

USS LEXINGTON CV16

49 YEARS OF SERVICE

NOW THE USS LEXINGTON ON THE BAY IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

APRIL 2018

USS Lexington, CV2, Found in the Coral Sea

Editor's note: Thanks to shipmate Glenn Foster for making sure we were aware of this for inclusion into the newsletter. I'm sure many of us wish that our former member Ralph Blackford could have been here to see this.

From Fox News.com By: Frank Miles

Billionaire Paul Allen, the Microsoft cofounder and Seattle Seahawks owner, has made another huge nautical find: the USS Lexington, which was lost at the Battle of Coral Sea 76 years ago.



The fleet aircraft carrier, the first to be sunk by opposing carrier aircraft in

World War II, was found near Australia below Coral Sea in a remarkably well-preserved condition, news.com.au reported.

The expedition crew of Allen's personal research ship R/V Petrel found the missing Lexington two miles below and about 500 miles off the eastern coast of Australia, according to <u>USNI News</u>.

"To pay tribute to the USS Lexington and the brave men that served on her is an honor," Paul Allen said on his website. "As Americans, all of us owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who served and who continue to serve our country for their courage, persistence and sacrifice."



As the Lexington was struck by multiple Japanese torpedoes and bombs on May 8, 1942, more than 200 Lexington sailors were killed in the fight, and nearby U.S. ships rescued 2,770 of the carrier's remaining sailors, according to the Navy Times.

Once evacuated, the ship, affectionately known as "Lady Lex," was torpedoed by the USS Phelps to prevent her capture, according to the Navy Times.

Commander of U.S. Pacific Command Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr. told Fox News about his gratitude of the find: "We honor the valor and sacrifice of the 'Lady Lex's' sailors — all,

all those Americans who fought in World War II—by continuing to secure the freedoms they won for all of us."



"Our Navy's strength comes from those who have gone before. This is our heritage. Our Navy's strength comes from those who serve now. This is who we are. No one should doubt that today's warriors are ready to fight tonight and win," he told Fox News

Cont' on pg 4



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Sunrise Press is a quarterly publication of the USS Lexington Association CV, CVA, CVS, CVT, AVT16



USS LEXINGTON CV 16 ASSOCIATION

Association Officers:

President: Lloyd Friedli

Vice-President: Gary Shorrel

Financial Adviser: Lance Wagner

Secretary: Dawn Brophy

Historian: Daisy Morgan

WEBSITE:

www.usslexingtoncv16.org

Do you know anyone from the ship that may not know about our annual reunions? Hullnumber.com posts contact info for our reunions, as well as advising current members of Hullnumber.com with a message alerting them as well. If you share the link included below, they will get this page:



Entering the code given will open an email page to go to the person running the reunion (in this case Bob DiMonte) who will then respond to them with info on the reunion. It's just one more way that we can spread the word to those who aren't members yet, or may be on the fence about becoming one to get interested in one of our reunions (and joining our merry band of shipmates) and come to one.

The CV-16 Reunion Information has been posted on HullNumber.com. http://www.hullnumber.com/reunion_info.php?cm=CV-16

A Word from Lance Wagner:



If you know someone who served on the LEX, let me know and I'll send them information about our group.

If you move, please remember to send me your new address and phone number.

Dues are \$20/year and due by Dec. 31st. Make checks payable to: USS Lexington Association.

Send Dues to: Lance Wagner
71 - 21 73rd Place
Glendale, NY 11385

amazonsmile You shop. Amazon gives.

If you order from Amazon.com (and who doesn't) change to smile.amazon.com and select your charity as the **Lady Lex Museum on the Bay Association**. Amazon donates .5% of every purchase to the museum if you select it as your charity. This can really add up over time. Good for the ship and good for the association. smile.amazon.com CHECK IT OUT!

A Note from Greg Plante:



If anyone has articles they'd like to include in the newsletter, please send them to me and I'll put them in, space permitting, including a byline to credit you with the submission.

My postal address is: 23428 College Ave., Robertsdale, AL 36567

For electronic submissions, my email address is gplante@gulftel.com; Please put USS LEX in the subject line so that my spam filtering software won't delete it.

Sunrise Press - EMAIL Version:

To help reduce the cost of publishing, printing and postage, we are asking you to consider receiving the Sunrise Press by email. The email version is better than the printed, with color graphics/pictures, e-links and more.

