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# The Sunrise Press

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USS LEXINGTON CV16

49 YEARS OF SERVICE

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

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NOVEMBER 2024

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## The times, they are a-changing

By Greg Plante, Editor

Well..... Another successful reunion is in the record books for the Association. The times *are* a-changing, as we see the effects of time on all of us. I kept noticing how much older all of my shipmates have gotten since I last saw them, though surely I haven't aged a bit. LOL.

So, what has really changed? Well, several things. Some will be expounded upon in this edition where more space permits, but let's see what we've got from this reunions Business and Board meetings to share with you.

First, the Scholarship. It's something we wish to continue, as it's one of our legacy programs that we do as a community of shipmates. Figuratively, we're still serving people. But, pre-Covid, funds were a little more plentiful (not that we're dying right now, but with two years of people withdrawing from the world around them, and no reunions, it was bound to happen that funds would decrease). So we're reducing the award back to 1 at \$500 for the time being, until funds become a little better. What will increase them? I'm glad you asked. That's the next item.

Dues. It's only a yearly thing, so many of us forget about them. But we currently have 46% of our membership in arrears from 1 to 5 years. Why no further in arrears? Well, because 233 members were culled from the roster for non payment of dues. For how far back? Over 5 years (some were as far back as 2008. That's 16 years!). You may be thinking that we just cut off an income source. Well, since they weren't paying, that'd be a no, and many of them were receiving the Press by mail. So they were actually an un-recouped expenditure. They are

of course, welcomed to rejoin provided they pay dues each year, so if any of them mention to you that they aren't getting the press any more, well, that's likely why, so tell them to re-apply for membership. I say "likely" because there is another reason possible. That's item three...

The Sunrise Press Newsletter. With dues receipts way down, and our greatest regular expense being the mailing out of the Sunrise Press (just a hair over \$2100/yr), we took a hard look at it, and to print, address, and mail out to the 133 receivers

of the press, that comes out to a little over \$3 per issue per member. "Oh, but some folks don't have a computer at home..." True, but many have a cell phone, and the majority of them are going to be smart phones, which means that the newsletter can be accessed on the website via their phones. "but, but..." Yes, we may

miss one or two somehow, but there are also family members that can print it off for them as well. We have some who have already gone that route, and it works well for them. But the result is that March of 2025 will be the last snail mail version of the Sunrise Press, and will be solely electronic thereafter. You'll get an e-mail with a link to it on our website, just as happens now. Or you can just check out the website in March, July, and November, which is when they are published. Oh... one other change... after 17 years of my doing this for the Association, someone else has volunteered to take over the editing and publication of the newsletter. Stay tuned for the March issue to be introduced to the new editor.

Lastly, the reunion location for next year has been changed from Bremerton, WA due to logistics difficulties not expected. 2025's reunion will be held in Memphis, TN. So, stay tuned for the March and July issues next year to have that info for you.



**Sunrise Press - Triannual Publication  
USS LEXINGTON ASSOCIATION**

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**USS LEXINGTON CV 16 ASSOCIATION**

**Executive Officers:**

President: Christopher Hagger  
Vice President: Del Florian  
Treasurer: Eric Friedli  
Secretary: Greg Plante

**Appointed Positions**

Chaplain: Christopher Hagger  
Sunrise Press Editor, Webmaster, and  
Data Base Tech: Greg Plante  
Historian: (Charles Alchimowicz)

**WEBSITE: [www.usslexingtoncv16.org](http://www.usslexingtoncv16.org)**



**Office of the Treasurer**

**Treasurer: Eric Friedli**

Membership Dues: \$25/year  
Due by Dec. 31st.

Make checks payable to:  
USS Lexington Association

**Send Dues to Eric or Pay Online**

**MAIL to:** Eric Friedli

12734 19th Ave NE Seattle, WA98125

**PAY ONLINE:** website: [usslexingtoncv16.org](http://usslexingtoncv16.org)

CLICK: "Dues and Donation"



**A Note from the Editor:**

Have you read an interesting article or story recently? Or maybe have some memorabilia from your time on the LEX? Share it with your shipmates! Just send them to me and I'll put them in the Sunrise Press, space permitting, 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](mailto: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, and a link. Follow the link to the Association website where you can view or download the current issue of the Sunrise Press.

