# CALUERSION

#### OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MEN OF THE U.S.S. CALVERT APA 32

"The Ship and Men of Distinction"

Published and Compiled by John L. Cole 506 Red Wing Ave. Kenyon, Minnesota 55946 Telephone 507-789-6344

VOL. NO. 46 2002



# Comments from the Commander

We are going to press a little early as our 02 Reunion Host, Carl Rogers has an early deadline to meet. He want's all the reservations to be in by July 31,02. If we come out with the newsletter in early June that will give everybody at least two months to make up t heir minds. Don't put it off, do it today while its fresh in your mind. See you in Fort Mitchell .... We have a small problem is since we didn't hold a reunion in 2001 we didn't select a site for the 2003 reunion. In other words we have no place to go. We will bring it up at our business meeting which will this year be held on Friday Afternoon. We will also be looking for a host for 2004 at that time. If you think you would like to hold a reunion please contact me. I will give you support, knowledge, and experience to help you in any way to make it a success. It's a lot of work but others have done it and you can too. We have found that two years make planning a little more easy but we have had reunions in which one year planning was done J.B.Stoker and girls did it in Oklahoma and we had a super time thanks to them. Hope to hear from somebody......We also had some expense from the reunion we didn't hold and I will bring that up at the business meeting.....Received a note from Robert R. Reed who we lost for a short time but found an old Calversion and got himself reinstated with a good address. Remember it cost me 50¢ for every newsletter that is returned because of a wrong address or if you move......We are listed on the internet in the Seawaves Magazine under www.seawaves.com so look us up. Also if anyone of you know any where else we can get our ships information please let me know. Espically if it dosen't cost anything. When we have a reunion I send out to over 20 service related magazines info. on the reunion for free......Got a nice letter from Bill Meehan of Philadelphia who writes that no one has submitted any info on the early "50" and he has written a story so if I get that from him it will be in the winter edition. I am always looking for anything so if you think you have something please let me know and I'll see what I can to get it in. Remember keep it short, two pages at the most.....Well I guess thats it for this issue. Keep your head into the wind and I'll see you in Fort Mitchell in September...j.1.cole

# mail call



U. S. S. CALVERT (APA-32)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO. CALIFORNIA



Just a note to the old Calvert which I've helped decommision in 47. I was aboard from 45 to 47 and decommisoning in Norfolk, Va. We made a couple trips to the orient, all was quiet after the war years. I see in the Calversion where she had quite an exciting time after being recommisioned.

I was transfered to a navel base in Germany where I finally got married and became a civilian and tried farming for a few years and during the Cuban missile crises I reenlisted and that put me as an instructor at the local reserve training center until my retirement and now I'm down with Parkinsons ailment and 85 years old and don't get around much anymore....However any visitor is quite welcome to stop by. Joe Perme CCM 202 N. Hickory St. Harrison, Ar.72601-3320

Thank you for writing your letter. Stephen was very proud to serve his country in WW2 as did his three brothers.

His wish to be buried at sea was granted by the United States Coast Guard Bargw Eagle, on their trip from New London to Baltimore for their three month's stay on 10-3-01. Thank you again. Margaret Brady, 46 Laurel Hill Dr. Niantic, Ct. 06357

I don't know who wrote the mail call letter searching for information on Bob Precht. Bob was Ed Sullavan son-in-law and was one of the producers of that TV show. Maybe that will help find him. Also my E-mail address is josusnider @ aol.com if you have any questions.

Joe Snider

Fifty years ago. I was in bootcamp in San Diego. I got out in April and was sent aboard the USS Calvert. I was put in L devision or boat crew. I stayed in the boat crew for over three years.

What I remember most was "The Passage To Freedom". We were involved in August of 1954. A real good buddy of mine, Marvin M. Gales voluntered me to take a LCM and pick up those people from shore, and haul them to the ship for a trip to Sigon. I made one trip than Marvin, J.E.Bunch from AB Div. and I were there in Haiplong for twenty eight days. Sleeping in our LCM on cots. We carried people, cargo, beer or beach parties. We ate our chow on whatever and had the best movies at night.

After returning to Japan, I took the test for cook, past it and made CSSN. They had to transfer me to S div. than.

