



USS LEXINGTON CV16

49 YEARS OF SERVICE

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

OCTOBER 2020

Navy replacing iconic peacoat

From the Providence RI Journal... By Allison Farrelly | Special to The Journal

WOONSOCKET, R.I. — An upcoming change in the iconic Navy uniform has local manufacturers reeling as they anticipate decreased production of a garment they have collaborated to make for more than 40 years.

The Navy announced in August 2016 that it would be changing a part of the sailors' uniform, moving from the traditional wool peacoat to a black, synthetic cold weather parka as official outerwear by Oct. 1, 2020.

The peacoat is manufactured by a group of small to midsize businesses in the Northeast. The change in uniform has the potential to impact more than 300 jobs, 30 to 40 of which are at Northwest Woolen Mills in Woonsocket, said Max Brickle, president of The Brickle Group, which owns Northwest Woolen.

Lt. Jessica Anderson, chief of naval personnel spokesperson, said the synthetic parka was selected "to reduce current Navy seabag uniform component requirements."

She said the parka was chosen for its modern appearance, lightweight fabric and its ability to protect against inclement weather.

"We're always working to improve and enhance our uniforms' appearance, performance, utility, comfort and wear," she said.

She also said the parka would eventually "reduce cost to the Navy's annual uniform budget."

Until the change becomes effective, sailors' bags are required to contain the \$145.50 wool peacoat and a \$104.15 all-weather coat. The \$321.46 parka will replace both coats. Anderson said the cost of the parka is expected to decrease significantly as production increases.

The peacoat will become an optional item that sailors can purchase independently. Brickle predicts a significant loss in peacoat sales.

"Are [sailors] going to go out and buy a garment, with their own money, that is expensive?" he said. "Probably not."

Currently, NEXCOM and Propper, a military supplier headquartered in Missouri, produce the parka at Propper's manufacturing plant in Puerto Rico.

"For us, as this peacoat drifts to Puerto Rico, it signifies a shift — that the military is OK with moving production offshores," said Jacob Long, CEO of American Woolen. "This peacoat represents more than a piece of business, it represents the U.S. government's ability to try and help build small business enterprise within the textile supply chain."

The East Coast produces many textile products in clusters, rather than through a vertically integrated model where all steps of a manufacturing process are completed by one business. The clusters rely on small to midsize businesses that lend their expertise to different steps of the manufacturing process.

The "peacoat cluster" manufactures between 40,000 and 60,000 coats annually, Brickle said, and has been doing so for 20 years. Sterlingwear of Boston makes the finished coat in Massachusetts with fabric the company buys from American Woolen Company in Connecticut, and from Northwest Woolen. The wool fibers are spun and dyed respectively by two Pennsylvania companies.

Brickle estimates that when the peacoat changes from mandatory to optional, manufacturing will drop to less than 5,000 coats annually.

Though all the businesses in the cluster manufacture other products, the peacoat generates more than \$3 million in revenue annually for Northwest Woolen, \$10 million for Sterlingwear, and it represents 20 percent of total revenue for American Woolen.

Jack Foster, director of marketing at Sterlingwear, said a diminished demand for peacoats could affect up to 200 jobs at the company. The garment contributes to more than half of its revenue.

Members of the textile cluster are pained to see the Navy replace an "iconic" item. Long, CEO of American Woolen, said the peacoat was the first contract American Woolen signed when it reopened the mill and joined the cluster in 2014.

"There's a lot of history with that garment, and a lot of memories with that garment," said Foster, who grew up in a Navy family in Middletown. "I remember my father when he was shipped out, everyone would line up on the deck of the ship, dressed in their peacoats."

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



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Historian: Howard Canup

WEBSITE: www.usslexingtoncv16.org



A Note from the Editor:

If anyone has articles to include in the newsletter, please send them to me and I'll put them in, including a byline to credit you with the submission. My postal address is:
23428 College Ave. Robertsdale, AL 36567
For electronic submissions, email me at:
editor@usslexingtoncv16.org
Greg Plante, Editor of the Sunrise Press

Sunrise Press - EMAIL Version:

The email version is better than the printed, with color graphics & pictures, e-links and more.

For those receiving the email version of the Sunrise Press: You will receive an email stating that the Press is available for viewing on the website. Follow the link to the Association website where you can view or download the current issue of the Sunrise Press.
www.usslexingtoncv16.org



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.
Membership Dues: \$20/year - Due by Dec. 31st.
Make checks payable to: USS Lexington Association.
Send Dues to: Lance Wagner
71 - 21 73rd Place
Glendale, NY 11385

PAY ONLINE:

Association members can now pay their annual dues online. Just go to our website: usslexingtoncv16.org and press the "Dues and Donation" button.

43rd Annual Reunion of the
USS Lexington CV16 Association

Sept 27 - Sept 30, 2021

Ramada Plaza by Wyndham

Omaha, Nebraska



If you order from Amazon.com 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 and it helps support the ship.
smile.amazon.com CHECK IT OUT!

Only purchases at smile.amazon.com support charity.

UPDATE: Your AmazonSmile Impact .

Your current charity:
Lady Lex Museum on the Bay has received:
\$418.76 as of September 2020.

Clay, Steven B.

08/23/2020 - Newton, AL

<https://www.echovita.com/us/obituaries/al/newton/bruce-stephen-clay-11347147>**Feran, Captain Paul M.**

07/30/2020 - Pensacola, FL

Onboard: 1984-1986

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/pensacolanejournal/obituary.aspx?n=captain-paul-michael-feran&pid=196644218>**Hagy, Dwight L.**

05/15/2020 - Vandalia, IL

Onboard: 1945-1946

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/leaderunion/obituary.aspx?n=dwight-l-hagy&pid=196201342&fhid=10035>**Kist, Robert**

08/07/2020 - Northfield, MN

Onboard: 1960-1963

<https://www.facebook.com/jason.kist.7/posts/10223865563887370>**Symonds, Ronald D.**

08/06/2020 - Pensacola, FL

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/pensacola-fl/ronald-symonds-9302824>**TAPS: DATA-BASE UPDATES****Coker, Edgar**

10/20/2014 - Port Lavaca, TX

Onboard: 1955-1956

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/port-lavaca-tx/edgar-coker-6166880>**Cornell, Arthur**

