN April 15, 2015. I am eager to see the number of completed applications returned to me. I wish each and every student the best.

Jon Lickey, Chairman
USS Coral Sea CVA-43
Remembrance Scholarship Program



Salty Humor

Aging: Eventually you reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

USS Coral Sea Association Membership Application/Renewal Form



Membership in the USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION is open to all Navy, Marine Corp and Air Force personnel who served aboard the ship (CV/CVB/CVA-43) for a period of at least 90 days. Also, any person who was assigned to the original commissioning crew (plank owner), even if they spent fewer than 90 days aboard, shall be eligible for membership. **DUES:** Association membership is \$20 per year. Dues for membership are not limited to one year when submitted for renewal or first-time application. Any amount submitted over the annual dues will be automatically earmarked for the Association's Scholarship Fund program.

New Member: I apply for membership for _____ year(s). Enclosed is a check/money order \$ _____
Renewal: Renew my membership for _____ year(s). Enclosed is a check/money order \$ _____

Name _____ **Birth Date** _____
 (Please PRINT First name, middle initial, last name) (mo/day/year)

Address _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE** _____

ZIP+4 _____ **PHONE:** (____) _____ **Email** _____

Spouse's Name _____ **Birthdate** _____ **Anniversary** _____

ON BOARD SHIP AS CREW MEMBER:

From _____ to _____ Division _____ Rank/Rate On Board _____
 (Month/Year) (Month/Year) (Lt/RD/FN/SN/Sgt)
 Military Retirement: No Yes Retired as: _____ USN USMC USCG
 (Rank/Rate) USNR Air Force Army

I do do not want my complete mailing address printed on the Published roster.

Please make check payable to: **USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOC.**
 Mail application to:

John Ranson, Secretary, USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOC.
52 Woodland Pl.
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605 Email: jrsr3843@fuse.net

Office Use Only

Received: _____
 Check: _____
 Amount: _____
 Expires: _____



Salty Humor

Whenever you are dissatisfied and want to go back to your youth, remember Algebra!

(Continued from page 1)

President's Corner...

squadron association has a news letter and they have a nonprofit bulk rate. I did some checking and it appears we do qualify and I have submitted the necessary paper work to the post office. If granted, we will significantly lower our cost of mailing.

On a sad note, I received a call from RADM George Aitcheson informing me his wife, Claudia passed away on 12/15/14. He was CO 1977-78. He gave me permission to include his address and phone number in this issue. Any shipmate who served under RADM Aitcheson may contact him

at: 2455 Alta Cerro Circle, San Diego, CA 92109. His telephone number is (858) 274 0947.

In the TAPS listings you will note the passing of Bill Nicholson (M Div). Bill was one of our original Plank Owners. He is survived by his wife, Pearl. It has been almost 68 years since the Coral Sea was commissioned and our Plank Owners' ranks are getting thin. Until next time,

Mil

Mil Phillips
 President

Shipmates, do not overlook your two raffle ticket booklets included with this issue of the Sea Breeze.

Your raffle-ticket purchase supports your Association and funds our annual college scholarship essay competition.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Coral Sea Cadets Get a Fast Start to the New Year.

Shipmates, as the New Year started, the USNSSC Coral Sea Div. has hit the deck running. On January 10 the Division was involved with crowd control at the Cable Air Show. And it was a wet one. First day aircraft were flying between showers; the second day was a wash out so the Cadets had a reprieve from getting wet.

On February 7-8, Cadets will have been on the S.S. Lane Victory, a WWII operational Victory ship, berthed in Long Beach, CA for an overnight stay. They will be learning basic seamanship, ship-board duty, and of course, messing. They will also be building Remote controlled submersibles, and learn to operate them.

In April they will be doing the Colors and Service Flag Ceremony for the Navy Yacht Club Long Beach's Opening Day, which will be the start of the Yachting season and the most formal day of the year. NYCLB is a military sailing club, sanctioned by the US Naval Sailing Association. They will also compete in the regional competition of USNSSC divisions, called "Flagship".

