



Newsletter of the USS BAINBRIDGE Association

Summer 2015



Message from your President

Hello to everyone. It has been 2 months since our Albuquerque reunion and there have been a few new developments within the Association. It seems like only yesterday that I found out about the Association, joined and attended my first reunion a few years later. Now I find

myself writing my first message as your newly elected president. Thank you to all the voting members for your confidence in me. I'll work closely with the other officers to keep the Association headed in the right direction as did the presidents before me. We are a team and I know we need the senior people to give their suggestions, wisdom and experience to keep things in line. This includes the appointed officials as well. They do so much for the Association, much of it behind the scenes and deserve a sincere thank you for their contributions.

We also have a new vice president, Charles Gilbert. Charles has been a member and the photo archiver for a number of years. He has volunteered to remain as photo archiver in addition to serving as vice president. Many members have mentioned having problems opening and viewing the archived photos on the existing sky drive website. Charles has been working to resolve the issues but problems still exist for some members. They seem varied and some may be related to individual computer limitations such as memory, internet speed etc. Charles has suggested creating a USS Bainbridge page on Facebook in addition to the existing sky drive website. This would give members an alternative and possibly be a friendlier site for some who are presently having problems viewing our photos. He has agreed to look into the pros and cons of creating the Facebook page and report to the members by next reunion.

Our webmaster Bob Hemingway has found a capable individual who has agreed to work with him and eventually take over the operation of our website. His name is Bob Webster and he was aboard the Bainbridge 1984-1987. He will become a new member of the Association and take over the webmaster duties in the near future. Bob Hemingway has been doing a great job maintaining our website since 2003 and is due a well-deserved rest from the task. Thank you Bob for all your work.

As always one of our ongoing priorities is recruitment of new members. With our new vice president being aboard the Bainbridge 1983-1986 and our upcoming webmaster aboard 1984-1987 I hope this is a good sign that younger members are actively participating in the Association. Hopefully they can get new members from their era aboard the ship to join in the future. We still ask all members to keep watch for shipmates they might encourage to join.

John Browning with the assistance of Jerry and Carol Fulk has been working on setting up our next reunion in Springfield, Illinois. Things are still in the early stages and John has an update on his progress later in this newsletter. It has been a busy time for me over the last couple of months.

Two weeks after returning from Albuquerque Dianna and I spent time attending my 50th class reunion. One week after that we had my oldest granddaughter's wedding and reception and this past week was told a second great grandchild is on the way. It's going to feel good to not have to plan anything for the next few days. Here we are starting the second half of the year and before we know it, the holiday season will be approaching. I hope everyone has a great summer.

Joe Bisig

U.S.S. BAINBRIDGE ASSOCIATION REUNION IN 2016 WILL BE HELD IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



View of Lincoln's Tomb



Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Springfield, IL



View of Lincoln's Tomb

Bainbridge Reunion 2016

The next USS Bainbridge reunion is being planned for Springfield IL for June 5th through the 9th 2016. Springfield, is the Capital of Illinois and is located in the center of the state. Air travel is available from United, American, and Allegiant Air Lines. Amtrak is also a travel option. Springfield's most famous past resident is Abraham Lincoln who lived there from 1837 until being elected President in 1861. Major tourist attractions are historic sites connected with Lincoln. Shipmates Jerry Fulk (who attended the USS Walke reunion in Springfield in 2014) and John Browning report planning is in the very early stages. No contracts have been signed yet but negotiations are being held with the Northfield Inn. Tentative venues being

discussed with the Convention and Visitors Bureau are The President Abraham Lincoln Museum, Lincoln's home, the State Capital, Lincoln's Tomb, Memorial service at the Veteran's Memorial, New Salem State Park, The Lincoln-Herndon Law Office and the Dana Thomas house. Persons coming early or wishing to stay late will be able to do so at the hotel's discount rate. This would allow for visiting sights that will not fit our schedule.

Please start your planning now.

Editor's Note: Additional information about the reunion will be in the Winter 2016 newsletter published in the January/February timeframe.