To receive the email version of the newsletter, please send your email address to Greg Plante at gplante@gulftel.com (please put USS LEX in the subject line). Thank you.

You can also view the Sunrise Press on the Associations website: http://www.usslexingtoncv16.org

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Sharon A. Baxley

Onboard: 1979 - 1981 V3

Fred W. Bisaro

Onboard: 07/1979 - 07/1982 OC

Herbert H. Bradford

Onboard: 1974 - 09/1977 S1

Jase S. Brock

Onboard: 1981 - 1984 R

Jonathan H. Cantrell

Onboard: 11/1971 - 05/1973 V6

Leon R. Chapman

Onboard: 1968 - 1970 S1

David B. Dalby

Onboard: 10/1968 - 11/1969 MMGD

William C. Firnberg

Onboard: 11/1980 - 06/1982 V2

Robert E. Jones

Onboard: 05/1986 - 05/1990 2nd DIV

Timothy J. Laplant

Onboard: 02/1983 - 11/1983 Fireman

William R. Middleton

Onboard: 1975 - 1977 Air Ops C1a Crew

Charles (Chuck) Resh

Onboard: 1967 AG

Brian E. Wiggins

Onboard: 01/1987 - 06/1990 B. Boilers







09/20/2016 - Hannibal, NY

Onboard: 1961 - 1964

Roger Giddings

08/17/2016 - Sabula, IA Onboard: 1958 - 1959

James McLaughlin

06/09/2012 - Burnsville, MN

Thomas W. Reese

11/25/2012 - San Diego, CA

Onboard: 1943 - 1947



Manual Ma tured in the Battle of Coral Sea, considered to be the first carrier battle in history

By Jason Daley smithsonian.com March 7, 2018

This week, billionaire Paul G. Allen announced that his ship-hunting research vessel Guinea, hoping to control the island and cut R/V Petrel and her crew had discovered an important piece of World War II history. About 500 miles off the coast of eastern Australia and two miles down they located the wreck of the U.S.S. Lexington, one of the United States' first aircraft carriers, which was scuttled on May 8, 1942, to prevent its capture after the Battle of the Coral Sea, as the Associated Press reports.

Elaina Zachos at National Geographic reports that the Petrel crew had been planning to hunt for the Lexington, known affectionately as "Lady Lex," for six months after successfully locating several historic wrecks including the Japanese battleship Musashi and the U.S.S. Indianapolis last year. The team received coordinates for where experts thought the Lexington might have sunk. Equipping the Petrel with exploration gear that could reach 3.5 miles under the sea. they began their search. So far, besides locating the ship, the team has been able to find ll of the 35 aircraft that were onboard when the carrier went under.

"Lexington was on our priority list because she was one of the capital ships that was lost during WWII," Robert Kraft, director of subsea operations for the Petrel says in a statement. "Based on geography, time of year and other factors, I work with Paul Allen to determine what missions to pursue. We've been planning to locate the Lexington for about six months and it came together nicely."

"To pay tribute to the USS Lexington and the brave men that served on her is an honor," Allen says in the statement. "As Americans, all of us owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who served and who continue to serve our country for their courage, persistence and sacrifice."

The Lexington was not originally commissioned as an aircraft carrier, as Jeanna Bryner at LiveScience points out. Originally, the ship was supposed to be a battlecruiser, but the 1922 Washington Naval Treaty limited battleship construction, so Lexington was recommissioned as an aircraft carrier, entering service in 1928.

In May 1942, the Lexington was part of the Battle of Coral Sea. which History.com characterizes as the first air and sea battle in history. The Japanese

were headed to Port Moresby in Papua New off access to Australia. Allied forces, however, had intercepted the plans and launched air strikes from carriers when Japan began the invasion. During the ensuing four-day battle, the Japanese light carrier Shoho was destroyed and a larger carrier, Shokaku was severely damaged. The loss of carriers meant Japan did not have enough air cover for their invasion, and they eventually retreated.

The Americans paid a price, too. The carrier Yorktown was heavily damaged. Bryner reports that on May 8, the Lexington was struck by torpedoes and bombs. A secondary explosion onboard led to out of control fires. That night 2,770 personnel were evacuated. The U.S.S. Phelps then launched torpedoes, sinking the carrier so it would not fall into Japanese hands.

