



USS Claude V. Ricketts/ex Biddle DDG 5  
The Big Nickel  
#3

May the memories of the Ship last till the last Crew Member is called Home.

Next Reunion Norfolk, VA  
Thursday, April 29 – Sunday, May 2, 2010

There is a lot to do in Norfolk so come early and stay late. The schedule for the reunion is presently being worked on. There will be a tour of Norfolk Naval Station and a tour of a ship, hopefully one of the newer DDGs. We will have a hospitality room so bring your cruise books, pictures, and memorabilia to share with everyone. The hospitality room will run from Wednesday noon 28 April to Sunday when the last crew member departs.

The reunion is being held at the Lake Wright Hotel. Special room rates have been arranged for the DDG 5 Crew Members Association so make sure to mention that you are with the association when making your reservation. Room rates are \$89.00/night for a single room in the Sleep Inn Lake Wright and \$109.00/night for a suite in Quality Suites Lake Wright. Room rates are subject to tax. Reservation changes and/or cancellations can be made up to 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid a one night's room and tax penalty. The rates are good for five nights before and five nights after the reunion dates. All rooms include a complimentary full hot breakfast each morning for overnight guests.

Quality Suites come with two queen size beds or one king, microwave oven, refrigerator, coffeemaker, sitting area with sofa and work desk, two 25" remote controlled Televisions, cable and HBO, free local calls, and wireless. Sleep Inn rooms come with either two double beds or one king, mini refrigerator, coffeemaker 25" remote controlled television, cable, HBO, free local calls and wireless, and a walk-in, oversized shower (no tub). Available to all guests are a mini convenience store, fitness center, ample free parking, and an 18 hole championship golf course.

Both the Sleep Inn and Quality Suites provide complimentary airport shuttle service daily to and from the Norfolk Airport 24 hours a day. Their courtesy phone is located at the baggage claim area. They are only three miles from the Airport, located just off of I-64 at the Northampton/Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel exit on US RT 13.

Reservations can be made by calling 757-461-6251. Both hotels are located at 6280 Northampton Boulevard, Norfolk, VA 23503. The website is at <http://www.lakewrighthotel.com>. The cutoff date for making reunion reservations and receiving the DDG-5 discount is 1 April 2010. After that date it will depend on availability. When you make a hotel reservation, make sure that they explain their policies for canceling a reservation, no shows, and early departures. If you have a problem making a reservation or need assistance, call Carl Slack 603-986-4661. When you make a reservation make sure you tell them you are with the "DDG 5 Crew Members

Association". To obtain the DDG-5 Crew Members Association discount, you must call the hotel direct. There are other places in the Tidewater area that are cheaper. Some are very cheap but are not recommended. For those who are eligible there are Navy Lodges and BOQ's at area military bases. For those with friends in the area staying with them is an option. Keep in mind how convenient it is to stay where the reunion is and that the hotel provides us with a lot in exchange for the room rentals. The biggest is the free use of the hospitality room allowing us to bring in our own snacks and beverages.

The hospitality room will be open from 0800 to 2300 each day and will have light snacks and non-catholic beverages available. If you'd like something stronger than water or soda, then you can BYOB.

Plans for the reunion are still being worked and should be more firm by the time the Jan 2010 newsletter is sent out. Remember to check [The Big Nickel](#) website for changes and updates as they occur.

The tentative schedule for the 2010 reunion is as follows:

Thursday, 29 April: 0800 – 2300, reunion registration in the hospitality room. Pizza will be available Thursday evening.

Friday, 30 April: A military type tour, probably to NOB with lunch in the base galley (if permitted) and a ships tour also if we can get permission is planned.

Saturday, 1 May: Crew Member meeting in the hospitality room in the morning (0800 to whenever). Saturday afternoon, we are looking at a tour, such as the USS Wisconsin BB64 and, for those so inclined, a possible golf tournament. Saturday night will be a buffet dinner where we will have a raffle to raise money for whatever purpose the crew decides at the Crew Meeting Saturday morning so please bring something to donate to the raffle. Bring something that reminds you of your time on the ship, ports you visited, or where you come from, for example maple syrup from Vermont, Italian Red Wine, etc. It could also be something for a laugh.

