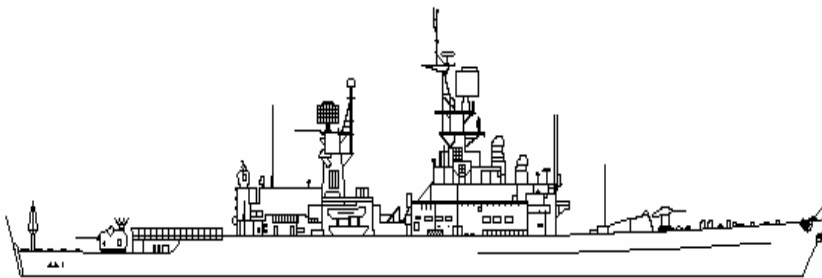


USS Wainwright Veterans Association
114 S. Oakland Ave
Rock Hill SC 29730-4522



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SPRING 2003 NEWSLETTER



THE USS WAINWRIGHT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

WEBSITE: <http://www.usswainwright.org>

Editor: Joe Autovino usswnle@ptdprolog.net

**”ATTENTION ALL HANDS”
“EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - MAY 2003”**

See Page 2 for details.

Executive Board Meeting

**The Executive Board of the U.S.S. Wainwright Veterans Association
will meet on May 16-18 at the Best Western Hotel
located in Springdale, Ohio**

**Reservations can be made by contacting the hotel at (513) 671-6600.
The quoted rate of \$59.00 will be applied to all attendees
who make their reservations under the name of the
USS Wainwright Veterans Association for that weekend.
Reservations at the above rate must be booked NLT April 25, 2003.**

**All members of the USS Wainwright Veterans Association are invited
and encouraged to attend this meeting. The meeting agenda will
have items to be discussed that all members may wish to give input
to.**

**For those who will attend, I ask that you also contact me via postal mail or e-mail
so that any possible booking errors can be avoided.
For more information to make your travel plans easier,
use the following Internet addresses:**

**www.bestwestern.com/prop_36113
Best Western Hotel - Springdale, Ohio
www.fairfield-city.org
City of Fairfield, Ohio
www.springdale.org
City of Springdale, Ohio
www.proaero.com
Commuter Airport**

**In the event there are any questions or comments, please email me.
I look forward to seeing you here in May.**

**Dan Bowman, Secretary
USS Wainwright Veterans Association
5567 Winton Rd.,
Fairfield, OH 45014-3925
DnlBow@aol.com**

The Loss of the U.S.S. Wainwright

The past year brought to a close the existence of a great U.S Naval treasure. With the SINKEX of the U.S.S. Wainwright many are saddened, but we need to be thankful that we have the experiences and memories to share in all the days to come. Admiral George Huchting, one of the many dedicated commanding officers of the U.S.S. Wainwright, during it's time of service (April 1985 to April 1987) to this great nation and supportive of our "SOS" efforts, expresses his feelings in the following words he sent to our ship's historian.

"Like many other things, this is the passing of an era -- which we cannot hold on to, but can only remember and share. My sense of loss is not so much in the ship, as in the dimming of the great experiences which were part of the times we were privileged to serve in USS WAINWRIGHT. It is those experiences and memories -- from throughout my 36 or so years of active service to our country and our Navy -- that are what is important to me. The Shipmates that I am still able to keep in contact with and the people who went on to make good lives for themselves, in part because of their time as Shipmates, are what matters. I also look back at what may have been missed opportunities, particularly where a Shipmate was struggling to succeed, and my particular sense of loss is thus not with the ship herself, but for the shipmates who served in her and did not make it home, or who did not succeed. For me, it has always been about the people, the superstars, the rest of us and most importantly the folks struggling to "get it all together". That is where leadership and the investment of time, throughout the chain of command, had the greatest pay off, and the memories are either the best, or the saddest."

Just a thought.
Best, George

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Shipmate location help is needed from "all hands". Our Roster is a very valuable document and resource in reuniting old friends and keeping our Wainwright Memories alive. It is important that all notify us of changes and any knowledge you have to help locate more shipmates.

Our new Membership Chairman is:

Pete Zieger
615 Twin Tree Road
Salisbury, MD 21801-6721
Phone (410) 341-3766
wainwright@pztech.com

Please send any new, updated information, and address changes to Pete.



Also, a note of hearty thanks and "WELL DONE" to Gene Williams. Gene maintained the Association's Roster for over 10 years. He did an outstanding job and his service to the Association is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

NEWS FROM THE SHIPS STORE

Your Ship's Store is continuing to expand to bring new items to our shipmates. We are looking to offer several new items this year, golf shirts with the ship's crest embroidered on it, various embroidered patches, and a print of the ship. We have found a new artist that is going to create a painting of the ship, so we can have lithographs made from it. They will be the same price as the last one, so watch the web site and future newsletters for further details.

New items offered by the ship's store are:

USS Wainwright Sink -Ex package \$30.00

This package includes the US Navy video of the sink-ex, pictures and letters from HMS Tireless and COMDESGRU 22, a chart of our beloved ship's final resting place, and the famous SOS t-shirt.

