

THE DECKPLATE

Volume 4, Issue 3

March 2006

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS SCHOFIELD (DEG/FFG-3)



Points of Special Interest

- *Jack Knoblock has Association news in our cover article.*
- *An opportunity for discounted Schofield Photos and Posters is on page two. See a replica of them also.*
- *Do you have something that reminds you of your Schofield days? JB Pate has a car. See his story on page three.*
- *Important information on how you will be receiving the Deckplate in the future is on page five. Please read it carefully and respond as needed.*

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Dear Schofield Family,

Well, I hope everyone had a Happy New Year and are looking forward to a great time in Reno. From what I know, it looks like not only many of you that have attended previous reunions will be returning, but several first timers are planning on attending as well. BM1 Nelson and his wife Pam should be congratulated as the first ones to sign up for the reunion.

There are some exciting changes being made by Military Locator & Reunion Service, such as the development of a website that provides a lot of info, registration, as well as a means to connect to Schofield's

website directly from theirs. Frank Germo has updated the website and it looks great. More dues have come in since our last Deckplate (see list).

Over the past few months several new members have come onboard and our treasurer heard from Capt. Conlon, Bill Ayers, Barry Pate, Mike Miner, Bob Scott, Phil Kochel and David Divera who passed on two names of former shipmates to contact.

Hats will be available at the reunion, and those wishing to reserve one prior to arrival at the reunion can contact me via e-mail or other means. The cost is \$12.00 each. By the time you receive

the Deckplate, I will have e-mailed some of you regarding "Ships Crest Patch." Other items I thought some of you might be interested in are on page two. Duane Wilson contacted me regarding the possibility of a Schofield Pictorial Cancellation. I have seen the art work for it, and he has gotten approval from the Main Post Office in Reno. The cancellation will be available May 5 and for 30 days thereafter. Duane will provide each reunion member with a commemorative envelope. Duane has done this for other ships and at no cost to us, but I have promised him a Schofield hat.

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My wife and I are really looking forward to seeing our friends from previous years and meeting new ones. **SEE YOU IN RENO!!!**

Jack Knoblock (Doc)

ASSOCIATION DUES

The following list is of those who paid their \$10.00 annual dues as provided by Robert Cichowski, Treasurer since the last Deckplate.

- Gordon Akst
- Bill Ayers
- Mark Bergen
- Michael Clark
- Frank Conlon
- Arthur Cook
- Thomas Dawdy
- Thomas Denny
- David Devera
- Douglas Falor
- Andrew Golden
- Earl Graffam
- Gary Guesto
- Dale Hall
- Philip Kochel
- Gaylord Larson
- David Maass
- Steve McMikle
- Michael Miner
- Michael Moneck
- Vance Nixon
- David Ocker
- Wesley Oxenrider
- James Pate
- Paul Roeper
- Jimmy Sanford
- Robert Scott
- William Scott
- William Shoots
- Peter Stevens
- Billy Tiede

The Association Dues balance is \$1305.00. This does not reflect monies held by ML&RS, Inc.

SCHOFIELD PHOTO/POSTER

This is information regarding ordering/purchasing of Schofield Photo/Poster.

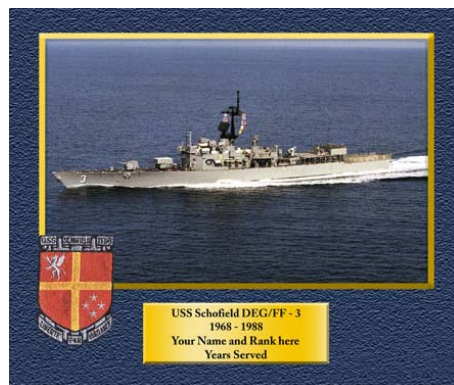
The cost for a generic print is \$8.00 or \$10.00 for a personalized one that includes name, rank, dates served on board. (Their normal price if you order from their website www.militarygifts.us is \$15.00.) Prints are 8½ x 11 and they are very nice. I received a generic.