Info. From Bob Beaty, Publisher, Editor & Historian

In this issue of the newsletter and in follow-on issues I will be adding different parts of a book describing the life and naval career of VADM Peet. The book was created from seven in-

terviews that the U.S. Naval Institute held with VADM Peet in the 1970's after he retired from the Navy. The Title of the book is ***The Reminiscences of Vice Admiral Raymond E. Peet U.S. Navy (Retired).*** VADM Peet has given the U.S.S. Bainbridge Association permission to use all or parts of the book for informational purposes. If any of the members would like to have their own personal copy, it can

be purchased from the U.S. Naval Institute. It is available in a hardcopy version or on a CD. The book is too long to cover all the parts of his career in the newsletter, so I plan to include the parts that describe some of the positions he was assigned to, personal stories he included and the contributions he provided to make our Navy the greatest in the world. In my opinion he is one of those Greatest Generation individuals that has made a fabulous contribution to preserve our way of life and make the Navy that we all love, the outstanding organization it is. As I have said before, we on Bainbridge were blessed to have him and others on that wonderful ship for 35 years as our mentors and leaders. God bless them all.

I also want to thank the assoc. attendees again for the beautiful pictures at the places we visited.

USS Bainbridge Association 2015 Reunion Albuquerque, NM Pictures



Sandia Peak Aerial Tram Albuquerque, NM Pictures



National Museum of Nuclear Science & History Albuquerque, NM Pictures



Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum Albuquerque, NM Pictures

The Reminiscences of Vice Admiral Raymond Peet tary of the Navy John Chafee.
U.S. Navy (Retired)

U.S. Naval Institute
Annapolis, Maryland
1984

PREFACE

Several themes are evident in the oral memoir which follows. One is that Admiral Peet was an ambitious naval officer, always eager to excel and get ahead. Another is his steadfast sense of integrity—that he stood up for what he believed rather than bending his opinions to the will of his superiors. A third aspect which will make the oral history particularly useful for scholars of the future is the considerable degree of candor Admiral Peet has employed in telling his story. Oral history is especially valuable in providing the sorts of explanations and background that do not show up in official records, and that is certainly the case here.

Vice Admiral Ray Peet considered himself first and foremost a destroyer-man. He tells here of his service in the USS Converse, one of the ships of Captain Arleigh Burke's famous Little Beaver Squadron of the Solomons campaign. He also served in the USS Aulick during the war, finding himself fortunate that his pleas to be assigned to the destroyer Spence were not approved in time, because that ship was lost with nearly all hands in a typhoon in December 1944. In the mid-1950s, Peet did so well as commanding officer of the USS Barton that he was selected to be aide to the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Burke, and after that was picked to be commissioning commanding officer of the Navy's first nuclear-powered destroyer, the USS Bainbridge. Still later he was in charge of a study to select a new destroyer design for the U.S. Navy, the ship which ultimately became the USS Spruance. Peet, however, refused to compromise his beliefs on what was best for the Navy, and as a result he was banished from Washington at the direction of Secretary of the Navy Paul Nitze.

A number of other tours of duty come in for discussion in this memoir: postgraduate study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology right after World War II; duty on the staff of Commander Operational Development Force; ordnance work at the Naval Proving Ground at Dahlgren, Virginia; duty as gunnery officer of the battleship New Jersey; a stimulating period of study at the National War College in Washington; staff work in the Pentagon as military assistant to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense and later as military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs); as Commander Amphibious Group Two; Commander Amphibious Training Command Atlantic Fleet; and as Director of the Office of Program Appraisal for Secre-

Admiral Peet's final two tours of active duty are covered here in considerable detail, because they were evidently of great interest to him. As Commander First Fleet from 1970 to 1972, he pioneered the concept of control and command of a numbered fleet being done from ashore rather than at sea in order to take advantage of satellite communications and other advanced technology. Commanding a fleet had long been one of Peet's goals, so it was a very satisfying tour. He wound up his active naval service as Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency and tells some fascinating stories about the sale of military hardware to foreign governments. He also makes the case for such sales, even though critics sometimes charge a person in this position as being a "merchant of death."