In total, 216 crew members of the Lexington were killed in battle.

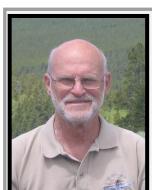
Back in Massachusetts, a new Essex-class carrier was being built at the same shipyard that the Lexington came from. When they heard the news of the sinking, workers petitioned the Navy to name the new ship after her fallen sibling. The new U.S.S. Lexington served throughout World War II and was not decommissioned until 1991. It is now docked in Corpus Christi, Texas, where it functions as a museum.

There is no word yet on whether the Petrel will recover any artifacts from the Lexington, but knowing where it rests is a comfort to many. "As the son of a survivor of the USS Lexington, I offer my congratulations to Paul Allen and the expedition crew of Research Vessel (R/V) Petrel for locating the "Lady Lex," sunk nearly 76 years ago at the Battle of Coral Sea," Navy Admiral Harry B. Harris Jr., head of the U.S. Pacific Command, says in the statement. "We honor the valor and sacrifice of the "Lady Lex's" Sailors - all those Americans who fought in World War II — by contin-

It's likely this won't be the last find by R/V *Petrel*. In 2016, the ship was retrofitted and tasked by Allen to

uing to secure the freedoms

they won for all of us."



A short message to say thank you to those members who paid dues in response to our note as a part of the January Sunrise Press mailings. At \$20 annually it remains a small amount to support an Association that remembers an important part of our lives.

I was pleased to see the Veterans Memorial article featuring the memorial in Salida Colorado. Thanks to Dennis Boydston for that.

The 2018 reunion in San Diego will be a great one. Check out the info in this newsletter and plan to attend. The USS Midway is a museum there and will be a 'must see' side trip.

Scholarship applications are due by June 1st. Review the eligibility information and ask anyone in your family that qualifies to submit an application. We strongly support continuing education!

Smooth sailing as we move forward in 2018. Lloyd

41st Reunion of the USS LEX Association WORD SEARCH

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Banquet Beach California Cocktails Coronado Dancing Entertainment Friends Hotel Karaoke Lexington Memorial Mt Soledad **Poolside**

Reservations Reunion San Diego Shipmates Shopping Tours



SHIPMATES LOOKING FOR...

Looking for..... What?

This is *your* newsletter. From the Associations point of view, this newsletter is to promulgate information concerning our reunions, and that remains its primary task. But there is room for much more



than that, and that is for you. For instance, this section is for just what the title says. Looking for an old shipmate? Looking for a cruise book from a particular cruise? Maybe filling in the gaps of memory while writing some memoirs for your grandkids to enjoy one day. That's what this area is for. Let us know what you're looking for, and we'll include it in here.

Subject: Looking for Photos/Info

Message from: James Walter

I am trying to find any info/photos I can on a William E. Whitehead that served on this ship in 1945 - 1946.

Email: golfcat42@yahoo.com

Subject: Cruise-book

Message from: Dennis Wikfors

My father and uncle served on the USS Lexington during the 1961–1962 cruise. I have a cruise book if anyone is seeking photos or information.

Email: wikfors@gmail.com

America is Beautiful By: Chaplain Christopher Hagger



I arrived back home yesterday which was Monday the 19th day of March. I had been gone about a week and a half. The purpose for my trip back home to Port Arthur Texas was to stay with my sister while she recuperated from minor surgery. I enjoyed seeing the water again as I crossed the bayou, understanding that now I lay my hat in Odessa Texas which is nine hours west. During my visit my sister and I talked

for hours just catching up with life and visiting memories of yesteryears when dad and mom and our grandmother was so much apart of our lives.

When she begin to feel better I remembered I had shared with a friend in Odessa that if I was out that way; east Texas, I would visit her daughter that was incarcerated in Henderson Texas. So, Henderson being exactly three hours from Port Arthur/Beaumont, I prepared for my trip. It was a beautiful drive, it was so peaceful, the hills beckoned me to view the magnificence of their design. The trees standing oh so tall welcomed me as I drove by, their branches waved in the wind daring me to roll my window down and smell the pine. As I drove I slowed down so my eyes could catch all the beauty, my heart said softly to me America is beautiful. Then I thought of the young men and women oversees that are protecting my freedom, I thought of them and their sacrifice for me. I then remembered when I stood in that grey room with my right hand held high.