[www.usslexingtoncv16.org](http://www.usslexingtoncv16.org)

**2024 Reunion  
USS Lexington Association**

**Pensacola FL**

**Noland A Brook**

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/noland-brook-obituary?id=32055333#obituary>

**John M Cuellar**

<https://www.treshewell.com/obituary/john-cuellar>

**Ben Ganis**

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/pensacolanewsjournal/name/benjamin-ganis-obituary?id=16187678>

**Peter Gerow**

**Irving "Sonny" Hed**

**John Plude**

**Charles Mannis, JR**

[https://www.fairfaxtimes.com/obituaries/in-memoriam-charles-frederick-manns-jr/article\\_116e3112-f49c-11eb-9a5f-437082c72ab6.html](https://www.fairfaxtimes.com/obituaries/in-memoriam-charles-frederick-manns-jr/article_116e3112-f49c-11eb-9a5f-437082c72ab6.html)

**Eugene Marx**

<https://www.schellhaasfh.com/obituary/eugene-marx>

**Allie Schrader**

<https://www.edsfh.com/obituaries/allie-henry>

**Dewey Smith**

**Jerry Hinson**

**Kenneth Williard**

<https://www.covenantfuneralservice.com/obituaries/Kenneth-Robert-Williard?obId=32463885>

**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.

Email notifications to: [editor@usslexingtoncv16.org](mailto:editor@usslexingtoncv16.org)

Snail Mail to: Greg Plante, 23428 College Ave, Robertsdale, AL 36567



**WELCOME ABOARD: NEW MEMBERS**

Terry A. McCune  
Safety Harbor, FL

**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 \$25/year, and due at the end of each year. Dues can be paid online at: [www.usslexingtoncv16.org](http://www.usslexingtoncv16.org)

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

**Send your dues to: Eric Friedli, 12734 19th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 981125**





Well, my brothers and sisters here we are - It's been a week since our reunion came to an end for the year 2024. It was a successful reunion by all accounts and we had a great turn-out BRAVO!! to each of you that had the opportunity to be a part of this year's reunion. Also, we want to recognize our new members who joined the USS Lexington Association; welcome aboard.

Second, I want to share that I am humbled to accept the office of president for another two years. I want to thank the nominating committee for the nod of approval. With that being said I want to welcome our new Vice President Dale Florian, he stepped into the position working from day one. Dale you are a great asset and friend. We are so honored to have you serving on the board. Thank you, my brother, and also thank Mrs. Florian for allowing you the time to do what all needs to be done for the association. We will also be getting a new Editor for the Sunrise Press. Greg and Ms. Theresa have been grinding the paper out for over 17 years, and they need some much-

needed rest. So, as they get their replacement team in place let us keep them lifted in prayer so that we can have a smooth transition. Greg and Theresa, thank you for your selfless service... Speaking of the Sunrise Press, this will be the second to last copy that will be in paper form for those receiving the Press by mail. After March 2025, you can receive the Press by email or website. This was decided to help cut costs as we approach a new year.

Third, at our business meeting we discussed next years planned city visit. Because of the lack of an airport on the west coast in Washington State, we have changed the venue to Memphis, Tennessee. Now as a side note, Dale took the initiative and it was also mentioned by Bob DiMonte that Memphis can be a little shady in places. So, we are making preparations to ensure everyone has a great time and will be safe. That being said at this time we have some great prices on the rooms. Tentatively, we are looking at around 149.00 per night so we want to start preparing now for next year. We have some other numbers that we want to finalize before we make it accessible to view in the Sunrise Press. I want to thank Bob for spear heading this project for us and keeping us abreast of the plans for next year.