03/02/2015 - Jacksonville, FL

Onboard: 1944

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/arthur-cornell-obituary?pid=174309490>**Dugas, Adolphe E.**

02/06/2017 - Webster, MA

Onboard: 1943-1946

<https://www.currentobituary.com/obit/203946>**Fantozzi, Angelo**

06/02/2018 - Fresh Meadows, NY

Onboard: 1943-1945

<https://obituaries.nydailynews.com/obituaries/nydailynews/obituary.aspx?n=angelo-fantozzi&pid=189235819&fhid=22046>**Geiler, Carlton V.**

12/03/2011 - Sun City, AZ

Onboard: 1944

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/azcentral/obituary.aspx?n=carlton-vae-geiler&pid=154967211&fhid=12147>**Helphrey, Richard**

04/24/2012 - Winchester, KY

Onboard: 1943

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/NewarkAdvocate/obituary.aspx?n=RG-Helphrey-Dick&pid=157269272>**Lyon, Patrick G.**

08/08/2018 - Minneapolis, MN

Onboard: 1958

<https://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000268845/>**Maxwell, Byron L**

11/02/2013 - Boerne, TX

Onboard: 1959-1961

<https://www.holtfh.com/obituary/3101816>**McClellan, John W**

02/04/2018 - Canton, MA

Onboard: 1943-1946

<https://www.currentobituary.com/obit/217106>**McQuiston, Terence**

08/24/2008 - Cookeville, TN

Onboard: 1960-1961

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/azcentral/obituary.aspx?n=terence-mcquiston&pid=116663103>**Morgan, William D**

09/04/2016 - Smithfield, NC

Onboard: 1955-1958

<https://www.legacy.com/funeral-homes/obituaries/name/william-morgan-obituary?pid=181302485&v=batesville&view=questbook>**Reese, Thomas W**

11/25/2012 - San Diego, CA

Onboard: 1943-1947

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sandiegouniontribune/obituary.aspx?n=thomas-reese&pid=161492913>**Raslovich, George JR**

12/18/2017 - Atlantic City, NY

<https://www.fgozofuneralhome.com/obituary/George-RaslovichJr>**Rowland, Derral**

06/26/2018 - Newcastle, OK

Onboard: 1944

<https://www.wilsonlittle.com/obituary/derral-rowland>**Toscas, John W**

12/14/2014 - Denver, CO

Onboard: 1944

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/denverpost/obituary.aspx?n=john-william-toscas&pid=173706325>**Tronnes, Leonard A**

08/03/2017 - Oregon, WI

Onboard: 1943

<https://www.dlnewcomerfuneralhome.com/obituary/Leonard-Tronnes>

Help us keep our "TAPS" records up to date... We need your help. Our only way of knowing our members have passed, is if someone tells us. We ask that you please notify us of any members who are no longer with us so we can update our records and honor our deceased shipmates in the Sunrise Press. Please email notifications to: editor@usslexingtoncv16.org

Captain Paul Michael Feran

Commanding Officer of the USS Lexington (CVT-16) from 1984 to 1986

Captain Paul Michael Feran passed away peacefully on July 30, 2020 at home with family following a fierce battle against cancer. Paul was born on September 5, 1934 in Duluth, Minnesota to John Michael and Cleo Bowen Feran. He was the youngest of four children in the family, which lived in Minneapolis during the majority of Paul's childhood. Paul was a student at the University of Minnesota, entering the Navy through the Naval Aviation Cadet (NAVCAD) Program in 1957. He reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida and earned his Wings of Gold in 1958. While in Pensacola, he met his adored wife Louella. They proceeded to USNS Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, where their two children Elizabeth and John Edward were born. Next, he reported to Attack Squadron One Hundred Six (VA-106) in 1961, where he experienced being a pilot, Maintenance Officer, and Administrative Officer. He interrupted his time at VA-106 for a tour as Air Operations Officer and Operations Officer on the USS Forrestal (CV-59). Returning to VA-106, he served as Executive Officer. In 1969 Paul went back to the University of Minnesota to finish his Bachelor's of Arts degree. Then, from 1970 to 1972, he served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of Attack Squadron Fifty-Five (VA-55). During his squadron tours, he flew multiple missions over North Vietnam. During 1974 to 1975 he attended the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL. Some classes were carried out on base at Auburn University where he earned a Master's Degree in Political Science. He then went on to serve at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Belgium. From there he was Executive Officer of the USS John F Kennedy (CV-67). Finishing out his Naval career, Paul served as Commanding Officer aboard the USS Kalamazoo (AOR-6) from 1980 to 1982, and finally, Commanding Officer of the USS Lexington (CVT-16) from 1984 to 1986 at NAS Pensacola. Capt Feran retired after just over thirty years of military service, with fifteen of those years spent away at sea. During his career he was awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, eight Air Medals, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Campaign Stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with six Campaign Stars, Vietnam Armed Forces Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross), and the Navy "E" Ribbon. Following his distinguished military service, Paul and his family owned and operated Rusty's Seafood Restaurant, formerly known as Rusty's Fish Camp, in Perdido Key, Florida between 1986 and 1999. After full retirement, Paul dedicated himself to the service of others, most importantly being to that of his beloved family. He was an animal enthusiast and was often found feeding stray cats wherever he resided. Paul's greatest disappointment was that the USS Lexington ended up in Corpus Christi, TX instead of Pensacola. Paul had an extensive collection of friends and, in his later years, he would be found enjoying weekly poker games and RO-MEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) lunches. He was proud to be a lifetime member of both the Elks Lodge #2108 and American Legion Post 240. Capt Feran was predeceased by his parents and siblings John Edward, Gerald, and Marie. He is survived by his wife of sixty-one years Louella Lokey Feran, his two children Elizabeth Feran Blake and John Edward Feran, his three grandchildren Emily Drew Blake, Conner Daniel Blake, and Laura Marie Feran, in addition to countless friends and relatives across the country. Internment will include a private service at Barrancas National Cemetery. A memorial service at St. John's Catholic Church will be announced and held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, Paul's family requests that donations be made to the Pensacola Humane Society, or a charity of your choice that supports US Veterans, in his honor. For online information to donate, please visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/hsopi/>.