As for personalities, Admiral Peet describes his relationships as he remembers them, and it is here that his candor is most evident. He remembers Arleigh Burke as both a dashing destroyer leader and as a CNO who was demanding and difficult to work for; Hyman Rickover as also difficult but also extremely dedicated and a man of great achievement; Admiral Elmo Zumwalt as his foremost competitor during their naval careers, someone who, in Peet's view, did much that was harmful to the U.S. Navy; Secretary Paul Nitze as a man determined to impose his will on acquisition of warships; Joseph Califano as an ambitious political type; and Adam Yarmolinsky as the most brilliant man he encountered in government service. The word pictures of all these men are revealing.

The successful completion of this oral history rests on the efforts of a number of individuals: Commander Etta-Belle Kitchen, U.S. Navy (Retired) who conducted the interviews; Mrs. Grace White, who did the initial transcript; Ms. Susan Sweeney, who compiled the detailed index; and Deborah Reid of Techni-Type, who provided the final smooth-typed version. Admiral Peet deserves a special vote of thanks for the time and effort he expended in answering numerous questions with regard to footnotes, spelling of names, and other details that he was able to provide from his records. He has very generously donated many of his records to the special collections department of the Naval Academy Library. They can be used there alongside a copy of this transcript to provide further details on many of the topics he discusses.

Paul Stillwell
Director of Oral History
U.S. Naval Institute
September 1984

VICE ADMIRAL RAYMOND E. PEET, U.S. NAVY
(RETIRED)

PERSONAL DATA

Born: 27 January 1921, Oneonta, New York

Parents: Ursil L. Peet and Hanna Thomas Peet

Married: May 1945 to W. Dian Hutchinson

Children: Gary Raymond Peet

Education: U.S. Naval Academy (Class of 1943); Naval Postgraduate School, Annapolis, Maryland; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Naval Nuclear Power School, Washington, DC; National War College, Washington, DC; Senior Officers' Executive Management Course, Newport, Rhode Island

PROMOTIONS

Ensign: June 1942

Lieutenant (junior grade): May 1943

Lieutenant: July 1944

Lieutenant Commander: April 1950

Commander: March 1955

Captain: July 1960

Rear Admiral: July 1967

Vice Admiral: August 1970

DECORATIONS AND MEDALS

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star with combat "V"

Navy Commendation Medal with combat "V"

Gold Star in lieu of second Navy Commendation Medal

Defense Department Distinguished Service Medal

Navy Department Distinguished Service Medal

Presidential Unit Citation with combat "V"

American Defense Service Medal with star

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one silver and

American Campaign Medal

World War II Victory Medal

Navy Occupation Service Medal with Europe clasp

National Defense Service Medal with bronze star

Philippine Liberation Ribbon

CHRONOLOGICAL TRANSCRIPT OF SERVICE

June 1942-November 1942: Fire Control School, Washington, DC

November 1942-November 1944: Gunnery Officer and Executive Officer, USS Converse (DD-509)

November 1944-January 1945: Gunnery Officers' Ordnance School, Washington, DC

January 1945-May 1945: Gunnery Officer, USS Aulick (DD-569)

May 1945-December 1945: Student, Naval Postgraduate School, Annapolis, Maryland

December 1945-June 1948: Student, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts

June 1948-June 1949: Operations Officer, Destroyer

Squadron Sixteen June 1949-October 1951: Ordnance-

Electronics Officer, Operational Development Force

October 1951-October 1954: Plans and Progress Officer, Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia

October 1954-April 1956: Gunnery Officer, USS New Jersey (BB-62)

April 1956-June 1956: Staff, Commander Destroyer Force, Atlantic

June 1956-September 1957: Commanding Officer, USS Barton (DD-722) ———COMMANDER (1955)

September 1957-August 1959: Aide to Chief of Naval Operations Arleigh Burke———COMMANDER (1955)

August 1959-December 1959: Assistant Engineer Officer, USS Independence (CVA-62)

December 1959-October 1962: Student, Naval Reactors Division, Washington, DC

October 1962-August 1964: Commanding Officer, USS Bainbridge (DLGN-25) ———CAPTAIN(1960)