Fourth and last, thank you everyone for such a blessed reunion. Again, lets invite those that served on the Lady Lex that have somehow slipped through the cracks. Mr. Bob DiMonte we can't thank you enough for such a wonderful tour and setting up Pensacola....BRAVO!! Eric, to you sir, for all you do for the association while keeping us in the black. Lance and Cheryl thank you for your selfless work each year in ensuring badges; its reflective of the great group of men and women that we are.

In closing, please ensure that we have your email so that you can and will have access to the Sunrise Press in the future. Bless each of you.

Fraternally yours

Christopher Hagger ThM

**DUES NOTICE!! At the 2023 reunion in Corpus Christi, The members voted in an increase in dues to \$25/year.**

# Pensacola Beach, Florida

September 30th - October 3rd 2024

At the Holiday Inn Resort, Pensacola Beach



By Greg Plante: Editor

Well, to flesh out a little of what was mentioned on the front page, here's a little recap/wrap up of details.

Something I consider of primary importance, is dear to my heart. The Sunrise Press. Most specifically, ensuring that as many people as possible receive it. When I started the electronic version, I never envisioned that we'd be cancelling the postal mail version, but, sadly, here we are, doing just that. That said, when I first started asking folks to take the electronic version, I had several that didn't have internet and had their children print it up for them, and even one or two in assisted living had the center print it up for them. What am I getting at? I'm *urging* almost to the point of begging that our current snail mail receivers won't just give up and say "oh well". We don't want to lose anyone. Some that don't have a computer may not have made the connection that they *do* have a smart phone which has internet access. And now, you have the Newsletter after all. I'm urging that you try and be creative in how you can get it. A computer at the library, a

family member or even a neighbor. Please don't leave us over this. We value you too much to want to lose you as members. You have until the March 2025 issue to get us your email address if you're going to receive the link to the Press when each issue comes out, because March will be the last mailing.

I dropped a bombshell in a single sentence on page one. A new editor is on the way. Our shipmate, James Hallman has agreed to take over the Secretary position I currently hold, and his lovely wife Melanie, someone well versed in graphic arts as it turns out, has agreed to take on the editorship of the Newsletter. So, I'm finishing up this year, and she'll be doing the March issue. But I'm going to leave further introductions to her, as she takes over the next issue. I've promised to make myself available for consulting to both of them, and I have the utmost confidence that they will be able to rise to the tasks ahead of them and take things further than I can currently go with my time constraints at work and dealing with a few health issues. I have been honored and thrilled to have served you for the last 17 years. More good things are in the wings.

## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

2024 Reunion, Pensacola Beach, FL

At 10:05AM, the meeting was called to order by President Chris Hagger. Number in attendance 88

Invocation given by Chaplain Hagger

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognition of 1<sup>st</sup> time attendees by the President:

Daniel Watkins of Abbotstown, PA

Austin Green of Shreveport, LA

Carmen McDonough of San Diego, CA

Treasurer's Report given by Eric Friedli:

Despite dues payments being down over last year in currency, and being still below previous years in our financial standing, we are on sound financial footing.

Report was moved to be accepted as read by Bob DiMonte, and seconded by Lloyd Friedli. A copy of said financial report is available to any member upon request.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Exploration of attaining 501c3 status and it's financial viability

Next year's projected reunion in Bremerton has been tabled due to logistic difficulties previously unforeseen, and its alternative of Memphis, TN was suggested and accepted.

Secretary's report of membership and dues:

Members as of 1/1/2024: 630

New members this year: 15

New members previous 2 years: (2023) 12, (2022) 16

Associate members: (Surviving family members etc of deceased Member) 64

Lifetime Members: 68

Regular Members: 329

Current Membership: 397

DROPPED FROM ROLLS: 233 \*

No dues paid since joining: 50

Late 1-5 years in dues: 133

\* These were dropped because of non-payment of dues for over 5 years time. Members are welcomed to reapply for membership. The problem is seen in the last two entries of a total of 183 people in arrears on dues. That is a financial loss of \$4575 in potential income. The members removed was another \$5825 not just lost, but denied us by the members thru non-payment, and more when you consider the expenses incurred of mail-outs of the newsletter, as well as letters of dues reminders, etc.

