

CALVERTS ION

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

"The Ship and Men of Distinction"



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VOL. NO. 20 1988

COMMENTS

. . . . from the

Commander

I guess the first thing I should say that it is dry out. I know that all over the country, lack of rain is a problem. Lila and I have been halling water to the trees and shrubs to keep them going. Our lawn is yellow but the shrubs and trees are green. When I left the Navy I though I had seen all the water that I needed to see. Well I found out that sometimes you have to eat your words. If it ever starts raining I may have to build an ark, but if I do I'll name it the Calvert after the best ship I was ever on....I got some pictures from Harry Underwood that he had faxed and I though you might like to see them. So I put them toghter on one page and we shall see what the printer can do with them. Some of you are on them because he had names on the back. I really appricate any items that are sent to me and I know you guys like to see them too. Keep it up.....I have had some mail from John Fiandaca, our 1989 National Reunion Host. The dates of the reunion are July 20-23, 1989. We will be at the Marriott Hotel in Newton, Massachusetts, which is about 15 minutes from downtown Boston. The Hotel rate will be in the 70.00 range for a single or a double room. We will be given a complimentary room for use as a Hospitality Suite. Those of you that have hosted a reunion know that two years move around very fast. John wants to know if the group is intrested in a clam bake. Sounds like fun but drop John a note telling him which way to go. He lives at 36 Johnson St. Leominster, Ma. 01453. The reason for the Boston location is that Hotel off season rates were extended to November for Cape Cad and there are very few Hotels that can handle a group like ours. John said Hotel rates on Cape Cod and in Boston proper were very high. I know that our next National Reunion will be great as it is in good hands..... Not that we should forget that a mini-reunion in the Norfolk area hosted by David Cullen. There is a special report located in this newsletter. If you live in the area and have never been to one before, now is the time to go. We have held reunions all over the country and I have yet to receive a letter from anybody that said they had a bad time. Go and you might meet somebody that you know..... Rich Morse sent the minutes of the last reunion and there some blanks to fill in. I think the bell came from Carl Hoffman but my mind is fading so I need some help. I dont want to hear from everybody (although it would be nice) just those who have A E I O U in there name, need reply.....

j.l.cole.....

mail call

Dear John,

LETTERS

The back issues of Calversion are great! I spend my free hours as an all too-willing prisoner of this typewriter, putting together an informal account of my experiences aboard the good ship Calvert. When completed, this account will in no way compete with Dave Cullen's excellent HISTORY OF THE CALVERT though I am drawing upon it for accuracy in the Calvert's movements around the globe during '43-'45. I want the story to be of a more personal nature and am looking for anecdotes, incidents, personal viewpoints. I should like to have shipmates scrapbooks, photos, whatever, on a loan basis and will be happy to pay round trip postage. Write to me at Box 41, Schenevus, N.Y. 12155. Like Bob Filardi and many other, I too grew up on the Calvert. She gave me my sea legs enroute to Sicily. Those pre-Sicily days and nights rehearsing off Cove Point in the Chesapeake, bouncing around the bay, was the only time I ever got seasick in the Navy. HAL WINTER

Frank Shemanski just sent me his copy of the latest edition of the Calversion. I was Captain of the Calvert '58-'59 and have many fond memories of the Calvert. Please add my name to your roster. I also have a request. If you have room in some future Calversion please put in a request for anyone who remembers the orphanage in Toyko that the Calvert supported for years to please contact me. WALTER PHALER - 1071 Akron St. - San Diego, Ca. 92106

I was an electrician mate aboard the Calvert (a Plank owner) in the invasion of North Africa and Sicily, transferred to the sub chaser training center in Miami, after schooling went to Orange, Texas and picked up another new ship U.S.S. Borun DE790. We did much patrol and convoy duty and was in the first wave on the invasion of Normandy. I can't recall too many of my ship mates aboard the Calvert but those I do remember were good sailors and the Calvert was a good ship. I've heard from Skillman, I called him last summer while in Ca. Russell Rexrath has been to Fla. and we have visited. I read in the "Calversion" where he contributed to the news letter and thought it a truly worthwhile thing to do so enclosed a check that it might help a bit. I just wrote a letter to Louise Blank, she and Chief Roy Bland OEM were really nice to me, for being aboard the Calvert was my first time away from home & was a bit homesick. I have really appreciated your mailing the "Calversion" to me. RALPH S. BOYUTON