August 1964-July 1965: Student, National War College, Washington, DC

July 1965-September 1966: Military Assistant to Principal Deputy Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

September 1966-February 1967: Director, Naval Ship Acquisition and Support Study Group, Naval Material Command ———)

February 1967-August 1968: Commander, Amphibious Group Two———REAR ADMIRAL (1967)

August 1968-June 1969: Commander, Amphibious Training Command, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

June 1969-July 1970: Director, Office of Program Appraisal, Navy Department

July 1970-May 1972: Commander, First Fleet ———VICE ADMIRAL (1970)

May 1972-August 1974: Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Security Assistance), Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, and Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

1 August 1974: Retired from active duty.

Interview Number 1 with Vice Admiral Raymond E. Peet, U.S. Navy (Retired)

Place: Admiral Peet's office at Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical,
San Diego, California

Date: 11 May 1978

Subject: Biography

By: Commander Etta-Belle Kitchen, U.S. Navy (Retired)

Q: I believe that it would be interesting to start at the beginning, which is unique, and tell me something about your early days, where it was, the atmosphere in the cities, your family circumstances, and things of that nature.

Admiral Peet: I was born in a city called Oneonta, New York. This is a city in the hills in about the middle of New York State. I was born of rather poor parents. My father was a railroader of limited education; I think he went through the eighth grade. My mother, I think, went through the ninth grade. However they were very hard-working people, and they were very ambitious for me. They saw to it that I had a good education, and they were continually--particularly my mother--trying to motivate me to do well and to get a good education. It was always at great expense to themselves. I am very appreciative of that.

When I was about eight or nine years old, we moved to Binghamton, New York. We lived there through my graduation from high school.

Q: I am interested in your father's first name.

Admiral Peet: His first name is Ursil. I don't think I have ever run across anybody else who has had that first name, particularly a male; I've heard of Ursula for a female. He came from a farm family out of Oneonta, New York. They had four or five children, and he is a very, very short man, barely five feet tall. I was always afraid I was going to be short; in fact, I worried about that, about being able to get into the Naval Academy at one time, that I wouldn't pass. And I was very close to the borderline when I went into the Naval Academy. As I recall, I was about 5'5" when I went into the Naval Academy, and I grew quite a bit after that. I'm about 5'9" now. I went to the Naval Academy right out of high school. You see, I was very doubtful whether or not I could go on to college. I knew I had to get a scholarship, and that motivated me all through high school to do well. In fact, in the regency exams in New York State I was quite good in mathematics and had a perfect paper in every math regents that New York State had to offer--trigonometry, geometry, algebra, and so on.

Q: And you received your education in the high school in Binghamton, New York?

Admiral Peet: Yes, at the high school at Binghamton, and I owe a great deal to the New York school system and particularly to the Binghamton schools. I think they are excellent schools, and they prepared me very well. I took the competitive examination to get into the Naval Academy, and I was motivated to do that by an English teacher that I'll always remember, Mrs. Francis C. Seely. She helped me; she helped me to prepare for the exams and that sort of thing. She was very, very helpful, and I correspond with her to this day.

I didn't have any political pull, I didn't know anybody or anything of that sort, but I went around and introduced myself to try to get an appointment. There was a congressman by the name of Bert Lord* in Binghamton, and he was very sympathetic and said, "Well, young man, I'll give you a chance." He was progressive for his time, because he had competitive exams. He didn't give political appointments but had a competitive exam for all the young fellows. I took this competitive exam; as I remember there were about 24 of us, and I think I was the only one to pass. He had three or four appointments, and they all went begging, even the alternates.

Q: As I recall, that is where the IBM headquarters are located. I am curious to know if you had a feeling of any of that atmosphere brushing off into the community?

