



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING ALL ENLISTED PERSONNEL USN - USMC - USCG

AKRON-CANTON BRANCH 324

MAY 2002 EDITOR GENE BRYAN



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NEXT MEETING: NOTICE: The next meeting will be on **SATURDAY 25 MAY AT 6PM.** The meeting will be held at the home of Gene and Martha Bryan. The reason being that three of the four Officers have other committments on Sunday. The address is 250 Perry Dr NW in Canton. You can get to Perry Drive off of West Tuscarawas St or 12th St NW. For further directions call us at (330) 477-5998.

MEMORIAL FUND: Thanks to the following who have donated to the Memorial Fund for the monument we will have on the Memorial Walkway at the "Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetary" in Rittman. This is a joint venture with Cleveland Branch 17.

BRANCH 17 CLEVELAND	RICHARD E. YALE	NVP-FRA RALPH SCHMIDT
JOHN R. BEBOUT	RICHARD D. SMITH	DALLAS D. MAY
ROY DIMINNO	VERNON P. BIDINGER	WILLIAM F. WOOD
H. GENE BRYAN	WILLIAM F. BOWDEN	FREDERICK M. MOSKE
	UNIT 324	STEPHEN G. JUHASZ

If you care to donate Refer to your April Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP: 203 total members. **PAST DUE** C.T. Campfield and L.E. Davenport.
NEED TO RENEW: G. Aultman, J.U. Perry, R. Stahura, R.J. Vairo Jr and R. Wiley.

WELCOME ABOARD: To Charles E. Hull SWCS of Youngstown who has reinstated his membership and ENC Therman Riggs of East Liverpool who transferd from membership at Large to Branch 324. If you have sent in your dues already we thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Brian Smith, 10th Grade, Central Catholic H.S. Who won 1st place at our Branch level (\$100.00 Savings Bond) in our Americanism Essay Contest. ("What Memorial Day Means to Me").He also placed 2nd in that grade at the Regional level. He received another \$100.00 From the Region plus a very nice plaque. S/M Bill Bowden will make the presentation to him at the High School.

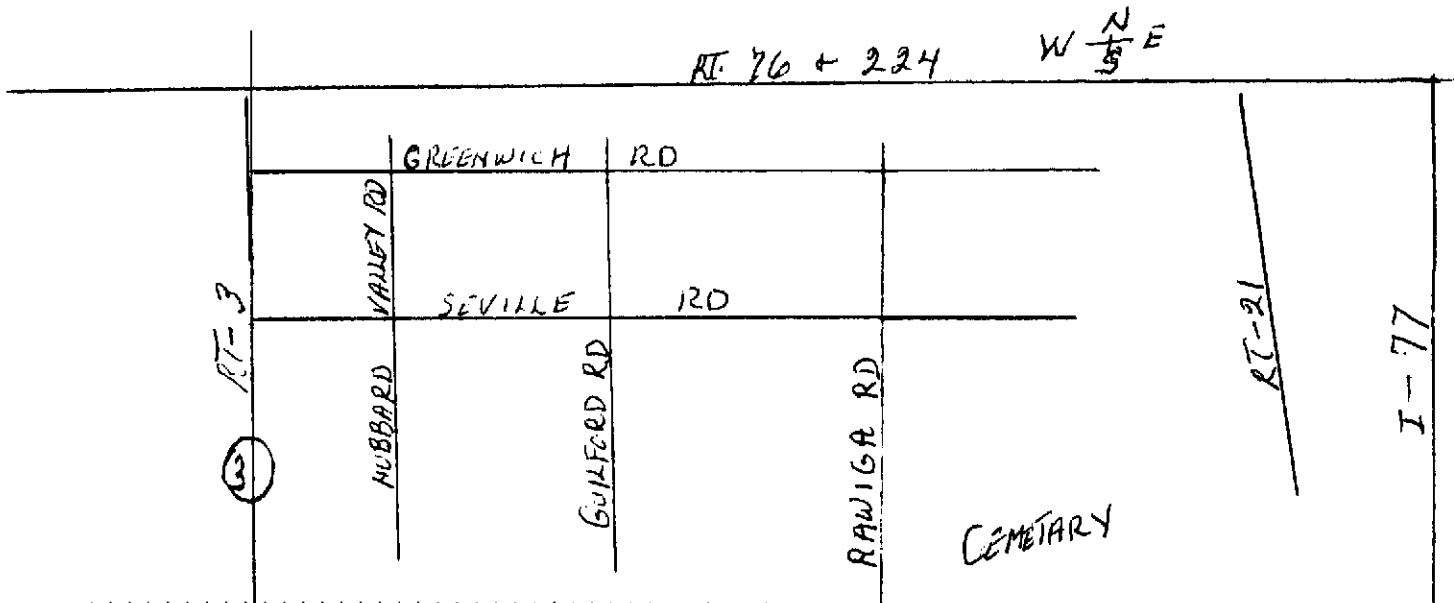
HERBERT E. BELCHER AWARD: Shipmate President Dick Yale with the assistance of PRPNC Gene Bryan presented the Belcher award (Watch-certificate and the FRA medal) on awards night, April 26 at Garfield High School in Akron.

