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**NEWS**

USS ENTERPRISE CVAN-CVN-65 ASSOCIATION

WWW.CVAN-CVN-65.ORG

January, 2024

**FROM THE CHAIRMAN:**

Greetings!

I hope this new year finds you all in good health. I would like to give my thanks to Bob and Linda Smith for hosting last years reunion in Piscataway New Jersey. It was a great time for all! A recap from Linda is included in this newsletter.

This years reunion will be held in Deadwood South Dakota September, 2024 and hosted by Pete Romanjenko. A highlight of the upcoming reunion and registration is included in this newsletter.

We also have Association elections this year for Vice Chairman and a 3 Year Board Member. Fresh faces and new ideas are always welcomed.

On a more solemn note, January 14th marked the 55th Anniversary of the fire on board Enterprise. It was a defining moment in our history. To all the sailor's that served aboard that day, you did an outstanding job saving the ship from further damage. I have the utmost respect for each and every one of you. You did yourself, your shipmates and the U.S. Navy proud.

I can't go without mentioning the sailors we lost that day and the many sailor who were injured. We remember you.

Marylee and I look forward to seeing everyone this September in South Dakota!

Don



## Enterprise CVAN-CVN-65 Association 2024 Reunion

Preparations for the 2024 Association Reunion in Deadwood South Dakota are in full swing. This year's reunion will be held at Spring Hill Suites located in the Cadillac Jack's Complex, 23 – 28 September 2024. A block of rooms has been reserved at Spring Hill Suites by Marriott and True by Hilton. Both hotels include breakfast, and both are located within the Cadillac Jack's Complex. Deadwood is extremely busy this time of year. PLEASE BOOK EARLY (Room release date is 23 July.).

Welcome dinner will be buffet style on 23 September 2024 and the departing banquet choices will be grilled steak, garlic butter baked salmon, and mushroom picatta pasta. A Gluten free meal will be available. Food at Cadillac Jack's is amazing.

A bus tour is planned for Wednesday 26 September, including the National Cemetery near Sturgis, SD. The stop here will be long enough to have the Memorial Service. Next stop will be a tour of the Crazy Horse Memorial; then off to tour Mount Rushmore and to participate in the evening lighting ceremony.

Friday morning you have the opportunity to see a huge buffalo roundup at Custer State Park. The one tour I enjoy the most, and a MUST SEE, is our own Memorabilia Room.

Deadwood is full of history which could keep you busy for week; however, a must see (especially for you snipes) is the Sanford Lab Homestake Visitor Center. This is a top attraction for tour groups visiting the Black Hills. I am working on a date and time to schedule a group tour of this facility.

Please visit [CVAN-CVN-65.ORG](http://CVAN-CVN-65.ORG) for Information and registration form. Reunion questions can be sent to me ([romanjep@gmail.com](mailto:romanjep@gmail.com)). REMEMBER-- There is a HUGE amount of spam out there, PLEASE visit [CVAN-CVN-65.ORG](http://CVAN-CVN-65.ORG) for all your information, T-shirts, cups, etc.

Pete Romanjenko  
[romanjep@gmail.com](mailto:romanjep@gmail.com)

# USS ENTERPRISE CVAN/CVN-65 ASSOCIATION 2024 REUNION

September 23 - 28, 2024

Cadillac Jack's

360 Main Street, Deadwood, SD 57732



Convention will be at the Springhill Suites, True is a short walk same building <b>(USS Enterprise 2024 Reunion)</b> Room cut off date 23 July 2024 (BOOK EARLY)			
Property	Room type	Mon 09-23-24 thru Thur 09-26-24	Fri 09-27-24
Springhill Suites by Marriott PH: 605-559-1600	King	\$119 +Tax and Fees	\$199 +Tax and fees
True by Hilton PH: 605-571-1001	King or 2 queen	\$89 +Tax and fees	\$189+Tax and fees

Reunion Registration: \$250 per person – includes welcome and farewell dinners, tour, and group picture.  
**Due by August 1, 2024.**

Member's Name, Address, and contact information:

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E-mail Address:

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### Farewell Banquet Entrée Choice

Name: as you would like it on your name tag	Garlic butter	Mushroom	
	Baked Salmon	Picatta Pasta	Grilled Steak

*Gluten Free available upon request*

How Many:

Registration: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$250.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:

USS Enterprise 2024 Reunion

Peter Romanjenko

2602 Harvard Ave, Rapid City, SD. 57702

**Planning to attend? Please text, e-mail or voice mail**

Phone: (307) 752-3671

Email: romanjep@gmail.com

## 2023 Piscataway NJ Enterprise Reunion

Hello!

We are Bob and Linda Smith and we hosted the Enterprise Reunion in Piscataway, NJ in September. We had a smaller group which some thought was better. There was more one on one socializing.