Admiral Peet: No, IBM was mainly in Johnson City. There are triple cities there--Endicott, Johnson City, and Binghamton. I was from Binghamton, and Binghamton was a small industrial town. I didn't get too much of the atmosphere of IBM except that I had an uncle who worked for IBM for a while, and I guess it might be correct to say there was a little of that flavor. They had high standards, were good clean-living people, and I could see the advantages of an education. I knew I wanted to get out of Binghamton. I liked to swim; I had never seen the ocean. As I read stories about the Naval Academy and West Point as a young man, I knew that was for me. That was a way to get a free education and at the same time do something that was exciting. I was interested in engineering because of my particular interest in mathematics.

Q: As I recall, in the late 1880s in the midsection of New York there was a field of religious sects being developed, and I wonder if there was a religious atmosphere around your home or the city where you lived?

Admiral Peet: No, I was brought up as a Protestant, and my mother always insisted that I go to church, but it was never any particular church. I spent much time as a Methodist

*Bert Lord, a Republican from Afton, NY, represented the state's 34th congressional district.

Episcopalian, and on other occasions I attended a Presbyterian and a Baptist church, and that's been the story of my life. I feel that I am rather religious, but it has always been that I go where they have the best service and where they have the most to offer.

Q: You haven't told me about your brothers and sisters, or were you an only child?

Admiral Peet: I was an only child.

Q: And you have a child who is an only child.

Admiral Peet: Yes, I have only one child.

Q: Why did your parents move from Oneonta to Binghamton?

Admiral Peet: It was an economic proposition. As railroads got more range, Oneonta ceased to be a railroad repair center, and if my Dad was going to continue to work on the railroad, he had to go where the work was. He went to Binghamton, New York. Oneonta became just a by-station in those days.

Q: What railroad line was it on?

Admiral Peet: The D&H--Delaware and Hudson--which is no longer an independent railroad; they joined up with the Erie-Lackawanna. Binghamton is still a rail hub to New York State. I always admired my father; he was a hard-working man. During the Depression years, which are very well impressed in my mind--the early Thirties--he lost his job and he actually got out and dug ditches to make sure that my mother and I were adequately fed and clothed. This left a big impression on my mind.

Q: I was curious to know whether the Depression did affect you, and you have answered it somewhat.

Admiral Peet: Yes, it did, but my parents insisted that I stay in school, and I was well-dressed and did well in school. They always said to me, "Raymond, you can do as well as she can, or he can; you can be the top," that sort of thing. They continually did that with me. I can remember those early years to this day; in many ways you might say they weren't all that good, but the experience shaped my life, and caused me to be very competitive as far as scholastics were concerned. I had a great interest in scholastics, and it opened up a great many doors for me. When I was in high school, I used to think, wouldn't it be wonderful to have a college education, go to the Naval Academy and after the Naval Academy go to MIT and then some day command a fleet?"

Q: Did you really?"

Admiral Peet: I had that thought as a student in high school --I was that ambitious.

Q: How did you happen to be exposed to the Navy in that relatively interior city?

Admiral Peet: I read an awful lot, and I would read these books about life at the Naval Academy, from the school library. I was a regular inhabitant of the school library. I read a lot of books in those days.

In those days the military was rather glamorous; you would read about the white uniforms and about the social activities. That's not the case today. When I went to the movies, you know, it was glamorous--about the young officers in the Navy and the Army--and it was something that young people aspired to do. There was no discrimination or anything of that sort in my mind. There were no drawbacks as we know them today because of Vietnam and things of that sort. It's unfortunate that the military career is often belittled these days, because you are going to get a much less capable military that way, and I think that's dangerous in a democracy.

Q: What were your subjects? You spoke of English and math. Was that your main thing in high school?

Admiral Peet: Well, I thought in high school if I didn't go to the Naval Academy I might become a chemical engineer, but that never happened, as you know. Given the events in '39 and '40, the turmoil in the world, I was able to go to the Naval Academy and get a good education there.

Q: I recall '39 was when you graduated from high school; that was the year that Hitler marched into Poland. How much aware of the world situation were you at that time?

Admiral Peet: I can't say that I was particularly aware of the world situation. I knew there was turmoil, and it bothered me. But I didn't have any flag that I was trying to fly, nor did I have any strong feelings about the world situation. I wasn't all that knowledgeable, because, you see, at my home my parents didn't talk about things like that very much. They were not very well educated, and I had a very sheltered life at home. It was only after I got out of the Naval Academy, into the fleet, and did graduate work, that I became more aware of world politics.