I wouldn't take anything for my four years I spent on the Calvert. Good crew aboard her. The Old Kentuckian, Billy G. Hester

We were on the Amtrack on the way to the reunion just east of ElPaso when the WTC and Pentagon were attacked. Lots of delays. Authorities thought there were some terrorists on the train, also a bomb. We were taken off the train north of Orlando and bussed into town at 3 AM while hordes of people went over the train, roof top to undercarraige with flashlights. Of course our plane reservations home were canceled but finally got out on stan-by. Reunion wasen't a total loss as I got to see my old friends the McCoys and Clauses. Charles Skillman

Just wanted you and others shipmates of the Calvert how much my husband enjoyed the Calversion. Frank served on the USS Harry Lee than transfered to the USS Calcert.

Margaret Garrett

Enclosed is a small contribution for the perpetuation of the Calversion. I really enjoy reading it even tho my time aboard was of very short duration and I know not the many many crew members.

I came aboard the USS Calvert APA 32 at San Diego in January 1944. A few days later we set sail for Kwajalein and Eniwetok. I was an Aviation Radioman 2/c and a member of an outfit called Naval Air Liason (attached to the Admirals Flag). Our job was to land with the 4th Marine Division and via radio order up and maonitor Navy planes for close air support when needed.

I remember being at anchor off Maui, standing on deck and seeing the Kahalui Bakery thru field glasses. Little did I realize that the following month I would be stationed at NAS Puunene, a Naval Air Base just ouside Kahalui. After we finished up in the Marshalls that is exactly where I went and waited till the next operation at Saipan. I was aboard the USS Fremont APA44 for the Saipan operation.

After Saipan I got back to flying and was assigned to a Torpedo Squadron.

Thru the Calversion I have read of the many daring exploits, the many fine men who served on the USS Calvert over these many years. I feel that I am a little tiny part of the USS Calverts history and thusly have deep feelings for her and consider all her crews over the years as shipmates, most particularly her crew during Jan and Feb 1944.

Thank you for wonderful memories. I am now almost 78 yrs of age with little left to do but tell war stories to my five Grandchildren and anyone else who will listen. Joseph S Bushell

Thank you for the great picture and information.

The information was extremely interesting. I recently was given a picture of the troop transport, "Republic", which I went overseas on in 1943. It apparently was the "President Grant", and was purchased by the Army Transport Service and made a troop ship a long time before the WW II.. It was a pretty old ship. Happy I came home on a newer ship (Calvert). Thank you again.

I was on the "Schwarenhardt", a cattle boat out of Batavia, Java, before the war. I will never be able to get a picture of it I am sure. It should have sunk 10 years before the war!!! It had Dutch Officers, Javanese deck crew, and Hindu black gang. There were 4 Kitchens side by side, including the one for 200 black soldiers and 200 white troops. We went from Brisbane to Milne Bay, stopping at Townsville. We slept on plywood sheets in the lower (cattle) deck. Two large doors on the side had a 1 to 2 foot gap where they closed. But, we made it safely to Milne bay.

From Milne Bay to Lae, , was on the "Suwanie", a pretty nice navy transport. I hope to find a picture of it one of these days. The rest of my travels were on LSTs and on the trip to Japan it took 18 LSMs to haul us. I have a picture of the # 160 LSM that I was on, and of a couple of the LSTs.

My wife was born and raised up into Grade School in Alexandria, MN. We nave made trips there every year since about 1950s, somtimes twice. Still has some cousins and one elderly Uncle there. We didn't get down to Kenyon, but were near when in the Cities a few times. PS, It seems that when we stopped in Pearl Harbor on the way home, a couple marines went ashore somehow, and were beat up by the locals. Did you ever hear that??

Larry Rickert 2901 E. Second, # 100 Newberg, OR, 97132 (an old army feller) I wanted to tell you how much your letter concerning the death of my tather, Ralph Sheehy meant to me. It was much appreciated especially since you took time out of your busy schedule to write to a stranger.

My dad was a special person who talked fondly of the U.S.S. Calvert. He felt close to all his shipmates whether or not he actually served with them. The Calvert was the only ship that he really related to even though he served on many during the two wars he was a part of.

Dad was a happy and cheery man who was well liked by everyone he met. He related well to both young and old and everyone loved his warmth, his jokes and smile. His mind was sharp even during his  $93^{rd}$  year and his memory fantastic. The only difficulty he had was writing, and it distressed him that he couldn't correspond more with family and friends. He walked every day and made friends with people he met on his walks. It would be wonderful if all of us could be in such good physical and mental condition in our nineties.

