In Memoriam

The Great Commander called them home to sail the crystal sea,
Where they will steer with steady hand throughout eternity,
No longer will the high sea roll,
The ships will be clear and every day will be a day of happiness and cheer,
No storm shall cross their valiant prow and calm will be the sea,
In that bright place where all is well and kindly is the breeze,
They are at peace with our shipmates who have gone before.

— Word was received that these crew members are absent from muster —

Andy O. Adams S1/c R-Div.
Celestino Borelli S1/c
Lt.(jg) Stanley J. Butryn VF-13
Eugene J. Carey Corp. 7th-Div.
Dalen, Irvon R. AMM3/c VT-13
Forrest S. Hutchins AOM3/c V5-Div.
Kenneth R. Hill AM3/c V2-Div.

Gerald R. LaCroix S2/c R1-Div.
Donald G. Perry F1/c B-div.
Richard Schneider (no info)
Frank Sepesy SC2/c S-Div.
Thomas J. Smulczeni SKV2/c S1-Div.
Douglas C. Taylor Sr. MM1/c A-Div.
Arthur J. Valotto S1/c S-Div.
Robert A. Williams AMM3/c

Information on the death of a crew member is to be sent to
Ray C. Bailey 3511 Byrd Street San Diego, CA 92154-1611

USS FRANKLIN CV13
MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

A NOT FOR PROFIT AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

BOB ST. PETERS NAMED
PRESIDENT EMERITUS

The Board of Directors elected St. Peters to the distinguished
office of President Emeritus at their meeting in July
at the reunion in New York. His years of service as president were
recognized with thanks for his
total devotion to the Association.

It was in 1988 that St. Peters gathered six
crew members together and proposed
a chartered organization dedicated to
keeping the memory of the USS Franklin
and those of the crew who made the
supreme sacrifice on March 19, 1945. Bob
was elected president and faithfully served
until July 2009.

At a recent reunion St. Peters was
presented with a gavel having an engraved
brass band expressing the gratitude of the
Association members for his leadership.

Sam Rhodes is the last surviving member
of the original Board, other than St. Peters,
and continues to serve as a Director.

2010 REUNION MARCH 19th
IN BRANSON, MISSOURI

Save the dates
March 18-19-20-21
Mark your calendar now!

Previous reunion chairpersons have
teamupd up to produce a
memorable reunion on
the 65th anniversary of the
Franklin's moment in naval
history, Sam and Elaine Rhodes along with Chet and Beth Conard-
Rowland have completed negotiations and an announcement with all
of the information is included with this newsletter.

While this reunion will focus on being a memorial for our shipmates
who are no longer with us, there will be joyful moments; one of
them will be the scrumptious luncheon cruise aboard the Showboat
Belle on Friday.

The magnificent Belle is an 1880's style paddle wheel boat which
presents a talented cast of singers and dancers who perform musical
hits from Broadway to the big screen. Typical vaudeville acts are also
part of the entertainment. But if the theatre is not to your liking, stroll
the open decks while the Belle cruises scenic Table Rock Lake.

Branson has become a mecca for reunions and you can expect every
effort will be made to accommodate seniors, wheelchair accessible is a
byword everywhere. Chet, Beth, Sam and Elaine are going to be sure
there is a minimum of walking.

2009 DUES STILL $10.00

Yes, the annual dues remain as originally budgeted, just ten dollars.
Check payable to — USS Franklin Museum Association
MAIL TO: Robert A. Ladewig, Treasurer
331 A Oak Hill Road Lake Barrington, IL 60010-1686

Have you mailed your dues?
OPPORTUNITIES TO HAVE A VOICE

At the Board meeting in New York several ideas were discussed and it was decided we should pursue them more broadly than with just the Directors . . . that a small committee should investigate the feasibility of any idea and present it to the Board. Several members of the Association have volunteered to serve but there is no reason you cannot offer your time and effort, if you would like to be on a committee, volunteer to president,

Dr. H. Prentice Baptiste 2205 Colonial Drive League City, TX 77573-5873 e-mail: baptiste@nms.edu

REUNIONS; look at possible sites for the next two or three years and establish reunion host list, thus finding most acceptable cities and having knowledgeable, perhaps even experienced hosts.

SCHOLARSHIPS; research management programs for awarding scholarships, legal responsibility and establish qualifying data.

BOOK GIFTS; develop a plan for gifting our books to public and private libraries.

U.S. STAMP; Director Harry Munzing has pursued the possibility of having a commemorative U.S. stamp issued honoring the Franklin for several years without success. With help he is willing to continue the effort.

don't keep it a secret . . . .

when you move or your phone number is changed please advise

Ray C. Bailey 3511 Byrd Street San Diego, CA 92154-1611

MOMORIAL PLAQUES DEDICATED AT GREAT LAKES, JULY 2nd

PIctured left to right: CMC Charles Hood, William Schauer, F1c, Robert Ladewig-EM2c, David Baruch-GM2c, Capt. Caroline Olinger

Thanks to ETC(SW) Roger A. Phillip who persevered in rescuing our plaques from storage, they are now installed in the entrance of the building named USS FRANKLIN which is a multi-story building housing 364 students enrolled in Service Schools.

About 120 of the students attended the dedication ceremony as did Tina Ladewig and Marilyn Schauer. Captain Olinger called attention to the fact that the surviving crew members managed to bring the severely damaged carrier to New York from some 35 miles from the Japanese home island of Honsaru; an event so astounding that the crew is the most decorated of the U.S. Navy.

Great lakes Naval Training Station is the sole "boot camp" now, the others having been closed. The Franklin is unique in this instance in that not only is the building named for the ship but it houses our plaques and our framed print...the students pass the installation at the entrance every day as they come and go.

ROB & JULIE CHAIR “BIG APPLE” REUNION

Never mind the reason, but only about a hundred showed up and had a marvelous time in a great hotel just two blocks from "ground zero." Rob Forlenza and Julie Sosa put together a classic reunion; we enjoyed beautiful weather, picnic lunches and a very special wreath drop when our cruise boat paused at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Hey you guys, thanks a bunch!

PRINTS

$20.00

Postage Paid

• Beautiful Full Color
• 18” x 24” . . . Easy to Frame
• Lithographed on the Finest Paper

Check Payable to: USS Franklin Museum Association
Order From: Robert Ladewig
331A Oak Hill Road
Lake Barrington, IL 60010-1686

LOOK! WE'RE ON THE WEB!

It was just a couple of years ago that Phil Gentry designed a USS Franklin web site and it is simply awesome!

www.ussfranklin.org