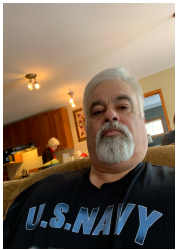


Newsletter of the USS BAINBRIDGE Association

1st Quarter of 2023

Message from your President



Charles Gilbert

Hello shipmates. As you all have seen or heard, I have once again sent out E-mails, Snail Mails and in some cases phone calls to notify our members of their dues status. The results so far is that 2 of our members have asked to be removed from our association. Several others have replied positively and sent Dick Holloway checks. We currently have 150 members on our roster. Of those, only 57 have their dues current. That means 93 members are not active in our association. Our association membership has been slowly decreasing in size and participation in reunions have waned. We are all getting older and cannot get around as easily as we used to. I will continue to solicit for new members and try to retain the members we have. All I ask is your help in keeping your dues current. Our association is shrinking, but we are doing everything possible to keep it going.

In regards to our next reunion, We are narrowing down hotels in the locations discussed at our business meeting for the next reunion which will be held in the spring of 2024. Based on price, We have decided that the best Value and location is the Norfolk, Virginia area. We are still working on picking the hotel in the area. Dick Holloway has been diligent in his endeavors to get us the best deal.

I have also been keeping in touch with Richard Goerner, our new secretary ensuring that he has a handle on his new position. This newsletter is the second from both Joe Bisig and Myself. I sincerely hope you enjoy its contents.

Once more I would like to ask everyone to send us things you would like to see in the newsletter. If any shipmate, wife or other family member has an article, picture, joke or sea story please send it to us. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next reunion. As those have said before me, I wish you fair winds and following seas.

The following is a list of our departed shipmates and/or their spouses since our last reunion:

1. Robert M. Hemingway 1964-1966 RIP Jan 2, 2023
2. Robert R. Rittenhouse Precom-1964 RIP Dec 10, 2023

USS Bainbridge Association 2023

Sea Stories from various shipmates

USS Bainbridge CGN-25

Happenings occurring between 1983 – 1986

- 1) During 18 month (ROH) in Bremerton, WA. Shipyard, a person on fire watch fell asleep on the scaffolding in the dry dock and rolled off it. He fell and was injured.
- 2) While in dry dock, 2 compartments flooded solid and a third was partly flooded. The base fire department assisted in the dewatering effort. A pipe had ruptured in the fire main system. The mess cooks discovered the flooding when they went to gather supplies from a storeroom in the area.
- 3) In 1985 while anchored off the coast of Ft. Lauderdale, FL. The ship had a reactor incident which made the local papers. A misalignment of the cooling water system for the #2 reactor was discovered when #1 reactor was scrammed and #2 was placed in operation. A small amount of contaminated water was discharged over the side.
- 4) In 1986 while operating in the Caribbean, the Bainbridge was tasked to be the ASW platform for the search and recovery of the USS Challenger.
- 5) In 1986 hurricane Hugo hit the Norfolk area. The fleet was sent to sea to ride it out. The carrier Enterprise was lost to sight in the troughs and was later told that it was taking 15 degree rolls. The Bainbridge was wallowing through the seas also. Her bow disappeared in the waves and water was splashing in the bridge windows. She was taking in excess of 45 degree rolls.

USS Bainbridge CGN-25

Happenings occurring in June 1969

Don McCutcheon

In January of 1969 the Bainbridge escorted Enterprise to Hawaii. The Bainbridge was supposed to escort her on to WestPac but after the fire and explosions aboard we left her in Pearl Harbor for repairs. Six months later we rejoined her in the Philippine Sea and escorted her return to San Francisco. My photo taken that day in June 1969.

Michael R Willmore

I'll never forget that day. I was in F-2 Division and heard the explosions on Sonar. When I reported hearing loud hydrophone effects to the bridge coming from the direction of Enterprise (at that moment I had no idea when I was hearing) the response from the OOD was "WHAT ARE YOU HEARING SONAR?" It was just a few moments later Bainbridge turned around and raced back towards Enterprise. The column of smoke and flashes from the ordnance exploding were clearly visible from several miles away. I could only think to myself -- this is really serious !

John Snyder

Michael R Willmore I was in the Wardroom as Court Reporter as we were just convening a Court Martial for an SN caught with dope in his locker. GQ sounded, the Court adjourned, and we all headed for our GQ stations. After we got back to Pearl Harbor we transferred the kid off for trial there.

