



## USS Frank E. Evans Reunion DD 754



*J. C Campbell*

February 28, 1994

Dear Shipmate:

Well, here it is February and the wheels of progress are beginning to turn for our BIG get-together. Tommy Anthony, Ken Adams, Dave Lawless and I met to discuss the 1994 Reunion of the Frank E Evans. As you are aware the majority of the members attending the 93' Reunion voted to hold the next reunion in Las Vegas, Nevada. With that charge as the guideline, Ken Adams volunteered to accept the responsibility of making all of the arrangements for the reunion. After much deliberation, the committee is pleased to report that the Hacienda Hotel and Casino will be our headquarters in Las Vegas. See the enclosed information for making your reservations. As Ken has stated in that information it would be wise to call early and confirm your reservations.

It was brought to my attention during our reunion in Granbury that the presence of our photographer was desired at our reunion in Las Vegas. It looks as if we will be able to swing a room for Mark after he gets there, but we need to come up with a little cash for the air fare. If you would like to help make this possible, when you send in your club fee you can add in a little extra on your check. Then during the treasurer's report at the meeting, we will make it known how much was collected.

As I stated in the above paragraph, it is now time to remit your club fee of \$20.00. This amount should cover all expenses we will have in preparing for the next meeting in Las Vegas and any extra correspondence that we may have. I have been getting letters from people who are interested in the Frank E. Evans and I have tried to respond to their request. Some of those interested were not even in the Navy, but are persons interested in the ship because she was a destroyer.

As a matter of interest, we have some new members who did not make the last reunion, so if anyone recognizes a name on the enclosed list that you may know, give them a call or write a letter and get reacquainted. It sure is nice to see a "shipmate" you've not seen in forty years. It's supprising, but I met a shipmate from another time period who was living about three (3) miles from my home in Granbury. He read about the reunion we were having in the local newspaper and gave me a call and did in fact get to attend the reunion. It really is a small world.

I am working with Julie Bailey of President Travel in Dallas to get our air line tickets to Las Vegas. She is trying to get a group rate and would purchase your tickets in Dallas and send them to you by mail. If you are interested you can call Julie using her 800 number. 1-800-242-6571 Just give her a call and see what she has to offer.

Again, it's club fee time and if you want to add a little extra for Mark's air fare it would make it easier on everyone.

We had a video made at our 2nd Annual Reunion held here in Granbury this past October. There were lots of tales told on camera by some of the attendees. If you would be interested in receiving one please contact Rash Video Productions, 419 West Bridge St., Granbury, Texas 76048, or phone 817-579-1500.

For those of you who are interested, Nick sent me a copy of a letter from Geoff Vickridge, Lieutenant Commander RANR, who was one of the crew of the S2-E Tracker who was to take up the position of Res Des in the early hours of 3 June 1969. The then Lt. Vickridge, upon collision inflated his Mae West and threw it to a survivor in the water who was between the 2 ships when the stern section of the EVANS was drifting down MELBOURNE'S Starboard side. He is interested in finding out if the sailor survived and who he was. The sailor would be interested in knowing that in 1972 the RAN (Royal Australian Navy) was seriously considering court martialling him for having lost the Mae West over the side and not having its loss recorded in the ship's log! The HMAS Melbourne - USS Frank E. Evans Memorial Service will be held in Canberra, Australia, June 3 1994 marking the 25th anniversary of the collision. Those interested can contact Mr. Geoff Vickridge at the following address:

Mr. Geoff Vickridge  
MILDENHALL Barristers & Solicitors  
10 Thelma Street  
West Perth, Western Australia 6005  
Tel(09) 481 3338 FAX (09) 481 3353

Sincerely,

  
J.C. Campbell