Carolyn Colmie, 5667 Adobe Falls Rd. Unit A.San Diego Ca. 92120-4659

Thanks for your card. Glad to hear your weather is good. We were having unseasonalbly warm weather until last week when the cold hit us. No snow yet. You asked about our trip to Florida for the reunion. It was a fiasco. We ran into a hurricane and driving was very bad. We had to use 4 way flashers driving through Florida. When we got to the hotel, I asked about the hospitality room and was informed the reunion had been cancelled. What a surprise. I then asked if any of the shipmates had arrived; Charlie & Gloria Skillman had arrived by train from California, CG & Helen Clauss had arrived by car, and Tom & Louise Warden, their daughter & granddaughter were still there. Some others had appeared and on hearing of the cancellation & the pending storm had elected to return home.

We were cautioned to stay away from windows and if the hurricane became so severe that electricity was cut off, we were to go to the bathroom and stay there until an all clear. It was very windy and rain swept the area but we were not inconvenienced in the hotel. All the theme parks were closed.

There was a Denny's & a Cracker Barrel very close by and Helen would pile us into her van and we would all eat breakfast & dinner together. Most of the time in between we would be watching the TV and the diaster in New York.

Unfortunately, CG had an episode of chest pain and was taken to a local hospital. He was kept overnight for observation because of his past medical history. We were happy to hear he was released the next morning with a diagnosis of a torn chest muscle and referred to his family physician. Helen took him right back to Louisiana. It was difficult for the Skillman's to get a plane back to California due to the airport shutdown. They left on Sunday, also, Helen & CG. We left on Saturday in the wind & rain.

We thank the Ruth's for our refund. It must have been frustrating for them after planning for a year.

John, I came from the Doyen to the Calvert in 1943. I had a shipmate that came with me and I have been trying to locate him--no luck so far. His name is M/M 2/C Marvin Frueline from Missouri. Have you had him on your listing at any time?

I am still being treated at Johns Hopkins University Hospital for my eyes & skin illness but hope to make the next reunion in Ohio. Until then, Sam McCoy 415 Jackson Road Sewell, NJ 08080

Mr. Ron Frankum RE: PASSAGE TO FREEDOM The Vietnam Archive, Texas Tech University Special Collections Library, Room 108 Lubbock, TX 79409-1041

I saw your appeal in the Calversion Bulletin concerning "Passage to Freedom". Having served as the Assistant First Division Officer aboard the USS Calvert APA-32 (the flagship) at that time with the responsibility of quartering the Vietnamese in forward holds one, two and three, I can perhaps be of some assistance. I was also on the Special Sea Detail and on the bridge going up the Saigon River to Saigon. While docked alongside in Saigon, one of our boatswain mates jumped ship, ended up in a French Woman's prison and I was sent ashore to retrieve him from the French. I defended this sailor in a court martial held at Subic Bay in the Philippines some months later and this turned out to be my first case. I am a small town attorney now in Tiffin, Ohio and while not on line, if you would fax me your questionnaire I would be more than happy to fill it out. My fax number is 419-447-8117. Also, I noted no mention of the USS Magoffin and the USS Skagitt. Both ships I believe were part of the task force.

Arthur F. Graham

Thank you for recent copy of "Calversion"...... Always look forward for news therein...... Very sorry unable to attend reunion.... Series of health problems for past few years have kept me dwn quite a bit.... I guess after you pass 85 things keep going down hill...

We have moved to Tampa, Florida....12531 Castle Hill Dr.. Tampa, Fl 33624 Near a daughter and other relatives.

Best regards to all my shipmates, particularly those of the 1942 1945 gang...... Frank Danca...

It has been a tumultuous year with many highs and lows. As with most, 911 put life into perspective. Things and events that were once central to our daily lives no longer seemed so important. Personal relationships, family and friends moved to center stage. Reinforcing these feelings was the loss of several close friends: Tom Weller, my Valley Forge classmate and USNA roommate lost his battle with cancer this summer; John Yamnicky was in the plane that crashed into the Pentagon. John and I traveled cross country together after graduation and were shipmates aboard USS Calvert (APA 32). We lost Joyce Sheets to cancer in December. Joyce was the wife of my Exec in Seafox, and Lonnie's guardian angel as a new navy bride. Tough losses all, and all will be missed.

