

USS LEXINGTON CV16

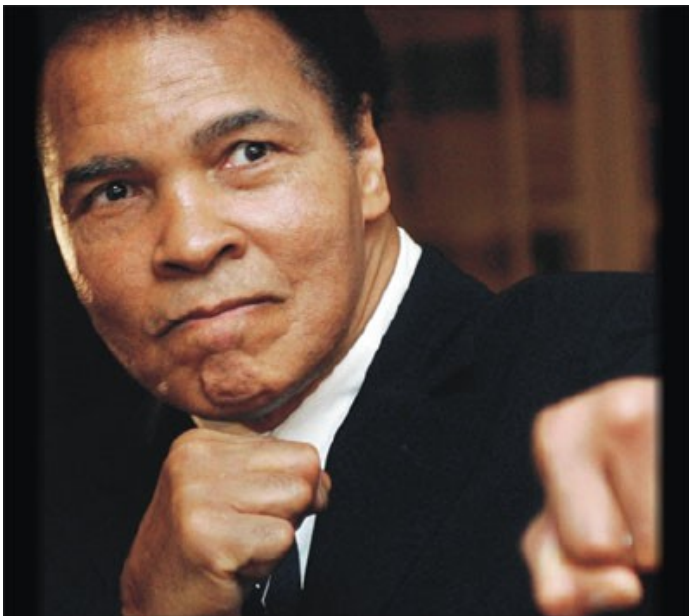
49 YEARS OF SERVICE

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

JULY 2016

The USS Lexington and the late Muhammad Ali

By Past President: Bob DiMonte USN, Retired



The year was 1978, and Ali had lost his heavyweight title to a young fighter named Leon Spinks. The match was set; the site was The Superdome in New Orleans, La.

Lexington was ordered to New Orleans to provide a platform for the change of Command of the Chief of Naval Reserve. It was an exciting opportunity for the crew to experience the city.

The ninety miles up the Mississippi river were full of turns, shipping and small craft coming in all directions, I was amazed we didn't have a collision.

After spending a great Saturday evening in the city, I and shipmate, Chief Earl Sparrow, stopped at the Sheraton Hotel bar for a night cap, before returning to the ship. In the bar was Ali's trainer and manager, Buddi Brown, I

introduced myself and we had a great time chatting about Ali and the upcoming fight. When leaving, I asked Mr. Brown to tell Ali he was welcome to come aboard as my guest.

Sunday morning, I heard the Quarter Deck pass the word "Heavyweight Champion arriving", the phone rang and I was asked to receive a visitor. To my surprise Ali and his wife were waiting for me. I had forgotten about the invitation and was in a bit of shock. We talked for several minutes, and I was getting ready to take them on tour when our Commanding Officer, Captain Gene McDaniel, approached us and I introduced them, The Captain asked if he could escort them, and of course I agreed.

The ship was buzzing for days after the visit and everyone wanted to know how I knew Ali, I told them he was my cousin. Not too many crew members messed with me after that.

Ali went on, won the rematch, and regained the Title, and the rest is history.

The USS Lexington
2016 Reunion
is coming up soon.
Check out pages 5 - 8 in this
newsletter for all the
information you need to
make your plans to attend.

The deadline for registration
is September 1st.

The deadline for making
hotel reservations at the
group rate is August 12th.

Welcome Aboard

- no new members at this time -

TAPS
1913

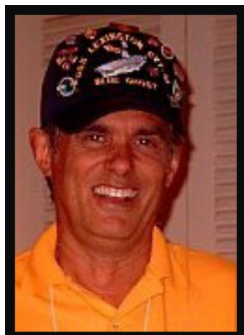


William (Bill) Schorre - Pensacola, Florida
1921 - 2016

Shipmate and WW2 survivor of the Battle of the Coral Sea on CV 2

George E. Miller - Fremont, CA
Served on USS Lex in the early 1960's
Passed away: May 2, 2016

Thomas Friday Jr - Ambler, PA
Long-time Association Member; Passed Away on October 13, 2014



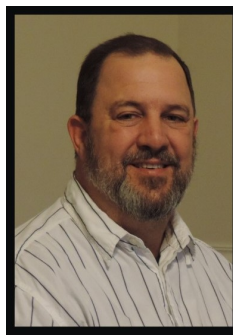
A Word from Lance Wagner:

Look at the list of members; if you see someone you once knew and want their address and phone number, write to me and I'll get it to you. If you know someone who served on the LEX, let me know and I'll send them some information about our group.

