

MAR 6 1990

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USS ZELLARS (DD777)

USS ZELLARS ASSOCIATION
3321 St. James Place
Falls Church, VA 22042
(Tel: 703/573-5973)

5 March 1990

Greetings,

Time again for the Annual Letter to the membership. I've taken over as Secretary/Treasurer from Duane Warner since the Reunion last year. His is a tough act to follow, especially since he designed the membership system and operated it so well and for so long.

Enclosed you will find the following items:

- o A directory of known shipmates
- o A 1990 membership card in the USS ZELLARS Association
- o A bumper sticker for use in trolling for shipmates as yet unlocated.

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SPECIAL NOTE

Your 1990 membership card is enclosed in advance. It is requested that you send in a check for \$15.00 for 1990 dues, payable to USS ZELLARS Association (address is USS ZELLARS Assn., 3321 St. James Place, Falls Church, VA 22042). Jimmie Bilyeu was first out of the gate this year, having sent his dues in advance of receiving the annual request.

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NAMESAKE Thomas E. Zellars, Lt. U.S.N.
DESTROYER CLASS Allen M. Sumner
KEEL LAID December 24, 1943 Todd Pacific
Shipyard Seattle, Washington
LAUNCHED July 18, 1944
COMMISSIONED October 25, 1944
DECOMMISSIONED March 19, 1971
SOLD TO IRAN October 12, 1973

DISPLACEMENT 2200 Tons
LENGTH 376'8"
WIDTHS (Beam) 40'10"
DRAFT 15'8"
SPEED (Knots) 34.2
COMPLEMENT 345
Officers & Enlisted Men

BATTLE STARS 1 World War II
4 Korean War
ARMAMENT 6-5"/38 Cal.
12-40mm.
11-20 mm.
10-21" Torpedoes
6-"K" Guns & 2 Roll Racks
(Depth Charges)

1990 Reunion

Chuck Farnsley has completed the plans and arrangements for the 1990 Reunion in Indianapolis from September 21-24. You should have received the announcement and program from him by now. If the mail has gone astray, or you've moved, or aren't on the mailing list, or whatever, you came get in touch with Chuck at

Chuck and his wife Janet deserve the thanks of us all in the Association for their time and effort in providing a gala reunion that will be at least a match for all the preceding gatherings. In January the Association treasury sent the customary advance of \$500.00 to Chuck as seed money to get started on arrangements.

1989 Reunion

Congratulations are in order to Tom Ward and his crew for the outstanding job in hosting the Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia last September. The activities, arrangements and festivities were much enjoyed and smoothly run---so obviously a great deal of hard work and good planning went on in advance and behind the scenes to provide a memorable event.

The following members, wives, relatives and friends were on hand in Norfolk, including a substantial showing of Plank Owners:

Edwin B. Anderson and wife Vivian
John P. Arneson
Leonard A. Bell and wife Charlotte
Wilfred Bennett
Jimmie M. Bilyeu and wife Anna Mae
Keith W. Bird, wife Alma and son Keith, Jr.
Nick Bisconti and wife Violet
Curtis W. Chittenden and wife Catherine
Raymond L. Clark and wife Wilma and also
friends Fred Detschel and wife Kathy
Robert Danko and wife Rosalie
Bud Dodd and wife Edith
Robert L. Eaton and wife Phyllis
Charles Farnsley and wife Janet
Wayne A. Fliegel, Sr. and wife Dorothy
Leland D. Franklin and wife Betty
William H. Gatts and wife Helen
Paul H. Gowen
Joe F. Halloran
Richard M. Hayes and wife Doloris
Richard L. Heath and wife Louise
Terry M. Herban and wife Joanne
L. Manuel Hirschblond and wife Janet
Robert E. Hodge and wife Dee
Jack Hottle and wife Rachel
Darold Jorgenson and wife Dorothy
Jessie L. Keller and wife Marion

A. F. Kennedy and wife Laura
 Kenneth M. Kent and wife Margie
 Charles E. Kohlhaus and wife Lee
 Kendall H. Kraus and wife Rita
 Marion Krawczyk and wife Catherine plus three sisters
 (whose names we missed)
 Gene Moore and wife Bev
 Jerry F. Patterson and Elaine
 Ralph C. Patterson and wife Sally
 Phillip E. Payne and wife Marie
 Verlyn H. Peterson
 B. J. Reynolds and wife Gloria
 Bartlett H. Rhodes
 Dale K. Rice and wife Kay
 E. D. Ring and wife Pat
 Albert T. Rivera
 James Robinson and brother Hugh
 Robert Rusbult and wife Virginia
 Herman Schaeffer and wife Phyllis
 James R. Schultz and wife Janet
 James F. Shores and wife Shirley
 Lester Sinton and wife Nancy
 Douglas Smith and wife Barbi
 Basil L. Stearns and wife Carolyn
 John W. Stone and wife Lois
 Raymond Strickler and wife Velma
 Russell Sturgis
 Chancey L. Summers and son Kenneth
 Robert J. Sutton and wife Mildred
 Melvin E. Thomas
 W. C. Thompson and wife Mildred
 Stanley J. Ulku and wife Julia
 Fred Von Hinken, Sr. and wife Beverly
 William Von Husen, Jr.
 Howard D. Walters and wife Carol
 Thomas V. Ward and wife Pat
 Duane E. Warner
 Preston K. Watson and wife Leah
 Leonard Westnedge

If your name is missing from the party list above, I'll buy you a drink in Indianapolis(provided that you really were at the Reunion in Norfolk!).

