



Bouncing "B"TM

The Official Newsletter of the
USS Brownson Association DD-518 & DD-868

Volume 9 Issue 3
October 2008

A Word from the Prez



sinking of the 1st USS Brownson DD-518 on
December 26.

In the summer issue of the Bouncing "B" we requested someone to step up and take over as Editor/Publisher of the newsletter, well we struck gold. This is the first issue by our new Editor/Publisher. Welcome and thank you to Joseph F Odgers of Santa Barbara, CA for answering our call for help. In order to avoid confusion we are calling Joe Odgers, (Joe O) and Joe Eliff, (Joe E).

A job well done goes out to Don Westerhaus the departing Editor of our newsletter. What a wonderful job he did for two years, Thank you Don.

Don't forget The USS Brownson Association 10th Reunion in May 2009 at Reno NV. I expect a big turnout; see more details in the newsletter. During the business meeting at the Reno reunion we will have the election of officers. If you are interested in the success of your association, get involved; help guide us into the future.

Speaking of the future of your association, we need new members in order to keep alive the memory and tradition of the USS Brownson.

The summer is over
and the sights and
sounds of autumn
are upon us.
Remember what's
coming up,
Veterans Day
November 11,
Pearl Harbor Day
the 67th
anniversary
December 7 and
the 65th
anniversary of the

I am forming a committee of members to assist me in finding long lost shipmates. The name of this committee will be Shipmate Locators.

We need volunteers to make a few phone calls on behalf of the USS Brownson Association. Please contact me and offer your services, I am looking for as many callers as possible. See more information on Page 6.

Have a good and safe Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

God Bless America
God Bless our Association
Joseph D Eliff



We Need You
At The Reunion!

MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR GETTING UNDERWAY

ETA Reno May 3, 2009

Preparations for the USS Brownson Association 2009 Reunion in Reno NV are well under way. Bill Nicholl the Reunion Chairman wishes to thank his committee for all their guidance and assistance in particular, Ray and Nellie Ross and Jim Little.

The Headquarters for the 10th Reunion is Harrah's Hotel & Casino. This hotel has a great location in that it is downtown, 10 minutes from Reno/Tahoe International Airport and across the street from the Amtrak Train Station. The hotel has complementary airport shuttle and free parking.



The room rate for the USS Brownson Association 2009 reunion dates are as follows:

- Sunday May 3, 2009 through Wednesday May 6. The room rate for these nights are \$65.00/night plus tax.
- If you care to arrive early the room rate for Saturday May 2, is \$145.00/night plus tax.
- Stay a day after the reunion and your room rate for Thursday May 7, will be \$65.00/night plus tax.

You can make reservations now.

Hotel
Harrah's Reno Hotel and Casino
219 N Center Street
Reno, NV 89501
Reservation Phone: 1-888-726-6311
Group# S05USS

When making reservations be sure to tell them the Group # to get the special rate.

Website: www.harrahreno.com

Upon arrival there will be liberty for all the ships company.

USS BROWNSON ASSOCIATION 10th REUNION - Reno, NV

Tentative Itinerary

- Sunday May 3, 2009. 12:00 Noon
Registration & Hospitality Room open.
Evening open.
- Monday May 4, 2009. 9:00 AM-3:30 PM
Tour: Lake Tahoe Luncheon Cruise.
Evening open
- Tuesday May 5, 2009. 8:00 AM-10:30 AM
Board of Directors meeting
- Tuesday May 5, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM
Tour: A Day in Virginia City
Evening open
- Wednesday May 6, 2009. 9:30 AM
Membership Business Meeting
Evening Banquet
- Thursday May 7, 2009 Nothing planned,
have a safe trip home

Restaurants in Harrah's Reno Hotel & Casino



Harrah's Steakhouse, Reno's highest rated, winner of the Best of the Best

Carvings Buffet, American, Italian, Mexican and Chinese dishes

Ichiban Steakhouse and Sushi Bar, Japanese cuisine

Andreotte, Italian cuisine

Quiznos, Subs, Soups and Salads

Lucky Noodle Bar

USS Brownson Association Reunion Tours

Lake Tahoe Luncheon- Monday May 4, 2009

A tour to Lake Tahoe is truly one of the most beautiful destinations in the world. The lake is surrounded by the dramatic Sierra Nevada Mountains and thousands of acres of National Forests. The bus will journey through high mountain passes before dropping down to the lakes basin.



Once you arrive at the marina, we will board a replica of a historic paddlewheel boat. When on board and underway, much of the two-hour cruise is narrated and you will hear some of the colorful stories about life around the lake in times past. A plated lunch is included.

Depart the hotel at 9:00 AM via motor coach
Board the Dixie paddleboat at 10:30 AM
Return to hotel approx. 3:30 PM

Note: It is recommended you bring a sweater or jacket as it could be chilly on the water. Please don't forget your camera.

A Day in Virginia City-Tuesday May 5, 2009

As we ascend into the foothills via the deluxe motor coach, the exciting history of Virginia City, and how this boomtown came to life will be revealed.

