



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING ALL ENLISTED PERSONNEL USN - USMC - USCG
AKRON-CANTON BRANCH 324



JANUARY 2003

PRESIDENT: SAMUEL VECHTER, 3589 SR 225, DIAMOND, OH 44412 PH# 330-654-5045
VICE PRES: RAY "BOATS" TAYLOR, 1615 ALDEN AVE SW, CANTON, OH 44706 PH# 330-452-3629
SECRETARY: H GENE BRYAN, 250 PERRY DR NW, CANTON, OH 44708 PH# 330-477-5998
TREASURER: MOSES WIMBLEY, 1115 YOUNG AVE NE, CANTON, OH 44705 PH# 330-454-1445

NEXT MEETING: Will be held on Sunday January 26, 2003 at the Army Reserve Training Center, 3120 Parkway St. NW, Canton, OH. Doors will open at 1:30 PM, meeting starting at 2:30 PM. In case of illness or death please notify one of the above Officers. **NOTE:** It is with sadness that we must report the death of Branch President Dick Yale and five other Shipmates since the November meeting.

IN MEMORIUM

YALE, RICHARD E., HT1 USN RET. of Cuyahoga Falls joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander November 9, 2002. He had been a continuous member(Life Member) since 5-1-1982. Dick had been Branch President since 1988.

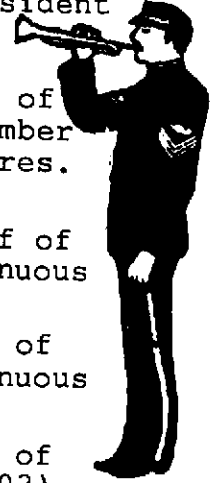
WORKMAN, RUSSELL E., ADCM USN RET. of Akron joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander December 11, 2002. He was a Charter member since 6-1-1967. Russ was our first Treasurer and also Past Pres. 5 terms. He had been a continuous member since 1967.

WALTON, RICHARD K., LCDR USN RET. of Ravenna joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander December 12, 2002. He had been a continuous member since 5-01-1996.

BOWDEN, WILLIAM F., HMCS USN RET. of Canton joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander November 26, 2002. He had been a continuous member since 3-1-1973

BARNETT, ALAN M., AC1 USN RET. of Wadsworth joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander (received notice from National 11-6-2002). He had been a continous member since 2-1-1978.

CLARK, VIRGIL, BMC USN RET. of Butler joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander (received notice from National 12-12-2002. He had been a continous member since 3-1-1976



THE TOLL OF THE SHIP'S BELL REMINDES OF OF THE REVERENCE WE OWE TO OUR DEPARTED SHIPMATES:

GENERAL QUARTERS: We need more participation of the general membership, The majority of the active members for the last several years have joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander. It is difficult to have a meaningful meeting with just five or six Shipmates in attendance (when Four are Officers) out of 200 members. To honor the Shipmates who have joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander and to discuss issues that will benefit the Shipmates both active & retired. we need your help to ease the **BURDEN** on the few who are doing the work and making the decesions. Organizations tend to fail without the participation of the general membership.

REGIONAL PRESIDENT'S VISIT: The North Central Regional President will be at our January meeting. His name is Don Gage. He is on the National Board of Directors and represents our Region for the National President. For your ideas, gripes or questions, attend the January meeting and approach him.

Membership Dues: Send all new, reinstated, and renewal membership payments to:
Fleet Reserve Association, PO Box 10435, Des Moines, IA 50306-9474.

BINNACLE LIST: The following Shipmates are on the binnacle list. We wish them well and a speedy recovery. Ed "Gene" Risley of Alliance, Ed Berg of Chester, VA., and Leo Wiley of Canton who is in a Rest Home. To others who are ill that we do not know about, we wish you well.



AMERICANISM ESSAY: The Essays were judged at Sam Vechters home on 16 Dec. Present for the Judging were S/MS Sam Vechter, Boats Taylor and Gene Bryan. The them was "What was the impact of the Louisiana purchase". We judged about 125 Essays. Again it was very hard to come up with winners as most of the students did a lot of research. We could have used more help, but we got the job done. Sam had a big pot of his famous chili.

FREE COFFEE BREAK: I have put in for the I-77 Coffee break for three week ends for 2003. One in June-August and September 2003. That does not mean we will get them all or even any. It all depends on what Ohio Department of Transportation will assign us. The more organizations that put in for the Rest Area's the less chance we have. If we do get the dates, we will need your help.

MEMBERSHIP: HELP: As our membership numbers decrease, it means we get less from National for our Treasury, of your \$20.00 they send us \$10.00. That is what we have to fund our many projects during the year.

Shipmate Sam Vechter would like to ask the Shipmates if they have any Money making ideas for the Branch to please contact him or bring your ideas to the meeting.

In the December print out from National we had 193 total members, 4 past due. JR Colazzo, George S Rishel, Richard C Sellers and Marlin Talbott. There are 7 Shipmates that need to renew. **THANKS:** for the following discount payments. 5yr William Bolash: 3yr William J Emler David Bozzer: 2yr Terry L Markham, Ronald E Defibaugh, Gary Miller and Reese S Morgan. Thanks also to all the Shipmates who have renewed their dues. Last December we had 207 total members. **PLEASE:** Use the application to sign up one new Shipmate for the next year. If everyone could do this our membership could double.

Wrong Information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) is Biggest Reason for TRICARE For LIFE claims being Denied

Did you know that if you change your status or address, and do not update your DEERS eligibility your prescriptions may not be filled - - medical claims may be denied and you will have to pay out of pocket - you cannot make an appointment at a military treatment facility (MTF) or with a TRICARE network provider?

What should you do? Update DEERS. It is important to update your DEERS record when your eligibility and personal information changes. These include changes in your military career, address, family status (marriage, divorce, birth, adoption) or if you or a family member is Medicare-eligible, entitled to Part A and enrolled in part B, DEERS must be updated to reflect MEDICARE Part A and B status to retain TRICARE coverage.

To Inform DEERS of a Change of Address ONLY: Call the Defense manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) Telephone Center at 1-800-538-9552 between 0600 - 1500 (Pacific Time), best time to call is Wednesday thru Friday or visit a local ID card issuing activity or mail your address change to DSO Attn: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771.

To Update Information other than your Address, contact the nearest military ID card issuing activity to find out what documents you need to update eligibility information in DEERS.

For additional questions regarding your DEERS record, call the DSO Telephone Center at 1-800-538-9552 Monday - Friday (excluding federal holidays) 0600 - 1500 (Pacific Time).