PAUL, YOU WILL FOREVER BE OUR HERO!

Pensacola News Journal Obituary



WELCOME ABOARD: NEW MEMBERS

Durham, Randall K

Dad served in WW2
Onboard: 01/1944 - 03/1946

Mercon, Dennis

Onboard: 10/1968 - 10/1970
Engineering

Waikart, Louis J

Onboard: 06/1955 - 12/1957
Gunnery, Marine Corp, Capt Orderly & GQ Orderly

Young, Terry T

Onboard: 1969 - 1970
V-4 DIV

USS Lexington CV16 Association: Membership

The Association welcomes all shipmates, navy, marines, Ships Company, air group personnel who served at some time on a USS Lexington CV 16 (all her designations) or on the USS Lexington CV 2.

Dues are \$20/year, and due at the end of each year.

Dues can be paid online at: www.ussexingtoncv16.org

Dues paid by mail: **Make checks payable to :USS Lexington Association**

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



SHIPMATES LOOKING FOR...

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? Let us know what you're looking for and we'll include it in the newsletter.



NAME: Robert P. Cahillane **EMAIL:** rpc@crocker.com **ADDRESS:** 377 Prospect Street, Northampton, MA 01060-2048

Subject: Blue Lunch Plate

As a former crew member, a late friend of mine when visiting the ship about 20 years ago, bought a Blue Lunch Plate with a picture of the ship, with a plane taking off, and sent it to me as a gift. Recently I had some workmen in my home and it either got broken or stolen, they claim to have no idea what happened to it. In memory of my late friend John Wayne Watkins, aka J.W., a former Princeton Sailor, if one could be found I'd like to but it, (they are no longer sold at the gift shop).

NAME: Robert L. Duncan Jr **EMAIL:** robertduncan0@me.com

Subject: Boxing aboard Lexington

I have photos of my Dad, Robert Lee Duncan, boxing aboard the Lexington. Appears to be a below deck Ring set up for recreational boxing matches. Does anyone remember my Dad? Or are there additional photos? Muster shows him aboard at the end of WW2.

NAME: John Harrell **EMAIL:** h3j2c2t1a@sbcglobal.net

Subject: LEX visits to New Orleans

Looking for any info on the USS Lexington port visit(s) to New Orleans, and if launch of a jet aircraft in the Mississippi River.

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION:

To place a notice in the "Looking For" section of the newsletter, go to the website and click on "Contact CV 16" and fill out the form. Or send an email to editor@usslexingtoncv16.org

Written submissions can be sent to:

Greg Plante, 23428 College Ave, Robertsdale, Alabama 36567

COVID-19 POSTPONES 43RD ANNUAL REUNION



As I write this message for the October edition of the Sunrise Press I would normally be reviewing the annual reunion and what a great time we had. Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions were placed upon us by the reunion hotel and other planned events. These restrictions would have made it impossible to hold the reunion in the way we have for so many years. Therefore, I along with concurrence of other Association officers, were forced to cancel what would have been the 43rd annual USS Lexington CV 16 Association reunion. That said we will prevail and hold the 2021 reunion in Omaha, NE beginning on Sept. 27 and ending on Sept 30, 2021. Nothing changes except the dates. More information will be published in future editions of the Sunrise Press.

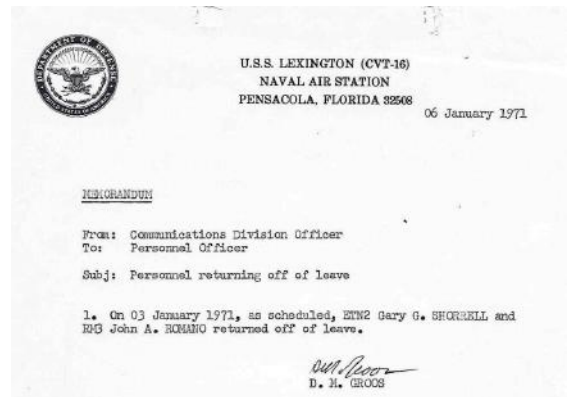
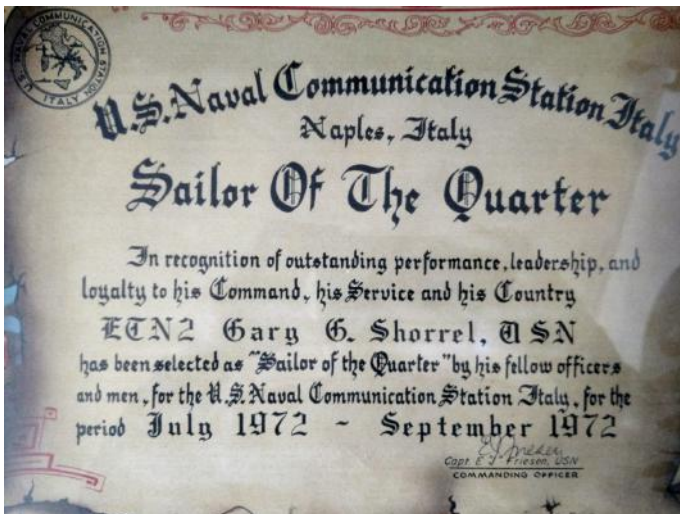
The USS Lexington Museum by the Bay (and our ship) has felt the effects of the pandemic. Attendance is down signifi-

cantly and so is revenue. However, expenses remain at pre-pandemic levels. In view of this our Association has donated \$1,000 to the museum and unnamed officers of the Association have donated another \$1,000 as personal donations. Capt. Banta, Executive Director of the museum, has expressed his sincere thanks for the Association and other donations to date. To the Association members (or other shipmates and friends) reading this message, if you can see the way, go to the Association WEB site usslexingtoncv16.org and donate what you can to help out the museum and our ship during these difficult times. Every dollar helps!

In closing I want to convey a special thank you to the officers of the USS Lexington CV 16 Association and also to the co-editor of the Sunrise Press. They work behind the scenes for the good of the Association and to make our reunions a success and a fun time. To all Association members and shipmates, stay safe, follow the rules and we will all enjoy getting together again in Omaha when this virus is past.