Please remember, if you move, to send me your change of address and new phone number. Another thing, look at the date after your name on the label that was used to mail you this newsletter. It is the date your dues are to be paid. Remember that dues are \$15/yr.; make checks payable to: USS Lexington Association.

Send dues to: Lance Wagner

71-21 73rd Place, Glendale, NY 11385



A Note from Greg Plante:

If anyone has any articles they'd like to see included 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 Avenue
Robertsdale, AL 36567

For electronic submissions, my email address is gplante@gulftel.com

PLEASE put USS LEXINGTON or even just LEX in the subject area so that my spam filtering software won't delete it on me.

Thanks, Greg Plante - Editor, Sunrise Press.

Sunrise Press Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the USS Lexington Association CV, CVA, CVS, CVT, AVT16. It's Editor is Greg Plante (contact information in box above). Please contact Greg if you have any questions about anything in the newsletter, or if you would like to offer anything for inclusion.

Association Officers:

President: Jim Barnes; **Vice-President:** Keith Connnealy; **Treasurer:** Lance Wagner;
Secretary: Jay Southard; **Chaplain:** Christopher Hagger ThM

WEBSITE: www.usslexingtoncv16.com

**a better newsletter!...
and it's free!**

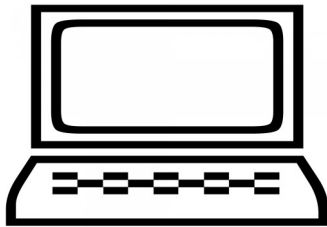
The costs of publishing the newsletter, printing and postage, is growing, and a decrease in the number of newsletters mailed out will greatly help.

We are looking for people who have a computer with email, or access to email, and are willing to receive their newsletter in their email.

The Press can be stored and read on your machine at your leisure, or printed to take with you. It is also better than the print version, with color graphics, pictures, e-links to more info, all sorts of stuff often including 2 - 6 bonus pages not in the print version.

PLEASE give this some real consideration !!! To give you an idea of what you're missing, go to the Association website where the last several issues are posted and see for yourself.

<http://www.usslexingtoncv16.com>



Send your email address to gplante@gulftel.com. Please remember to put Lexington or Lex in the Subject line so my virus filter will leave it alone.

**Association Dues:
EMAIL RECIPIENTS!**

I'm often asked in emails for dues expirations by various members, since there is no address sticker on a mailer label. We've come up with a solution.

Jay Southard's, databases tell him all of those fine things, and he will do a mailing twice a year (January & July) to anyone that comes up showing in arrears, so, watch your e-mail for a note from Jay and don't delete it. You'll need it to know what you owe.

2016 REUNION NEWS

It's time to break out those check books, fill out and complete the forms and mail them to our Treasurer, Lance Wagner.

Thanks to Lloyd Friedi, our WEB site (usslexingtoncv16.org) is up and running. It has all the reunion information along with this issue of the Sunrise Press. Pigeon Forge promises to be a great place to visit.

I have received some criticism for not booking a Dinner theater. My reasoning was to let everyone who wanted to, choose their own and try to keep their expenses down. There are many choices and I'm sure you will find there is something for everyone.

Del Florian will be hosting our hospitably room again, and he is accepting raffle prizes. I have a unique gift for all registered attendees, and will distribute them at our Association meeting.

Also at our meeting, we will have elections of Officers, if anyone would like to run for an Officers position please let our President know.

Have a wonderful summer and a safe trip to Pigeon Forge. Looking forward to seeing everyone. May God Bless you and keep you Healthy and safe.

Fraternally
Bob DiMonte
Past President

Transitions in Life

By: Chaplain Christopher Hagger



In the first chapter in the book of Joshua around the second verse, God gives directions to the now leader of Israel. Joshua is given to understand that Moses

the original leader has died, and now it is time for a transition. It is time for God's people to arise and cross over into Canaan the promise land. However, what separates the people from the promise land is the Jordan river, so God is giving instruction and encouragement to begin the process of transitioning.