Q: Are your parents still living?

Admiral Peet: Yes, they are.

Q: Isn't that wonderful.

Admiral Peet: They do not enjoy good health. I talk to them very regularly for a long time every Sunday and drop in on them periodically. My mother is in very poor health; she has cataracts and doesn't see very well now. My father has had heart trouble, and they are restricted to their apartment, but I can't get them to move. I would love to bring them out here.

Q: Are they still living in Binghamton? And what is their age?

Admiral Peet: My mother is 79 and my dad is 77.

Q: That's not so old these days, is it?

Admiral Peet: It isn't, but they don't have good health, and it's quite a problem. But I am very close to them and keep in touch all the time.

Q: That's a nice picture of your background. Now, what honors did you have in high school?

Admiral Peet: I was the valedictorian in my class when I graduated from high school, and that enabled me to go directly to the Naval Academy without any college prepping or anything of that sort.

Q: That means you were first in your class?

Admiral Peet: Yes. I had good high school grades; there was good competition there. I have never had any apologies for my high school and grade school education. They did a good job in New York State, and I hope they are doing the same today in teaching the people to read and write and learn arithmetic. I am afraid from what I am hearing, though, that they are not doing a very good job of it these days.

Q: I would think that that background is an absolutely perfect setting for you as the man as I see you now and the things you have done as you have described the background from which you have sprung.

Admiral Peet: It was a good background. I think that I appreciated it more than most people do. As I used to tell my son, he was never as hungry as I was--hungry for knowledge and to get ahead. There was a purpose, an economic incentive. If I was to get out of Binghamton and that life and see the world and participate in worldly things, I had to move, and I had the incentive to do that. Whereas I tell him on occasion that he's never been hungry, and we laugh about it, for I have never tried to tell my son how he

should direct his life. I leave that entirely up to him. I do think he is not as hungry as I was to succeed. He had nearly everything he wanted. He is a good boy. I am very proud of him; he has done an excellent job and is doing extremely well on his own--law degree, MBA, paratrooper, ranger, etc.

Q: How large is Binghamton?

Admiral Peet: It is a city of 100,000, and it doesn't seem to grow. It is pretty much the same as when I lived there. It is not a progressive, prosperous area.

Q: Are there any cultural opportunities that you were exposed to as a youngster?

Admiral Peet: Very little. Everything that I got along that line I got at high school and the schools there at Binghamton. I have always felt that I wasn't exposed to very much of that sort of thing when I was young. If it weren't for that school system in New York State, I don't know what would have happened.

Q: That's a real tribute to it, I think.

Admiral Peet: I think it is too.

Q: What were your hobbies when you were in high school?

Admiral Peet: My mother wanted to make a piano player out of me, and I took piano lessons for a couple of years, but I played the piano like an engineer; it was entirely mechanical. I could read papers, and practice the scales at the same time, but it didn't work out. My interests remained in sports, and in high school I played on the baseball team and the basketball team. I was very much interested in that sort of thing; I was out playing sports when I wasn't home reading.

Q: Do you think your size dominated your thinking--that you had to go out and participate in sports?

Admiral Peet: Very much so; I was very conscious of my size--I was always the smallest man in my class until I got to the Naval Academy, and then I was in the last platoon. But then I grew. I seemed to grow enough at the Naval Academy that instead of being in the fourth platoon I was put in the third platoon. I got a little higher. Size was something that always bothered me; it gave me somewhat of an inferiority complex. I always felt that I was short and had to do more than others to compensate.

Q: As my size is just a little over 5 feet I can sympathize; I was always in the last one, too. You were interested in sports, and you have told me about subjects; your hobbies were mainly reading and sports. But you did

your subjects; your hobbies were mainly reading and sports. But you did have a piano in your home.

Admiral Peet: Yes, we did. My mother plays the piano and she plays it beautifully. She studied music, then she married and had me and had a lot of work to do. She didn't practice nearly as much as she should have. She played for her own enjoyment.