Sunday, 2 May: A day for farewells.

Remember that Tidewater Virginia area has a lot to see and do so come early and stay late, let us know what you would like to see and do.

The general dress code for all events will be casual except for dinner Saturday night where the dress code is at a minimum slacks and shirt. The suggested uniform for crew members on tours is the DDG 5 hat and a DDG 5 shirt or Navy Blue Polo shirt. That would also look good at the crews meeting.

## From The Bridge

(President)

Dear Shipmates and Families,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Glenn Johnson and I served aboard the USS Claude V. Ricketts from March 1964 to January 1968. I was a Ricketts plank owner and a member of the MMD crew. I was discharged from the Navy on January 30, 1968 as a BT2.

This past May I had the opportunity to attend my first CVR reunion in Jacksonville FL. I wish I had gone to some of the past reunions. I had a great time with some of my old shipmates. Lots of stories and memories were shared by all. I also met a lot of new shipmates. Some were onboard before me and many were after me.

During the crew meeting I was elected President of the DDG-5 Crew Members Association. One of my duties is to write an article for our semi-annual newsletter. This is my first one so please bear with me.

I would like to mention a couple of people that are really the “glue” that holds this whole thing together. Carl Slack is our Coordinator and works hard to make sure we stay organized and have some sort of annual “get together”. The other person I would like to mention is Kirk Neuman. Kirk is our Webmaster and keeps our first class website up to date and also has done a marvelous job of making it easy for X-DDG-5 crewmembers to come onboard with our organization. Please take this opportunity to visit our website at [TheBigNickle.org](http://TheBigNickle.org).

In closing I would like to request everyone’s help in locating and/or the disposition of DDG-5 crewmembers. Please pass the word to our webmaster at [The Big Nickle.org](http://TheBigNickle.org) or myself.

If you are ever in the Tampa-Clearwater-St Petersburg, Florida area, feel free to give me a call.

My regards to all and Welcome aboard.

Glenn Johnson [GJohn11905@aol.com](mailto:GJohn11905@aol.com)

352-523-1945 Home

813-786-8958 Cell

## Ahoy Shipmates from the Vice President:

It is an honor and privilege to serve the DDG 5 Association as its vice president. For those of you who don't know me personally, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about myself.

I grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, and entered the Navy out of high school in 1964. After attending RD "A" school at Great Lakes with several of our shipmates, I reported to the Claude V. Ricketts in November, 1965. I left the Ricketts in Naples, Italy and the Navy in April, 1968. About 6 weeks after returning to Civland, I received a letter from the Navy that informed of the small print in my contract. It seems that I agreed to be a Ready Reservist for the duration because I went to "A" school. One thing led to another and before I realized it I was retiring in 1984 as an Operations Specialist Chief.

Along the way I married my college sweetheart, Cheryl (better known as Cissy) and went into the retail field. After living in several cities in Arkansas and Louisiana, we ended up in Pasadena, TX, in 1981. We have both recently retired, sold our house in Pasadena and are now living in the booming metropolis of Tool (population 2200), TX. Tool is located about 45 miles southeast of Dallas on Cedar Creek Lake. It is definitely a whole different world from the Houston area with its 4 million people. I think the only thing we will miss about the big city is our son Heath who is an orthopedic tech with Methodist Hospital in Houston.

I have attended the past 4 DDG 5 reunions and they keep getting better. I think everybody enjoyed themselves at the latest one. If you have never attended one of our reunions I encourage you to mark your calendar and plan to attend next year in Norfolk. If you are in touch with other shipmates, encourage them to go to [The Big Nickel](http://TheBigNickle) website and register. Urge them to join us in Norfolk in 2010. It doesn't matter if they served in the 1960s, 70s, or 80s, they served on a great ship with a great bunch of shipmates. Regardless of when they served, they are our shipmates and regardless of what time and Mother Nature may have done to us, it is amazing how young we suddenly become at one of the reunions.

If you are ever in the Dallas area, drop on down to Tool. The beer will always be cold and the coffee hot.