In July they will visit NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab. In August, the Ronald Reagan Library. There is also planned color guard duty at the Los Angeles County fair, the City of Pomona and the City of Upland parades. This is on top of their regular bimonthly military drills. They are a busy bunch of kids.

If any of the Association Shipmates have questions as to what the Cadet Corp is about or what their mission is, please feel free to contact me at satair-plane@verizon.net or give me a call at (760) 240-4607.

This is a synopsis of what we have done this past year:

The unit has increased to 80; 59 cadets, 12 instructors, 6 officers, and 3 midshipmen. The Unit is "Number One regional Division of the Year" and we had the "Regional Officer" of the Year.

There have been 83 training events; this includes drill days, boot camp, regional flagship competition at Camp Pendleton, hands on training at the SS Lane Victory in Long Beach. Two cadets are in flight training with one ready to solo soon. This is just a brush over of some of what the military (Navy) aspect of their training is. Some of our Cadets families are having financial

difficulties so the division has helped with fees and travel costs for eight of the trainees, and also helped with five annual enrollments.

Civil involvement includes participation in the Los Angeles County Fair parade, City of Upland Christmas parade, City of Pomona Veterans parade, color presentations at Navy Yacht Club Long Beach, and the Victorville Elks Lodge. We just

(Continued on page 12)



Salty Humor

You know you're getting old when everything either dries up or leaks!

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Product & Price List



Association Logo



Ship's Logo—CVB, CVA, CV

<u>Item No.</u>	<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, Red, Royal or Stone) all sizes**	\$46.00
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 Blue, Khaki, Black, Butter, Crimson, new Olive, Smoke or White), all sizes**	\$32.00
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
1018	Coral Sea Coffee Mug	\$ 8.00
1019	Watch Cap, CVB/CVA/CV	\$12.00
1020-1	Optional Embroidery (Name, Div, Year, etc.)	\$.50/ltr.
1021-2	Full Back Logo for Jackets	\$30.00
1023	Coral Sea Pin (CV-43 or CVA-43)	\$ 3.00

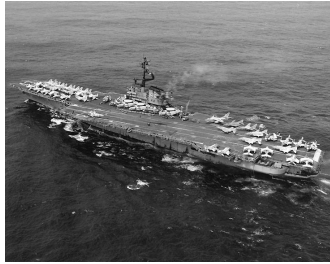
** These are embroidered items; please choose either the Association Logo or Ship's Logo

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

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: 678-426-8716

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Order Form



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Item #	Qty.	Description (Color, Logo, Sleeve Length)	Size	Price Ea.	Total Price

Merchandise Total \$ _____

Shipping Charge** \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Method of Payment

- Check (make payable to USS Coral Sea Assoc.)
- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express



Association Logo



Ship's Logo
CVB, CVA, CV

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as it Appears on Card _____

Signature _____

Fax: 770-222-4833
 E-mail: georgerogers@bellsouth.net
 Mail: USS Coral Sea Association
 Small Stores Account
 PO Box 1697
 Powder Springs, GA 30127

****Priority Mail S/H Cost**

Up to \$24.99.....\$ 7.00
 \$25—\$50.....\$ 9.00
 \$51—\$75.....\$12.00
 \$76—Up.....\$15.00

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

(Continued from page 5)

Final Toast...

nese attack on Pearl Harbor and other Axis successes, before "these 80 men who showed the nation that we were nowhere near defeat." He noted that all volunteered for a mission with high risks throughout, from the launch of B-25 bombers from a carrier at sea, the attack on Tokyo, and lack of fuel to reach safe bases.

The Raiders have said they didn't realize at the time that their mission would be con-

part for him was the crash landing of his plane, depicted in the movie "Thirty Seconds over Tokyo."

Cole, of Comfort, Texas, was Doolittle's co-pilot that day. Three crew members died as Raiders bailed out or crash-landed their planes in China, but most were helped to safety by Chinese villagers and soldiers.

