

USS BASILONE
824
KENWOOD



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December 2020

Greetings Shipmates and Associate Members,

Well COVID sure messed up our reunion for this year. We did a survey on the website and most people wanted the 2021 reunion, if it's possible to have one, to still be in the Providence area. So we are looking into it and information will be sent out some time in the future.

In looking at the last newsletter I found that I left out an important bit of information. I received and passed on to the historian an envelope made especially for the dedication of the Raritan Post Office to the John Basilone Post office. The post master also sent us the program for the dedication which we didn't ask for so we had an unexpected but welcome addition to our archives. This year we only received 3 items for the historian. John McGraw sent us an article about the grounding. A shipmate who wishes to remain unknown has donated a fork from the Basilone wardroom. It seems that he had the idea of getting a complete set of silverware but only got the fork. The last item is from a 2018 stamp show program from Westfield, New Jersey. The show was dedicated to Guadalcanal and John Basilone. I had a non-competitive exhibit at the show about John Basilone and the ship in covers and stamps. These will be sent to the historian in the near future.

Dues is due. It's still the same \$25.00 for a year and \$125.00 for a life membership. Dues can be mailed to Fred Gehrisch at 5640 Whistling Cove Rd Gainesville, GA 30504.

It is my sad duty to inform you that we lost the following shipmates this year Joseph Beamer, Edward Roubal, James A. Carter, Jessie Rosen, Ramon Fidler, Leonard Staskiewicz, Douglas J Olson, Roy Ford, Jerry Flug, SR, Bruce Miles, Melvyn Wilson, Edgar Romo, Ray Chabot, Willie Smith, Terry Raabe, John Sager, Roman Dzialo, JR, Mike LaLonde, Thomas Moon, Joseph Monahan, Robert Rand, Dale Boston, James Harris, Steven Dill, Terrel Chambers, Willie Bullock, Harold Johnson, Steven Dunder, Edwin Baldwin, E. Peter Rypl, Geore Stroup, David Nyberg, Kermit Brooks, Jack Marlowe, Joseph Kolbitz, James Nischik, William Hines, Gordon Harwood, David Constantine, Michael Petralline, Calvin Johnson, Ronald Janse and Bert Lener.

On a happier note we have found the following shipmates Justin Wilkins, John Leandro, Ronald Pierce, Ralph Ciancursio, Don Ayers, Robert Wenz, John Haines, Roy Fiorelli, Donald Herr and Stephen Pollack. If you are in contact with a shipmate or know of a deceased shipmate please let us know.

In closing the shortest newsletter I ever wrote I will remind you that information on the reunion or it's cancellation again because of COVID will be coming out sometime in 2021. Hopefully, I'll be able to make it but it all. Depends on my mothers' health. Be safe and healthy.

Your Shipmate,

Phil Poplaski

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