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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It's been a busy Summer. Hope you got some enjoyment from the warmer weather, although in some parts of the country, perhaps it was a bit too warm-even *hot*. I was able to talk to a number of shipmates about their experiences aboard the Springfield. We had some good conversations and were able to put together some short stories that hopefully you will find of interest.

As I'm sure is the case with most of us, my view of the ship is greatly influenced by what happened while I was aboard. In looking at a log book I kept during the time in the Med, I find we spent about 250 days at sea or at anchor, about an equal number of days in some 25 or 30 different ports, (going to some more than once), and the rest of the time on leave or on TAD in Naples. I had the pleasure of being high-lined from a destroyer to a supply ship and then to the Springfield as I made my way back from Naples the first time and had the pleasure of flying in a small plane from Naples to Athens to Istanbul and sleeping in a Turkish Army barrack when getting back to the ship the second time.

What's your story. I'd enjoy hearing about it and would especially enjoy getting it in writing in a way that can be shared with other shipmates. Give me a call or send an email.

Thank you.

USS SPRINGFIELD MEMBERSHIP/MEMBERSHIP DUES

A big thank you to our new life members: Paul Meyer Fox Div 62-64 and Dick Godschalk Operations 60-61 and to new Annual Members: L. Gene Herring S1 Div 70-72, Dennis Sherwood OI Div 65-67, Bob Rone Fox Div 64-64 and Jack Weston OR Div 63-66

It's September and time again to be thinking of paying your Annual Dues or becoming a Life Member. As a September bonus, if you pay now, your dues are good for all of 2024 as well.

Dues are needed for the Bluejackets ongoing expenses. While we are a not-for-profit-all-volunteer organization, we still have expenses to meet in keeping our organization viable. Your support is appreciated to the max.

A big THANK YOU to Raymond Gist S3 Div 60-62 for a nice donation and a belated thank you to Vice Admiral Jimmy Pappas for his generous donation earlier this year.

Please make your checks payable to: USS Springfield Bluejackets Inc. and mail to: Keith Rivard-Treasurer, 160 Tommotley Dr, Loudon, TN 37774-2120.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



September: Richard Gagner OE Div 66-69, Benny Hornsby OI Div 62-64, John (JH) Johnson FOX Div 65-67, Fred Konecki 4TH Div 60-62, James Nappi OI Div 66-68, Keith Rivard OI Div 66-68, Pierce Ryan 69-73, William (Duke) Smither OI Div 64-66 and Peter Trabant OI Div 63-65

*Did we miss your birthday? Make sure we include you so we can wish you **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** in future issues. Let us know when it is and we will be sure to do so!*

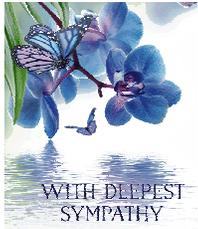
WELCOME ABOARD

New to the Bluejackets - welcome to Allen Butterfass X Div 62-63, Vincent Friano Jr. 1st Div 70-72 and Dick Godschalk Operations 60-61

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IN REMEMBRANCE



Our Deepest Sympathies and Prayers are with the Family and Friends of the Shipmates we learned to be deceased since our last newsletter who include:

Barry A Reese B Div 63-66, John Adams¹ X Div 60-62, Wayne Lane S3 Div 60-61

¹ John Adams was the founder of the USS Springfield Bluejackets

If you know of other shipmates, please send an email or call. Thanks.

SEA STORIES

Shipmate Peter Trabant, OI Div, 63-65 tells of his experience with the Springfield from a whole different perspective. Before he joined the Navy, and in the Summers of '58, '59 and '60, Peter was working first at Villa Serena on Cape St Jean Ferrat and then as an assistant Maitre D' at Villa Zamir on the Côte d'Azur, both near Villefrance hanging out with the crews of both Jacques



Cousteau's Calypso and Le Creole owned by Stavros Niarchos and in full view of the 6th fleet flagship, thinking it would be cool to be in the USN and stationed there.

And so, in 61, he joined the Navy, made his way



through boot camp at Great Lakes, attended A School to become a Radarman, and went aboard the USS Charles S. Sperry (DD-697) making several med cruises but with high hopes of getting back to Villefrance. His opportunity

came when they were looking for volunteers to go aboard the Springfield which he readily took advantage of.

Dick Godschalk, Operations, 60-61 writes that he lucked into duty on the Springfield as a fluke. His first billet in 58 as an NROTC



graduate was aboard an ASW Carrier the never went anywhere except in and out of Norfolk. When he learned that his watch relief was being asked to transfer to the Springfield, but didn't want to go, he quickly raced to see the XO, asked if he could go instead and did.

He reported to the pre-commissioning crew, and being the "Senior Officer Present" (the other two being Ensigns), Dick was able to assign himself to the OI Division. While the Springfield headed from Boston to the Med and to Villefrance he was ordered, by the Captain, to be on watch in CIC 24/7, where he says he "slept on a bench the whole time."