Transitioning is hard because It causes you to come out of your comfort zone. It makes you leave the area you have become accustomed to. It guides you into your tomorrows when you don't even know what tomorrow holds for you or your family. It seems to always happen when you are not prepared to transition. This could come in the form of losing a love one, or getting laid off from your job of ten or more years. It could arrive in your life as an illness, or a sudden divorce. But God in His wisdom has a plan for those he has called to move forward. Even if you don't see it or even believe you are worthy, God encouraged Joshua to prepare to move because the promise that God made was waiting on the other side of Jordan. God ministered to Joshua to stay encouraged and believe; believing gives one strength to stand in the midst of adversity. He said to Joshua to be of good courage, don't be afraid, don't give up.

When we allow God to move us from our comfort

zone, He teaches us again. When our steps guide us into unfamiliar places, we seek direction. God gently guides us, Psalms 23:2 reads us such: He make me lie down in green pastures: he leads me beside the still waters. In other words, he teaches me again how to rest in him. As we prepare for the elections in November, as we prepare for the holidays in July. Let us prepare for a transition in our lives, let us transition closer together as fellow Americans. Abandoning our comfort zone of private dislikes, hidden prejudices. Leaving behind the hurt of yesterday, and angers of last month. Our promise lies on the other side of our transition.

God Bless my brothers and sisters of the Lexington community..

Chaplain Chris Hagger



REGISTRATION FORM
2016 PIGEON FORGE, TN
LEXINGTON REUNION
SEPTEMBER 12 – SEPTEMBER 15

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dates on board: _____ Division: _____
Additional guests- please list on back and include in the final numbers below.

**Host Hotel: Music Road Hotel and Convention Center,
303 Henderson Chapel Rd. Pigeon Forge, Tn.**

Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at (855) 790-4646; the group rate is \$109/ night and is good three days pre and post reunion. *Reservation must be made before August 12, 2016*

Register me for the following:

Registration Fee (not optional) # of attendee _____ x \$35 each= \$ _____

September 13 Tour:

Tour of the Great Smoky Mts. # of attendees _____ x \$55 each= \$ _____
Tour includes lunch and is handicap assessable

September 15:

Farewell Banquet # of attendees _____ x \$50 each = \$ _____

Choice of Entrée: French Pork Chops stuffed w/Apricots and Pistachios _____

12oz NY Strip (med) w/caramelized Onions _____

Coat and Tie suggested

All prices include tax, gratuity, and transportation

TOTAL: \$ _____

Mail Registration form and check payable to:

**USS Lexington CV 16 Association;
Lance Wagner
71-21 73 Place
Glendale, New York 11385**

Cut-off date is September 1, 2016

USS LEXINGTON CV16
39TH ANNUAL REUNION - PIGEON FORGE, TN
September 12 thru September 15, 2016
SCHEDULE of EVENTS

September 12th Monday

- 1200 Hospitality Room opens; Registration begins - Riverside Room
- 1600 Hospitality Room closes for Reception Setup
- 1800 Opening Reception, Heavy Hors d'oeuvres, Cash Bar – Riverside Room

September 13th Tuesday

- 0845 Gather in Hotel Lobby
- 0900 Bus departs for Tour of the Great Smoky Mountains
Memorial Service
Lunch at Applewood Farmhouse Restaurant
- 1500 (approx.) Bus returns to Hotel; Hospitality Room opens

September 14th Wednesday*Free day for shopping and sea stories*

- 1200 Hospitality Room opens - Dulcimer Room, Convention Center

September 15 Thursday

- 0900 Hospitality Room opens
- 0930 Business meeting; All members and guests welcome.
- Dulcimer Room, Convention Center
- 1800 Cocktail Hour - Doors will open at 1800, Cash Bar
- Banjo Room, Convention center
- Group Picture, coat and tie suggested
- 1900 Opening remarks from the association President
Dinner served
Entertainment

September 16th Friday

- 0600-1000 Complimentary Breakfast in the Riverside Room

Have a safe trip home

2016 Reunion: September 12th - 15th Pigeon Forge, Tennessee



Our host hotel will be the Music Road Hotel and Convention Center. The hotel is located in the heart of action-packed Pigeon Forge, with scenic views of the Great Smoky Mountains. Hotel amenities include Free WI-FI, Microwave and Mini-Refrigerator, Coffee Maker, 37" Flat Screen TV, Private Balcony, and more!

Included with your stay at the hotel is an Arcade, Fitness Center, Riverside Patio, Gift Shop and much more...



Enjoy some time relaxing in the Indoor Heated Pool and Hot Tub. For your convenience the pool and hot tub are available 24 hours a day.