16 x 20 poster is \$20.00 if I get an order for more than 10. (Normal price is \$35.00 including shipping.) If you want me to order one of the

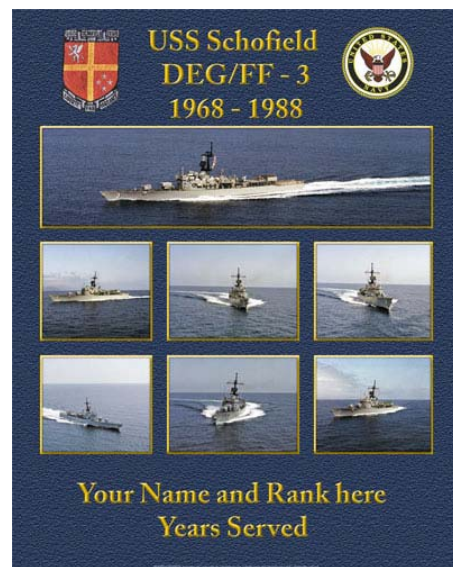
items listed, for availability at the reunion, I will need the info by April 15 along with your check made out to Jack Knoblock and mailed to:

Jack Knoblock
PO Box 464
Cascade, ID 83611

Or, if you prefer, you can order directly from the web site at the regular price.



Ship Photo



Schofield Poster



WELCOME MAT

The following shipmates have been located since the last newsletter. Welcome aboard. We hope to see you at the next reunion and that you will take an active part in the association. We welcome:

Charles Ristorcelli (1971-73) LT
13307 Avenida La Valencia
Poway, CA 92064
619-368-7617
nn3v@amsat.org

San Diego, CA 92126
858-566-6752

Robert Jenkins (1971) FN
141 Oak Ridge Ln
Staunton, VA 24401
540-337-0154
bjenkins@nbc29.com

Ben Baguioso SK1
1219 Silverado Dr
Chula Vista, CA 91915
858-254-5141

Bhien Maranon SK3
21901 Monita Ave #50
Carson, CA 90745
310-328-4375

Alan Pierce (1969-70) ST1
8401 Menkar Rd

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Calvin Persing
(1968-71) STG2 3rd Div
21771 Bailey St
Perris, CA 92570
calvinpersing@aol.com

Jimmy Lorenc (1969) SN Supply
9 Pease Ave
Vernona, NY 07044
973-239-6690



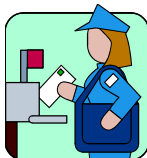
TAPS

The Schofield Deckplate has learned of the following deaths since the last newsletter. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families and friends of the deceased.

James Loran
(1968-70) RD3 Ops
Died October 2005

Ken Cruse
(1969-72) BT2
Date of death not reported

Anyone who knows or learns of a shipmate's death, you are requested to notify the newsletter so that person can be listed in TAPS and also on the Honor Roll at the next reunion.



MAIL CALL

Deckplate,

I have a bit of news that might be of interest to the Schofield crew. During our 1969 WestPac Cruise, I saved up enough money to buy myself a car once I returned to the States. I had owned a 1961 Austin Healey 3000 prior to joining the Navy, but I had sold it upon entering boot camp at Great Lakes Na-

val Training Center. I returned to my hometown, Nashville, Tennessee, on leave and spent several days car shopping. I looked at about 5 different Healey's, one of which had been owned by Roy Orbison, but it was \$500 more than my budget, and I couldn't get my parents to spot me the extra—my mother wasn't too thrilled with me owning another one of those "sports cars" anyway. I found one that was in my budget, a 1967 model, but it was not the color I wanted. I bought it on January 29, 1969, and started driving back alone to Long Beach on January 1, 1970. I got well into Arkansas when I noticed it was sort of rumbling and vibrating when I engaged the clutch. I was committed to get back on time and kept going. Finally I got into Texas and stopped somewhere in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area at a local British Car Dealership. Once on the rack and a couple of guys listening to it, they diagnosed a broken clutch pressure plate. I asked how long to fix it, but they couldn't do it for several days. Well, I had to get back to the ship in 3 days, so I wasn't able to stop. Somehow I managed to nurse the car along Interstate 40 (sometimes driving on Route 66) all the way to Long Beach, and I got back before my leave expired. The entire trip from Nashville to Long Beach was over 3 days and included overnight stops in Arkansas, Texas and New Mexico. Once back in Long Beach, I took the car to the Car Hobby Shop on base and changed the clutch. That was my first real experience with car repair and sure enough, the pressure plate was