We have been presenting this award to Akron Garfield since 1970. This is presented to honor Shipmate Herbert E. Belcher GM1, a member of Akron/Canton Branch 324, who died in the service of his Country in Vietnam in April 1969. The recipient of this award is the NJROTC Cadet that the Officer in charge with the individuals he or she may designate, determine which Student in their opinion has exhibited the qualities of leadership, initiative, spirit and one who has made an outstanding contribution to the NJROTC Unit. This years Belcher award winner id Cadet JTJG Susan Adkison.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: Akron/Canton Branch 324 wil have a decorated vehicle in the Memorial Day Parade in Canton on Monday May 27. The parade is sponsored by the Greater Canton Veterans Council. The parade forms at 9AM in Downtown Canton. If you wish to partisapate contact Secretary. I am sure Shipmates will be paying tribute observing this day in their respective areas.

NATIONAL CEMETARY: Shipmate Vice Pres. Sam Vechter informed Branch that all Shipmates are invited to attend a Memorial Day Ceremony at the "Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetary" at Rittman, Ohio on 26 May at 2 PM. Map and directions below. Shipmate Vechter informed us that the Branch 17-324 Memorial will be ready in early June. We will inform the Shipmates of Branch 17 and 324 when we will have the official dedication. The National Vice President, Ralph Schmidt said if his schedule would permit, he would try to make the dedication.

Directions: (Map not to scale) Take RT 3 south off of RT 76-224, it is a short distance to Greenwich RD, go east about 4 miles to Rawiga RD, head south, the cemetary will be on the left.



2002 MID-YEAR CONFERENCE: Shipmates Yale, Vechter and Bryan attended the NCR Mid-Year Conference at the Drawbridge Inn, FT Mitchell, KY the Week end of 3-4 May. It was hosted by O-K-I Branch and Unit 28 (Cincinnati). They hosted a fabulous Conference. The National President and Vice Pres. were in attendance as were the two candidates for National Vice Pres. 2002-03. A very informative meeting was held. The food and hospitality for the weekend was great. You missed a great one, and it was so close.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS: The same slate of Officers were nominated at the April meeting and will probably be elected at the May meeting. We need more participation. The load is getting heavy and we are not getting any younger. We do appreciate your membership because we could not survive **WITHOUT YOU.**

MASTER CHIEF: In the Blue Ridge Mountains, there was a retired sailor who was reported to have the best hunting dog ever, by the name of chief. Three Admirals went-up into the mountains and wanted to rent him. The old Sailor said "good hunting dog, gonna cost ya \$50.00 a day". They agreed and three days later came back with the limit. The next year they came back. "Chief" got better, gonna cost \$75.00 a day, again they agreed, and two days later came back with the limit. The third year they came back and told the old sailor they had to have Chief even if it cost \$100.00 a day. You can have the worthless mutt for \$5 a day and I'm overcharging you \$4. WE don't understand, what happened to him. Well a crew fom the Navy Base in Norfolk came up and rented him. One of the idiots called him Master Chief and he's just been sitting on his hind end barking ever since.