Gary Shorrel, President, USS LEX Association

Submitted by Shipmate Gary Shorrel: A bit of history from my Navy days.



I had no idea they kept records like this. John Ramano was a good friend and fellow shipmate. We worked together in CR Division. Oh, one small typo, one too many "Ls" in Shorrel.



OMAHA IS MILITARY PROUD



Conveniently located...

...for everyone!

43rd Annual Reunion of the USS Lexington CV16 Association
September 27th - September 30th, 2021.....Ramada Plaza by Wyndham - Omaha, Nebraska



BEAUTIFUL AMERICA

As a child growing up in Port Arthur Texas, I was one of many children whose parents were from Louisiana so we traveled quite a bit between the two states. Sometimes we would go back and forth two or three times a day. On many of my trips with my dad I would eventually ask "dad how much further?" he would reply "not much further son."

Many times he would take a different route to show us where he grew up or some old plantation home. I would try to take in as much visually as a child's eyes could embrace. The stories he shared I found hard to believe, simply because the place where this atrocity took place was now so peaceful and beautiful. Nestled in that area now stood beautiful weeping willows trees beckoning one to stare just a little longer. Majestic oaks whispering as the wind blew through their leaves. The groundcover of wandering jew heart-shaped leaves with purple stripes laid as a painted picture and there in the background was that rickety old plantation house and the stories it held behind those cobweb covered doors and windows. The weather beaten exterior, roof collapsing under years of secrets kept within the forest. However, as horrible as the stories my dad shared, it was still beautiful America to me.

America is still beautiful in spite of history being made around us. I can't imagine the core feelings deep in my dad's heart as he shared his history of Louisiana

with me. By the sound of tension I heard in his voice I felt the depth of his hurt.

Sometimes I cannot wrap my mind around what one human can do to another human. Or what a man could do to a woman. Or what an adult can do to a child. I am sure that the sound bites we hear on the evening news do not help the situation. Or for the mere fact that our elected men and women cannot agree on what is best for Beautiful America.

When my dad showed me the old plantation house, the trees surrounding it grew in the midst of whatever was taking place. The sun rose the next day revealing the hurt from the day before yet shining hope for a better tomorrow. Beautiful America has forgiven herself for allowing some things to take place; why can't we. As a Pastor I have found that the hardest thing to do is for one to forgive themselves. America being the foliage and fauna, America the clay and the rock, America the west coast and the east coast. America, the rocky mountains and the valleys are low. America is still beautiful. II Chronicles 7:14 gives us to know: "If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Beautiful America...

Dad, how much further?

Son, we are almost there.



Chaplain Hagger pastors All People Worship Center in Odessa, Texas .

He also oversees the operation at All People Hospice and Healthcare.

Contact: Address: 4745 N. Sierra Ave, Odessa, TX 79764 — Phone: 432-258-7751 / FAX: 432-381-5272 / Cell: 832-312-0892

Chaplain Hagger can be reached anytime.....no matter what the time.



**Look for the Updated
Reunion Information
in our January 2021 Issue
of the Sunrise Press.**

Save the Dates... September 27th - 30th

RAMADA PLAZA BY WYNDHAM



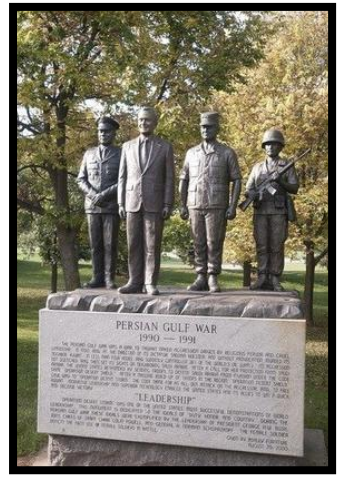
OMAHA



JOIN US IN OMAHA RAMADA PLAZA BY WYNDHAM

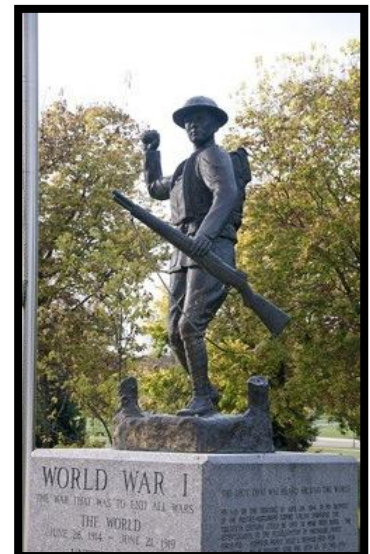
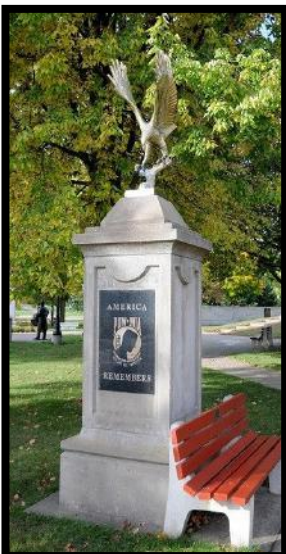
Experience comfort and convenience at Ramada Plaza by Wyndham Omaha. Ideally located off I-80 just a few miles from the city's top attractions, including The Old Market District. The hotel features the Coco Key Indoor Water Park (additional fees apply) on site and you can join us at the bar for refreshing cocktails. You'll also appreciate complimentary breakfast, the fitness center, and our large, guest-friendly indoor plaza. Each non-smoking guest room features an HDTV, microwave, mini-refrigerator, and work area.

Soldiers Walk Memorial Park, Arcadia, Wisconsin *Submitted by: Shipmate Gary Shorrel*



Memorial Park is a 51-acre park and has some very awesome features including a one-third mile walk from the entrance to the rear of the 2000-seat Millennium Amphitheater. This walk is also referred to as Avenue of Heroes, which is a unique tribute to the veterans of various wars and conflicts. More than 20 monuments are stationed along this walk ranging from the Revolutionary War through the General's Overlook. It features a 500-year "walk" through time beginning when Arcadia was first settled in 1854. Buried in the walk are many facts on the origin and history of Arcadia, etched in gray granite stones. One of the newest attention-getting memorials in the park is the War on Terrorism. It features twisted steel from one of the World Trade Center from the 9-11-2001 tragedy. War years are represented with planters that house many beautiful floral arrangements.