Built on the riches of gold and silver ore, Virginia City was not only known as "the richest place on earth", but was also the biggest city between San Francisco and St. Louis in the 1860's. Abounding with 30,000 people and 110 saloons, it was an affluent and rowdy population. Today, Virginia City stands as a link to the past- a town vibrant with the activities of visitors, and filled with memories and ghosts of days gone by.

Our personal guide will escort us through the downtown, telling many legends of "rags to riches" and "riches to rags".



There are beautiful Victorian mansions, mines, wooden sidewalks, original saloons, gambling halls, antique shops, museums and churches to visit. You can tour the town on foot or board the trolley to see the sites.

Included on this tour is a 35 minute narrated train ride on the Virginia & Truckee RR from Virginia City to Gold Hill and back. Going right through the most famous of the bonanza Comstock mines.



Depart hotel at 11:00 AM via motor coach
Return to hotel at 4:00 PM

Membership Chairman's Report

By Paul Serabian



The summer has been relatively quiet with only one new Member coming on board. We have just received notice of the passing of one Member as noted below. Our Active Membership Roster, which consists of our Active Members, Life

Members, and DD-518 Honorary Life Members, currently stands at 439 Members.

Annual Dues

It is once again time to pay your dues if you are an annual Active Member (not Life Member). Dues Notices are being prepared and will be mailed within the next month. Some of you pay your dues for more than one year, so if you do not receive a Dues Notice, you are paid for 2009. If you do receive a Dues Notice, your dues are due by December 31st.

As a reminder, if I have not received your dues payment by January 31st, you will be moved to inactive status until your dues are received and recorded. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 860-448-0063.

Welcome Aboard!

Kenneth A. Gavin, Guilford, NY, 1960-62
New LIFE member as of 08-20-08!

Taps

James Jacobs of Derby, VT, passed away on September 28, 2008. He was an SH2 on board from 1951-55. Jake, as he was known, was a Life member and had attended all 9 reunions of the USS Brownson Association.

The USS Brownson Association Small Stores

The holidays are just around the corner! How about a new T-shirt for that special someone for Christmas? Or a new ball cap? With the 10th Reunion coming up, surely you need new gear to wear in Reno!!

Now available are:

- T-Shirts – Adult and Youth Sizes
- Sports Shirts
- Ball Caps
- Ship's Patches

Support your Small Stores. Remember, this is the only **authorized** USS Brownson (DD-868) gear!

There is still a good supply of the new T-shirt that was introduced at the 2007 reunion in Maine. They have both of the ship's crests on the front and a picture of the Brownson, before she was framed, on the back. This shirt is very similar to our original Ash Gray T-shirt, which is still available. All sizes except for 3XL are available in this new design. We also have Ship's Patches.

In addition, we still have a good selection of the Youth T-shirts at the sale price of 2 for \$10 or 2 for \$11, depending on the design. Sizes for the Sports Shirts and the Adult Colored T-Shirts are limited. Please see the order form at the end of this newsletter for the available sizes.

A Word of Caution

Café Press is once again emailing members about their USS Brownson products that now include a USS Brownson calendar. As you have been alerted before, **this merchandise is not authorized by the USS Brownson Association and is not of the high quality that your Small Stores provides.**

**USS Brownson
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Message from the Vice President

By Guy Linscott



Where has the time gone? It doesn't seem possible that we are closing in on 2 years (in May 09) that we were all together in the great State of Maine.

Joni and I enjoyed hosting our 9th reunion. It was sure a delight to show all my shipmates and their mates, my hometown and state. From all the emails and notes we received, all had a good time.

We now move on to Reno for our 10th reunion and Bill and Jim are getting things all lined up for another great reunion.

Joni and I are getting ready to put Sea-batical away for the winter and get our sights on the Holidays and our trip south for the winter. We will be trying out a new location this year in Cape Canaveral, Florida. If anyone is in the area between Jan. 1st and April 25th, please look us up.

Hope all are well. Pack your sea bags and make your plans and reservations for the Harrah's Reno Hotel and Casino from May 3rd through May 7th, 2009.

Hope to see all there.

May you all enjoy fair winds and following seas.

From Your Editor – An Introduction

By Joe Odgers



The last issue of the Bouncing "B" contained an announcement that Don Westerhaus, the current editor, because of his "more than full time day job", needed someone to take over the task of editing and publishing the newsletter. Being a bit computer savvy and also long retired from business, I decided to call Joe Eliff and see if I could give it a try. So after several emails and a few phone calls, here I am putting together my first issue. Now as you

probably noticed my style is a bit different but I hope you will find it readable and in tune with the tradition of USS Brownson Association and its members. I welcome suggestions.

I served on the USS Brownson from early 1952 until I was discharged in 1955. I was a sonarman. Perhaps an old timer or two may remember me.

Hope to see you in Reno.

From the Secretary

By Dan Crothers



Another great reunion is being planned in Reno, NV by Bill Nicholl.