Once in Villefrance, when officers were asked to volunteer for in-port shore duty where they stayed in a hotel in Nice and worked every other day, Dick thought that would be great. He had visions of "hooking up with some beautiful French girls on (his) days off."

Little did he know that the work days were 18 hours of Shore Duty and found that he slept much of the day on the "days off".

Dick found that getting back on-board and enjoying the ports visited by the Springfield turned out to be a good duty

What's Your Story?

When talking to a number of shipmates, I heard a lot about Captain "Crash" Crenshaw that seems worth sharing. Haven't quite got the story right yet though so will hold off sharing until I get it straight.

Along the same lines, it would be good to get some stories, photos or other information from when the Springfield was in Gaeta and if anyone has some "Rifle" issues from years 70-71, could you share those. If you will send any photos or issues of the "Rifle" to Dave Schantz, 29 Wood Run Cir, Rochester, NY 14612 I will scan them, add them to the web page and return them to you. In sending them they qualify for "Media Mail" rates which are much less expensive than First Class. For more info call Dave 585 723-0760. If you need help with the postage, please ask.

"I've received many honors and I'm grateful for them; but I've already received the highest award I'll ever receive, and that has been the privilege and honor of serving very proudly in the United States Navy." ~ Grace Hopper

USS SPRINGFIELD 2nd FLEET FLAGSHIP

While our ship spent the first 7 years after re-commissioning in the Med as 6th Fleet Flagship, with the exception of the period from 11 May to 15 December 1963 in overhaul, in January 1967, she turned her duties over to the USS Little Rock (CLG-4) and returned to the US.



Arriving in Boston in February 67, overhaul yard work began and on its completion in August, the Springfield's homeport was changed from Boston to Norfolk where she relieved the USS Newport News (CA-148) of her duties as Flagship 2nd Fleet.



Shortly after becoming 2nd Fleet Flagship and in line with completing its overhaul, the Springfield headed to GITMO and the Atlantic Fleet's Weapon Range in the Caribbean for still another shake-down/readiness cruise where she conducted gunnery and missile firing exercises.

From there she sailed on a cruise to Portsmouth England, Amsterdam, Lisbon and Pollensia Bay returning to Norfolk in November where she spent the next ten months conducting exercises in and around Norfolk, the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico where she made at least one visit to New Orleans during the Mardi Gras. On 12 September 1968, the *Springfield* headed northeast across the Atlantic to join NATO exercise -'Silver Tower'- in the Norwegian Sea north of the Arctic Circle and on September 21st, those on-board became members of "the Order of the Blue nose" on crossing the ARTIC CIRCLE at 1⁰⁰' East Longitude. On 27 September, she cleared the exercise area and sailed south. Stopping at Oslo, Norway; Le Havre, France; Lisbon, Portugal; and Portsmouth, England, and Rota, Spain, where on 23 October a conference was held between the 2nd and 6th Fleet Commanders.



The Springfield departed Rota on the 24th and sailed back to Norfolk, where she resumed normal operations out of Norfolk until 8 July, when the Commander, 2d Fleet, shifted his flag to the *Newport News* in order that the *Springfield* might prepare for and commence a restricted availability.

On 14 January 1970, the *Springfield* relieved the *Newport News* again as flagship of the 2d Fleet. However, seven months later, the commander's flag returned to *Newport News*; and, on 10 August, *Springfield* headed back to the Mediterranean. On the 22d, she relieved *Little Rock* as flagship of the 6th Fleet.

Photos by/courtesy of Paul Farmer, X Div 66-68

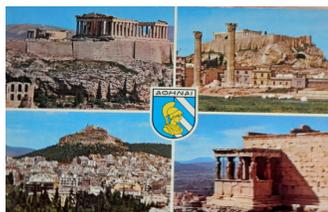
2023 REUNION

43 Shipmates, Spouses and Guests are registered for our 2023 Reunion Cruise aboard the Carnival Conquest. During this 4 day cruise, in addition to going to Key West and Cosumel, we will be enjoying each others company during two on-board social hours and each evening at Dinner. I'm not sure how things stand with late comers joining us, but if you would still like to join us, to make a reservation call the Cruise Planning Department, 866-721-322 M-F 9:00 AM — 5:00 PM and ask to be booked with the USS Springfield Bluejackets Group Booking Number: L2D9D7 and **IMPORTANT—ask for the 6PM dinner seating with the Bluejackets.**



If you have questions, call or email Dave Schantz (585) 723-0760 / daveschantz@yahoo.com

POST CARDS



Athens



Barcelona



Corfu



Palma de Mallorca

Courtesy: Dave Schantz

SHIP STORE



Now on sale in the USS Springfield Ship Store are a new Polo Shirt and T-Shirt, Coffee Mugs, USS Springfield Window Stickers, Ball Caps and more.

Visit our Ship Store on-line at <https://store16038547.company.site> or usspringfield.org or if you don't have access to the internet call Keith Rivard (865-388-2478). All proceeds go to support the USS Springfield Bluejackets, Inc.

USS SPRINGFIELD