Danny Timm

## From the Quarterdeck

(Executive Director)

Shipmates,

The 2009 reunion is now in the books and I believe that everyone who attended had a great time and those who missed it missed something special. We set out to show Jacksonville, the Adams Class Veterans Association (ACVA), and the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association (JHNSA) our support for the Charles F. Adams as a museum in Jacksonville, FL. The feedback has been very positive. The hospitality room was open from Wednesday until Sunday afternoon. Interesting at the same time the USS Yosemite AD19 had their hospitality room right down the hall. Most of us remember her for service she provided over the years.

Friday we had a tour of the Mayport Naval Station with lunch at the base galley. The food was really good, not quite how I remembered it. In the afternoon we toured the USS Roosevelt (DDG80). Interesting to see another ship mixed manned (men and women). But I will say that age makes climbing those ladders much harder. As we toured I kept thinking how much has changed and how much is still the same.

Friday night we had a reception cosponsored by the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ships Association. There were several former Commanding Officers of other DDG's in attendance. It was great to see Captain Jack Jones a former CO of the Adams and a proud mustang, Jack was also at the dinner on Saturday and kept us spell bound with his sea stories. One of our former CO's had planned on attending but at the last minute got summoned for jury duty. The Buffet dinner on Saturday was well received and we again had guest from the Adams group and their supporters.

At the Crews meeting on Saturday the bylaws for the association was adopted and association officers were elected. For the minutes of the meeting go to the web site ([thebignickel.org](http://thebignickel.org)). At 1000 on Saturday we had a ceremony for those shipmates who are no longer with us at the "Lone Sailor Memorial" on the ST Johns River. Bob Haner as our Chaplin read the names of those who had passed on and a wreath was cast into the river.

I would like to thank Bob and Teresa for all the work they did for the reunion. The wreath for the memorial was provided by Bob and Teresa put the decals on the mugs, and all the other little things that go into a reunion. A great big thanks to everyone who took the time to come because without you there would be no reunion.

For some great pictures of the 2009 reunion go to the website ([thebignickel.org](http://thebignickel.org)) and look under the link for reunions 2009.

If for whatever reason you cannot make a reunion and wish to express your views email them to [RickettsDDG5 @Yahoo.com](mailto:RickettsDDG5@Yahoo.com) or send them to:

DDG 5 Crew Members Association  
c/o Carl Slack  
PO Box 83  
Jackson, NH 03846-0083

It is important that all crew members take the time to check out [TheBigNickel.org](http://TheBigNickel.org) website and to register. Registration on the site is our way of making sure we keep all crew members informed and up to date about our Association. Make it a habit to occasionally look for any new information. The newsletters are published twice a year; the website is constantly being updated. We have the best ships website due to all the hard work of our webmaster Kirk Neuman. I also recommend that everyone take the time to look at the [ACVA](http://ACVA) website and to join that group. The Adams as a museum ship in Jacksonville will represent every DDG including DDG 5.

The Adams as a museum is now in a critical part of the ACVA effort to make it a permanent museum in Jacksonville, FL. They are now in a classical "Catch 22". They need to raise funds to prove to the Navy that they can make the project work in order for the Navy to give them final approval and the ship. But, until the Navy does give its final approval and delivery of the ship, the ACVA is finding it very difficult to obtain large donations from major corporations. Here is where all the individuals who ever served on an Adams class ship can help. Later in this newsletter, the ACVA explains what fund raising they are working on. Two of these are of interest, one is the Hull Plate program and the other is a Yard O' Concrete. Both of these are being supported by the DDG 5 Crew Members Association. If you go to [The Big Nickel](#), you can see all about both programs and what our association is doing to support the Hull Plate program. Essentially, we are asking you, the crew of DDG-5, to donate toward the sponsorship of Hull Plate #5 in honor of our ship. The cost of the Hull Plate is \$2500 and the association will collect the donations and forward them to the ACVA. Remember the Adams represents all of the Adams class DDG's. Remember a great ships museum takes time and money. So if you have not done so already volunteer your time, give what you can afford. When I was in the navy I hated to chip and paint, but I hope that someday to be doing just that on the Adams in the St. John's River.