Report accepted as read:

Recommendations for Reunion Locations for 2026: Odessa, TX put forward by President Hagger; there being no opposition, its viability is now being pursued.

Appointments and Nominations: recommendations by Nominating Chairman Bob DiMonte are as follows:

President: Chris Hagger for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term

Vice President: Del Florian

Secretary: Greg Plante\*

Treasurer: Eric Friedli\*

- These two positions are with the understanding that due to health reasons, there would be a search to find someone amenable to assuming these offices.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Greg Plante, seconded by Carmen McDonough

Meeting adjourned.



# 2024 Reunion Tour ~ Pensacola, Florida

## NAS PENSACOLA ~ National Naval Aviation Museum





# 2024 Reunion Tour ~ Pensacola, Florida

## Lunch at Mustin Beach Officers Club, NAS Pensacola





# 2024 Reunion Tour ~ Pensacola, Florida

## Memorial Service at the Pensacola Veterans Memorial Park





# 2024 Reunion ~ Pensacola, Florida





This year's reunion was a heartfelt reminder of the strength and love when brothers and sisters dwell together in harmony.

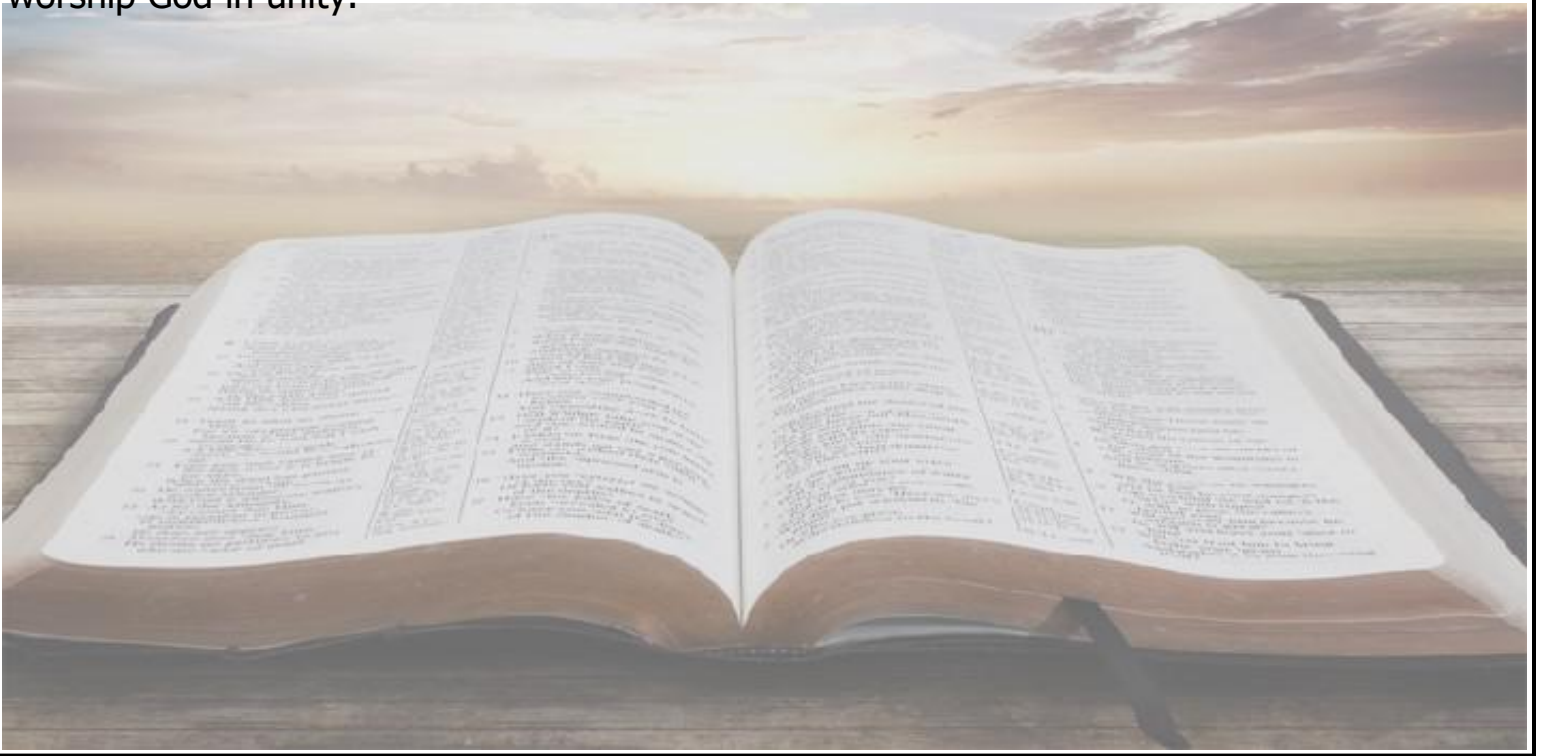
Psalm 133:1 Shares "How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony. This psalm expresses the joy of unity among brothers and sisters in God's presence.