"I swore to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic. And that I would bear true faith and allegiance to the same obeying all orders from the President of the United States as well as the officers appointed over me according to the UCMJ....so help me God."

I then realized that when I stood in MEPS that they probably weren't born yet. America is beautiful, even though sometimes she has hiccups, and sometimes we have disagreements. I remember once my dad said to my sister after they had a heated argument he said, "our love might wear thin, but it will never wear out," This is what America stands for, we might get angry with our neighbor, and have a heated disagreement. But our love for America will never wear out.

Sure, we are in talks now, we are concerned about our children being safe in school. We are in talks now wanting to ensure our elderly will be taken care of in their last years. Yes, we are in talks now about the safety of our borders, we do not need any more drugs to enter our lives or our families. Yes, America sometimes have hiccups, but I love America.

Many years ago, Lee Greenwood said it best. I invite you to embrace a few of these words they are as follows:

If tomorrow all the things were gone,
I'd worked for all my life.
And I had to start again,
With just my children and my wife.
I'd thank my lucky stars
To be liven here today.
Cause the flag still stands for freedom,
And they can't take that away.

When I arrived in Nacogdoches Texas just outside of Henderson, there was some old soldier saluting cars as they passed by along the hwy. Americans are proud of their country. And we should be.

God Bless you my USS Lexington family

Chaplain Hagger pastors All People Worship Center in Odessa Texas and also oversees the operation at All People Hospice and Healthcare.

Contact Information:

Christopher Hagger 4745 N. Sierra Ave. Odessa, Texas 79764

> Home: 432-385-7643 Cell: 832-312-0892 Office: 432-385-7502

He can be reached anytime...

no matter what time it is.

SIX DECADES LATER AND THEY MEET AGAIN

Submitted by: Tina Dublin (daughter of Shipmate John Cuellar)

On January 25, 2018, Hollywood legend Rita Moreno was a guest speaker at Texas Lutheran University in Sequin, TX. Ms. Moreno spoke about her life, Hollywood and cultural diversity. The auditorium was full of fans of all ages.



One of the attendees, John Cuellar, was mesmerized during the event. He was on a special mission. He had attended an event with Ms. Moreno before; May 18, 1956 to be exact, aboard the USS Lexington.

Ms. Moreno had attend Lady Lex's first shipboard party, The Navy Relief Ball and Carnival. She even raffled off a chance to dance with her to help raise money. Pictures were taken and were included in the USS Lexington yearbook.



Following the Seguin event, Ms. Moreno autographed her book and took pictures with fans. When it was John's turn, he opened his yearbook and showed her the story. She was so excited to see the article and was honored that he brought it to show her. She even signed his yearbook!



During the autograph session, the room was standing room only so she wasn't able to spend a lot of time to visit bur she did pose for photos and thanked him for his service.





ROTTERDAM VETERAN'S MONUMENT, ROTTERDAM, NY

Dedicated: May 15, 2011

From: Shipmate James M. Bleser - Onboard Lexinaton: 1963-1964

FRONT VIEW BACK VIEW





TO HONOR THE VETERANS OF ROTTERDAM WHO FAITHFULLY SERVED OUR COUNTRY

It took a lot of years to get this monument completed. Many of the businesses in Rotterdam donated money for the project. Our supervisor at the time, Francis Del Gallo, donated his expertise in the construction business and his equipment and man-power. A lot of local volunteers help with the manual labor.

The two people that they used to display on the monument are still with us today. The soldier is now 91 years old.



Veteran's Memorials Feature:

Anyone that would like to showcase their local monument or memorials to veterans, please send me pictures via snail mail or email (my contact information is on page 2 of this newsletter). Include descriptions and other information, for example, is it for a particular branch or all branches?; was it erected by the local Boy Scouts or VFW or Legion Post, or the city, state, county, etc.? You needn't be an accomplished author, as we'll edit/spellcheck to the best of our grammatical recollections. I look forward to hearing from you.

Greg Plante, Editor: Sunrise Press

41st Reunion Plans are Underway...

Plans are in place for our 2018 Reunion! We will have our 41st reunion in sunny southern California.

The Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego will be our host for this exciting reunion.

Make you Hotel Reservations by calling the hotel at (866) 663-4592; Code: LEX

The group rate is \$109/night and is good three days pre and post reunion. Reservations must be made before August 27, 2018.



We will start our adventure with an opening reception on the pool lawn, complete with tiki torches and heavy Hors d" Oeuvres Carving stations.



We have contracted a city tour in the morning. We will visit sparkling Coronado, the Hotel Del Coronado, the Historic Gas lamp Quarter and beautiful Balboa Park. After lunch we continue north, exploring the stunning coastline and dramatic views of La Jolla.

Then as we head back downtown, we go through the local beach cities of Pacific Beach and Mission Beach. You do not want to miss this tour.



On our free day, you can visit the USS Midway, San Diego Zoo, Liberty Public Market, Old town, or just hang by the pool. Lots to see and do.

The menu for our Banquet offers four choices, all entrees include several side dishes and dessert.

We will also have a DJ for dancing and karaoke. Let's see if Lexington has talent.

I tried to keep costs and prices down, but I was informed it cost a little more to live in paradise. I believe this reunion will be a great dollar value.

See you in San Diego, Bob DiMonte





We will have our Memorial service on the peak of MT. Soledad.





2018 REUNION OF THE USS LEXINGTON CV-16 ASSOCIATION SAN DIEGO, CALIFORINA - SEPTEMBER 17 - 21, 2018

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(Ac	SPOUSE/GUEST(Additional guests - please list on back and include in the final numbers below.)							
ADDRESS:	CITY	STATE	ZIP					
PHONE	EMAIL							
DATES ON BOA	RD	_DIVISION						

Host Hotel: Crown Plaza San Diego

Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at (866) 663-4592; Code: LEX The group rate is \$109/night and is good three days pre and post reunion.

Reservations must be made before August 27, 2018

Register me for the following:							
Reunion Registration Fee (not optional)# of attendees' x \$35 each = \$							
Tuesday, September 18							
Tour of San Diego <i>(includ</i>	<i>es lunch</i>) # of attendees' x \$85 each = \$						
Thursday, September 20 Farewell Banquet - Coat and Tie suggested	# of attendees' x \$55 each = \$						
Choice of Entrée:	A.) London Broil with a Peppercorn Sauce						
B.) Lemon Caper Chicken with a Lemon Cream Sauce							
C.) Baked Mahi-Mahi with Mango Cream Sauce							
D.) Portobello Mushroom Ravioli							
All entrees served with a Tossed Green Salad, Fresh Seasonal Veggies,							
Oven Roasted Potatoes, Rolls, and Black Forest Cake for dessert.							
Coffee, Hot Tea, and Iced Tea							
	TOTAL: \$						

Mail Registration form and check payable to: USS Lexington CV 16 Association

Cut-off Date: September 1st, 2018

Lance Wagner
71-21 73 Place



USS LEXINGTON CV 16 - 41ST ANNUAL REUNION SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA SEPTEMBER 17 THRU SEPTEMBER 21, 2018 ITINERARY

Sept.	17th - Monday
1200	Hospitality Room opens - Registration begins — Poolside Hospitality Suite
1800	Opening Reception, Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, Cash Bar — Poolside Lawn
Sept.	18th - Tuesday
0845	Meet in Hotel Lobby for Scheduled Tour
0900	Bus departs for the Tour of the Greater San Diego Area Lunch Memorial Service on the Peak of Mt. Soledad
1600	Bus returns to hotel; Hospitality Room Opens
Sept.	19th - Wednesday Free Day for Shopping and Sea Stories
1000	Hospitality Room Opens — Poolside Hospitality Suite
Sept.	20th - Thursday
0900	Hospitality Room opens — Poolside
0930	Business Meeting; All members and guests welcome — Lahaina Room
1800	Cocktail Hour (Doors will open at 1800) Cash Bar — Lahaina Room Group Picture; Coat and Tie suggested
1900	Opening remarks from the Association President Dinner Served Entertainment

Sept. 21 - Friday

1100 Checkout — Have a safe trip home.

uss lexington cva-16 Musket - July 1960 page 4



John R. Baker, AN, plots the surface analysis of a weather chart.

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"OA" Division personnel should make good husbands, for they are experienced in dealing with the only thing more unpredictable than the fairer sex.