Carl W Slack  
Executive Director

---

### A word from The Big Nickel Webmaster

---

#### **Contact: [Captain.Kirk@TheBigNickel.org](mailto:Captain.Kirk@TheBigNickel.org)**

I think that some of you who will read this may think that [The Big Nickel](#) website is specifically a **DDG-5 Crew Members Association** website. That isn't strictly true. [The Big Nickel](#) is a hobby site that I've put together over the last year or so to honor those of us that served on board the DDG-5, when she was either the Biddle or the Ricketts, over the years and to provide a central point for shipmates to register and contact each other. There are several sites out there that I know many of you have registered on, but none of them are specifically dedicated to the USS Biddle DDG-5/USS Claude V. Ricketts DDG-5. My goal when I started to develop the site was to provide a website to be just that.

I hesitate to say this and only say it so that you will understand that [The Big Nickel](#) is not an association website, but all funding for the site, the costs of hosting the site and costs of development tools is strictly out of my own pocket. I don't accept funding from the association because; a) the association doesn't have much funding to begin with and b) because I want the site to remain a hobby site and not have it become an "official" association site which has ramifications I don't even want to think about, not the least of which is that it will become a real "JOB" and that's the last thing I want ☺ I've been retired for 4 years and really, REALLY don't want to go back to work!

That being said and even though [The Big Nickel](#) is not specifically a **DDG-5 Crew Members Association** website, I do support the association and its goal of contacting and bringing together the potential 4000 plus men that made up the crews for the ship over its thirty year life. To do that, I would like everyone to register on the site by going to the [registration page](#) and entering their information. To see what information is displayed on the website, take a look at the [crew listing pages](#). The personal information that you enter, including your email address, is stored in a secure database that only I and the [elected association officers](#) have access to. Your personal information is only used as a means to, in rare cases, contact you via telephone or snail mail. There is also a separate Crew Forum registration where you can enter a username and password to access the Crew Forums. The idea of the forums is to provide a place for (registered) shipmates to exchange greetings, leave your sea stories, and leave remembrances for those that have gone before us, and other things that either I think of or you request. At one time I was thinking about deep sixing the forums, but decided to keep them, at least for the time being. Some of you have registered for the forums and haven't entered your Crew

Registration information. If you are one of those, I'm asking that you go to the Crew Registration page and enter your information. If you need help or have any problems, please don't hesitate to contact me. I continue to work on in an attempt to improve it as well as giving me something to do, other than my "honey-do" list, in my retirement.

I'm continuing to add to and update the website. Newly added things include:

- The [DDG-5 reunion history](#), or the history as far as the information I have. If you have information on any of the reunions, please contact me I'll get it posted. If you don't have the information in digital form and are willing to trust me, you can send it to me and I'll get it scanned and return it to you. Let me know at the above email address and I'll send you my snail mail address.
- All of the pictures that I have and minutes of the 2009 reunion held recently in Jacksonville, Florida in slideshow format under the [2009 Reunion](#) pages.
- A copy of the Commissioning Pamphlet for the USS Biddle, DDG-5, courtesy of Jerry Kaufman and his wife Shirley, which I've scanned and put on the site under [Ship History](#).
- Copies of brochures, courtesy of Tom Connors, for the starting and concluding ceremonies for the Mixed-Manning Demonstration from July 1964 to December 1965, also under Ship History.
- Updated the [Contact](#) page with the names and email addresses of the DDG-5 Crew Members Association elected officers, volunteer officers and the Executive Council.
- Posted the final DDG-5 Crew Members Association [Bylaws and Constitution](#).
- I've made space for a [Ship's Store](#) where items associated with either the USS Biddle or the USS Claude V. Ricketts would be available for purchase. Nothing has been discussed with the Executive Council about this yet and the future of the Ship's Store is not firm yet..