Cole, Saylor and Thatcher were greeted Saturday by flag-waving well-wishers ranging from small children to fellow war veterans.

Twelve-year-old Joseph John Castellano's grandparents brought him from their Dayton home.

"This was Tokyo. The odds of their survival were one in a million," the boy said. "I just felt like I owe them a few short hours of the



Salty Humor

You don't need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice!

sidered an important event in turning the war's tide. It inflicted little major damage physically, but changed Japanese strategy while firing up Americans.

"It was what you do ... over time, we've been told what effect our raid had on the war and the morale of the people," Saylor said in an interview.

The Brussett, Mont., native who now lives in Puyallup, Wash., said he was one of the lucky ones.

"There were a whole bunch of guys in World War II; a lot of people didn't come back," he said.

Thatcher, of Missoula, Mont., said the raid just seemed like "one of many bombing missions" during the war. The most harrowing

thousands of hours I will be on Earth."

Organizers said more than 600 people, including descendants of Chinese villagers who helped the Raiders and Pearl Harbor survivors, were invited to the final-toast ceremony.

The 80 silver goblets in the ceremony were presented to the Raiders in 1959 by the city of Tucson, Ariz. The Raiders' names are engraved twice, the second upside-down. During the ceremony, white-gloved cadets presented each of the three with their personal goblets and their longtime manager poured the cognac. The deceased's glasses are turned upside-down.

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association.

Officers

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milphillip@aol.com

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redrocktx2@yahoo.com

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Bill Johnson, Chairman—2015 Reunion, Charleston, SC

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Members:

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Bob Nerbetski
Bill Eanetta

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cvb43@rochester.rr.com

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Chairman:

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Audit Committee

Chairman:

Robert Gaston

Nominating Chair:

Bill Johnson

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Webmaster: **Bob Dorais**, cv43@usscoralsea.net

NOTE: Please send all mailing address changes to John Ranson at the address shown top right.



Copy Submission Deadline:

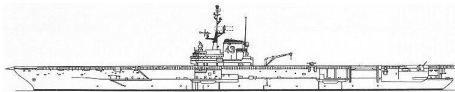
Material for the June issue of *The Coral Sea Breeze* is due in to the publisher or copy editor by May 19, 2015.

USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

Mil Phillips, Publisher
4995 Maynard Street
San Diego, CA 92112

Email: milphillip@aol.com

Please Note: Send Address
Corrections to Association
Sec. John Ranson



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 7)

Coral Sea Cadets Update...

finished our big one, (10, 11 January), helping with crowd control at the Cable Airport Air Show. Cable Airport is our host location with no rent charged thanks to the owner, Mr. Bob Cable.

The unit is now in the process of going into an "On line management system" which made it necessary to purchase a unit computer and high capacity printer. We may have to purchase another when finances are available. (The wife and I at our 50th anniversary requested that rather than a gift, make a donation in our name to the Unit. We were able to donate over \$700.00 towards the computer equipment).

I have been able to purchase at cost (\$17.00 per canteen unit) through a friend of mine, all new MILSPC, Canteens, pouches, and belts that

are issued so that each cadet has a canteen unit for his or her personal use to maintain hydration.

As you can see we are trying to get as much bang for the "buck" as we can. The Associations generous donation of \$1000.00 over the past couple of years has been of great help in achieving the goals of the unit. Our associations continued help will be greatly appreciated as they enter into the new calendar year.

Fair winds and following seas for the upcoming year shipmates.

—Submitted by

Chief Richard E. Satchell,
USN (Ret)
CMAA 1971-73
Liaison Chief to USNSCC,
Coral Sea Div.
(760) 240-4607

Shipmates,
Make plans now to spend this year's vacation with your "second family," your Coral Sea shipmates!

Our 2015 Annual Reunion will be in beautiful Charleston, SC, October 8-11, 2015.

The "introductory" information in this issue will be followed by details and reservation forms in the June issue. Let's make this one even bigger than Nashville!