We toured the Naval Base in Norfolk(remember the old NOB and Convoy Escort Piers?)by bus and visited aboard a frigate alongside. A bus trip to Colonial Williamsburg was also on the schedule with great guides along to narrate. The hotel provided an evening bus trip down to the Norfolk waterfront, now changed into a flashy set of restaurants and shops. The old East Main Street, which used to be out-of-bounds so much of the time in the old days, is now quite respectable(there once was a bar there called "The Sailor's Grave").

The group also visited the memorial to General MacArthur in downtown Norfolk. The memorial is located in the former Courthouse which has been converted for this purpose. A solemn memorial service was conducted in the rotunda in honor of shipmates killed in action and others who have passed on. It was a moving ceremony as the Association paid solemn tribute to our lost shipmates.

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1989 Business Meeting

The annual election of the USS ZELLARS(DD-777) Association was held during the Reunion and the following members were elected to one year terms during 1989/90:

OFFICERS

Thomas V. Ward	President
Bob Eaton	Vice President
A. F. Kennedy	Secretary/Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bud Franklin	Howie Walters
Fred Von Hinken	Duane Warner
William Von Husen, Jr.	

Duane Warner(1989 Secretary/Treasurer) reported the results of legal consultation to the effect that no practical advantage would accrue to the Association from incorporation. The membership thereupon approved a motion that the Association remain in its present unincorporated form.

Other Motions:

- o Membership approved the acquisition of 2,000 bumper stickers for mailing.
- o Membership approved the reimbursement of Duane Warner for a machine to be used to prepare name tags for future reunions.

Other Significant Business:

- o Encouraged association members to send in information cards if not already submitted.
- o Discussed the acquisition of a word processor but deferred any action until a real need could be demonstrated.

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We welcome aboard our newly-found shipmates and hope this letter finds them and their families happy, healthy and prosperous.

Some background might be useful to new and prospective members. Marion Krawczyk started us off by organizing and putting on our first reunion, in Baltimore, Maryland in 1985. As such he is our Founding Member and we are grateful to him on a continuing basis for his initiative. Duane Warner hosted the second annual reunion during 1986 in Houston, Texas. Carrying on the by now established tradition, John Walsh put on Reunion #3 during 1987 in Chicago, Illinois. Harold Buck, Bob Eaton and Cecil Hill joined together to host the 1988 Reunion(#4) in Portland, Oregon. And last year Tom Ward, our current President, staged Reunion #5 in Norfolk, Virginia.

Since Day One of the Association, we have been looking for former shipmates, all ranks and rates, snipes, stew burners, gunners, bridge gang, deck force, CIC, all of them. If they sailed in ZELLARS ever, we're looking for them. Every year we advertise our reunion in all Navy and related military magazines and papers(Navy Times, All Hands, American Legion, VFW, DAV, Shift Colors, etc.). But if a former crew member doesn't get any of these publications, he has no way of knowing that the Association exists. Hundreds of former ZELLARS crew members are out there, all unaware that we are searching for them. If you know of any of these former shipmates, do please send me their names and addresses. It will make for bigger and better reunions in the future as the old brightwork is shined with nostalgia.

Some of our new members will find a General Information post card enclosed herein. This stamped and self-addressed card will be used to update our directory. Please take a minute, fill it out and drop it in the mail. You'd be surprised at how interested old shipmates are in renewing old acquaintances. And you can be assured that your name and address won't be sold to a mailing list company.


Also, if the enclosed roster has incorrect or incomplete information, please contact me and I'll send you another General Information post card.

MISSING ADDRESSES. We have lost touch with Mel Atkins, James Emmons, Gib Frahm, Jack Hottle and M. C. Morse. If any of you know their current addresses, please send them in to me.

TAPS. We have received the sad news that Leland Lewis passed away on 14 November 1988. Condolences can be sent to his widow, Mrs. Frances Lewis, whose new address is in the Directory.

That's all for now. Tom Ward, Bob Eaton, Chuck Farnsley, all the members of the Board and myself look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis in September at the even bigger and better Reunion #6.

All the best,

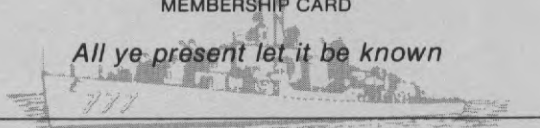

A. F. Kennedy
Secretary/Treasurer

P.S. The attached directory gives addresses and phone numbers of shipmates, and, when known, dates served aboard, rank/rate in ZELLARS, division assignment, wife's name, Reunions attended[e.g., (1,2,5)], and identifies Plank Owners(P).

**USS ZELLARS (DD777)
ASSOCIATION**

MEMBERSHIP CARD

All ye present let it be known



*served his country in war and peace,
and is a member of this association*

1990

U.S.S. ZELLARS (DD777)

REUNION ASSN.

(703) 573-5973