WEATHER!

That one word sums up, pretty well, the job of the "OA" Division. But it is not as simple a word as it might seem at first.

WEATHER must be defined by the measurement of six meteorological elements. The elements are air temperature, barometric pressure, wind velocity, humidity, clouds and precipitation. Each of these elements requires a special type of training and equipment to unlock its secrets - the information that the LEX Aerographer's Mates must compile, chart, study, evaluate and disseminate.

All weather data collected locally (within about a 400-mile radius of

A few gems submitted by shipmate Bob DiMonte

What do we learn from cow, buffaloes & elephants?



It's impossible to reduce weight by eating green grass and salads and walking

Secrets to Inner Peace

If you can start the day without caffeine,

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains.

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,

If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it.

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,

If you can conquer tension without medical help,

If you can relax without alcohol.

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,

Then You Are Probably

The Family Dog!





Handle every Stressful situation like a dog.

If you can't eat it or play with it, Pee on it and walk away!

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

- Scholarship is available to High School seniors who plan to attend a technical school in addition to those planning to attend a college or university. Applicants are eligible to apply for the scholarship up to the age of 25. Note: This allows our enlistment veterans to apply.
- Scholarship is now available to first and second year (underclassmen) currently attending a college/university or technical school.
- Two \$500 scholarship awards are now available in addition to the \$1,000 award to the first and second runners up as judged by the award committee.
- The essay, of 500 words or less, as described in the application form should also include a paragraph about the applicant's educational or personal goals and any other pertinent information the applicant wishes to share with the award committee.
- The date for submission of scholarship applications to the award committee is June 1st.



The Scholarship Award Program application is included on page 14 of this Sunrise Press.

Please encourage eligible prospective students to apply for the USS Lexington Scholarship Award Program.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PROGRAM USS LEXINGTON CV-16 ASSOCIATION SPONSORED

The Association Scholarship Award is a one-time award to a graduating high school senior or a college / technical school student in their first two years of post-secondary education up to the age of 25. The winning award is in the amount of \$1000 and two awards of \$500 will be granted to the first and second runners up to assist them in furthering their education at a college or technical school of their choice. The award program is open to any high school senior or college/technical school underclassmen who are a family member (son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, etc.) of a USS Lexington Association member. Complete this form and send it to the address shown at the bottom of the form before the deadline.

Name:					
Address:		City		St	_Zip
High School/College/Tech	nical school Name:				
HS GPA:					
PSAT Score:	(or circle) Did Not Ta	ake. N/A for college o	or technical schoo	ol stude	ents.
ACT Score:	(or circle) Did Not Ta	ake. N/A for college o	or technical schoo	ol stude	ents.
Attach a typed essay of 500 the current US Naval fleet. I pertinent information the ap	The essay should also inclu	ıde one paragraph abo	ut your educations		
Applicants Signature		Date			
USS Lexington CV16 Assoc	ciation Member Info:	Name:			
		Address:			
Association Member's Sig	nature:				
Mail this form and essay t	o: Scott and Missy Rec	dding			
	11032 W. Crestline	Drive			
	Littleton, CO 80127				

All Submissions must be postmarked no later than June 1st, 2018

${ m lap{t}}$ Just for the Fun of it











BY: Jimmy Johnson









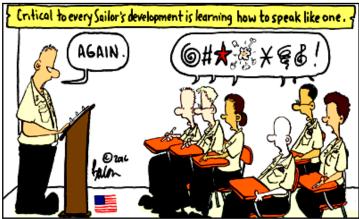








Online viewers, can't get enough of these characters? Click the Arlo and Janis logo, and it'll take you to the artists personal blog page.







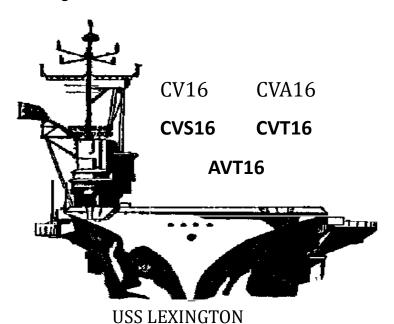


Home Port of:

USS Lexington CV 16 Association

P. O. Box 16

Lexington, IL 61753



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SP 18-02