DH Andy Andrew

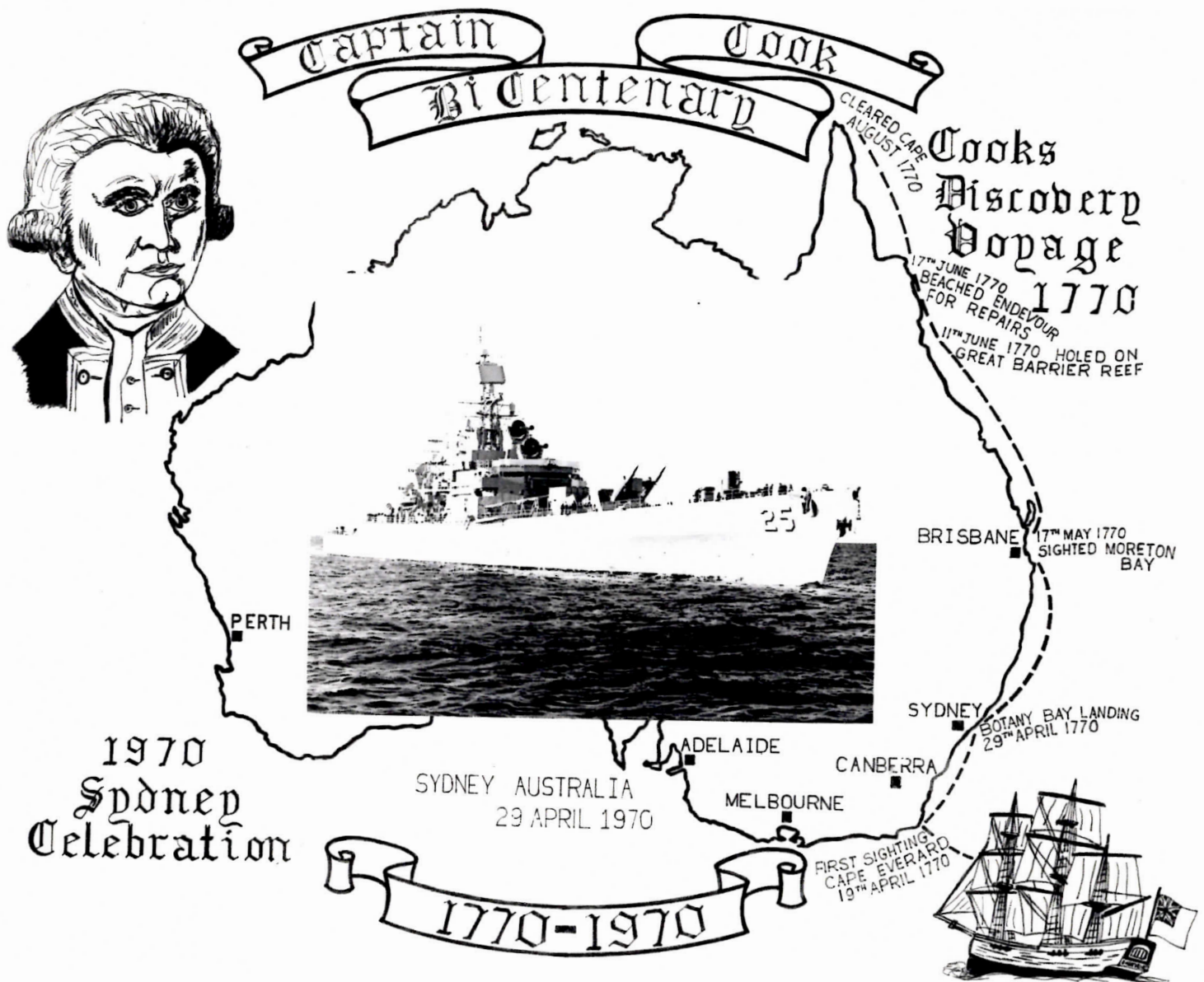
John Snyder As Trial Counsel, I remember that abrupt adjournment very well.

Don McCutcheon

In 1969 we left for Perth, Western Australia directly from the Gulf of Tonkin. Even though we crossed the Equator on the way down under, the crossing the line ceremony was postponed until the trip back to Subic Bay. I felt they delayed it to allow the pollywogs to have some hair on liberty in Australia? Maybe some other shellbacks could weigh in on whether this was unusual or not?



