



USS Canberra

Prora et puppis pro Canberra

CA-70 / CAG-2

Members of the Crew



Volume 25-1

USS Canberra Reunion Association

Spring 2014

Ken Minick - PO Box 130 Belpre, OH 45714 Ph: 740-423-8976

Website: www.usscanberra.com

e-mail: usscanberra@gmail.com

PLEASE READ FIRST

2014 USS CANBERRA Reunion Information
Norfolk/VA. Beach, VA 8-12 October 2014

Reunion Dates: Our Reunion dates are Wednesday, October 8th through Sunday, October 12th.

The cutoff for all reservations is September 5, 2014.

We're sorry, but we cannot have any cushion to accommodate procrastinators.

The Hotel Contract and our Contract with Armed Forces Reunions both state that reservations must be in their hands by Friday, September 5th to be able to guarantee your spot.

As in the past, tour reservations may be limited to a first come, first served basis. Please remember, we have a liberal cancellation policy. So take part in as many or as few of our tours as you want, but reserve early and cancel out at a later date if you find you cannot make the reunion.

Membership Dues Are Now Due For 2014

Are Your Dues Paid???

If not, Please mail your dues of \$25 for this year to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd

Attn: Ron Nullet

P.O. Box 614

Centereach, NY 11720-0614

Lifetime Dues Are Still Available

You can also pay your dues with a life membership.

The amounts are:

Age 60-70 = \$275

Age 71-80 = \$210

Age 81 + = \$140

USS Canberra Wearables Jackets, Shirts, etc

We still have CAG-2 jackets, chambray shirts and golf shirts available.

The golf shirts and coaches jackets are only available in blue.

CAG-2/CA-70 shirts are available for shipmates who were aboard during the last few years of the Canberra's commissioning.

Jackets are \$100 - Golf shirts are \$28 - Chambray shirts are \$33.

All of the prices include shipping.

Contact Ron Nullet (PO Box 614; Centereach, NY 11720-0614 **or** ronsteam@optonline.net **or** phone 631-736-3444) if you are interested in these items.

*****ATTENTION PLEASE*****

Please send your dues to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd;

P.O. Box 614; Centereach, NY 11720-0614;

Attn; Ron Nullet. Also, please make all checks out to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd.

Send other correspondence or letters to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd;

P.O. Box 130; Belpre, OH 45714; Attn: Ken Minick

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Agent Orange Update for Sept 1968 to Jan 1969 WestPac Cruise

This message was received from shipmate Bob Wiltse on January 29, 2014. Bob was a BM-3 in 3rd Division.

My name is Bob Wiltse. I served aboard the U.S.S. Canberra CAG-2 (CA-70) from September, 1968 thru February, 1970. I was a crewmember for the '68 WestPac cruise to the gun line off the coast of Vietnam. The U.S.S. Canberra departed San Diego, CA on September 5, 1968 for Naval Support Combat duty from Hoi An, South Vietnam to Hon Mott and Haiphong, North Vietnam.

Over the past 5 - 6 years I have consistently and diligently fought the hard fight with the VA over my Prostate Cancer claim and now have been granted "Military Service Connection for Prostate Cancer and ED" as I was able to prove through a lot of hard work and validate to the VA that the Canberra did indeed enter Vietnam's Inland Waterways at Longitude - (16*- 54.2'N by Latitude - 107* - 11.0'E) on Dec 10th, 1968 for an H & I (8" - .55 Cal) Fire Support mission on a VC occupied area for the 3rd U.S. Marines just north of Cua Viet, South Vietnam along the "Song Thach Hai River".

VA DRO's 12/23/2013 Decision

"Based on the Deck Logs from the U.S.S. Canberra from December 10, 1968 that listed that the ship was at 16°-54.2'N by 107°-11.0'E. The latitude and longitude coordinates puts the ship on The Vietnam inland waterways. Therefore exposure to Agent Orange has been conceded."

It is my intention today to provide to all of you that served on the U.S.S. Canberra CAG-2 (CA-70) for that '68 tour of duty on the gun line off the coast of Vietnam from September 5, 1968 thru January 6, 1969, the assistance you require and only the evidence that you will need to connect the dots for the VA and successfully bring your claim for any of the diseases from the "Presumptive List" to closure.

I have prepared in a PDF format the necessary documents to immediately begin to assist those crew members of the 1,122 that were onboard on that date and are still alive or their spouses, if the Veteran has passed away. I submitted this evidence to the VA.GOV A/O Orange Ships list on 1/10/2014 and on 1/28/2014, the U.S.S. Canberra CAG-2 (CA-70) was "Officially" added and recognized - to the Agent Orange Ships list for the date of December 10th, 1968.