This is a Wisdom psalm comparing the joys of fraternal harmony to the oil used in the consecration of the high priest Aaron and to the copious dew that descends upon Mount Hermon in Lebanon. It assures that the reward of fraternal harmony will be everlasting life.

The dew and the oil are a complete covering and the oil had such a pleasant fragrance to it like the dew early in the it has a clean fragrance to it.

When we dwell together, brothers and sisters leaving unnecessary baggage at the door when can enjoy each other's love and presence. We can share and actively listen to each other. This reunion gave the opportunity to really listen to each other and share to help those that has lost their love ones. We were there together to heal their brokenness; help share their tears and pour into their broken heart love from each of us. "Oh, how pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell together in harmony. "

In short, this pilgrim psalm David exclaimed how wonderful it is for believers to dwell together, in each other presence. He compares it to two Israelite families coming together to worship God in unity.



Chaplain Hagger pastors Olive Baptist Church 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.*

My name is Pat Breton, the daughter of Roland W. King Sr.. I wanted to attend this coming reunion, but unfortunately I cannot attend. My attempt was to make members aware of the events that occur in Lexington, MA every Patriots Day. They have a beautiful memorial with six monuments, one explaining the USS Lexington and one for each of the five ships named Lexington.

The Lexington Lion's Club along with Roland King and Charles Ryberg worked very hard to have these installed. The are right next to the Visitors Center for everyone to see. The Visitors Center also has brass plaques inside that were the samples, dedicated to the U.S.S. Lexington years ago, by the members of the Association.

I would like the members to be aware of this event that is held every Patriots Day, and they have a wonderful service in honor all the ships named Lexington. In the past they would let U.S.S. Lexington Association members carry in wreaths and place them on the monuments. Due to the lack of members, they now have Navel Cadets do this. I have been in contact with Kristin Nordahl from the Lexington Lion's Club, she is wonderful! She would really love to see members attend the memorial. My daughter and I go when we can, it is not always easy, it is a 2-hour drive for us. I know there has to be members in the New England area that would like to attend, if they only knew about it .

I did meet one U.S.S. Lexington Association's member at this past reunion; his name is Bob Fritsche, he said he was also going to let the members know about this at this coming reunion.

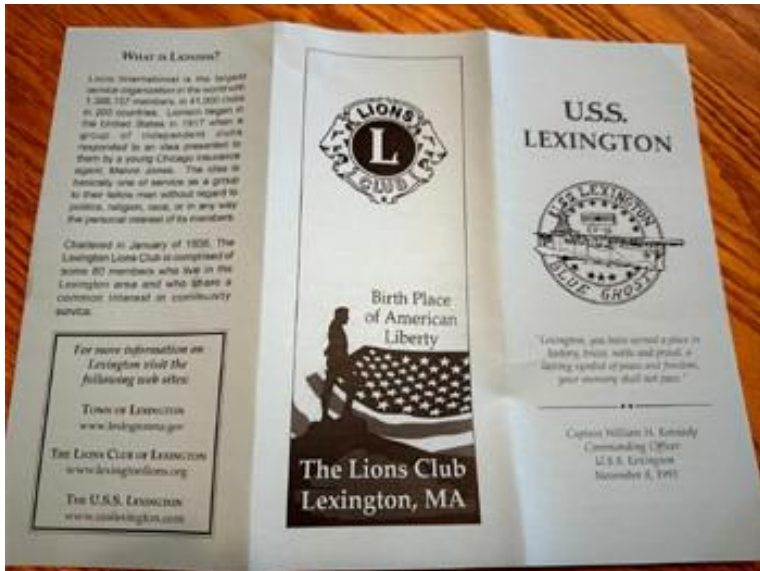
I can send you pictures and brochures if you would like. Greg, I am not sure if you are the proper person to contact, but I know you do the Sunrise Press and I hope you can put something together.