You may not remember me, but I was aboard the USS Calvert from '51-'53. I was in the Damage Control group as a pipe fitter. During this time I left the ship and went to Coronado and played football for ComPhib Pac during the next three years. While aboard the ship I made several friends and have not made contact with them since that time. This weekend I was surprised by the visit of Ivan Davison a former boilerman aboard the Calvert, he stated that you write a short paper regularly, covering the latest information on the Calvert. John, if you would be so kind to send me your paper collect, it will be well received. Hopefully this letter will find you in the best of health. WM. ROY BANDUCCI

Even tho I was only on the ship a short time as temporary ships company radio operator, I do have a great fondness for the ship and keep all the info I can about her. Thank you for including me on your list of recipients of the letter. LOUIE PHILIPPI

With regret, this is to inform you that my husband, J.N. Lello, LTJG 42-44, died May 13, 1986. He served as Chaplain on the USS Calvert with great pride and affection. your newsletters were enjoyed very much, and he heard from several shipmates because of it. I am sure he would have attended some reunions if able. Your bulletins give a wonderful sense of the strong commanding that exists among the men who served on this ship. God Bless you all. MARY HELLO

Perhaps I'll have the opportunity to meet some of you when you come to Norfolk. I am looking forward to seeing the Holmes while they are here. Good luck & continued success with the reunion and mini reunions. Best wishes to you and your wife.

MILDRED LEVETT

YOU ARE INVITED

**A
"FRIENDLY"
REMINDER**

**SEND YOUR
REGISTRATION TODAY**

SPECIAL MINI-REUNION REPORT

This is the FINAL REMINDER to all of you who expressed intentions of making this mini-reunion in NORfolk, Virginia on September 29th through October 1st.....

The BEST WESTERN CENTER INN is the place.....the price for our group is \$50. per day plus 7½% room tax.....per room....you should have your reservations in no later than August 15th to be assured of the best accommodations at this fine INN.....you can call (toll-free) 1-800-528-1234.....and do NOT FORGET to mention that you are with the USS CALVERT REUNION GROUP.....(It would be very wise to make the reservations NOW and if you MUST cancel at a later date, you may do so up to three days prior to the arrival date.)



Three things are on the agenda.....

- 1) The harbor cruise, which includes bus service to the WATERSIDE, where you can buy your lunch and browse in the shops there until the start of the cruise at 2 P.M.....\$12. each (Friday - 11 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.)
- 2) The tour of the Naval Base.....includes your bus transportation, tour of the city, visit to a museum and ship, and lunch at THE GALLEY, on the base.....\$18. each (Saturday, 9:00 A.M. - 3 P.M.)
- 3) The Buffet Dinner at the INN which will be a catered affair run by "Touch of Class" caterers, considered to be the best in Norfolk. The cost will be \$20. each.....cocktails (cash bar) start at 6:30 P.M. (Saturday evening) with the buffet starting at 7:30 P.M.....

There is an indoor pool, nautilus room and game room, together with an outdoor pool which may still be in use at that date, depending on the weather.....the INN offers top entertainment nightly in their lounge.....they also offer us a breakfast buffet (all you can eat!) for \$6. per person.....on that Sunday (after the affair closes) Aside from that, we do expect to have plenty of surprises for everyone.

We can assure you of a great time.... PROVIDED that you all show your support by getting your reservations in as soon as possible and payment sent along to me for those activities you wish to participate in..... naturally, I would like them sent in as soon as possible, just to make the recordkeeping job that much easier, and avoid any last minute hassles that may occur prior to embarking on the individual tours offered us.....(if we get 30 couples, minimum, and all participate, we can have two buses for each of the tours with plenty of space aboard and avoid all of the crowding that can become a problem.....but we do have to know in advance....which is the main reason for asking you to send the \$ on to me for the tours ahead of your arrival.....any last minute changes or cancellations can be handled without loss to you.....

Let's hear from you!!!

**David B. Cullen, Jr.
5530 Eagle's Nest Drive
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403**

LAW OFFICES
NESS, MOTLEY,
LOADHOLT, RICHARDSON & POOLE
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

2202 JACKSON STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 365
BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA 29812
803-259-3525
FAX # 803-259-7048

July 12, 1988

Mr. John Cole
506 Red Wing
Kenyon, Minnesota 55946

Re: Joe Topolski

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thank you very much for speaking with me recently about Mr. Topolski and conditions pertaining to asbestos on the Calvert.

Mr. Topolski, who is suffering from a severe case of asbestosis, served on the Calvert from about October, 1959 to November, 1963.