Remember that [The Big Nickel](#) is meant to be your website. If you see things that aren't quite right or something that is missing and you'd like to see included, please let me know. If you have problems navigating through the site, let me know. It's sometimes hard to see the forest because of the trees when you're developing and maintaining a site and it's easy to miss things, especially for me. Also things look different when you use different browsers to view the site. I use Firefox 3.xx as my default browser and even though I try to check out things on other browsers, I sometimes (okay, make that a lot of times) forget to do so and then you may see something askew when you view the site with your browser. So don't hesitate to let me know if you see things askew in your browser of choice.

Finally, the website you see is and has been developed, maintained, and sometimes tested right here in my downstairs "office" in my home. There are no other people working on the site, just little ole me. Since the site is a hobby site and because I'm retired, I work on it when I feel like it and when I get the chance. The site is also a learning experience for me. Even after 30 years of being a software engineer, there are still things that I want to learn and developing and maintaining the site is a whole new landscape for me.

Thanks for your support!

Kirk "VJ" Neuman

Webmaster: The Big Nickel

## THE AMEN CORNER

Hello Shipmates from the Amen Corner of the bridge.

Now, as your Chaplain, I'm going to ask each and every one of you for your help in doing my job. If you hear of a Shipmate (or an immediate family member) who has passed away (no matter when it was), please let me know. Also, if you learn of a Shipmate (or their immediate family member) who's having some serious health

issues (I don't need to know that Carl is having a nip and a tuck – Ha! Ha!), please (again) let me (or our Webmaster) know.

Now, here (sadly) are the Shipmates who have transferred from our ship to the staff of the Supreme Commander, since the last time the list was published in the newsletter. Now, with the one exception, they are all from the past, and we just learned about them.

## TAPS

Lawrence W. Ash  
Christian Bamberg - 1995  
BT1 Bill Bridgeman  
CAPT Robert Buehler – 2007

Robert Lynn Damstra – 26MAY2009 – Shipmate Damstra passed away during open heart surgery. He was on the ship from about DEC 65-AUG 66 as part of the replacement crew after the MMD. He retired as a Senior Chief. Cards may be sent to his widow – Karen – at 80 Cobber Drive, Newnan, GA 30265. PLEASE NO PHONE CALLS.

Ray Engel – 2006  
LCDR Pendergrass  
OSC Bill Richley – AUG2001  
Robert Thomson

## CORRECTION

BM1 Wendal Rector  
GMG2 Howard D. Stauffer

In the past they had been listed as one Shipmate – GMG2 Stauffer-Rector. They were of course not. They were two separate and individual Shipmates each special in their own way.

Alrighty, a couple more items and then I'm done. One, check out the [website](#) and register if you haven't already. While you're there, go to the [Taps](#) section, and if you have a photo (or any additional info) of one of the Shipmates that is there, please let the [Webmaster](#) or I know, and we'll work with you on getting it posted. Last, but not least, a card on behalf of the entire crew was sent to Karen Damstra, so nothing more needs to be done, unless you want to.

Take care and may God Bless (TCAMGB).  
Your Shipmate,  
Bob Haner

*July 22, 2009*

*Adams Class Museum Supporters,*

On behalf of everyone involved in this project, we "THANK YOU" for your generous contributions to date. Your donations have to this point gone towards the long process of submitting our Donation Application for ex-USS Charles F. Adams, including engineering surveys, marketing studies, environmental studies, and permitting. Our ACVA team has donated over \$650,000 dollars of cash and in-kind labor to support the project in developing the Donation Application and obtaining all types of shipboard equipment to restore the CHARLES F. ADAMS to her seagoing appearance once the Navy donates the ship.

We apologize for the slowdown of recent updates. We have been working diligently to meet NAVSEA imposed deadlines

since getting the application accepted and approved is key to taking the ADAMS home to Jacksonville, her old homeport. The biggest NAVSEA requirement is that all necessary funding, both cash and in-kind contributions, be in place before the ship can be awarded. For the project to move forward this issue must now be addressed. Just to dry dock and repair the hull and address key safety issues on board DDG-2 will cost over \$3 million dollars. In addition, volunteer repair and refurbishment work is planned to accomplish much of the rest of the restoration including preservation and painting the ship, restoring compartments and equipment inside the ship.

