Thank you to the Lyons Family for hosting another wonderful reunion July 2014 in Norfolk, Virginia in honor of James W. Lyons, EM1/c E-Div. We had 12 crew members in attendance and many family members.

Events included a tour of Naval Station Norfolk, a wreath laying and memorial service on the deck of the USS Wisconsin, a tour of the city and lunch at the Officer’s club.

On Saturday, reunion attendees were given the option to lunch on the Spirit of Norfolk, a cruise ship that sailed down the Elizabeth River, highlighting a number of sights. Saturday evening was the banquet. Rear Admiral Mark L. Tidd spoke, followed by dinner and dancing to the music of Glen Boswick and the Sound of Swing Orchestra. A good time was had by all!

Don’t forget to look for details about the 2015 reunion in Milwaukee, Wisconsin hosted by Darren Hamm, grandson of Robert Hamm, WT3/c B-Div. See you there!

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Shane A. Jackson/Released)
In Memoriam

8 O’CLOCK REPORT

Word was received that these crew members have been absent from muster since our last newsletter and who received orders from the Supreme Commander to be transferred to The Big Ship In The Sky.

Gerald J. Baccardax Fl/c M-Div.
Karl H. Braddock Jr., FC1/c F-Div.
Arthur A. Brow, SF2/c R2-Div.
Irving L. Kidwell, YN1/c B-Div.
Thomas W. Leo, S1/c 2nd-Div.
Edward G. Loeffler GM
James W. Lyons, EM1/c E-Div.
Anthony R. Masterpalo, S1/c S-Div.
Steve H. Matthew, S1/c 2nd-Div.
Theodore Mayka, E8, FTCS
Oliver A. Mosman, S1/c K-Div.
Howard W. Newcomb, YN2/c K-Div.

Henry D. (Scott) Ostroll, S2/c V4-Div.
Kenneth E. Peltier Sr., SF3/c R2-Div.
Frank G. Pettrill, S1/c K1-Div. T/Sgt. USA Ret.
John F. Popola EM3/c(T) V-6 USNR
Jess Rand SM2/c
William E. Renth, S2/c
George C. Sippel, S2/c 4th-Div.
Harry G. Smelzer AMM2/c V1-Div.
Floyd E. (Bud) Smith, GM3/c
James M. Stuart Jr., YN2/c K-Div.
Robert W. Swanson WT2/c
Kenneth K. Thompson S/Sgt. VMF-214
Andrew D. Trause, Pfc. 7th-Div.
Dorris W. Wilson, Coxswain 5th-Div.
Robert Wineman Lt.(jg.)

The Supreme 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 skies 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.

from the desk of the President:

Greetings:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the USS Franklin Family to a transformative phase of our newsletter. As some of you may know, Mr. Robert (Bob) Ladewig, with Board support, is transferring the responsibility of the production of the USS Franklin Newsletter to Mr. Darren Hamm. I must pause to acknowledge the yeomen service that Mr. Ladewig gave in the creation and continued production of this Newsletter for the last thirty years.

At our board meeting, last July, Mr. Hamm was directed to transform the Newsletter into an electronic format. This transformation will take place over the next three issues. That is, the next three issues will be available both electronically and by paper. Following this period, the newsletter will be distributed only electronically. Anyone desiring a paper format of the newsletter after that time period must make a special request to Ms. Louise Mast.

For the first time since I have had the privilege to serve as your president, the sites of our next two reunions have been selected well in advance. Thanks to the Hamm’s, the site for our 2015 reunion is Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and to the Hall’s, the site for the 2016 reunion is Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. I am very grateful to both families for so willingly taking on the responsibilities of our next two reunions.

I am sure that all of you were thankful and grateful to our twelve USS Franklin Crewmen who were present at the 2014 Norfolk Reunion. They and their fellow crewmen are our original heroes. It is they whom we thank for having kept the glory of the USS Franklin alive for all these years. However, as I looked at the disk of photos taken at that event (which Ken and Elaine Young so kindly sent me), I realized that there was a new cohort ready to take on the responsibility of perpetuating one of the most significant times in United States history. These photos showed children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and even great-great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc., in attendance at the Norfolk reunion. These are the successors to the original patriots. In this younger generation exists the legacy and immortality of the Crewmen of the USS Franklin CV-13.

Dr. H. Prentice Baptiste, Jr.

2014 Annual Dues

Become a member in good standing!

Make Check Payable to:
USS Franklin Museum Association
Mail To:
Kenneth Homko, Treasurer
2210 Grey Hawk Drive
Plainfield, IL 60586

Annual Election of Directors

This is our procedure for electing candidates to the Board of Directors.

OCTOBER:
In October, a ballot will be mailed with a listing of the candidates. The ballot will be mailed only to each person who has paid their 2014 annual dues.

NOVEMBER:
The ballot will be identified as such and the mailing address will be listed with the election date to be November 22, 2014. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.

Please send information on the death of a crew member to:
Ms. Louise Mast 11217 Terra Vista Parkway Unit F Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-7453