The big events of the year included Red's selection to become Chairman, Board of Trustees at Valley Forge Military Academy and College. That is now his major focus, and will be for a few years. In September a group of 34 USNA '52ers and wives joined together for a bus tour in the Four Corners area of the Southwest. Lonnie arranged and organized the entire trip which started in Flagstaff. We actually left home on the 12th; didn't know how many would make it. The most remarkable thing was that "all hands" showed up on time. We had a grand tour and it was a particularly good time to be together. Finally, in November, Lonnie was selected to play the lead in a play, The Trip To Bountiful, performed by the Annapolis Colonial Players. At this moment she is studying furiously for performances in January and February. We'll review the reviews next December. Her other claim to fame was a walk-on in two scenes in a Steven Spielberg movie on location in D.C., not to mention a Comcast commercial with a sumo wrestler. Tough to keep up with her.

Norman "Red" Stein

the old crew

U. S. S. CALVERT (APA-32)

Some of you may recognize these cards carried by Joseph E. Evans during WW2. Where we threw many things away these cards seem to be saved over the years as a remembrance of our Navy Past.

## OFFICERS TOWN

SEPT. 1945

12

#### Member's Card

(Non-Transferable)

Please present upon entrance to club.

Know Ye that Joseph E. Evans on thelst day of October, 1944 U.S.S. CALVERT (APA-32), Latitude CO-CO, Longilus, appeared into Our Royal Domain and , appeared into Our Royal Domain and

DOMAIN OF NEPTUNIS REX

having been inspected and found worthy by My Roys Staff was initiated into the

Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep I command my subjects to honor and respect the bearer of this certificate as One of Our Trusty Shallback

His Royal Scribe

to in mile ist. 1. Ephonus Rex Ruler of the Rammy Mair

> Murio Commanding

THE OFFICERS? CLUE

#### TO ALL SHELLBACKS WHEREVER YE MAY BE

GREETINGS
AND TO ALL MERMAIDS, WHALES, SEA SERPENTS

ALL LIVING THINGS OF THE SEA KNOW YE that on this tate NOVEMBERIS, 1943 there appeared

within Our Royal Domain The U.S.S. CALVERT

JOSEPHE. EURINS OSEPHE. EUA NS having been round trustworthy to be numbered as one of our trusty shellbacks has been Duly initiated into the

Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep BE IT FURTHER UNDERSTOOD to show horour and respect to him wherever ye may be.

Disobey This Order Under Royal Displeasure NEPTUNE REX.

To the following persons who are helping with the Many Thanks Newsletter expenses; Thank You very much.....

Robert Reed25.00
Fred D. Plum25.00
Stanley Edmonds20.00
Memory of George Brehn
by Billie Lee Brehn25.00
William Armstrong20.00
Henrietta Rybarczyk15.00
Charles Skillman25.00
Arthur Graham25.00
Ronald Sley20.00
Mike Maschella25.00
Raymond Reed25.00
"Red" Stein25.00
Joseph Cusick25.00
John Paul Jones25.00
Sandy Slessor100.00
Robert Upton50.00
Paul Marianetti20.00

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Charles Johann80.00
William Meehan25.00
Frank Danca20.00
Joseph Bushell25.00
Sterling Wesp10.00
Fred Mathis10.00
H.Glen Raymond30.00
Memory of Herbert Stout
byBob Dumas and
Joe Snider50.00
Billy Hester20.00
Manuel Valladolid25.00
Memory of John Yamnicky
by Nicholas Pappas.50.00
Bud Cash10.00
Steve Tometich20.00
Daniel Clemens25.00



#### DRAWBRIDGE ESTATE

- ★ Over 23 acres of lodging, dining and entertainment complex with over 500 rooms
- \* \$78 for 1-4 people in the Main Building; \$68 for 1-4 people in the Garison Building
- ⋆ Over 900 free parking spaces
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- \* 3 restaurants 10% discount for military reunion groups
- \* 7 miles from both the airport and downtown Cincinnati
- \* On-site beauty parlor and barber shop
- A customized banner hanging in the main lobby welcoming the USS CALVERT
- \* The entire hospitality staff wearing customized welcome ribbons
- Ample meeting and hospitality space

Carl and Betty Rogers (513-398-0721) have been working on the 2002 Calvert Reunion to be held in Fort Mitchell, Ky. at the Drawbridge Estates in September 11 to 15,2002.