broken. Sometime later, just before my discharge, Ken Wilson painted the car light blue, which was the color I had wanted in the first place. After my discharge in 1971, I drove the car back to Atlanta, Georgia, only this time I did it in a little over 2 days, stopping only in Lubbock, Texas to spend the night. I drove that car while I was completing college at Georgia Tech; it was the car my wife and I owned when we married in 1973. It was the car I drove to work when I joined IBM in 1974 once I completed my Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering. Along the way, things broke on the car, parts were impossible to find, I was living in an apartment in Chapel Hill, NC, and the car got parked in 1977. I finally bought a house with a garage in 1979, and the car got placed in the rear of the garage. One day in 1996, my wife looked at me and said, "Either fix that thing, or get rid of it!" Having just turned 50, I needed a nice birthday present to myself. It was on a flatbed heading to restoration in a few weeks. Now the car is restored after a 5 year project, it is back to its original color—turns out the color is rare and only 553 of them were ever produced in that color—and it is proudly displayed in my garage. I drive it to car shows on occasion and take it out about once a week. My vanity license tag says MY YOUTH. I still work on it with upgrades and constant polishing and adjustments. It is now in better shape than the day I bought it. That car will always be part of my Schofield years.

J B (Barry) Pate



FACTS ON RENO, NEVADA

CLIMATE

- Daily temperatures are mild, but the difference between the high and low can exceed 45 degrees.
- Sunshine is abundant throughout the year, with an annual average of 300 sunny days a year.
- Nights with low temperatures over 60 degrees are rare.
- More than half the annual precipitation in Reno falls from December to March.
- Reno rests at a comfortable 4,400 ft above sea level.

HISTORY

- Prior to discovery by white settlers, Paiute and Washoe Indians inhabited the Great Basin.
- John C. Fremont recorded the first sighting of Lake Tahoe in 1844 on his exploration of the West.
- Reno got its start in 1859 when Charles Fuller established a toll bridge across the Truckee River where two popular trails intersected. The Comstock Lode was discovered this same year in Virginia City and mining camps were established throughout the Great Basin.
- Reno was founded as a station of the Central Pacific Railroad in 1868.
- Gambling was legalized in 1879.
- Reno was incorporated in 1903 and named after Civil War General Jesse Reno, a Union general who served in the Mexican War and was killed in the American Civil War.
- The city got its divorce reputation when Laura Corey, the wife of prominent U.S. steel industrialist, William Corey, came to Reno for a divorce.

USS SCHOFIELD REUNION

**MAY 4-7,
2006**

RENO, NV

**HILTON
HOTEL**

Balance after 12/05 issue
\$417.87
Expended 03/06—**\$308.34**
Balance for 06/06—\$109.53

Those who have not already paid their \$10.00 association dues should send a check made out to Robert Cichowski and mail to:

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386 Holly Ridge Rd
Winter Haven, FL 33880-1113

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"Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To"

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

This is the official publication of the USS Schofield Association. From now on it will be published quarterly in March, June, September and December, *subject to receiving sufficient funding*. The Newsletter is funded by voluntary contributions from the membership. All members are encouraged to support the voice of the Schofield. A financial statement will appear in each of the following issues. **Send contributions to ML&RS, Inc. PO Drawer 11399, Hickory, NC 28603.**

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially share experiences.

Unless otherwise stated, the views and opinions printed in the newsletter are those of the article's writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Association leadership or the Editor of the Newsletter.

All letters and stories submitted will be considered for publication, except unsigned letters will not be published. Letters requesting the writer's name be withheld will be honored, but published on a space available basis. Signed letters with no restrictions will be given priority.

Letters demeaning to another shipmate will not be printed; letters espousing a political position will not be printed.

ML&RS, Inc is not responsible for the accuracy of articles submitted for publication. It would be impossible to check each story. Therefore, we rely on the submitter to research each article.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters to conform to space limitations and grammar.