We are at a point where we must begin raising over \$4 million to be used for the restoration of the ship and establish the ship museum. To accomplish this goal we will need you and your shipmates' generous support. The ACVA & JHNSA are jointly promoting several fundraising programs that we hope you can *contribute to*.

### **HULL PLATE SPONSORSHIP**

This program is designed for individual, groups and business participants. There are about 1245 (4X8 ft) hull plates on an Adams Class ship (sides, bottom and rear). All funds raised with this program will go towards the restoration of the ship. The cost to sponsor / pledge each hull plate is \$2500. There are various payment programs available to meet your budget. Please visit the ACVA website at [www.adamsclassddgvets.org](http://www.adamsclassddgvets.org) for details on the payment plans and Hull Plate Sponsorship Form. The form is also attached to this email. You may also contact me via phone or e-mail, which is listed below, and I will forward a sponsorship form to you. You may pay by check or go to the credit card donation page on the ACVA website to pay by credit card.

During the recent USS Lawrence DDG-4 Association reunion in June three Crewmembers stepped forward and agreed to sponsor/pledges for three hull plates for a total of \$7500. I ask all ACVA Ship Reps to propose to their groups to sponsor at least one hull plate, perhaps the one representing their ship's hull number. Hull plates 2 to 24 are reserved for the Adams Class DDG's to sponsor. The best way to make this work is not to use your association's funds, but ask your members to mail their tax-deductible donations to a central person to be put towards your ship's hull plate. Our goal, as Adam's DDG crewmen, from DDG-2 to 24 is \$57,500 or one plate per ship. We can do the same for USS Gyatt DDG-1 and the three German ships DDG28, 29 & 30 and three Aussie ships, DDG38, 39 and 41. We should be proud enough to sponsor / pledge more than one hull plate per ship. You can help us broaden this program by visiting your local veterans groups, VFW, American Legion, AMVETS, and others and seek support from former Navy and other service veterans.

### **YARD O' CONCRETE**

This program is designed for individuals, groups, and businesses and is to cover the cost of pier refurbishment, upgrades and/or building a new pier as required to place the Adams permanently in Jacksonville, FL. We ask participants to sponsor at least ONE CUBIC YARD of concrete for \$150. There are various payment programs available to meet your budget. Please visit the ACVA website at [www.adamsclassddgvets.org](http://www.adamsclassddgvets.org) for details on the payment plans and the Yard O' Concrete Sponsorship Form. The form is also attached to this email. You may also contact me via phone or e-mail, which is listed below, and I will forward a sponsorship form to you. You may pay by check or go to the credit card donation page on the ACVA website to pay by credit card.

ACVA and JHNSA are both rolling out these two programs in Jacksonville as well and we are planning to have several other major fundraising events for Jacksonville beginning in fall 2009.

We are contracting with a well known Jacksonville events company to handle several large "turn key" events for us. Under discussion are Sports Memorabilia Shows & Auctions, Bid for Bachelors, Casino Nights, Texas Hold'em Tournaments, Celebrity Waiter Dinners, Golf Tournaments, Motorcycle Events and others. There are two major events we hope to hold that require major planning, a Motorcycle Event and a Major Concert.

### **JACKSONVILLE, FL. - MOTORCYCLE EVENT & POKER RUN**

This event is to take place about late October or early November 2009 and we are working to firm up the dates, get event proposals, and have the planning company contract completed. We have less than 3 months to put this together and make it a success. There will be a 100-mile poker run with prizes awarded for the best card hands. We hope to have it arranged so anyone lucky enough to pull a Royal Flush will win a brand new Harley=Davidson. There will be food, beverages, and entertainment throughout the day. We are checking on the availability of a celebrity to lead the bike ride and chair the event. We will need help in the area leading up to and during the days of the event. If you can be in Jacksonville to volunteer, please contact me. The ACVA needs your donations now. There are many up front costs to cover to hold these events and with a maximum turn out of motorcycles, riders, and local Jacksonville, folks we can expect to raise over \$100,000 for the restoration of the Adams. Your \$20, \$50, \$100, and/or \$500 donations, if you have really deep pockets, can help make this event a success and allow us to begin planning for the next event. Please donate now! If you are able to assist in any of these fundraising activities please contact me as soon as possible.

