



USS Canberra

Prora et puppis pro Canberra

CA-70 / CAG-2

Members of the Crew



Volume 36-3

USS Canberra Reunion Association

Fall 2025

Cecil Kersh - 612 Lancer Lane - Kenner, LA 70065 - Ph: 504-289-2425

Website: www.usscanberra.com

e-mail: kersh444@yahoo.com

Editor: Ken Minick

*******PLEASE READ FIRST*******
2025 USS CANBERRA
Reunion Information
Portland, ME
19-23 October 2025

Reunion Dates: The Reunion is not far off. Our Reunion dates are, Sunday October 19th through , Wednesday October 23rd.

The cutoff for hotel reservations, tours and for Armed Forces Reunions Registrations is Sept. 18, 2025.

The Hotel Contract and our Contract with Armed Forces Reunions both state that reservations must be in their hands by the above listed date 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 of our tours as you want, but reserve early and cancel out at a later date if you find you cannot make the reunion.

Contact Cecil Kersh at the address, phone number or e-mail address listed in the Masthead of the Newsletter for information (events, costs, etc...) about the reunion.

USS Canberra 2025 Reunion Site
BEST WESTERN MERRY MANOR INN

700 Main St., South Portland Maine 04106

Call 207-774-6151 and reference the USS Canberra Reunion.

Contact Cecil Kersh for more info.

For Reunion First Timers

It won't take you long to figure out that the place to be at the reunion is the USS Canberra Hospitality Room.

Mid October is usually a beautiful time in the Portland area where temperatures average about 60 during the day and near 40 at night. You may want to bring along a light/medium jacket.

The daily dress code is casual. It's also casual for our tours. Some of 5926 our tours require some walking, so bring a good pair of walking shoes.

Wednesday night is our more formal banquet dinner. A suit, sport coat and tie or simply a nice shirt and pants are fine, you'll be welcome no matter your attire.

Parking and Shuttle Information

There is plenty of free parking in the hotel's spacious lot. RV's can park at the hotel but they do not provide any electrical or sewer hookups.

The hotel offers free transportation to and from the Portland International Jetport using taxi's.

They reimburse our guests on the way in and prepay for taxi's for the trips back to the Jetport (**gratuity not included**).

On-line Reunion Registration

You can register for our reunion and pay on-line at: <https://www.events.afr-reg.com/e/Canberra25>

Mailable forms are also available at this site.

Contact Cecil for other reunion information.

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The Supreme Commander

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

| <u>Shipmate</u> | <u>Ship</u> | <u>Div</u> | <u>Aboard</u> | <u>Died</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Kramer, William J. | CA-70 | 6 th | 1943-45 | 2020 |
| Corona, Bert C. | CA-70 | 3 rd | 1943-46 | 2025 |
| Couch, David W. | CAG-2 | X | 1966-68 | 2021 |
| Raff, Dwight E. | CAG-2 | 8 th | 1959-60 | 2022 |
| Wagner, Robert F. | CAG-2 | F | 1959-60 | 2024 |
| Barton, Alan N. | G2/70 | OR/CR | 1966-69 | 2025 |
| Fecht, Clarence J. | CAG-2 | OI | 1966-69 | 2025 |
| Rosker, Carl L., Jr. | CAG-2 | 9 th | 1961-63 | 2025 |
| Womacks, William B. | CAG-2 | S-2 | 1962-66 | 2025 |
| Zink, Charles T. | CAG-2 | 7 th /F | 1959-60 | 2025 |

The Presidents Message

Hello to all my shipmates:

As you probably know, this will be our last newsletter before the Reunion.

If you have signed up, thank you very much and if you have not signed up, please do so as soon as possible because we need you at our Reunion to make it a success this year. Our numbers have been very low and we need to get them up and the only way we can do this is for you to show up.

As I have said before, the hotels that we book for the Reunion want numbers, numbers to them means money. For us to get a good deal at these hotels we must have big numbers.

We work very hard to get the best rates and the best location for our membership. We can't do it all on our own we need your help. By that, I mean we need for you to come out and support the Association by signing up for the Reunion.

Just to remind you we have a great line up for the Reunion this year.

Starting Sunday night, we will have a pizza night with a game show: Know Your Ship.

Monday night, we will have a make your own cold cut sandwich with a game show: So you think you are funny.

Tuesday night, we will have chicken wings with a game show: To be announced.

Wednesday night we will have our Banquet Dinner.

I want to thank each of you very much for your support this year.

Cecil

USS CANBERRA (LCS-30) DEPLOYMENT

Without announcement, the Canberra left in March from San Diego with the first LCS mine countermeasures mission package aboard - the long promised collection of systems that will eventually replace 1980s era Avenger MCM ships that have forward deployed to the Persian Gulf and Japan since the 1990s.

"Canberra's arrival in Bahrain signifies our commitment to delivering advanced capabilities to further regional maritime security and maintaining our robust partnership with the Royal Bahrain Naval Force." said the commanding officer of Canberra's Blue Crew, Cmdr Bill Golden.

USS Canberra Reunion Association
c/o Cecil Kersh
612 Lancer Lane
Kenner, LA 70065

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