Visit the website where you can take a "drone's eye view" of the park and listen to the narration of what this park is all about. <https://www.soldierswalkmemorialpark.com/>



Veteran's Memorial Feature:

We want to showcase Veteran's Memorials from all across the United States. Send photos and information of your local Memorials or those you come across while traveling. We'll share them in the Sunrise Press.

Snail Mail to: Greg Plante: 23428 College Ave, Robertsdale, AL 36567 - Email to: editor@usslexingtoncv16.org

I received this "History of the Lex" in my email from <https://loveusnavy.com> a company that designs T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Mugs and more. **Note: I have not personally had any contact or experience working with this company and thus cannot endorse them, but they do have quite a verity of merchandise you may like.

HISTORY OF THE USS LEXINGTON:

USS Lexington (CV/CVA/CVS/CVT/AVT-16), nicknamed "The Blue Ghost", is an Essex-class aircraft carrier built during World War II for the United States Navy. Originally intended to be named Cabot, word arrived during construction that USS Lexington (CV-2) had been lost in the Battle of the Coral Sea. The new aircraft carrier was renamed while under construction to commemorate the earlier ship.

She was the fifth U.S. Navy ship to bear the name in honor of the Revolutionary War Battle of Lexington.

Construction and career

Lexington was laid down as Cabot 15 July 1941 by Bethlehem Steel Co., Quincy, Mass.; renamed Lexington 16 June 1942; launched 26 September 1942; sponsored by Mrs. Theodore D. Robinson; and commissioned 17 February 1943, Capt. Felix B. Stump in command.

World War II

After Caribbean shakedown and yard work at Boston, Lexington sailed for Pacific action via the Panama Canal, arriving Pearl Harbor 9 August 1943. She raided Tarawa in late September and Wake in October, then returned Pearl Harbor to prepare for the Gilbert Islands operation. From 19 to 24 November she made searches and flew sorties in the Marshalls, covering the landings in the Gilberts. Her aviators downed 29 enemy aircraft on 23 and 24 November.

Kwajalein raid

Lexington sailed to raid Kwajalein 4 December. Her morning strike destroyed a cargo ship, damaged two cruisers, and accounted for 30 enemy aircraft. Her gunners splashed two of the enemy torpedo planes that attacked at midday, and opened fire again at 1925 that night when a major air attack began. At 2322 parachute flares silhouetted the carrier, and 10 minutes later she was hit by a torpedo to starboard, knocking out her steering gear. Settling 5 feet by the stern, the carrier began circling to port amidst dense clouds of smoke pouring from ruptured tanks aft. An emergency hand-operated steering unit was quickly devised, and Lexington made Pearl Harbor for emergency repairs, arriving 9 December. She reached Bremerton, Wash., 22 December for full repairs completed 20 February 1944.

Battle of the Philippine Sea

Lexington sailed via Alameda, Calif., and Pearl Harbor for Majuro, where Rear Adm. Marc Mitscher commanding TF 58 broke his flag in her 8 March. After a warmup strike against Mille, TF 58 operated against the major centers of resistance in Japan's outer empire, supporting the Army landing at Hollandia 13 April, and hitting supposedly invulnerable Truk 28 April. Heavy counterattack left Lexington untouched, her planes splashing 17 enemy fighters; but, for the second time, Japanese propaganda announced her sunk.

A surprise fighter strike on Saipan 11 June virtually eliminated all air opposition over the island, then battered from the air for the next 5 days. On 15 June Lexington fought off a fierce attack by Japanese torpedo planes based on Guam, once again to emerge unhurt, but sunk a third time by propaganda pronouncements. As Japanese opposition to the Mariannas operation provoked the Battle of the Philippine Sea 19 and 20 June, Lexington played a major role in TF 58's great victory. With over 300 enemy aircraft destroyed the first day, and a carrier, a tanker, and a destroyer sunk the second day, American aviators virtually knocked Japanese naval aviation out of the war; for with the planes went the trained and experienced pilots without whom Japan could not continue air warfare at sea.

Using Eniwetok as her base, Lexington flew sorties over Guam and against the Palaus and Bonins into August. She arrived in the Carolinas 6 September for 3 days of strikes against Yap and Ulithi, then began attacks on Mindanao, the Visayas, the Manila area, and shipping along the west coast of Luzon, preparing for the coming assault on Leyte. Her task force then blasted Okinawa 10 October and Formosa 2 days later to destroy bases from which opposition to the Philippines campaign might be launched. She was again unscathed through the air battle fought after the Formosa assault.

Battle of Leyte Gulf

Now covering the Leyte landings, Lexington's planes scored importantly in the Battle for Leyte Gulf, the climactic American naval victory over Japan. While the carrier came under constant enemy attack in the engagement in which Princeton was sunk, her planes joined in sinking Japan's superbattleship Musashi and scored hits on three cruisers 24 October. Next day, with Essex aircraft, they sank carrier Chitose, and alone sank Zuikako. Later in the day, they aided in sinking a third carrier, Zuiho. As the retiring Japanese were pursued, her planes sank heavy cruiser Nachi with four torpedo hits 5 November off Luzon.

But in the same action, she was introduced to the kamikaze as a flaming Japanese plane crashed near her island, destroying most of the

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island structure and spraying fire in all directions. Within 20 minutes major blazes were under control, and she was able to continue normal flight actions, her guns knocking down a would-be kamikaze heading for carrier Ticonderoga as well. On 9 November Lexington arrived Ulithi to repair battle damage and learn that Tokyo once again claimed her destroyed.

Chosen flagship for TG 58.2 on 11 December, she struck at the airfields of Luzon and Formosa during the first 9 days of January 1945, encountering little enemy opposition. The task force then entered the China Sea to strike enemy shipping and air installations. Strikes were flown against Saipan, Camranh Bay in then Indochina, Hong Kong, the Pescadores, and Formosa. Task force planes sank four merchant ships and four escorts in one convoy, and destroyed at least 12 in another, at Camranh Bay 12 January. Leaving the China Sea 20 January, Lexington sailed north to strike Formosa again 21 January and Okinawa again 22 January.