We have also been busy obtaining and tracking down equipment for CHARLES F. ADAMS that has been either removed from the ship or "Demilled". "Demilled" is when equipment is intentionally broken by the Navy to make the equipment unusable. I am coordinating with several locations and companies to find and obtain equipment. I will need assistance, probably on short notice, to remove and transport equipment from the former Gunners Mate School at the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, IL. The school is being torn down and buildings demolished. If you are able to assist please contact me soon. I don't have the dates yet, but I can tell you that we have, at most, a 30-day window to get the equipment or it goes to trash. You will need to supply your own tools, transportation, meals, and lodging to Great Lakes at your own expense. We can provide a form to use for taxes to cover everything you spend except meals.

This is all we have to report at the moment. More will be coming, just give us some time. **Remember, if you want to walk the decks of an Adams Class DDG again, now is the time to help with funding and the hull repairs.**

### **ALL DONATION CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO "ACVA, INC."**

Persons sending a completed ACVA Member Application with a check and/or Credit Card Donation of \$25 or more will become ACVA Members and ACVA Plankowners. You can locate our ACVA Member Application and/or Credit Card Donation page on our web site.

### **Membership Plankowners and/or "REGULAR DONATION CHECKS" should be sent to:**

ACVA Executive Secretary  
Dave Myerly  
5 Bush Road  
Denville, New Jersey 07834-2906

**HULL PLATE** and/or **YARD O' CONCRETE** Donation checks should be "**MARKED TO SHOW THE FUNDRAISER THEY ARE FOR**" and sent to Craig Bernat at the address shown below. Credit Card donations may be made to these fundraisers and is available on our web site.

If you have any questions please contact Craig Bernat by e-mail or phone.

*Sincerely,*

Craig T. Bernat  
ACVA Treasurer & Director Fundraising  
President, USS Lawrence Association (DDG-4)

135 Zurenda Lane  
Mineral Point, PA 15942-4505  
814-322-4150  
[fc1ddg4@atlanticbb.net](mailto:fc1ddg4@atlanticbb.net)

## **VOLUNTEERS FOR USS CHARLES F. ADAMS RESTORATION**

We need all of those former Adams Class veterans to sign up as Volunteers on our web page so that we can move ahead with our planning for the restoration of the ship after it is donated by the Navy. Even before we get to the day to day operation of the ship museum in Jacksonville, there will be a great deal of work to restore the ship to look like it did when it was at sea. The web page, [www.adamsclassddgvets.org](http://www.adamsclassddgvets.org) has a Volunteer link where veterans can sign up and give information about their sea duty experience so that we can plan and organize our effort. Whether you were a Deck Seaman, Gunners Mate, or Boiler Technician we will need volunteers to do everything from painting to repairing broken gauges and welding bulkheads. It will help the cause greatly if you not only sign up as a volunteer yourself, but also contact several old shipmates and get them to sign up to help us as well. The ACVA thanks all of the ship associations and veterans for their support.

Bob Branco, President ACVA

Set the special sea detail  
Make ready DDG 2  
Destination final Homeport Jacksonville, FL

Brought to you by the DDG 5 Crew Members Association

Executive Director  
DDG 5 Crew Members Association  
C/o Carl Slack  
PO Box 83  
Jackson, NH 03846-0083  
603- 986-4661  
RickettsDDG5@Yahoo.com

Web Master  
Kirk Neuman  
[thebignickel.org](http://thebignickel.org)

President  
Glenn Johnson  
gjohn11905@aol.com  
352-523-1945

From the Fantail  
Remember do all you can to save the Charles F. Adams DDG 2!

When I was in grammar school the group who had the USS Olympia (Admiral Dewey's flagship in Manila Bay during the Spanish American War), needed to raise funds to preserve the ship and all the children in the Delaware Valley contributed pennies, some of us even when to Philadelphia and helped with painting.

See You All At the Reunion  
Carl

If you have an email address please let me have it so we can email the newsletter to you, saves money