He recalls the following shipmates:

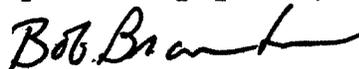
Terry G. Heers	J.D. Moore
CWO S. Benavides	Harold O. Sparks
Art Koog	V.E. Croley
M.C. Onbeton	Robert E. Lea

Topolski worked in the fireroom.

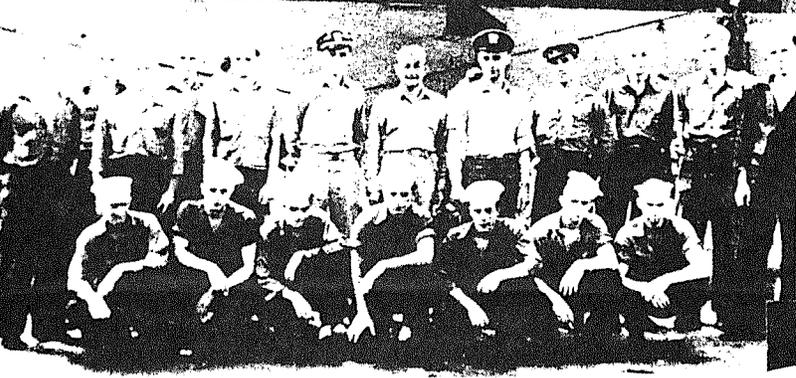
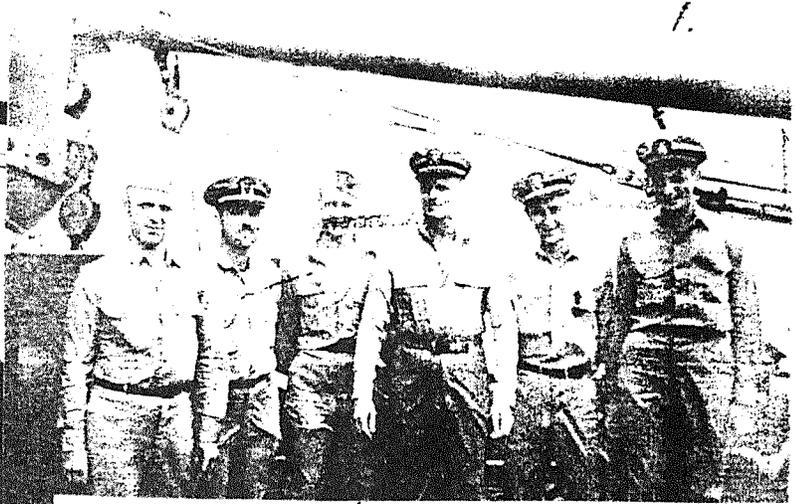
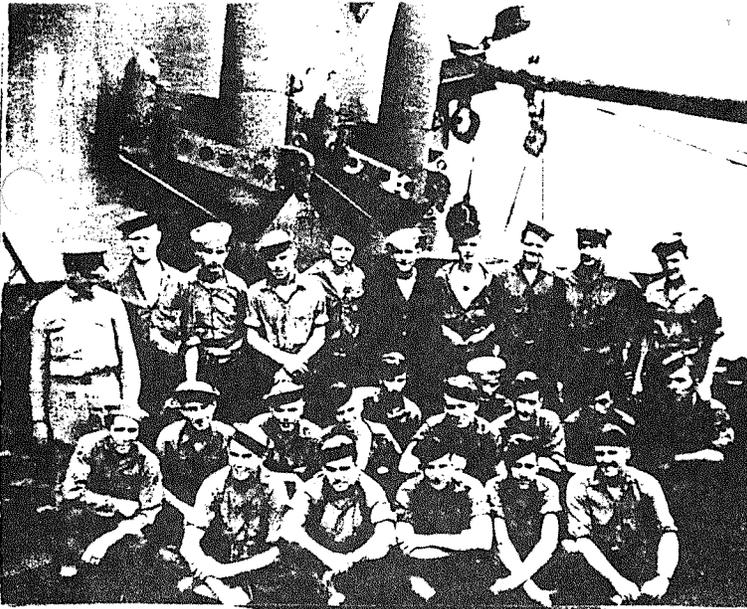
In order to obtain compensation from the companies (not the government or the Navy), who made the asbestos pipe covering, cement (mud), and so forth, we need to locate men who saw Topolski around the materials and who may recall the brands such as Eagle 66, Kaylo (Owens Corning), Carey, Unibestos, PABCO and many others.

I would very much appreciate hearing from anyone who either recalls Topolski or who might know the brands of asbestos used on the Calvert. We handle alot of these unfortunate cases and are almost always successful, but we do need the aid of the shipmates. Anyone with useful information or questions may call me at 1-800-845-6120. Thank you again for your generous cooperation.