Q: And you spoke of your English teacher who had so much influence on you. I think that's a wonderful tribute to her too.

Admiral Peet: She helped me very much in learning to express myself and to prepare me for the Naval Academy examinations. Those days were unusual. You see, the war was coming on, and a lot of people wanted to go to the military academies. Competition was very tough, and there were very few people that went right out of school. I was one of the youngest in my class at the Naval Academy.

Q: Yes, you have had a long career and still were a very young man when you retired.

Admiral Peet: Yes, I retired when I was age 53. Oddly enough, I think I retired mainly because I lost interest. I had aspired to graduate from the Naval Academy, go to MIT, command a destroyer and a fleet, and I did all that. It all happened by the time I was 49 years old.

Q: You said, "Where is there to go?"

Admiral Peet: I felt that way. I kept going back to Wash-

ington, and my last job in Washington was in charge of all the foreign military sales for this country. I was the Director of Security Assistance.

Q: May we put that off a little bit so it will come in sequence, because I want to expand on that as it is particularly appropriate to the present day.

Admiral Peet: I had achieved my goals, so to speak, and I wasn't interested in doing that type of work in Washington any longer. I wanted to get into the civilian community. I am more of a civilian at heart than I have ever been a military man. It was circumstances more or less that made me a military man. I have often felt sort of like Admiral Entwistle.* I served with him in OpDevFor at one point in my career, and he said, 'Well, I never really decided to make the Navy a career.' And I never did; it just happened after I got my education.

Q: And here you are 30 years later.

Admiral Peet: Thirty years later, here I was a three-star officer, and I had had all these early promotions. I have had lots of thoughts about early promotion and the effect that it has on people in the Navy, and the effect on the Navy and on our country.

*Rear Admiral Frederick I. Entwistle, USN, was Commander Operational Development Force from October 1950 to February 1954. Counting his years as a midshipman, Entwistle spent 39 years on active duty in the Navy prior to his retirement in 1956.

Additional USS Bainbridge Association 2015 Reunion Albuquerque, NM Pictures



I think these 3 are suited up to jump off one of the Sandia Peak Aerial Tram platforms on the left or Right.
If they show up at the next reunion we will know they made the flight down OK.

**REMEMBER START PACKING FOR THE REUNION IN-
SPRINGFIELD, IL IN JUNE OF 2016**

Obituaries



Kenneth Eugene Hilton

(February 17, 1941 - March 5, 2015)

The Lord called Kenneth Eugene Hilton home on March 5, 2015. Ken lived in Zephyrhills, FL, since 1997 with his wife, Elaine, of nearly 54 years. He was born on February 17, 1941 in Joplin, MO, and graduated from Monett (MO) High School in 1959. Ken joined the U.S. Navy at age 18. He served in the Vietnam War, was assigned to the USS Vulcan, USS Bainbridge, USS Valdez, USS Ainsworth and several on-shore commands. He graduated from the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, RI, in 1988 - Class #31, and retired with the rank of Master Chief in 1993 after serving his country for 33 years. Ken's civilian career as an industrial electrician included Ingersoll Rand in Nashua, NH, for 10 years and James Hardie in Plant City, FL, for 5 years before he fully retired in 2002. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, enjoyed camping outings with the Good Sam's Club and Giant Recreation World/RV Gold Club, as well as traveling to visit family and friends. He also loved his precious rescue dog, Emmet, and he was a member of the Zephyrhills YMCA. He kept busy over the years serving on the home owner's association board at Grand Horizons, he was a lifetime member of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, served as president for the USS Constitution Chapter out of North Reading, MA, was president of the USS Bainbridge Association and served on the reunion committee for the USS Bainbridge. Ken maintained strong connections with many former high school and Navy friends. Above all, he was a patriot and devoted to his family. Ken is survived by his wife, Elaine; daughter Janet Lee McGuire and her husband Edward of St. Maries, Idaho; daughter Jodi Lynn Gauvin and her husband Michael of Gilmanton Iron Works, NH; and, daughter Jessica Lori Hess and her husband Brian of Peach Bottom, PA; grandchildren include Katie and her husband Jeffrey Blanton; Dakota Powell; Gregory Lines; Abigail Lines; Taggart Hess; Mason Hess; and, Trisha Campbell-Raymond and her husband Chris Raymond; great grandchildren include Allison Hernandez; Dawson Hernandez; Lorelei Blanton; Kenneth Rheume, Jr.; and, Abigail Raymond; sister Janet Edie and her husband Wendell; brother Robert Ford and his wife Cheryl; and brother Roger Ford; and several nieces and nephews. Ken was predeceased in death by his parents, Eugene Hilton and Guy and Thelma (Gregory) Hilton-Ford; his brother Steven Ford, his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Madeline (Ingalls) and James Schieffer; and, his grandson Kenneth Daniel Rheume. A celebration of Ken's life will be held at the Hodges Family Funeral Home, Hwy 301, Dade City, FL at 10:00 am and interment will