Besides this newsletter, it will be listed in at least five magazines or newsletters that cater to servicemen. We are hoping to find shipmates that do not know we

have reunions. Please help spread the word.

More About the Shipmate Locator Committee

By Joe Eliff

Have you ever wondered what ever happened to the shipmate/friend from your days on the USS Brownson?

We are forming a committee that will attempt to find them. We need a few good men to make some phone calls to locate our shipmates from long ago. The association will reimburse the cost of the calls. I am looking for six or eight people for this committee. One member has already volunteered to help me with this project, Frank Santangelo (GM- 60-63).

I promise this will not take up a lot of your time. **The USS Brownson Association needs you**, please contact me ASAP and offer your services.

Joe Eliff

610-948-6475

JOEBUCKETS@aol.com

The Navy, Then and Now

Submitted by Jack Richardson

Then - In the "good old days", if a sailor smoked, he had an ashtray on the desk.

Now - If a sailor smokes he/she is sent outside and treated like a leper.

Then - Mail took weeks to arrive aboard the ship.

Now - Every time the ship nears land, there's a mob topside seeing if their cell phone works.

Then - If a sailor left the ship it was in Blues or Whites.

Now - The only time they wear Blues or Whites is for ceremonies.

Then - Sailors wore bellbottoms everywhere on the ship.

Now - Bellbottoms are gone from the Navy. 14 year-old girls wear them everywhere.

Then - Sailors wore a "dixie cup" all day, with every uniform.

Now - It's not required and they have a choice of various headwear.

Then - If you said "damn," people knew you were annoyed and avoided you.

Now - If you say "damn" you'd better be talking about a hydroelectric plant.

Then - The Ship's Yeoman had a typewriter on his desk for doing daily reports

Now - Everyone has a computer with Internet access -- and they wonder why no work gets done.

Then - We painted pictures of pretty girls on airplanes to remind us of home

Now - We put the real thing in the cockpit.

Then - Canteens were made out of steel and you could heat coffee or hot chocolate in them.

Now - Canteens are made of plastic. You can't heat them because they'll melt and anything inside always tastes like plastic.

Then - Enemy intelligence was collected and analyzed.

Now - The crew's urine is collected and analyzed.

Then - If a sailor didn't act correctly and obey the rules, he'd be put on extra duty until he squared away.

Now - If he doesn't behave, a paper trail is started that follows him forever.

Then - Medals were awarded to heroes who saved lives at the risk of their own.

Now - Medals are awarded to people who show up for work most of the time.

Then - The crew slept in a barracks, like a soldier.

Now - They sleep in a co-ed dormitory, like a college kid.

Then - Sailors ate in a Mess Hall. The food was free and they could generally eat their fill.

Now - They dine in a Dining Facility. Every item, even a slice of bread or pat of butter costs, and they can only have one serving.

USS Brownson Association

Dedicated to the memory of the USS Brownson (DD-518) & (DD-868)

Small Stores Order Form

Date: _____

From: _____

Ship to: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Ball Caps

_____ Ship's Crest	\$10.00
_____ Ship's Silhouette	\$11.00
Total for Caps	\$ _____

Sports Shirt \$20.00 each Ship's Crest on Upper Left Front

Navy Blue	S _____	M _____	L _____
Lt. Blue	S _____	M _____	L _____
White	S _____	M _____	

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

T-Shirts Colored Picture of Ship on Front

Youth Sizes Only – SALE - \$6 ea. or 2/\$11

White	S _____	M _____	L _____
Gray	S _____	M _____	L _____

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$6.00 = \$ _____

Adult Sizes ~ \$9.00 ea.

White	S _____	M _____
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Total No. Shirts _____ X \$9.00 = \$ _____

Make check payable to:
USS BROWNSON ASSOCIATION
and mail with your order to:

Paul J. Serabian
USS Brownson Assn. Small Stores
61 Corey Road
Groton, CT 06340

Ash Gray T-Shirts

Ship's Crest on Upper Left Front with Ship's Picture on Back - Framed

Youth Sizes Only – SALE \$5.50 ea. or 2/\$10

S _____ M _____ L _____

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$5.50 = \$ _____

Adult - \$10.00 ea.

S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____

\$11.00 ea.

XXL _____ XXXL _____

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$11.00 = \$ _____

NEW ~

Ship's Crests on Upper Left and Right Front with Ship's Picture on Back – Pre-Fram

Adult - \$11.00 ea.

S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$11.00 = \$ _____

\$12.00 ea.

XXL _____

Total No. Shirts _____ X \$12.00 = \$ _____

NEW ~

Ship's Patches - \$6.00 ea. _____ X \$6.00 = \$ _____

Ship's Patches Total _____

Ball Cap Total _____

Sport Shirt Total _____

T-Shirt Total _____

Subtotal Order _____

ADD: Postage:

\$6.00 for 1-3 items; add
\$1.00 for each add'l item _____

TOTAL _____

Thank you for your order. If you have any questions, please call Paul at 860-448-0063

The USS Brownson Association
1316 Dover Hill Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