Here is the VA.GOV website that posts the Ships that the VA recognizes that you will need and their following response:

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/conditions/index.asp>

Re: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Submission of Evidence - U.S.S. Canberra CA-70 - 12/10/1968 - Add to the A/O Ships List

Mr. Wiltse,

I have added the December 10, 1968, date to the other dates for the USS Canberra (CAG-2). This is based on evidence that "latitude 16 - longitude 107" is in the vicinity of the Cua Viet River, South of Da Nang, as well as your deck logs showing that the ship encountered a US Army river dredge on that date. Additionally, I previously received the ship's 1968 Command History, showing the ship provided medical assistance on December 9, 1968, to a LCM (Landing Craft, Mechanized), which was a small vessel generally used on the inland rivers. The weight of this evidence indicates inland waterway activity and is sufficient to add the new date.

USS Canberra (CAG-2) [Guided Missile Cruiser] operated on Saigon River from March 31 through April 1, 1966, on Mekong Delta Ham Luong River during January 15, 1967, and on Cua Viet River (Song Thach Han) during December 10, 1968.

Canberra (CAG-2)	Operated on Saigon River from March 31 through April 1, 1966, on Mekong Delta Ham Luong River during January 15, 1967, and on Cua Viet River (Song Thach Han) during December 10, 1968
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If you have a pending claim for "any" disease or health issue that is currently on the "PRESUMPTIVE LIST" the addition of the U.S.S. Canberra CAG-2 (CA-70) to that list for the date of 12/10/1968 will now prove Military Service Connection to Agent Orange due to the Canberra did indeed enter an "Inland Waterway" on 12/10/1968.

If you have yet to file a claim for any of the Agent Orange "Presumptive List" diseases or health issues because it has been such an enormous task and process nightmare to get through with the VA, contact Ken Minick and he will forward your contact info to me and I will do everything I can based on my personal experience with the correct documents in hand to get you through the process.....successfully!

This evidence is now conclusive and validated by the VA.

Thank you for your service to this nation and remember to always help a fellow Veteran!

Bob Wiltse

Vietnam Veterans of America

Minnesota State Council

Legislative Committee Chairman

For - H.R. 543 - The Blue Water Navy Veterans Act of 2013

The Supreme Commander

Following are names of **USS Canberra Shipmates** that have met the Supreme Commander.

Shipmate	Ship	Div.	Aboard	Died
Applefeld, Leon	CAG-2	X		1997
Burnett, Joseph A., Jr.	CAG-2			2007
Charest, Edward W.	CAG-2	OR	56-58	2013
Davis, Raymond E.	CAG-2	OE	64-67	2013
Ellis, Everett T.	CAG-2	H	66-68	2013
Hampton, Estel G.	CA-70	5th	43-46	2013
Kastens, Floyd E.	CAG-2	FM	59-61	2013
King, Martin L., Jr.	CA-70	F	43-45	2014
Kolb, Joseph A.	CAG-2	8th		2001
Korey, George S.	CA-70	5th	43-45	2014
Krausman, Kenneth A.	CAG-2	OR	59-61	2014
Lawrie, William F.	CAG-2		62-65	2008
Lytle, James R.	CAG-2		66-68	2014
Moriarty, Kevin	CAG-2			2014
Olson, John R.	CAG-2	4th	56-58	1998
Perschonok, Tedd	CAG-2		67-69	2013
Prater, Paul M. II	CAG-2	FG	68-70	1993
Preston, Robert N.	CAG-2	OI	58-62	2012
Rapose, John B.	CA-70	X	44-46	2012
Wildey, Leon L.	CAG-2	X	60-62	2013
Young, Clifton	CAG-2	E	61-63	2010

U.S.S. CANBERRA & FRIDAY the 13th

George Shane Korey, author of the poem U.S.S. Canberra & Friday the 13th, which can be found on our web site, passed away peacefully in his sleep at the age of 91 on Jan. 13, 2014. George's poem was also placed on a plaque and dedicated at the National Museum of the Pacific War/Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas during our 2005 reunion in San Antonio, TX.



George Shane Korey
7-12-1923 to 1-13-2014
CA-70 5th Division
11-21-1943 to 3-21-1945

CA-70 USS Canberra CAG-2 Reunion Association

Annual Reunion 8-12 October 2014

Holiday Inn Virginia Beach - Norfolk
Hotel and Conference Center

Virginia Beach – Norfolk, VA

HOLIDAY INN VIRGINIA BEACH-NORFOLK HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA
(757) 499-4400
www.hivabeachnorfolk.com

Location

5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462
 Conveniently located just 5 miles from the Virginia Beach Oceanfront and downtown Norfolk

Reservation Information

Call the number above and reference the USS Canberra Reunion or please go to:
www.afr-reg.com/canberra2014 and click on hotel reservation link at top of page.