USS Bainbridge DLGN / CGN 25
Memorabilia



A souvenir picture taken in Sydney harbor during the 1970 WesPac deployment. The Bainbridge left the Tonkin Gulf and headed for Eastern Australia, cleaning and polishing the ship a little along the way. We were on our way to visit Sydney and Melbourne and represent the United States for the Captain Cook Bicentennial and Coral Sea Celebrations. There were many activities to observe or participate in and many dignitaries present including Queen Elizabeth.

At the time of our visit, the Australian people had a program where the US sailors could sign up to stay for a day or two in their household and be a part of the family if they had time off duty. I don't know if any of the crew took advantage of that but I do know the Australian people felt open and friendly to me and made me feel more at home than any other place during our deployment.

(Continued)

Memorabilia
(Continued)

After our Australia visit, we left Melbourne headed for Subic Bay. As in the previous year's visit to Western Australia (1969), we waited to do the shellback initiation until after the visit. On this trip the Bainbridge crossed the equator and international date line at Latitude 00°-00' Longitude 180°, everyone becoming "Golden Shellbacks". It was all in good fun but still somewhat unpleasant for the polliwogs. I already had been initiated during the 1969 deployment and was able to participate in the ceremonies as a shellback. I do have to say that it was more pleasant being on the side doing the initiating rather than being the one getting initiated. A small hint of that below, the menu of the day put out on the day of the initiation.

Joe Bisig

SPECIAL MENU

CROSSING THE EQUATOR

Aboard U. S. S. BAINBRIDGE DLG(N)25
Date 15 MAY 1970
Latitude: 00°-00'
Longitude 180



SHELLBACKS

Salad Bar	Assorted Bread	Butter
Assorted Dressing		Vegetable Soup
	Griddle Rib Steak	
Franconia Potatoes		Mushroom Gravy
French Fries		Green Style Corn
		Buttered Green Beans
Chocolate Layer Cake with White Coconut Icing		
Iced Fruit Punch		Hot Fresh Coffee

Complimentary:

MARINE PHOTO & PUBLISHING CO.,
P.O. BOX 425, SPRING VALLEY, CALIF. 92077

POLLIWOGS

Assorted Sea Crater
Salad

Blood Of The Red Eyed
Sea Dog
(Tomato Juice with
hot sauce)

Scalloped Shark Meat

Flying Fish Wings

Boiled Sea Worms
Raw Oysters

Boiled Sea Weed
with Sowbelly

Sea Weed Au Jus
(Cold Spaghetti with green food coloring)

Jelly Fish Sandwiches

Sea Foam Topping
Fish Eye Pudding

Hardtack

Last Friday's Left Over Coffee

Brine Water

Note: In the event of a weak stomach, entrée may be
altered only by order of his Majesty King Neptune.

You Don't Want to Miss Another Issue

Please ensure that your mailing address and E-mail address is correct on our roster. If it is **not** correct PLEASE submit those kind of changes by mail to:

Richard Goerner 256 Cassingham Lane Boiling Springs, SC. 29316. E-Mail: renreog.r@charter.net

Dues are payable January 1st. of each calendar year. If your dues are not current, submit a check for \$15.00 per year to :

USS Bainbridge Association (C/O Dick Holloway) 9307 Teakwood Lane, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266

Members receiving the newsletter via an email, **will not** receive a hard copy unless requested.

(THE CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESSES ARE LISTED BELOW)

Please keep your dues & contact information up to date. If you need to check on your dues status or change your contact information, contact Dick Holloway or Richard Goerner.

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle Initial _____ Nickname _____

Spouse's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dates aboard the BAINBRIDGE _____ Rank/Rating while Aboard the ship _____ Division _____

E-Mail Address _____ Tel. Number () _____

Published by the USS Bainbridge Association

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1995 Norfolk VA
1996 St. Louis MO
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1999 Branson MO
2000 Tallahassee FL
2001 Tucson AZ
2002 Rapid City SD
2003 Washington DC
2004 Las Vegas NV

2005* Ft. Lauderdale FL
2006 San Antonio TX
2007 San Diego CA
2009 Savannah GA
2010 Puget Sound WA
2012 Omaha NE
2013 Chattanooga TN
2015 Albuquerque NM
2016 Springfield, IL 2017
2017 Lancaster, PA
2018 Phoenix, AZ
2021 New Orleans, LA
2022 Las Vegas, NV

*Cancelled due to two hurricanes