After replenishing at Ulithi, TG 58.2 sailed 10 February to hit airfields near Tokyo 16 and 17 February to minimize opposition to the Iwo Jima landings 19 February. Lexington flew close support for the assaulting troops 19 to 22 February, then sailed for further strikes against the Japanese home islands and the Nansei Shoto before heading for overhaul at Puget Sound.

Rear Admiral Sprague's task force

Lexington was combat bound again 22 May, sailing via Alameda and Pearl Harbor for San Pedro Bay, Leyte, where she joined Rear Adm. T. L. Sprague's task force for the final round of airstrikes which battered the Japanese home islands through July until 15 August, when the last strike was ordered to jettison its bombs and return to Lexington on receiving word of Japanese surrender. During this period she had launched attacks on Honshu and Hokkaido airfields, and Yokosuka and Kure naval bases to destroy the remnants of the Japanese fleet. She had also flown bombing attacks on industrial targets in the Tokyo area.

After hostilities ended, she continued to fly precautionary patrols over Japan, and dropped supplies to prisoner of war camps on Honshu. She supported the occupation of Japan until leaving Tokyo Bay 3 December with homeward bound veterans for transportation to San Francisco, where she arrived 15 December.

After the war

After west coast operations, Lexington decommissioned at Bremerton, Wash., 23 April 1947 and entered the Reserve Fleet there. Designated attack carrier CVA-16 on 1 October 1952, she began conversion and modernization in Puget Sound Naval Shipyard 1 September 1953, receiving the new angled flight deck.

Lexington recommissioned 15 August 1955, Capt. A. S. Heyward, Jr., in command. Assigned San Diego as her home port, she operated off California until May 1956, sailing then for a 6-month deployment with the 7th Fleet. She based on Yokosuka for exercises, maneuvers, and search and rescue missions off the coast of China, and called at major Far Eastern ports until returning San Diego 20 December. She next trained Air Group 12, which deployed with her on the next 7th Fleet deployment. Arriving Yokosuka 1 June 1957, Lexington embarked Rear Adm. H. D. Riley, Commander Carrier Division 1, and sailed as his flagship until returning San Diego 17 October.

1958 Taiwan Strait crisis

Following overhaul at Bremerton, her refresher training was interrupted by the Lebanon crisis; on 14 July 1958 she was ordered to embark Air Group 21 at San Francisco and sail to reinforce the 7th Fleet off Taiwan, arriving on station 7 August. With another peacekeeping mission of the U.S. Navy successfully accomplished, she returned San Diego 19 December. Now the first carrier whose planes were armed with air-to-surface Bullpup guided missile, Lexington left San Francisco 26 April 1959 for another tour of duty with the 7th Fleet. She was on standby alert during the Laotian crisis of late August and September, then exercised with British forces before sailing from Yokosuka 16 November for San Diego, arriving 2 December. Through early 1960 she overhauled at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

Far East

Lexington's next Far Eastern tour began late in 1960 and was extended well into 1961 by renewed tension in Laos. Returning to west coast operations, she was ordered in January 1962 to prepare to relieve Antietam (CVS-36) as aviation training carrier in the Gulf of Mexico, and she was redesignated CVS-16 on 1 October 1962. However, during the Cuban missile crisis, she resumed duty as an attack carrier, and it was not until 29 December 1963 that she relieved Antietam at Pensacola.

Training carrier

Into 1969, Lexington has operated out of her home port, Pensacola, as well as Corpus Christi and New Orleans, qualifying student aviators and maintaining the high state of training of both active duty and reserve naval aviators. Her work has been of increasing significance as she has prepared the men vital to the continuing Navy and Marine Corps operations over Vietnam, where naval aviation has played a major role in defending the cause of freedom. Lexington marked her 200,000th arrested landing 17 October 1967, and was redesignated CVT-16 on 1 January 1969.

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She continued as a training carrier for the next 22 years until she was relieved by Forrestal, and Lexington was decommissioned and struck on 8 November 1991.

On 18 August 1980, Lexington became the first aircraft carrier in United States naval history to have women stationed aboard as crew members.

On 29 October 1989, a student naval aviator lost control of his T-2 training aircraft after an aborted attempt to land on Lexington's flight deck. The aircraft inverted and hit the island with its left wing, killing four crew members (including the pilot of the plane who had begun an ejection sequence) and one civilian maintenance worker and injuring seventeen. The island suffered no major damage, and fires from the burning fuel were extinguished within 15 minutes.

Lexington was the final Essex-class carrier in commission, after USS Oriskany had been decommissioned in 1976.

USS Lexington Museum

On 26 November 1991 the US Navy turned the Lexington over to the City of Corpus Christi. On 15 June 1992, the ship was donated as a museum and now operates as the "USS Lexington Museum on the Bay" at 2914 North Shoreline Boulevard, Corpus Christi, Texas.

The National Naval Aviation Museum, at Naval Air Station Pensacola, has a small carrier deck mock-up, whose flight deck is constructed from deck boards salvaged from Lexington.

Commanding Officers

CAPT Felix Budwell Stump (USNA 1917) (17 February 1943 - 10 April 1944) (ADM)

CAPT Ernest Wheeler Litch (USNA 1920) (10 April 1944 - 30 January 1945) (VADM)

CAPT Thomas Hinckley Robbins, Jr. (USNA 1920) (30 January 1945 - 18 November 1945) (RADM)

CAPT Bradford Ellsworth Grow (USNA 1922) (18 November 1945 - 11 October 1946) (RADM)

CAPT William Alexander Sutherland, Jr. (USNA 1927) (11 October 1946 - 23 April 1947) (RADM)

Decommissioned (1947 - 1955)

CAPT Alexander Salley Heyward, Jr. (USNA 1930) (15 August 1955 - 4 October 1956) (VADM)

CAPT John Wendell Gannon (USNA 1931) (4 October 1956 - 19 September 1957) (RADM)

CAPT Burl Leonidas Bailey (USNA 1932) (19 September 1957 - 23 July 1958)

CAPT James Robert Reedy (USNA 1933) (23 July 1958 - 16 June 1959) (RADM)

CAPT Stanley Erdman Ruehlow (USNA 1935) (16 June 1959 - 8 July 1960)