We have also purchased video tape equipment for the ship's store. This has enabled us to drop the video prices in half to \$10.00 for the videos we offer.

Those videos are:

- Decommissioning Ceremony
- September 2001 Salvage
- 1988 Persian Gulf Cruise
- February 2002 Salvage

We have also added a new video that was played at the reunion which has a BBC reporter onboard the USS Wainwright showing the ship's capabilities. This was filmed during Capt. Lockee's command.

And don't forget we now have DLG Ball caps!

If you are not connected to the Internet and need an order form please write or call me at the address or number below, and I'll mail you one.

Thanks For Your Support,
Richard Molck, Ship's Storekeeper
501 Douglas Drive
Rock Hill, SC 20730
e-mail: RMolck@RHTC.net
Phone: (803) 324-8225

A reminder to all shipmates:

If you know of the passing of any shipmate from the U.S.S. Wainwright, please notify the association secretary so that we can publish their names and send condolences to their families.

Contact:

Dan Bowman, Secretary
USS Wainwright Veterans Association
5567 Winton Rd., Fairfield, OH 45014-3925
or via e-mail at: DnlBow@aol.com

“A VETERAN”

IN THE YEARS JUST FOLLOWING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, THE CONFLICT OF DEMOCRACY AND COMMUNISM CAME INTO EXISTENCE. SOME OF THE WESTERN WORLD HAD GROWN COMFORTABLE SYSTEMS. OTHER NATIONS WERE STILL BURDENED AS COLONIES, OR WERE DIRECTLY CONTROLLED BY STRONG INDIVIDUALS WITH CORRUPT SYSTEMS TO HOLD THEM IN PLACE. IN THIS WASH THE EBB AND FLOW FOR POWER WAS SOUGHT.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY THREAT DID NOT ALWAYS HAVE THE INFLUENCE THAT WE KNEW AT THE BREAK UP OF THE SOVIET UNION, IN 1991. THE SPAN OF YEARS FROM 1945 UNTIL 1991 IS 46 YEARS. THROUGH THOSE MANY YEARS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE GIVEN SIGNIFICANTLY OF THEMSELVES IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY. THE GENTLEMAN THAT COMES TO MIND SERVED ABOARD THE U.S.S. WAINWRIGHT IN 1968, LATER TO SERVE IN THE JUNGLE RIVERS OF VIETNAM.

HERM SLOANE WAS THE SON OF A CAREER COAST GUARD SAILOR. HE ENLISTED IN 1948, AND SERVED AS AN ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN. DURING THE KOREAN WAR HE WAS SUNK, ALONG WITH THE OTHERS, FROM THE OCEANGOING MINESWEEPER THEY WERE OPERATING. HE SURVIVED.

HE CONTINUED ON WITH HIS SERVICE. IN THE 1960'S HE WENT ONTO OFFICER STATUS. HE SERVED AS ANTI-SUBMARINE OFFICER ABOARD THE WAINWRIGHT DURING HER SECOND TOUR TO VIET NAM. AFTER LEAVING THE WAINWRIGHT MR. SLOANE WENT ON TO SERVE IN THE "BROWN WATER NAVY", IN THE RIVERS OF VIET NAM. THIS TIME AS AN ADVISOR. AT ONE POINT HE WAS SUNK AGAIN. HALF OF THE SMALL CREW WAS LOST, 17. HE HELPED TO PREVENT THE LOSS OF THE REMAINING HALF, MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE NAVY.

LATER, IN THE 1970'S HERM RETIRED FROM THE U.S.N. HE WENT TO WORK FOR THE LITTON SHIPBUILDING WORKS AT PASCAGULA, MISSISSIPPI. THERE HE WORKS ON THE SUCCESSFUL INSTALLATION AND START UP OF SHIPBOARD WEAPONS SYSTEMS. HE HAS SPENT HIS TIME DEEPLY IN THAT SERVICE TO THE FLEET.

IT WAS GOOD TO SEE THIS OLD SEA DOG AT THE WAINWRIGHT REUNION, IN JULY. SOON HE WILL BE RETIRING. THE TERM OF THIS SERVICE MOST CLOSELY MATCHES THE YEARS OF THE COLD WAR, AND SOME HOT WAR. IT IS IN THIS HIGH REGARD THAT I COMMEND HIM, FOR YOU TO KNOW OF HIM.

VETERANS DAY IS THE DAY FOR THE LIVING VETERANS. IT IS ON THIS DAY THAT AMERICANS REMEMBER THE GIFTS THEY ENJOY, AND HUG AND THANK THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR SERVICE. WHEN I THINK OF THIS IT IS OF HERM SLOANE THAT I AM PROUDEST. HE HAS REFLECTED THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE NAVAL SERVICE. AND GIVEN RICHLY OF HIM SELF FOR HIS COUNTRY. AND I AM PROUD TO CALL HIM "SHIPMATE".