Group Name: USS Canberra Reunion Association

Reunion Dates: October 8-12, 2014

Rate: \$94 + tax (currently 14% + \$1.00 per night, per room). Group rate is available 3 days before and 3 days after reunion dates, based on availability. Rate includes breakfast for two each morning.

Cut off Date: 09/5/14. Late reservations will be taken on a space available basis

Cancellation Policy: Attendees must cancel their reservation before 6:00 pm on the day of arrival, or there will be one night stay plus tax that will be charged to your credit card. Failing to call or show before checkout time after the first night of reservation will result in cancellation of the remainder of the reservation.

Parking & Shuttle Information

The Holiday Inn offers complimentary airport shuttle to and from the Norfolk International Airport (ORF). Upon arrival at the airport proceed to baggage claim and there is a courtesy phone which you can use to contact the hotel for transportation. Complimentary parking is also offered to all attendees.

Wheelchair Rental

ScoutAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Call (888) 441-7575 for details.

Saturday Night Banquet Dinner

Rolls/Butter

Organic Mixed Greens Festive Salad

Hot Entrees

Italian Style Egg Plant Parmesan **\$36**

Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon **\$36**

Sliced Sirloin of Beef Oven Roasted **\$36**

Chef's Special Chicken Boursin **\$36**

Chef's Selection of Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Appropriate to the Entrée Selection

Dessert

Chef's Selection of Dessert

Coffee and Tea Service

Kid's Meal (11 and under) Chicken Tenders, etc. **\$15**

Friday Buffet Dinner

House Tossed Salad - Pasta Salad

Dinner Rolls/Butter

Hot Entrees

Grilled Chicken Breast with Lemon Butter

Sliced Sirloin of Beef with Cognac Sauce

Desserts

Chef's Selection of Desserts

Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea,

Decaffeinated Coffee

will be served with dinner

Total Price, Including Tax and Gratuity **\$36**

Children 11 and Under **\$15**

USS CANBERRA REUNION ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 8-12, 2014

Holiday Inn Virginia Beach - Norfolk Hotel and Conference Center

Wednesday, October 8

Noon - 10:00 pm* Hospitality Room open
 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm **Reunion Registration Open**

Thursday, October 9

8:00 am - 10:00 pm* Hospitality Room Open
 9:00 am - 9:30 am **Reunion Registration Open**
 10:15 am - 4:15 pm **Navy Base / Nauticus** (description follows)
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm **Reunion Registration Open**
 6:30 pm - 9:15 pm **Rockafeller's Seafood Restaurant** (description follows)

Friday, October 10

8:00 am - 10:00 pm* Hospitality Room open
 9:00 am - 9:30 am **Reunion Registration Open.** Additional hours will be posted at the reunion if necessary.
 10:00 am - 3:30 pm **Virginia Marine Science Museum-Aquarium** (description follows)
 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm Cash Bar
 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm Buffet - Dancing (50/50 Drawing)

Saturday, October 11

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Hospitality Room open
 8:30 am - 9:30 am Business Meeting
 9:45 am - 2:30 pm **MacArthur Memorial / Spirit of Norfolk** (description follows)
 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm Cash Bar
 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm Banquet Dinner followed by Dancing (Raffle Table Drawing)

Sunday, October 12

Farewells and Departures until 2015

***Although the Hospitality Room is scheduled to close at 10:00 pm on Wednesday thru Friday, the hours will be extended if enough people are using it at that time.**

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds are processed 4-6 weeks after the reunion. **Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.**

***Register online and pay by credit card at
www.afr-reg.com/canberra2014***

******All tour descriptions are on Page 6******

USS CANBERRA REUNION ASSOCIATION

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

NAVY BASE / NAUTICUS

Tour the Norfolk Naval Base, the world's largest naval facility. Pick up your guide at the Visitor Center and continue on a driving tour of Admiral's Row, the Naval Air Station, and the piers. Enjoy a buffet lunch at one of the Clubs on base, featuring a salad bar and hot entree. After lunch, head downtown to Nauticus, an exciting 120,000 square-foot science and technology center that explores the power of the sea with interactive and educational exhibits. On the second deck of Nauticus is the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, which features a large collection of naval artwork, ship models and underwater artifacts. Also part of Nauticus is the USS Wisconsin. The Wisconsin is one of the largest and last battleships to be built by the U.S. Navy. Note: If for any reason the Naval Base is closed to the public (ie: security issues), the tour length will be shortened, but refunds can't be issued. Due to heightened security, participants may be searched and a **photo ID is required**.

10:15 am board bus, 4:15 pm back at hotel

\$58/Person includes bus, escort, lunch and admission.