Pat Breton





Here are pamphlets that are given at Lexington. One is the program they do for the Memorials , the other is just information.



This word search puzzle is made of words found throughout this issue of the Sunrise Press. Hopefully you'll recognize every one of them as having already read them. 😊



blessed  
business  
confidence  
dues  
editor  
electronic  
expounded  
initiative

legacy  
location  
members  
memphis  
newsletter  
opportunity  
preparations  
president

recognition  
recommendations  
reflective  
rejoin  
scholarship  
secretary  
successful  
transition

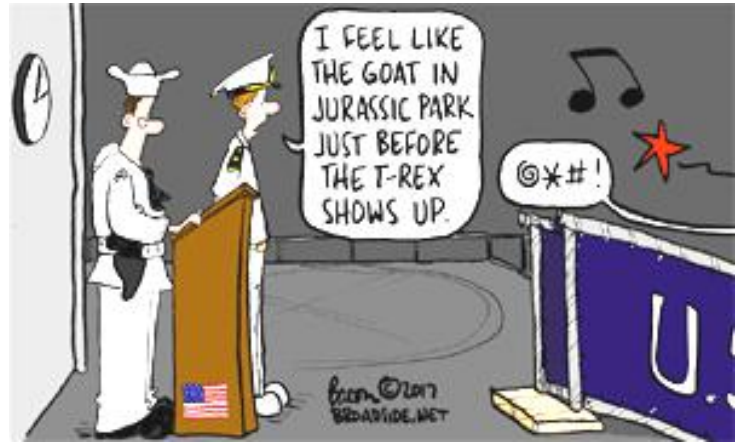




**Arlo and Janis**  
BY: Jimmy Johnson



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.

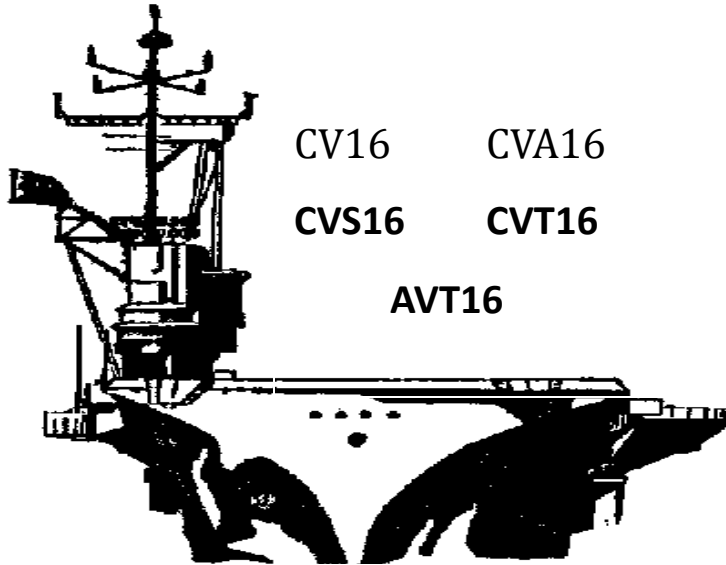


Home Port of:

USS Lexington CV 16 Association

23428 College Ave

Robertsdale, AL 36567










CV16      CVA16

CVS16    CVT16

AVT16

USS LEXINGTON

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