CAPT Stockton Birney Strong (USNA 1937) (8 July 1960 - 23 July 1961)

CAPT Hart Dale Hilton (NAVCAD 1937) (23 July 1961 - 18 July 1962)

CAPT Lucien Cletus Powell, Jr. (USNA 1939) (18 July 1962 - 26 July 1963)

CAPT John Meredith Miller (USNA 1940) (26 July 1963 - 10 June 1964)

CAPT Quentin Claiborne Crommelin (USNA 1941) (10 June 1964 - 9 June 1965)

CAPT Gordon Alva Snyder (USNA 1943) (9 June 1965 - 19 August 1966)

CAPT Jack Charles Heishman (USNR? 1942) (19 August 1966 - 10 August 1967)

CAPT Edward William Gendron (USNR? 1943) (10 August 1967 - 10 January 1969)

CAPT Wayne Elden Hammett (USNR? 1944) (10 January 1969 - 26 March 1970)

CAPT Cyrus Falconer Fitton (NAVCAD 1943) (26 March 1970 - 14 April 1971)

CAPT Jack Edward Davis (USNR? 1945) (14 April 1971 - 21 December 1972)

CAPT Charles Curtis Carter (USNA 1953) (21 December 1972 - 24 August 1973)

CAPT Jack Edward Davis (USNR? 1945) (24 August 1973 - 8 November 1973)

CAPT Donald Edsel Moore (USNR 1950) (8 November 1973 - 9 July 1975)

CAPT Thornwell Frank Rush (USNA 1951) (9 July 1975 - 25 May 1977)

CAPT Eugene Barker ("Red") McDaniel (USNR? 1956) (25 May 1977 - 30 November 1978)

CAPT Philip Edwin Johnson (USNR? 1952) (30 November 1978 - June 1980)

CAPT William Holland Green, Jr. (USNA 1958) (June 1980 - 4 December 1981)

CAPT James Wallace Ryan (NAVCAD 1955) (4 December 1981 - 28 June 1983)

CAPT Harold John Bernsen (NROTC 1958) (28 June 1983 - 14 December 1984) (RADM)

CAPT Paul Michael Feran (NAVCAD 1958) (14 December 1984 - 25 November 1986)

CAPT Haywood Galbraith ("Woodie") Sprouse (NAVCAD 1961) (25 November 1986 - 27 May 1988)

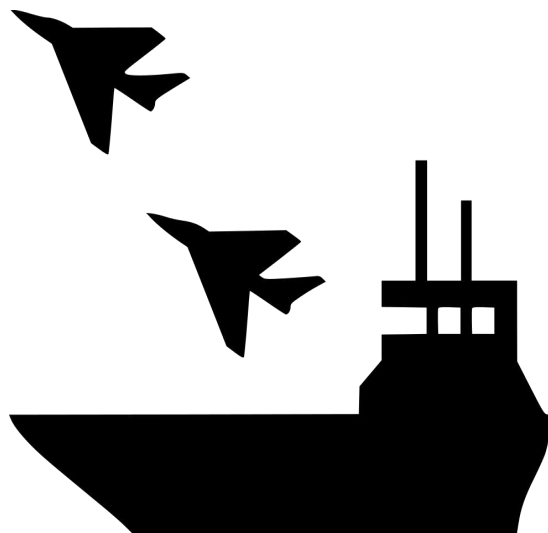
CAPT Carl Flack Logan (USNA 1963) (27 May 1988 - 18 December 1990)

CAPT William Henry Kennedy (AOCP 1965) (18 December 1990 - 26 November 1991)

The crew of Lexington received the **Presidential Unit Citation** for heroism in action against enemy Japanese forces, **11 battle stars** for major engagements during World War II service, and other awards.

AWARDS

- Presidential Unit Citation
- Meritorious Unit Commendation (2)
- Navy Expeditionary Service Medal
- American Campaign Medal
- Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (11 stars)
- World War II Victory Medal
- Navy Occupation Service Medal ("Asia" clasp)
- National Defense Service Medal (2)
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (3)
- Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon
- Philippine Presidential Unit Citation
- Philippine Liberation Medal (2 stars)



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

We have a winner! The USS Lexington CV 16 Association scholarship program and scholarship review committee has selected **Anthony Graziano from Cranford, NJ** as the 2020 USS Lexington CV 16 Association scholarship award winner. Anthony is the grandson of shipmate Guy Graziano. Anthony was awarded the full scholarship award of \$1,000. He will be majoring in the law enforcement field. Congratulations Anthony and good luck with your studies and career going forward.

Scholarship Award Program: USS Lexington CV-16 Association Sponsored

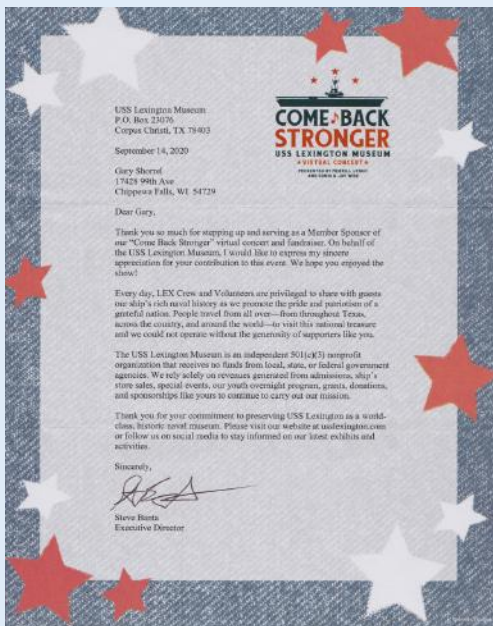
The Association Scholarship Award is a one-time award to a graduating high school senior or a college / technical school student in their first two years of post-secondary education up to the age of 25. The winning award is in the amount of \$1000 and two awards of \$500 will be granted to the first 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.

The 2021 Scholarship Application will be available after the first of the year.

FROM MY EMAIL

We received this Thank You note from the Lexington Museum after several members from our association donated to the ships "Come Back Stronger" fundraiser.

As members of the USS Lexington Association we encourage you to support the USS Lexington Museum. This is our ship!! Let's try to give it our support whenever we can.



Share your LEX stories!