Room reservations can be made at this time by telling them you are with the Calvert Group. Rooms in the Main Building are \$78.00 per night or in the Garison Building which is 1000 yards away for \$68.00 per night.

The Drawbridge Estates is at 2477 Royal Drive, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky 41017.

Reservation Phone is;

Toll Free Ky.# is 1-800-352-9866

Toll Free US.# is 1-800-354-9793

# Welcome to the Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Area!

Experience many of the area's traditional treasures and new attractions.

### **Attractions for Thursday, September 12**

#### **CINCINNATI MUSEUM CENTER**

The museum center is located in HISTORIC Union Terminal, which was opened in 1933 as a train station and was one of the country's most spectacular examples of Art Deco Architecture. Cincinnati History Museum has detailed re-creation of historic settings showing the story of Cincinnati's growth from the frontier to a bustling river town. See first-hand what it was like to live in Cincinnati's riverboat era as we explore Main Street in the 1850's with a life-size replica of an early sidewheel boat. Take a walk along a cobblestone street into an authentic thriving 19th century Cincinnati. Witness wartime contributions on the home front in the nation's largest World War II retrospective, Cincinnati Goes to War.

#### **GATEWAY LUNCHEON to RIVERVIEW**

One of the finest dining experiences in the region, high atop the 18th floor of the RADISSON HOTEL in Covington, Kentucky. Experience award winning cusine with a spectacular view of the activities along the banks of the Ohio, Cincinnati riverfront and the Hills of Kentucky.

#### **GRAND VICTORIA CASINO & RESORT**

We will be traveling to the Casino which is located on the banks of the Ohio in Rising Sun, Indiana. The RIVER VIEW BUFFET has some 125 offerings including Wellington's prime-aged beef, fresh ocean seafood and succulent desserts. Inside the majestic sternwheeler LOS VEGAS-style GAMING thrills await. Surrounding you is the CASINO action of over 1,400 loose sizzling machines from nickels to \$25 denominations. Over 80 table games —double deck Blackjack, single zero Roulette, Caribbean stud, let it Ride, Spanish 21, and three card poker to name a few.

### Attractions for Friday, September 13

#### A TOUR OF THE CITIES

Our BUS tour beings in Covington, Kentucky with a drive through MAIN STRASSE (The Area has historically strong German heritage.),the WORLD PEACE BELL a new symbol of freedom and peace, FRENCH GOTHIC CATHEDRAL BASILICA of the ASSUMPTION, built to resemble the exterior of Paris' Notre Dame and includes the largest stained glass window in the world. Then on to Riverside Drive to see some of the old Riverboat Captains homes, one of the last stops on the

Underground Railroad and a magnificent view of the Cincinnati skyline. Now it's by the aquarium before crossing the river to Ohio. We will climb some of the famous hills of Cincinnati for a spectacular view of the city. Enjoy the old-world charm of Mt. Adams with its "shotgun row" of houses which is often referred to as a mini San Franciso. On to Eden Park with its mirror lake and then on to the Krohn Conservatory. Then we shall cover some of the highlights of downtown; Fountain Square, Proctor & Gambles International Headquarters, the Taft Museum in beautiful Lytle Park, Cinergy Field, home of the Cincinnati Reds and Paul Brown Stadium, home of the Cincinnati Bengals, and much much more...

#### **LUNCHEON ABOARD the BELLE OF CINCINNATI**

As we travel up the lazy Ohio you can relax and drift back to a bygone era of the calliope playing and the paddlewheel churning. Dine on a delicious buffet luncheon and capture the spirit of our Cincinnati River heritage, full of beauty, adventure and regional character.

#### **CINCINNATI REDS vs. CHICAGO CUBS**

Enjoy baseball at its finest in soon-to be replaced Cinergy Field, or

#### **THOROUGHBRED RACING at TURFWAY PARK**

Experience an excitig and entertaining evening of racing at Turfway Park in Florence, Kentucky.

#### Attractions for Saturday, September 14

#### **TRADER'S WORLD**

The Mid-west's Largest and most colorful shopping experience is Trader's World, located north of Cincinnati on Interstate 75. Antiques, collectibles, new and used merchandise, fruits and vegetables, bridal shop and much much more. Enclosed building has over 800 booths and weather permitting there are over 400 booth spots available outside.