You are encouraged to actively participate in the newsletter family by submitting your stories and suggestions.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information contained in this letter is very important! Please read it very carefully and respond as necessary! **You must respond as indicated in this message to continue receiving information about your reunion through the US Postal mail!**

Big changes are going on here at ML&RS, Inc! They're not going to happen overnight, but the process has begun. As you are certainly aware, rising costs for hotel rooms, meal prices and fuel for autos and tour buses makes for a more expensive reunion! We are doing everything we can to keep our costs to a minimum. However, prices continue to rise, including postage (which has gone up again the first of this year). In an effort to offer you and your fellow attendees the lowest possible cost, we are going to make some changes to the way things have been done in the past. We hope you will work with us to implement these changes as smoothly as possible!

Due to the multitude of requests we have received over the last few years, we are going to now upgrade our web site to include a variety of information pertaining to your reunion. There will be a small web site within our company's web site for each of the reunion groups we work with. The main page for each group will contain basic information about the upcoming reunion, as well as links to several other pages, including but not limited to lists of those who have signed up, the actual registration packet as a web page, a link to the profiles that were previously printed in the Sentimental Journal, newsletters, and after the reunion a link that can be used to order copies of the memory books that will now be included as part of the reunion package. Also, we will not duplicate anything your group already has on their web page. We will do our best to keep personal information secure. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published. Email addresses will only be published with permission.

Beginning with the 2006 reunions, we will be discontinuing our memorabilia sales, including the Sentimental Journal. There are so many web sites out there now where hats, t-shirts, etc can be ordered, and the turn-around time is just a matter of days. When we

first started this business, this was not the case. We began offering these items as a service to the reunion groups who didn't know where else to order items. Due to the increased availability of memorabilia, our sales have declined over the last few years, and it is no longer cost effective for us to continue offering these items. Also, there are a lot of groups who prefer to sell the items themselves as a fund raiser for the association. We certainly do not wish to compete with your association sales!

In place of the Sentimental Journal, we will begin including a 2006 Memory Book as the memorabilia item given away at the reunion. This will replace the note cards, clocks, pens, etc that have been given in the past. However, they will not be given at the reunion, they will be sent to each attendee (who signs up for one of the Option Packages or orders one as part of their Individual Option) following the reunion. The 2006 Memory Book will contain photos from the reunion and "then and now" photos that have been submitted prior to the reunion each year. The very popular profiles will now be accessible from the web site.

Now that the group's web site is up and running we will discontinue the majority of the paper mailings we sent out. Newsletters, Surveys, Introductory Letters and Questionnaires, and the Registration Material will all be available on the web site. Your group's web site is www.mlrsinc.com/schofield. Be sure to visit the site frequently and take advantage of the information that will be/is available there. If your profile is not listed in the Crew Profiles, then be sure

to submit yours via www.mlrsinc.com/questionnaire.htm.

We do realize that there are still some people who do not have or do not want internet access. Because of this, we will continue paper mailings to those who let us know they want their info via the postal mail. **You must return the "coupon" at the end of this letter if you wish to continue receiving paper copies of the various materials we send out—newsletters, registration packets, surveys, etc.** If you do not mail in this coupon, we are assuming you have internet access and can obtain all the necessary reunion information off your group's web site.

At some point in the near future, we plan to add on-line registration capabilities to each group's web site. That probably won't happen this year, but I do foresee it happening soon. That is another feature we got a lot of requests for.

As we strive to provide you and your reunion group with the best possible value for your reunion dollar, it is sometimes necessary to change the way some things are done. Our ultimate goal is to offer each and every reunion attendee a great reunion at a reasonable price. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments or suggestions!

Respectfully,
Dina Coffey
Office Manager
ML&RS, Inc

Return this coupon if you want to receive all future mailings from us on paper via US Postal Mail:

Reunion Group: _____
(ship or unit name)

Your name: _____

Your mailing address: _____

Your phone number: _____

Return this coupon to:
ML&RS, INC
PO DRAWER 11399
HICKORY, NC 28603