Respectfully yours,



Bob Branton
Investigator



U.S.S. CALVERT
National Crew Reunion

NASHVILLE
87

MINUTES OF U.S.S. CALVERT ASSOCIATES

JULY 25, 1987

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

John Cole rang the bell bringing the meeting to order.

The minutes of the last meeting had been published in the newsletter. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that only the highlights be read.

The financial statement was read by Rich Morse, with a balance of \$1063.10 at Midwest Savings and Loan Association. The only way that money can be withdrawn from the account is by co-signing checks by John Cole and Hoyt Worthington, Executive and Co-Executive.

The Nominating Committee presented the following names for nomination:

John Cole, Executive
Hoyt Worthington, Co-Executive
Richard Morse, Yeoman
John Groff, Master of Arms

Other nominations were called for. The slate presented by the nominating committee was voted on by the members and passed.

Questions from the floor included what happened to the bell of the Calvert and where the bugle of the Calvert was.

John Cole reported 525 newsletters were on the current address list. He asked if you have addresses of former men, send them to him. He will check against his list so he can add names to the current list. John Cole said he tries to get a newsletter out every six months or so and that he gets 40 to 50 changes of address from one newsletter to another. It costs 22 cents to get it back. The bulk rate applies only when he gets them all out at the same time. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that all names be published in a future newsletter.

John Fiandaca suggested Norfolk, Virginia or Cape Cod for future meeting sites. He also pointed out that mid September would get us into off-season rates and would avoid heat. There was discussion about pros and cons of summer or fall meetings, how to get more participation by more men of the Calvert, etc.

Billie Trout, host of the 1987 meeting, suggested that the host of the next reunion should have the right to choose the date with the input of the group so that the host can work around the schedule.

A show of hands indicated the members would like Cape Cod. A show of hands also indicated that a majority would like the meeting to be in September.

John Fiandaca also asked what the men would think about a reunion in 1988 instead of 1989. John Cole said it takes a lot of work to do a reunion, that it takes more than one year. After various discussion, a show of hands was taken; it was voted to keep the national reunion to every two years. However, John Cole pointed out that small regional reunions may be held between the national reunions. John Cole announced that the largest number of shipmates was attending the present reunion, the fifth reunion in the tenth year.

At the last meeting (1985) Al Posey offered the Calvert Associates 24 acres in Tennessee. In the interim, John Cole had appointed Hoyt Worthington to look into the land offered by Al Posey. Hoyt had spent a great deal of time and telephone calls talking with Al about the property.

Al Posey stated that he had the property chartered by State of Tennessee as Calvert Associates-Westwood, a non-profit association. Al said the property consists of 24-25 acres of property, a choice piece of property, in Soddy Daisey, Tennessee, 25 miles north of Chattanooga. The incorporation and legal fees associated with the incorporation were paid by Al Posey.

Various questions were presented from the floor asking how the Calvert Associates could use the property, about the liability of the Calvert Associates if the property was accepted, whether it could be used for camping, how it would be maintained, etc.

The property was used for a long time for agriculture purposes. No buildings are currently on it. Nearby are approximately 5-6 acres of residential property. The property offered to the Calvert Association will have to be bush hogged.

Carl Parker suggested we get an attorney to give an opinion on the development. Monty Crowdes also proposed hiring an attorney to see into all the ramifications, to check the liabilities.

John Cole asked for a motion to approve Hoyt's appointment in the interim (prior to July, 1987) to look into the matter of Calvert-Westwood. Motion made, seconded, and passed approving Hoyt's action to this point.

No action was taken on formal acceptance of the property. Billie Trout moved that a committee be appointed to look into all aspects of the property offer by Al Posey and report the findings to John Cole, Al Posey, and Hoyt Worthington and report back to the next convention in two years, with the Associates paying the legal expenses if the committee seeks legal advice. On a raising of hands, motion passed. The following agreed to serve on a committee: Hoyt Worthington, Carl Hoffman, Joe Brady, and Billie Trout.



Moving?
Let us know.....

Dave Cullen, author of the U.S.S. Calvert History, and Mr. and Mrs. Billie Trout, hosts of the 1987 reunion, were given a standing ovation.

Carl _____ and Ed _____ built the ship; they will try to bring it to every meeting. John said Master of arms will close the meeting with the bell. Motion that the bell go with each host was seconded and passed.