Submitted by:
J.C. CARLSON
USSW Ship Historian

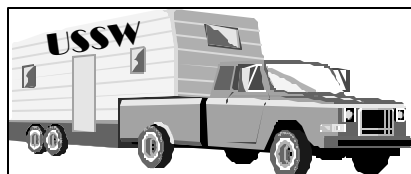
******New Found Shipmates******

The USSW Wainwright Veterans Association wishes to welcome the following shipmates. Are hopes are that you all take an active role in all that the association is about. Our hopes are to see you all at future reunions. If any of our membership knows any of these individuals, please contact them and give them a hearty welcome also. The web site roster would be a great source of their address and other pertinent information.

Scott Markowitz	C Division	RM3	1986
Brian Overby	A Division	Ensign	1980-1983
Thayer White	3rd Division	Lieutenant	1967-1969
Zachary Sandlin	XO Division	YN3	1990-1993
Clifton Jones	OC Division	SM2	1965-1968
Kent Simmons	B Division	BT2	1978-1981
James Dillon	MS Division	CS1	1975-1977
Max Combs	B Division	BT2	1992-1993
Michael Glowinski	OD Division	BM2	1987-1981

******SHIP'S CURATOR UPDATE******

Progress is being made on the assembling and restoration of our artifacts. It is however very time consuming, and I have started to get the materials together to make the ship's horn active again, with compressed air of course. I'm proud to report that we have over \$500.00 in the fund for the artifact trailer. Once again this trailer costs approximately \$10,000.00, which will include our decals on the sides. It will be big enough to haul all our artifacts around to all our reunions, and other applicable veteran's events.



We appreciate everyone that has donated their personal artifacts from the ship to be kept with the associations'. We will welcome all that we can acquire, if needed we will provide paper-work for the "loan" of the artifacts to us. I would also like to encourage everyone that has 8mm, videotape, slides, etc. to get copies made and send to me to make them a part of our exhibit, you know they say a picture is worth a thousand words. We can produce the best, and only Belknap "Class" cruiser traveling exhibit, if we work together.

I do need some information concerning sound powered phone circuits, squawk boxes, electrical lights, flight quarter lights and missile house panel lights. Please let me know if anyone can help me with voltages, circuits, etc. Also, if anyone would like to help bust rust, paint, shine, etc. please feel free to volunteer.

Richard Molck
Ship's Curator

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$TREASURERS REPORT\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

USS WAINWRIGHT VETERANS ASSN

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis as of February 28, 2003

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

CASH

4,245.90

Total Checking/Savings

4,245.90

Total Current Assets

4,245.90

TOTAL ASSETS

4,245.90

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

DUE TO SOS

170.00

SALES TAX PAYABLE

-0.02

Total Other Current Liabilities

169.98

Total Current Liabilities

169.98

Total Liabilities

169.98

Equity

NET ASSETS

3,360.15

Retained Earnings

435.09

Net Income

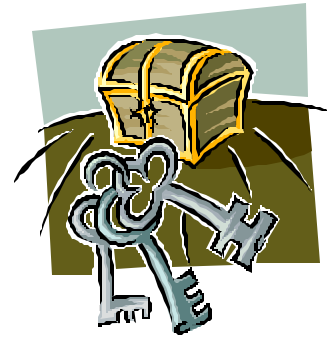
280.68

Total Equity

4,075.92

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

4,245.90



**Submitted by:
Manny Seligman
Association Treasurer**

THE PIER

The lines are cast I'm on my way
to places new and far away.
Six months will pass till I return,
Another sea service ribbon earned.
She stands alone on that Norfolk pier and
I watch her till we disappear.

The tug boats blow and the sea gulls cry;
It's always tough to say goodbye.
A navy wife is a special breed she fills so
many special needs, like being dad while I'm
away she always knows just what to say.
And now the pier is far from sight but I know
that things will be alright.

And soon these months will turn to days, and
then I will be home to stay, and spend my
years with the ones most dear and forget
the sight of that Norfolk pier.

Submitted by: DCC (SW) Marc A. Reyes, USN

The Poet's

Corner



Who Packs Your Parachute?

Charles Plumb was a U.S. Navy jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent 6 years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience.

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!" "How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb.

"I packed your parachute," the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!" Plumb assured him, "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, "I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat, a bib in the back, and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said 'Good morning, how are you?' or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor."

Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent on a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know.

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?" Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory - he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute, and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason.

As you go through this week, this month, this year, recognize people who pack your parachute. I am sending you this as my way of thanking you for your part in packing my parachute!!! And I hope you will send it on to those who have helped pack yours!

Sometimes, we wonder why friends keep forwarding jokes to us without writing a word. Maybe this could explain: When you are very busy, but still want to keep in touch, guess what you do?

You forward jokes.

And to let you know that you are still remembered, you are still important, you are still loved, you are still cared for, guess what you get? A forwarded joke.

So next time, if you get a joke, don't think that you've been sent just another forwarded joke, but that you've been thought of today and your friend on the other end of your computer wanted to send you a smile.

:)

Submitted by: Donald E. Inman