We stayed at a privately owned Holiday Inn in Piscataway. The hotel was great. We had a few mistakes but were corrected by the hotel. The hotel staff and managers were very accommodating. The food was delicious and there was plenty of it. Kudos to the chef!

We made a trip to the Battleship New Jersey in Camden NJ with a luncheon on the ship. It was a very enjoyable day.

We had a dinner at Applebee's where the veterans were honored by Miss Linda and the managers of Applebee's. Miss Linda did an amazing job. She also had a Stop and Shop Supermarket donate snack bags for everyone. The Angel Network was there rolling pictures of the USS Enterprise for the veterans. Applebee's offered our group a 10 discount on our meals.

On our free days some people managed to go the Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and Ground Zero. They also went to the Liberty Science Center and Jersey Old Town.

Unfortunately our Chaplin, Larry Reagan couldn't attend this year due to health issues. We hope he and Virginia are ok. Steve Packwood stepped up to the job and did a wonderful job.

We would like to thank Shirley Crow for all of her help and the beautiful towels she makes. So much talent! We also want to thank Bruce and Mavis Mooberry, Marylee Thiry, Erlinda Peralez, Shirley Vooheis and Gail Brooks for all they did. We couldn't have done it with everyone's help.

If there is anyone we missed, we thank you.

People got together in the Hospitality to socialize each evening of free time. We missed the Hospitality Room this year and Linda's hugs due to health reasons. We wish them well! We had our Ships Store and can always count on Rich Kehoe to do a great job.

Ernie and Gail stepped up to take on the role of selling 50/50 tickets after losing Art Dumas this past year. He was sorely missed and Ernie and Gail did a great job stepping into his shoes.

At our final dinner Jerry Pearson was awarded the Quilt of Valor which he deserved. He also won the 50/50 raffle!

We hope that everyone had a good time seeing everyone again and look forward to next year in South Dakota.

Linda Smith





**SCHOLARSHIP NOTICE!**

Congratulations to our 2023 Scholarship Recipients!

- Layne Barlow
- Sarah Bowden
- John Eversole
- Chloe Park
- Reese Grise
- Mason Yablonski
- Emma Kuiper

Thank you for your hard work and academic success. Good luck in your college career!

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY IS **August 15, 2024**. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY THIS DATE. PLEASE MAIL YOUR APPLICATIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN **WITH ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS AS LISTED ON THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**. THE APPLICATION MAY BE DOWNLOADED AT THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE: [www.cvn-cvan-65.org](http://www.cvn-cvan-65.org)

**Thank you notes from our 2023 Scholarship Recipients:**

“Thank you so much for your kindness in granting me the USS Enterprise Association Scholarship. This award will be very helpful towards covering my costs at Miami University. I will be joining my older sister and brother in becoming a first-generation college graduate. This fall I started on my journey towards a degree in Information and Cybersecurity Management from Miami’s Farmer School of Business and unfortunately those don’t come cheap. I will be self-financing my education and relying heavily on scholarships. Generosity such as yours is greatly appreciated. Gratefully, John Eversole.”

“Dear USS Enterprise Association,

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship. It will be extremely helpful for when I go to college next year. I am really excited for my college journey. Thanks, Emma Kuiper”

“Dear USS Enterprise Association,

It was such a surprise to receive this in the mail. Thank you so much for considering me and awarding me this scholarship. It will definitely go to good use and I appreciate your generosity. Love, Chloe Park”

“Dear USS Enterprise Association

Thank you so much for awarding me a scholarship for this school year. It is going to go directly towards my education at the University of Georgia as I pursue a degree in nursing, and hopefully go on to become a Register Nurse for the Air Force. While growing up I always felt supported by the military community and I appreciate your continue support as I pursue my future career. Thank you, Layne Barlow

## Water Saving Kits By Ronnie George

The following is how 5 water-saving kits that were installed in October of 1967 brought a lot of smiles to a lot of faces. This is it!

I had just made Photographers Mate 3<sup>rd</sup> Class (PH-3), and was all set for the upcoming cruise. The last half of the 1966-67 cruise was spent working in the Integrated Operational Intelligence Center (IOIC) learning the fine art of cleaning, mixing chemicals, and loading film into the 4 film processors in IOIC. They were referred to as EH-38 machines because it took 38 feet of Recon film to thread the machine. Did I mention that Senior PH Chief Morris of RVAH-7 was a really smart Chief but he also loved a “clean, well-scrubbed machine?”

PHC Moore (ship's company) and I were to work in IOIC and have a few people from Squadron RVAH-1 man the photo processing section of IOIC in support of all the film the RA5C Vigilante amassed during a photo recon mission.