ROCKAFELLER'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Since 1989, Rockafeller's Restaurant has been one of Virginia Beach's favorite dining landmarks - well loved by locals and tourists alike for its casual elegance and simply fresh local fare. Year after year, customers flock from near and far to relax in rocking chairs on their covered decks, for a taste of Rockafeller's legendary cuisine, and to enjoy their beach cottage lifestyle on Rudee Inlet. Choose from Fried Flounder, Grilled Salmon, Fried Shrimp, Sirloin Steak, Chicken Parmigiana, Grilled Tuna, Rockafeller's Chicken or Kobe Beef Cheeseburger; all served with a Caesar Salad and your choice of Keylime Pie or Chocolate Mousse for dessert!

6:30 pm board bus, 9:15 pm back at hotel

\$60/Person includes bus, escort and dinner.

VIRGINIA MARINE SCIENCE MUSEUM / VIRGINIA AQUARIUM

Spend the day at the Virginia Aquarium. Upon arrival, enjoy nearly 100 participatory exhibits, including a weather room where you can create waves or start a storm. Hands-on exhibits include a touch tank where you can hold a sea star, see a hermit crab's home, or pet a horseshoe crab. This museum recently tripled in size, adding over 500,000 gallons of aquariums. New exhibits include the Norfolk Canyon Aquarium, featuring sharks and other large ocean dwellers, a 70,000-gallon sea turtle aquarium, a river otter habitat, and an outdoor aviary. Watch the resident decoy carver practice his craft, or walk a boardwalk through a salt marsh. For a nominal fee enjoy an IMAX presentation. This spectacular facility wraps you in a hyper sensory experience while you view the multi-story screen. Through special technology, IMAX gives you the feeling of being in the picture, so you can experience every scene, every motion with eye-opening clarity. Lunch on your own in the Osprey Café, which offers a variety of soups, salads, and sandwiches, along with daily specials.

10:00 am board bus, 3:30 pm back at the hotel

\$52/Person includes bus, escort and admission.

Lunch and IMAX on your own.

MACARTHUR MEMORIAL / SPIRIT OF NORFOLK

Downtown Norfolk is home to the MacArthur Memorial, the final resting place of the late General and eleven-gallery museum. Visit the gift shop and see a film summarizing the General's life and achievements. Next stop is the Spirit of Norfolk, the premiere cruise boat on Norfolk's waterfront. The harbor lunch cruise with live entertainment features the sights of Hampton Roads harbor and the mighty ships at the Norfolk Naval Station. Enjoy a wonderful buffet while the captain narrates.

9:45 am board bus, 2:30 pm back at hotel

\$82/Person includes bus, escort and lunch cruise.

Driver and Escort gratuities are included in the tour prices.

Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least ten minutes prior to the scheduled time.

Unless otherwise noted, all tours require a minimum of thirty five people.

USS CANBERRA ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to *ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.* in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/canberra2014 (3% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2014**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. **Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.**

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
322 Madison Mews .
Norfolk, VA 23510
ATTN: USS CANBERRA

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Name Tag Completed _____

CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/5/14	Price	# of People	Total
<i>Please see Newsletter for description of Tours & Meals</i>			
<u>TOURS</u>			
THURSDAY: Navy Base - Nauticus	\$58		\$
THURSDAY: Dinner at Rockefeller's Seafood Restaurant	\$60		\$
FRIDAY: Virginia Aquarium	\$52		\$
SATURDAY: MacArthur Memorial - Spirit of Norfolk	\$82		\$
<u>HOTEL MEALS</u>			
FRIDAY: BUFFET DINNER — Adult	\$36		\$
FRIDAY: BUFFET DINNER — Child (11 and under)	\$15		\$
SATURDAY: BANQUET <i>(Please select your entrée)</i>			
Sliced Sirloin of Beef Oven Roasted	\$36		\$
Chef's Special Chicken Boursin	\$36		\$
Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon	\$36		\$
Eggplant Parmesan	\$36		\$
Children's (11 and under) Plate — Chicken Tenders	\$15		\$
<u>MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEES</u>			
(Includes Hospitality Room and Administrative Expenses)			
CANBERRA REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON (Required)	\$15		\$
ARMED FORCES REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON (Required)	\$ 7		\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAMES AS YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAGS

FIRST _____ LAST _____

SHIP #: CA-70 CAG-2 Division Assigned _____ YEAR DATES ABOARD: FROM: ___/___/___ TO: ___/___/___

CHECK HERE IF THIS IS YOUR 1st USS CANBERRA REUNION? YES E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please list First and Last Names of Spouse and all Guests (excluding yourself) so that we can make their Name Tags.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER (____) ____- _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER (____) ____- _____

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES NO ARE YOU FLYING? DRIVING? RV?

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-4:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays)**. Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

Register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/canberra2014