follow at Florida National Cemetery- Bushnell, FL. If you wish to honor Ken's memory, we encourage your participation and donations to the "Wreaths Across America" program. Hodges Family Funeral 301 chapel in charge of arrangements



Terry Aumen

Received word from Bob Hemingway that Terry Aumen, a member of the commissioning crew and plank owner passed away in June. No other information was available.

Thomas Rogers

Received word from Bob Hemingway that Thomas Rogers, a Bainbridge crewmember, Annapolis grad. who became a Navy pilot and retired as a Navy Captain passed away in June. No other information was available.

Leroy Gonya

Received word from a fellow Bainbridge shipmate that Leroy Gonya, a sonar technician and member of the commissioning crew and plank owner passed away several months ago. Leroy advanced to Chief Sonar Technician and retired after 20 years in the Navy. No other information was available.

You Don't Want to Miss Another Issue

If you did **not** fill out this form in the *Winter 2014 Newsletter* or your email address changes at any time or the address label on your newsletter is **not** correct PLEASE submit those kind of changes by mail to: **Jim Beaty 609 Goldstone Lane Fort Worth, TX 76131** or by email to: **Plank.owner1@gmail.com**

Members receiving the Newsletter by regular mail can check the address label that indicates the last year paid. Dues are payable January 1st. of each yr. (1995 indicates a complimentary copy) If your dues are not current, submit a check for \$15.00 to :

The Bainbridge Assoc. C/O Dick Holloway, Treas, 9307 Teakwood Lane, Garden Ridge, Texas 78266

Thank you for your cooperation!

Editors Note: Now that most newsletters are sent as an attachment to a group addressed email, those members will receive a separate email reminding them that their dues need to be renewed. **HOWEVER, IF YOU KNOW YOUR DUES ARE NOT CURRENT, YOU CAN CONTACT JIM BEATY, DICK HOLLOWAY, OR ME, BOB BEATY AND WE CAN SHOW YOU THE YEAR IN THE SYSTEM THAT YOUR LAST PAYMENT COVERED.**

(OUR CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESSES ARE LISTED BELOW).

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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USS BAINBRIDGE REUNIONS to Date...

1995 Norfolk VA	2005* Ft. Lauderdale FL
1996 St. Louis MO	2006 San Antonio TX
1997 Charleston SC	2007 San Diego CA
1998 San Diego CA	2009 Savannah GA
1999 Branson MO	2010 Puget Sound WA
2000 Tallahassee FL	2012 Omaha NE
2001 Tucson AZ	2013 Chattanooga TN
2002 Rapid City SD	2015 Albuquerque NM
2003 Washington DC	
2004 Las Vegas NV	

*Join us at the next reunion in Springfield, IL
We would love to see you !!*

**Cancelled due to two hurricanes*

Additional USS Bainbridge Association 2015 Reunion Albuquerque, NM Pictures



Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Albuquerque, NM Pictures



U.S.S. Bainbridge Association Crew Members at the Albuquerque, NM Reunion



U.S.S. Bainbridge Association Spouses Friends, & Relatives at the Albuquerque, NM Reunion