The point of this story is that when an EH-38 machine was working, there were two spray wash tanks that used 4-1/2 gallons of water (GPM) a minute. When all 5 of the machines were working, it totaled 22-1/2 GPM. That was fresh water from the same system that supplied water for the catapult system, drinking, bathing, etc.

One day in early October, we received a special package from Eastman Kodak, the makers of the EH-38 machines. There were 5 water-saving kits to be installed on the EH-38 machines. After the kits were installed, the water usage would be reduced from 4-1/2 GPM to a mere 1/2 GPM per machine.

After installation, the head of IOIC, Commander Beaver, invited Captain Lee to see the improvement. Captain Lee smiled at Chief Moore, said, “Well-Done”, and left with a big smile on his face. That, my shipmates, is one of the most amazing things to happen during my time aboard.



# USS Enterprise Operation Praying Mantis

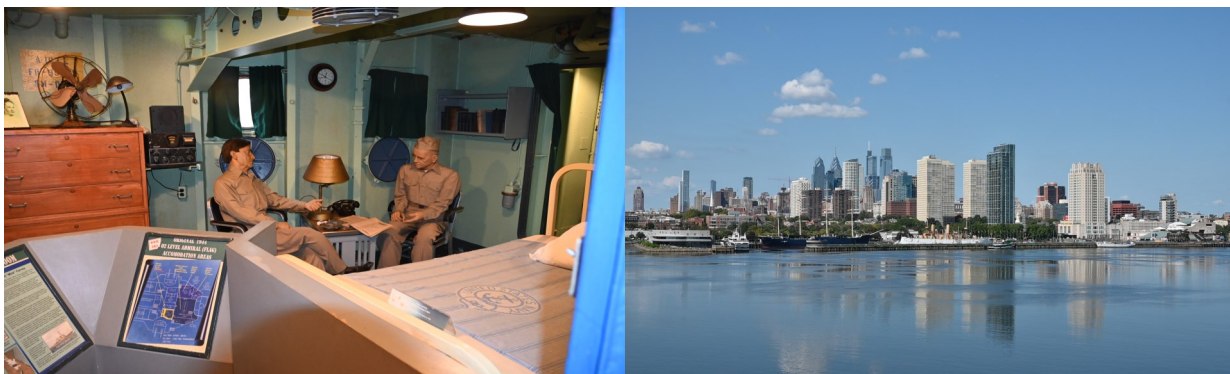
By Michael Sullo AK1 USN-Ret

In February 1988, Enterprise left Alameda on her 13th deployment and was assigned to Operation Earnest Will, escorting reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Persian Gulf. Little did we know our ship would be going in harm's way.

On 14 April 1988, USS Samuel B. Roberts FFG-58 struck a mine while sailing in the Persian Gulf as part of Operation Earnest Will, the U.S. reflagging of oil tankers in the Persian Gulf. The explosion put a 25-foot hole in Roberts' hull and almost sank her. The heroic efforts of the crew saved their ship with no loss of life, and Roberts was towed to Dubai on 16 April. In response to this, on 18 April 1988 the United States initiated Operation Praying Mantis. This two-day battle was the biggest surface/air combat action for the U.S. Navy since WWII to date. It also was the first surface-to-surface missile engagement in U.S. Navy history.

Flying off Enterprise on 18–19 April 1988, VA 95, The Green Lizards, participated in Operation Praying Mantis, by first attacking Iranian fast patrol boats using Rockeye cluster bombs. They sank one and damaged several others. Later that same day, the Iranian frigate Sahand fired missiles at two of the squadron's A-6's while flying a surface combat air patrol for USS Joseph Strauss DDG-16. The aircraft evaded the missiles and returned fire with two Harpoons and four laser-guided Skipper bombs. This attack was followed by a Harpoon firing from Joseph Strauss. The attacks against the Sahand left her on fire. The fires reached her magazines, and these explosions lead to her sinking. Following this action, the [sister ship](#) of the Sahand, the Sabalan, left port and engaged several of the squadron's aircraft, firing a missile at them. One of the squadron's A-6s responded with a MK 82 laser-guided bomb that hit Sabalan, she went dead in the water.

The top brass in Washington, who were monitoring the fight, decided not to sink a third Iranian warship which was leaving from its Iranian base. They also told U.S. ships and aircraft to lay off Sabalan. Sabalan was taken in tow by an Iranian tug, her fantail was partially submerged. VA-95's aircraft and US Navy ships were ordered not to continue the attack. Enterprise air wing squadrons continued to fly combat sorties during 19 April, but no other action was taken. When the operation ended, U.S. air and surface units had sunk, or severely damaged, half of Iran's operational fleet. The USS Enterprise was awarded The Battle E for its contributions during Operation Praying Mantis.



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FROM THE EDITORS:

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES TO THE NEWSLETTER. THEY ARE MUCH APPRECIATED! KEEP THEM COMING!

DON AND MARYLEE THIRY