#### **NEWPORT on the LEEVEE**

Northern Kentucky's new leisure-time destination offers a unique mix of entertainment, dining and shopping. NEWPORT AQUARIUM Prepare yourself for a million gallons of freshwater and softwater fun. They have collected II,000 of the World's most interesting creatures. You'll see more than 60 exhibits in 16 uniquely designed galleries. Sharks, turtles, jelly fish, and penguims are but a few of the honored guests. FIRST STAR IMAX THEATRE, AMC 20 THEATRES, BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSTORE, MITCHELL'S FISH RESTAURANT plus much more!

### NOW HEAR THIS

# Welcome to the Tri-State Area & the U.S.S. Calvert Reunion

Reunion Headquarters: Drawbridge Inn 2477 Royal Drive Fort Mitchell, KY 41017 www.drawbridgeinn.com Toll Free: 800.354.9793

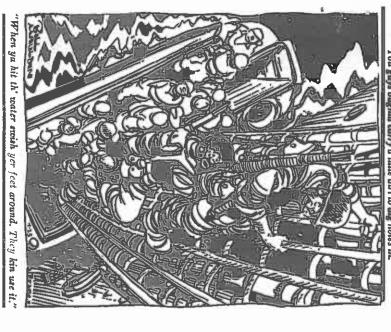
In Kentucky: 800.352.9866 or 859.341.2800

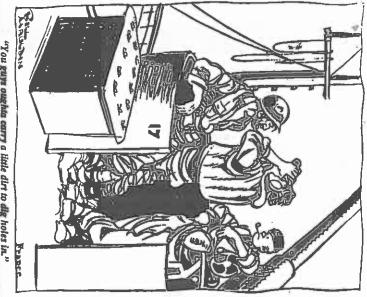


APA 32

Reu	nion Happenings for September 11, 12, 13, 14, 2002:  Event (All times are approximate)	Price Per Person		Number of Persons		Total
	Reunion General Expenses	\$20.00	x		=	
	Wednesday, September 11 6:00 PM - ? Welcome, Reception & Buffet, Hospitality Suite	\$10.00	х		=	
Inursday, September 12	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tour & Luncheon  CIncinnati Museum Center  Radisson Cincinnati Riverfront (luncheon)  Please indicate luncheon entrée below:  Catch of the day with rice & vegetable  Beef or chicken stir fry over rice  Roast prime rib au jus with rice & vegetable  Chicken salad plate with muffins & fruit	\$29.00	x		=	
Inurs	4:00 PM – 9:30 PM  Grand Victoria Casino  Dinner Buffet and Gaming	\$10.00	x	-	=	
rnday, September 13	8:00 AM – 2:30 PM Tour & Luncheon  Bus Tour of Northern Kentucky & Cincinnati Area  Luncheon aboard Belle of Cincinnati on the Ohio River  Please indicate luncheon entrée below:  Sirloin of beef tips & marinated chicken  Sliced roast beef & chicken a la king with trimmings	\$42.00	×		11	
rinday, oel	Dinner on Your Own 6:00 – 10:00 PM Reds Baseball Game (vs. Cubs), or 7:00 – 10:00 PM Turfway Thoroughbred Racing	\$25.00 \$13.00	x		=	
Saluruay, September 14	8:00 AM – 2:30 PM Tour Lunch on Your Own Traders World (Flea Market), or Newport on the Levee (shopping & sight seeing)  2:30 PM Hospitality Sulte – Graeters Ice Cream  6:00 – 10:00 PM Dinner & Festivities Banquet & Pig Auction in the Hotel Ballroom Cash Bar	\$10.00 \$10.00 \$25.00	x x		11 33	

Please print or type all information:	Please send completed form and check to:
Shipmate's name:	Carl Rogers (Calvert Reunion)
Address:	305 Northcrest Street Mason, Ohlo 45040
Phone number:	Questions? ————————————————————————————————————
Guests' names:	E-mall: brogers@dragonbbs.com



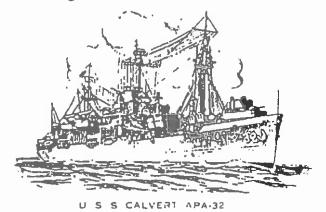


# CALVERT ASSOCIATES 506 Red Wing Ave.

Kenyon, MN 55946

3rd CLASS PERMIT NO. 10

"Change Service Requested"



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WE MOURN THE PASSING OF THESE SHIPMATES