The rate will be \$109.00/day.
Reservations can be made by calling:
1-855-790-4646
Mention USS LEXINGTON for this rate.
The cut-off date is August 12th
Make your reservations Today!



The hotel offers a daily Complimentary Hot Breakfast served from 6:00 am - 10:00 am.



For more information about the hotel, go to their website:

www.musicroadresort.com

Hotel Address:
303 Henderson Chapel Road
Pigeon Forge, TN 37863

2016 Reunion: September 12th - 15th Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Pigeon Forge is the "City of Fun" in the Smokies. You'll have plenty of free-time to explore the various attractions, live shows, and shop the many stores. For more information about the area attractions check out the list on the hotel website: www.musicroadresort.com or the local website: www.mypigeonforge.com



Rocky Top Tours will take us on a tour of the Great Smoky Mountains on Tuesday, September 13th. You will experience some of the most spectacular panoramic views of the Smokies. We will have our memorial service on the highest peak in the mountains (weather permitting). After the tour, we will have lunch at the Applewood Farmhouse. The food will be served family style. There will be enough time for shopping after lunch. At the Applewood Family Restaurant they make their own homemade Apple Butter, Applewoods Apple Fritters and Applewoods Julep, and they serve them with every Applewood Farmhouse meal. Then they get down to business... Farm Style.



Pigeon Forge has many Dinner Theaters. Here's just a few you might be interested in. Call for prices and times.

Comedy Barn.....1-888-429-5494
Country Tonight.....1-866-429-5494
Hatfield and McCoy.....1-866-492-6972
Grand Majestic.....1-865-774-77



At the Music Road Hotel a Pigeon Forge City Trolley picks up guests in front of the hotel. Trolleys provide an inexpensive way for shopping and sight seeing. Plan to take the trolley when visiting the Pigeon Forge area.



U.S. Navy Sends Two Aircraft Carriers to the Med in Throwback to Iraq Invasion



BY PAUL MCLEARY JUNE 8, 2016/FP Group/The Cable
Photo Credit: U.S. Navy/ Michael W. Pendergrass/Getty Images

The Obama administration has deployed two aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean Sea for the first time since the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003. The ships are expected to launch strikes on the Islamic State across Syria and Iraq — the very country President Barack Obama promised to disentangle the United States from when he was running for office in 2008.

The returning double punch brings some much-needed firepower against the Islamic State as U.S. aircraft back up Iraqi forces in reclaiming the cities of Fallujah and Mosul, and Sunni rebels and Kurdish fighters who are battling it out with the Islamist group across northern Syria.

The presence of two carrier strike groups will “support European allies and partners, deter potential threats and are capable of conducting operations in support of the counter-ISIL mission,” Lt. Col. Dave Westover, U.S. European Command spokesman, said in a statement Wednesday. ISIL is an acronym for the Islamic State.

Thirteen years ago, the USS *Harry S. Truman* and USS *Theodore Roosevelt* bombed Iraqi army targets from the Med in the opening days of the U.S. invasion. They were part of a force of six U.S. carriers in Mideast wa-

terways for the battle. Now the *Truman* is back in the Med, where it was joined Wednesday by the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower*, which U.S. defense officials expect will soon begin striking the Islamic State.

The *Truman* left the Persian Gulf last week after a seven-month tour and was stationed in the eastern Mediterranean by Friday. Over the weekend, it began hitting Islamic State targets in Iraq and Syria, and its aircraft have flown 40 sorties and dropped 35 bombs on insurgent positions, a Navy official told Foreign Policy. The *Truman* is scheduled to head back to Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia, in July. The *Eisenhower*, meanwhile, will take over the *Truman*’s mission, but based in the Gulf.

During its tour in the Gulf, the *Truman* contributed about 25 percent of the firepower in the ongoing air war, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson told reporters at the Pentagon last month. It was so critical that earlier this year, the Navy extended its deployment by 30 days, which it is now finishing up with its handoff to the *Eisenhower*.

The two ships operating together comes just months after Washington ran out of flattops to send to the fight. After the *Roosevelt* left the Gulf in October, there was a two-month gap — the first since 2007 — between carrier deployments there. Navy officials said the gap was necessary to shorten sailors’ deployments after years of extending them, and to do critical repairs and refitting that were prevented earlier by requirements to have two carriers continuously stationed in the Persian Gulf between 2011 and 2013.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PROGRAM

USS Lexington CV-16 Association Sponsored

The Association Scholarship Award is a one time award to a graduating Senior in the amount of \$1000 to assist them in furthering their education at a college of their choice. It is open to any senior who is a family member (son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, etc.) Complete this form and send it to the address shown at the bottom of the form before the deadline.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

High School Name: _____

GPA: _____

PSAT Score: _____ (or circle) Did Not Take

ACT Score: _____ (or circle) Did Not Take

Attach a typed Essay of 250 words or less concerning the United States Navy of a historical nature, or more topical with respect to the current US Naval fleet.

