



USS Canberra

Prora et puppis pro Canberra

CA-70 / CAG-2

Members of the Crew



Volume 35-2

USS Canberra Reunion Association

Fall 2024

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Association Status Meet Your New President

We now have someone that stepped up and offered to assume the duties of running our Reunion Association. He is Cecil Kersh of Kenner, LA. He was aboard the CAG-2 in R Division from 1959 to 60.

My name is Cecil Kersh, I'm from the state of Louisiana and have lived in Kenner for the past 35 years with my wife Shawnetta. Kenner is about 15 minutes from downtown New Orleans. We have two adult children and two adult grandsons. I am a retired professional photographer, but my wife still works occasionally in home health.

I am very proud to have been selected as President of the USS Canberra Reunion Association. I will do my best to make the Association even more great and prosperous. I can't wait to meet all of you in person.

I joined the Navy in 1957 and served in Hutchinson, KS and Corpus Christi, TX. I was then transferred to the great ship USS Canberra in 1958 and remained aboard until my enlistment was up in 1961. I then joined the Navy CBs until 1977. In 1977 I went to work for Kaiser Aluminum until they went out of business.

I then opened my own Photography Studio and ran it until I retired in 2005. I then joined the Professional Photographers of Louisiana and served for 4 years, where I was elected to the position of President. I have been involved in several other organizations since then.

After I retired, my wife and I have been cruising a lot. We love that mode of travel. This September we will be going to Europe for 10 days.

One very important thing I want to talk about is our Reunion. We need to start thinking of where and when to hold it in 2025. We don't have much time to think about it, it needs done ASAP. So if any of you know of a good place to hold the reunion, please get in touch with me.

I don't have a USS Canberra email site yet, but I will soon. If you need to get in touch with me call my cell phone: 504-289-2425.

I am planning on having a reunion like you have never seen before. I have a lot of new things planned, with a lot of fun for everyone. I will make the reunions grow, but one thing I will ask of all of you **is your help!**

Remember, an organization is only as good as its members want it to be. Work hard, have fun.

New Association Officers

The Association needs people to fill the offices of Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Master at Arms.

The description and duties of these officers are on page 2.

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Description and Duties

Vice President

The Vice-President shall perform such duties as specified by the President. He shall perform all the duties of the President during his absence or disability and shall exercise and perform such other powers and duties as may properly belong to his office or as may be assigned to him by the by-laws or the Board of Directors from time to time.

Secretary/Treasurer

The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Association and the Directors and shall keep a true and complete record of the proceedings of such meetings in a book to be kept for this purpose.

The Secretary/Treasurer shall have custody of the records and papers of the Association and is responsible for the funds of the Association. The Secretary/Treasurer shall exercise and perform such other powers and duties as may properly belong to the office or as may be assigned to by the By-Laws or the Board of Directors from time to time.

The Secretary/Treasurer may be required by the Board of Directors to give bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such sureties as the Board of Directors may require. The President with the approval of the Board of Directors may appoint an Assistant Secretary/Treasurer to serve under the Secretary/Treasurer.

The Assistant Secretary/Treasurer may also be required to give bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such sureties as the Board of Directors may require.

Master at Arms

The Master-at-Arms shall be responsible for maintaining good order and decorum at all Association meetings.

Reunion Suggestions

If you have a suggestion for a good place to hold the 2025 Reunion that many people would enjoy and be able to easily get to, please get your ideas to our President, Cecil Kersh.

The selection of the site will have to be made soon, so that the hotel accommodations, tours, banquet meals, etc... can all be arranged.

Cecil looks forward to receiving your input.

Cecil's address, phone # and email address are in the letterhead of the newsletter on page 1.

*******PLEASE READ*******

Dues

Membership dues in the amount of \$25 are now due for 2025 (1 Jan. through 31 Dec.).

Our acting Secretary/Treasurer is having medical problems at this time and she has asked Shipmate Minick to fill in for her for now.

Please mail your dues to:
USS Canberra Reunion Association
c/o Ken Minick
2115 Pride Ave
Belpre, OH 45714

Please make your check out to:

USS Canberra Reunion Association, Ltd.

We did not accept 2024 dues due to the unknown status of the Association.

A Note from the President

Please help out the Association and step up and do this one thing that I am asking of you as a shipmate and as your President: Please help out our Association and step up and fill these opening of the Association offices.

We need your help if we are going to make this Association even greater and more prosperous. I know that each and every one of you loves the USS Canberra as much as I do, so to keep the memory of the ship going we must all work at it.

Cecil K

The Supreme Commander

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

<u>Shipmate</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>Aboard</u>	<u>Died</u>
Stotts, Donald B.	G2/70	Bosn	1968-69	2019
Carey, Edward W.	G2/70	E	1966-69	2021
Cram, James F.	CAG-2			2021
Christensen, Charles L.	CAG-2	1 st	1962-63	2023
Porter, Eugene M., Jr.	CAG-2	B	1960-61	2023
Baldwin, Joseph A.	CAG-2	A	1959-60	2024
Becherer, Thomas P.	CAG-2	X	1958-59	2024
Bevilacqua, Robert F.	CAG-2		1957-59	2024
Bigbee, William E.	CA-70	A	1968-70	2024
Burdick, James E.	CAG-2	7 th	1959-61	2024
Carr, Louis E.	CAG-2	2 nd	1963-65	2024
Chamberlin, Raymond G.	CAG-2			2024
Debbs, Patrick H., Sr.	CAG-2	6 th	1966-68	2024
Dyke, Robert L.	CAG-2	R	1962-63	2024
Feezel, Lawrence G.	CAG-2	B	1958-62	2024
Heggy, Robert L.	CAG-2			2024
Higgs, Joseph A., Jr.	CAG-2	OS	1961-63	2024
Janssen, Myron L.	CAG-2	8 th	1958-59	2024
Jensen, Ronald W.	CA-70	A	1969-70	2024
Lamb, Stephen D., Sr.	G2/70	B	1967-69	2024
Mabery, Clyde C.	CAG-2	5 th	1958-60	2024
McMahon, John E.	CAG-2	S-2	1963-66	2024
McMahon, William A.	CAG-2	7 th	1956-58	2024
Nash, Fred H.	CAG-2		1960-61	2024
O'Malley, John E.	CAG-2	9 th	1966-68	2024
Parfitt, Noble L.	CAG-2	E	1956-58	2024
Patton, Winston A.	CAG-2	Gunn	1960-64	2024
Rignani, John V.	CAG-2	7 th	1956-57	2024
Thomas, Sammy P.	CAG-2	S-2	1963-66	2024
Turner, Tommy A.	G2/70	Bosn	1968-70	2024
Walton, Frank B.	CAG-2	OI	1964-67	2024

***** Associate Memberships *****

Now that the USS Canberra Reunion Associations is continuing, we will no longer be working on obtaining Associate Memberships in the USS Boston or USS Saint Paul Associations for our members. We Had less than 20 of our members reply about the Associate Memberships. Some for the Boston, some for the Saint Paul, some for either and a few that said they did not want an Associate Membership in either one.