Do you have special memories or sea stories from your days on the LEX. Feel free to share them with us. Just send an email (or snail mail) with your stories and/or pictures so we can include them in the next issue of the Sunrise Press.

Veteran's Memorial Feature:

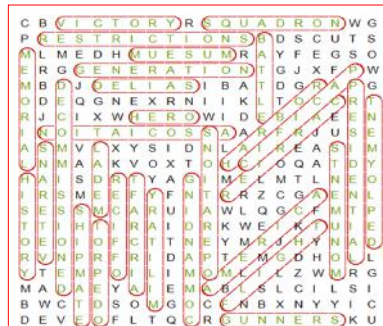
We want to showcase Veteran's Memorials from all across the United States. Send photos and information of your local Memorials or those you come across while traveling. We'll share them in the Sunrise Press.

Shipmates Looking For...

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? Let us know what you're looking for and we'll include it in the newsletter.

Solutions for Puzzles found on page 14

Word Search Solution



Cryptogram Solution:

"It follows then as certain as that night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive, and with it, everything honorable and glorious."
President George Washington

2021 Reunion

USS Lexington CV16 Association

Omaha, Nebraska

Ramada Plaza by Wyndham

SAVE THE DATES: September 27th - 30th



Have you read an interesting article or story recently? Share it with your shipmates! Just email them to us and we'll print them in the Sunrise Press. Email: editor@usslexingtoncv16.org



WORD SEARCH

C B V I C T O R Y R S Q U A D R O N W G
 P R E S T R I C T I O N S B D S C U T S
 M L M E D H M U E S U M R A Y F E G S O
 E R G G E N E R A T I O N T G J X F P W
 M B D J D E L I A S I B A T D G R A P G
 O D E Q G N E X R N I I K L T O C C R T
 R J C I X W H E R O W I D E B I A E E N
 I N O I T A I C O S S A A R F R J U S E
 A S M V L X Y S I D N L A I R E A S I M
 L N M A A K V O X T O H C I O Q A T D Y
 H A I S D R T Y A G I M E L M T L N E O
 I R S M E E F Y F N T R R Z C G A E N L
 S E S S M C A R U I A W L Q G C F M T P
 T T I H T I R A I D R K W E I K T U I E
 O E O I O F C T T N E Y M R J H Y N A D
 R V N P R F R I D A P T E M G D H O L L
 Y T E M P O I L I M O M L I L Z W M R G
 M A D A E Y A I E M A B L S L C I L S I
 B W C T D S O M G O C F N B X N Y Y I C
 D E V E O F L T Q C R G U N N E R S K U

Words are from several articles throughout this issue of the Sunrise Press

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|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| AIRCRAFT | MEDAL |
| AMERICA | MEMORIAL |
| ASSOCIATION | MILITARY |
| BATTLE | MONUMENTS |
| CARRIER | MUSEUM |
| COMMANDING | OFFICER |
| DECOMMIS-
SIONED | OPERATIONS |
| DEPLOYMENT | PACIFIC |
| FLIGHT | PRESIDENTIAL |
| GENERATION | SAILED |
| GUNNERS | SHIPMATE |
| HARBOR | SQUADRON |
| HERO | TORPEDO |
| HISTORY | VETERANS |
| | VICTORY |

CRYPTOGRAM

“PR OYMMYXC RQNL DC FNJRDPL DC RQDR LPTQR
 CWFNKNKC RQN KDE, RQDR XPRQYWR D KNFPCPUN LDUDM
 OYJFN XN FDL KY LYRQPLT KNOPLPRPUN, DLK XPRQ PR,
 NUNJERQPLT QYLYJDZMN DLK TMYJPYWC.” AJNCPKNLR
 TNYJTN XDCQPLTRYL

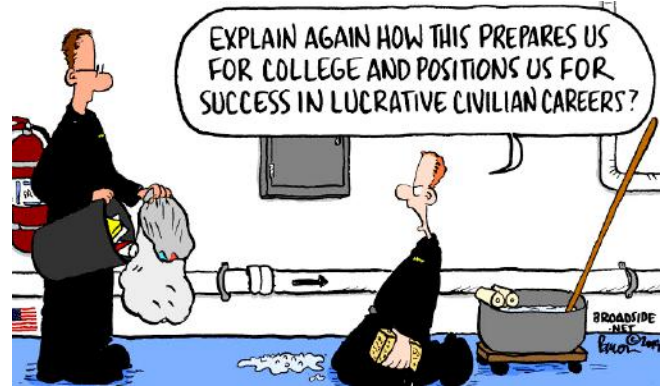
And here is your hint: K = D



Arlo and Janis
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.

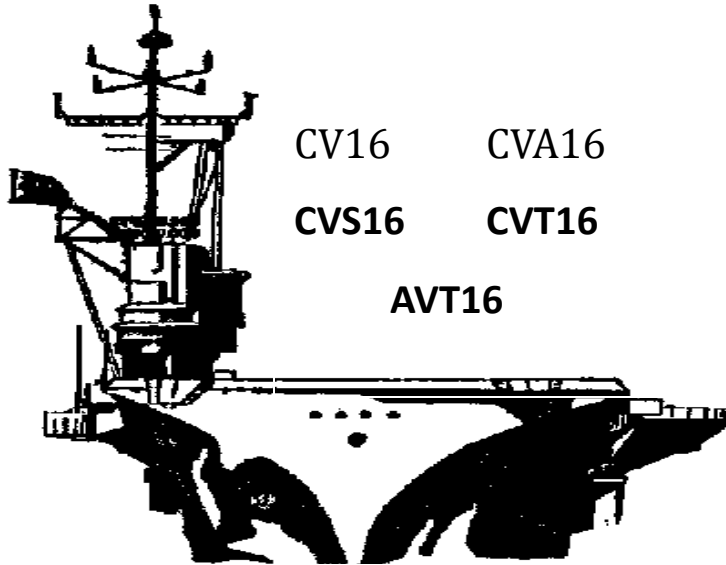


Home Port of:

USS Lexington CV 16 Association

P. O. Box 16

Lexington, IL 61753



CV16 CVA16

CVS16 CVT16

AVT16

USS LEXINGTON

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Scholarship Recipient pg.13