USS Lexington CV16 Association Member Info: Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail this form and essay to:

Scott and Missy Redding
11032 W. Crestline Drive
Littleton, CO 80127

All Submissions must be postmarked no later than 31 August 2016

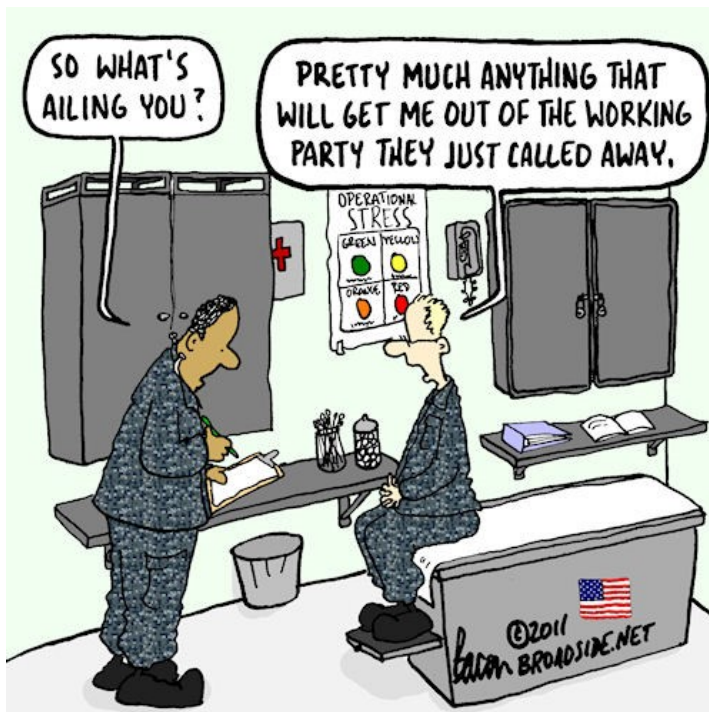


Arlo and Janis

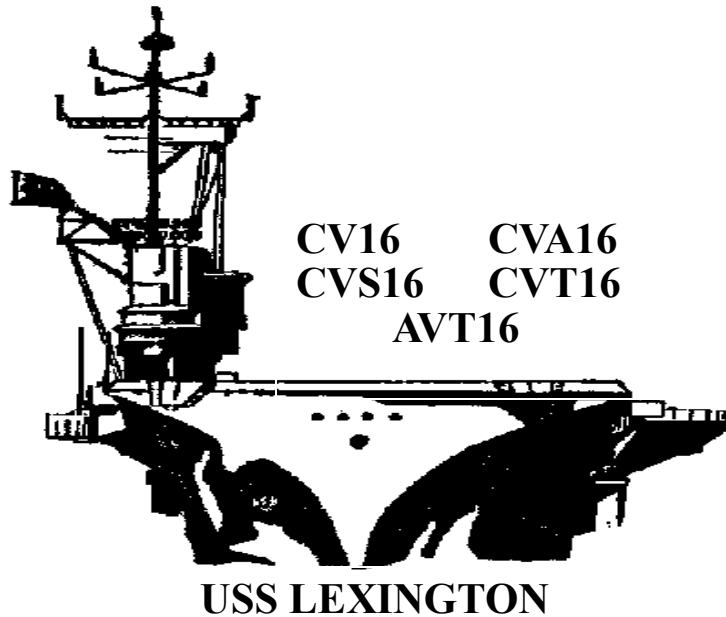
BY: Jimmy Johnson









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



**** IN THIS ISSUE ****

-  USS LEX & Muhammad Ali Pg. 1
-  A Message from Chaplain Christopher Hagger Pg. 4
-  Registration Form for 2016 Pigeon Forge Reunion Pg. 5
-  Schedule of events for 2016 Pigeon Forge Reunion Pg. 6
-  Scholarship Application Form Pg.10
-  Humor Pg. 11



* E-mail Version ONLY