



Bouncing "B"TM

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

Volume 10 Issue 1
January 2009

A Word from the Prez



The Christmas Holidays are over and WOW, its 2009 already. I hope everyone had time as I did, to spend with family and friends. I still believe in Santa Claus, Christmas is my favorite time of the year. The joy of giving not only gifts but our

time, love, friendship and a few toasts along the way.

I have some unfinished 2008 business to mention. A thank you, to **Ernie Powers** of Smithfield, RI for the copy of the 1969 Brownson Cruise Book, I appreciate it. To **Charles S Kovach** (51-53) of Sarasota, FL who called me looking for information on the collision of the Brownson and Roan, I enjoyed our chat. Those of you who attended the 2007 reunion in South Portland, ME may remember a sign outside the hospitality room stating that (Chief SO) **Richard Rowland** passed away and his son requested to hear from guys who knew and worked with his father aboard the 868 during the early 60's. Unfortunately, after the reunion I forgot about this request, until about 16 to 18 months later I was speaking with a shipmate and this subject came up. Turns out a few of the guys who remembered the Chief, contacted the son. The reason I mention this, is I am thrilled to know that there are caring and considerate people in the world and many of them are members of the USS Brownson Association. God Bless you all.

The reunion of the USS Brownson Association is fast approaching, make sure you fill out the registration form in this newsletter and mail in with the appropriate fees ASAP, also call the hotel and reserve your room. Remember you do not have to go to the reunion to be a member, but you must be a member to go to the reunion.

In the previous issue of the Bouncing "B", I asked for a few good men for the Shipmate Locator Committee. I am happy to report we now have five (5) members and looking for more. The committee members to date are, **Jack Richardson, Ed Lynch, Joe Eliff, Frank Santangelo and Ron Tamoush**. Look for more information on this committee in the next issue of the newsletter.

Membership dues are due now for those of you who pay yearly. We appreciate your support.

God Bless America
God Bless our Association
Joseph D Eliff

From the Secretary:



It sure looks like Bill Nicholl has lined up an outstanding reunion package for us in Reno in May 2009. It is up to us, the members, to make it a great reunion by attending.

Our country is sailing through some rough times now, and it makes me think of the times the Brownson was in rough seas on her many voyages. During my time aboard the Brownson, sailing around Cape Hatteras was always rough and also the North Atlantic. The most the ship rolled and tossed during my time was returning from the Antarctica through the Drake Passage at Cape Horn (some of the roughest seas in the world). We rolled back and forth approximately 57 degrees. The mess hall was very MESSY! Later crews also had their rough seas aboard the Brownson. Let's hear about them. It makes for good "bull sessions" at the reunion.

Don Crothers

2009 nominating committee appointed

By Jack Richardson

In accordance with the By-laws of our Association, President Eliff has appointed a nominating committee for the 2009 Reno reunion. Article IV-Committees, Section 3, states the following:

A Nominating committee of three (3) members, one (1) of which shall be chairman, will be formed in advance of the Association's next reunion to present a nomination slate of officers to be voted on at the General Membership meeting.

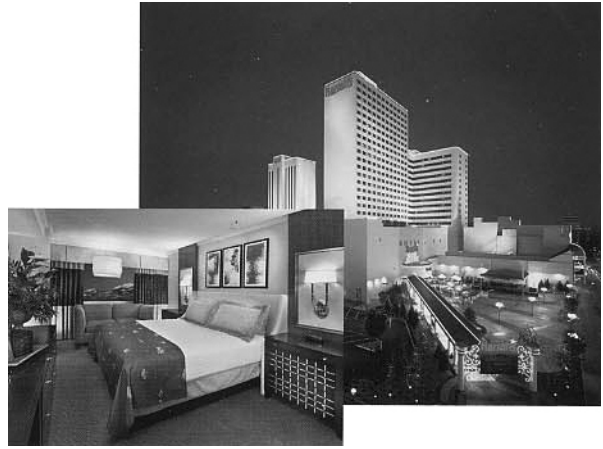
President Eliff has appointed the following members to serve on the committee for the 2009 reunion:

- **Jack Richardson**, Chairman
Richgrp124@aol.com
- **Ed Lynch**, elynych77@att.net
- **Jerry Koellsted**, Koellsted@charter.net

Please submit the names of any member you would like to nominate for office to one of the committee members above. The current officers have served with distinction and have volunteered their time to serve again if reelected. To nominate a member, you must have prior permission from that member that they are willing to serve if elected. If you do not have email available, please call the Chairman at 803-781-2128 to make your verbal nomination.



Harrah's Reno, the original property from which the Harrah's legend evolved, has always stood as an icon for hospitality, quality and service. Located in the heart of downtown Reno, Harrah's offers luxury, comfort and matchless service in more than 928 beautifully appointed rooms and skyline suites featuring whirlpool tubs.



Harrah's Standard Amenities

- Cable TV, with pay-per-view movies
- Dry cleaning and laundry services
- Complimentary valet garage parking
- Express check-out
- Non-smoking rooms
- Accommodations for persons with special needs
- Blow dryer
- Dataports
- Saf-Lok electronic room key system
- 24-hour room service
- Pets Allowed - Kennels only care is up to Guests. It is open 24 hours for hotel guests only. No pets fed in rooms with the exception of seeing eye dogs
- Small portable refrigerators upon request (Based on availability.)



Membership Chairman's Report

By Paul Serabian



Dues Notices were delayed in getting mailed due to several unrelated issues but I did get them in the mail at the beginning of the month. Response has been good but a number of you have not paid up yet! At this writing, seven

Inactive Members have paid their dues and have been reactivated and three Annual Members have upgraded to Life. 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.

After the roster has been updated with the 2009 dues payment, I will report on the number of members in each category.

Welcome Aboard!

- **Jim D. Soldi**, El Centro, CA, 1961-62, 10/25/08 New LIFE Member
- **Gary D. Osterkamp**, Ankeny, IA, 1966-69, 12/05/08

Taps

Henry M Schubert of Russell, KS, passed away on October, 3, 2008. He was on board from 1951-52.

Franklin Ventresca of Media, PA, passed away in December, 2007, at the age of 74. His wife, Jean, notified us that although he was a Life Member, he was unable to attend any reunions due to his health. Frank was an MM1 on board from 1953-57 and is survived by his wife and two children, Amy Bukowski and Peter Ventresca.

Kenneth Douglas Hyde of Caroga Lake, NY, passed away unexpectedly on October 25, 2008, from a heart attack. He was on board from 1957-1961. His widow, Martha, is looking for anyone who served with him and has any stories to share with her. Her address is P.O. Box 89, Caroga Lake, NY 12032; email address is marh@frontiernet.net.

Small Stores

- 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!

How about a new T-shirt or a new ball cap for the 10th Reunion coming up? Surely you need new gear to wear in Reno!!

There is still a good supply of the new T-shirt that was introduced at the 2007 reunion in Maine that has 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. Both of these items will not be reordered.

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 as are the ball caps with the Ship's Crest. Please see the order form at the end of this newsletter for the available sizes or call me at 860-448-0063 to check on the availability of your choice before ordering.

Just a word of caution ~ Café Press is once again emailing members about their USS Brownson products that now includes 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 Association 10th Reunion, Reno, NV

Sunday May 3 to Thursday May 7, 2009

Harrah's Hotel and Casino

219 N. Center Street
Reno, NV 89503

Hotel Reservations

- Call: 1-888-726-6311
Group # SO5USS.
- When making hotel reservations be sure to tell them the group # to get the special room rate.
- Room Rate: Sun May 3 thru Thr May 7 **\$65.00/night + tax**. If you arrive Sat May 2, the day before the reunion **\$145.00/night + tax**
- Transportation
 - Reno/Tahoe International Airport, 10 min. Hotel has complementary shuttle
 - Amtrak Train Station, 1 block
 - Free parking at the hotel

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
- Hospitality Room open
- Evening: open

Tuesday May 5, 2009

- 8:00 AM-10:30 AM: Board of Directors meeting
- 11:00 AM-4:00 PM: Tour: A Day in Virginia City
- Hospitality Room open
- Evening: open

Wednesday May 6, 2009

- 9:30 AM: Membership Business Meeting
- Hospitality Room open
- Evening: Cocktails/Pictures
- Banquet/Entertainment

Thursday May 7, 2009

- Nothing planned, have a safe trip home

Check List for the Reunion

- Be a member in good standing or guest of a member
- Fill out and send in reunion registration form and payment
- Make room reservations at hotel
1-888-726-6311, Group # SO5USS
- Make your travel reservations
- Welcome Shipmates and Guest to the USS Brownson Association 10th reunion

Things to do in Reno

Fleischmann Planetarium and Science

Center at the University of Nevada, Reno offers two breathtaking immersive theater experiences. *"Journey Into Amazing Caves"* tells the story of Nancy Aulenbach and Dr. Hazel Barton. Join these two accomplished cavers as they explore unusual caves, like ice caves in Greenland and underwater caves in the jungles of Mexico, *"THE ALPS"* is the story of breathtaking beauty, harmonious culture, perilous avalanches and irresistible allure to a mountaineer on a personal journey to make peace with the mountain that killed his father.

Reno City Tour.

Visit the **Wilbur May Center**. May was the founder of the May Company retail store company. An extensive museum including world wide artifacts. Tour includes a stop at the famous **National Automobile Museum** which contains an extensive collection of one of a kind, exotic, special interest, classic and cars owned by famous celebrities. There are four period streets that serve as galleries and showcase various periods of time.

These are just but a few of the many sites and activities available in Reno. The hotel front desk and concierge can help with tours and information.

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

Registration
USS Brownson Association 10th Reunion
May 3 to May 7 2009
Harrah's Hotel and Casino, Reno, NV

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI _____

Spouse or Guest Name: _____

Address: Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency contact: _____ Phone: _____

Registration Fees

Total number attending: _____ x \$55.00/each = \$ _____

1) Tour: Lake Tahoe Cruise w/lunch

Total number attending: _____ x \$68.00/each = \$ _____

2) Tour: A Day in Virginia City (lunch on your own)

Total number attending: _____ x \$39.00/each = \$ _____

Grand Total = \$ _____

Make checks payable to USS Brownson Association.

Mail this form along with your check to:

Joseph Eliff
27 Roboda Blvd,
Royersford, PA 19468

Deadline for submitting registration and payment: April 13, 2009

----Note: Cut out this form and include it with your check.---

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 _____

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 _____

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

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

Address Service Requested