A letter was read from the Director of the Calvert Marine Museum indicating that because the U.S.S. Calvert served in that area in World War II, the museum is willing to act as place for archival items. The museum would not destroy anything without returning it to the persons. It is not a museum for the U.S.S. Calvert; the museum is strictly for marine life for that area; however, it is a place for storing and saving the materials, a place where they have a record. For items sent to John Cole, he sends them to the museum, and the museum puts it in the file. They do have a copy of the U.S.S. Calvert History. John said he had sent the museum \$50 from the newsletter fund.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that John Cole and Hoyt be praised for the time they have given. Also a motion was passed giving Sarah Worthington the rank of Honorary Captain.

Motion passed that the meeting be adjourned. Master of Arms adjourned the meeting with the ship's whistle. Meeting adjourned.

Recorded by Richard Morse

Many Thanks

To the following persons who are helping with newsletter expences. Thank you very much.....

Jin McPetridge	10.00	Charles Skillman	20.00
Oscar Woody	2.00	Walter Phaler	10.00
George Mackey	20.00	Warren Nowill	25.00
Harold Winter	10.00	Ralph Baynton	15.00
Ralph Sheehy	5.00	Robert Hanson	10.00
Mary Lello	10.00	Vincent Hannagan	20.00
Daniel Tinney	10.00	J.P. Jones	10.00
Warren Shaddock	25.00	O.R. Gordon	10.00
Louis Philippi	10.00	Leonard Hanscom	20.00
Robert Prickett	10.00	Mildred Levett	10.00
Mel Waite	20.00	Roy Holmes	20.00
		Eric Sopp	15.00

TV Show Enriches Calvert Sailor \$500



Edward Buscis, FC3, of the USS Calvert (APA 32) "struck it rich" when he gave the right answer on the radio-TV show "Strike It Rich." The \$500 he won enabled him to finish his emergency leave and return to his ship in fitting style.

A hush fell across the TV studio audience as the Master of Ceremonies faced the sailor.

Five hundred dollars were at stake and Edward Buscis, FC3, from the USS Calvert (APA-32), didn't want to make any errors when he answered the grand prize question. He needed the money.

"Your last question, Ed," said Master of Ceremonies Warren Hull, "is worth \$500 if your answer is correct. Are you ready to 'Strike it Rich?'"

"Ready," said Ed.

"Who did President Truman appoint to succeed George Marshall as Secretary of Defense?"

The audience waited quietly and expectantly. Buscis thought about the answer and about the use he could make of the money if he was right.

In December, Buscis was called home on emergency leave. His father was hospitalized, family funds were low and financial obligations were piling up. These cir-

cumstances forced him to spend the money he needed to return to the Calvert.

"Strike it Rich" was worth a try. Buscis wrote CBS and asked for a chance to appear on the TV show and vie for the grand prize. His chance came when he was told to be at the New York studio on December 29.

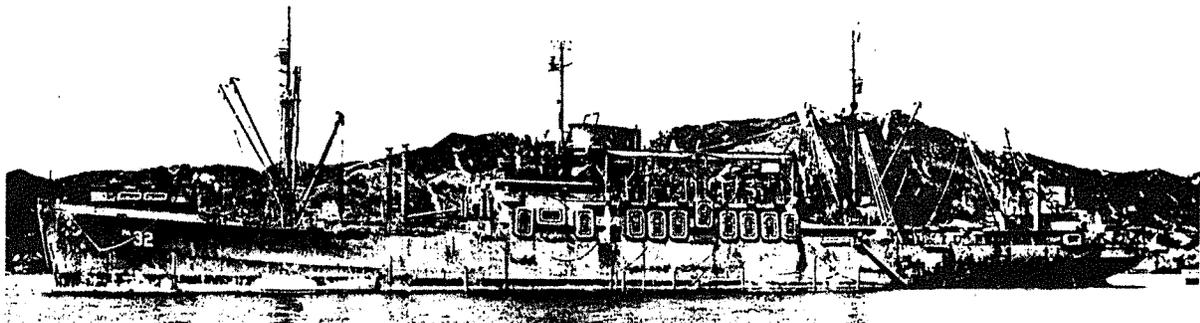
Eight other contestants had already failed to reach the grand prize. Buscis, starting with \$15.00 for answering the first question, slowly built his winnings up to the last question and wagered it all on the big \$500 prize.

This was it. A right answer would solve his financial problems. A wrong answer would leave him stranded thousands of miles from the Calvert.

Cameras stared. Bright lights focused on him. The audience waited. Buscis faced the microphone.

"Robert Lovett."

"Right."



STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

CALVERT ASSOCIATES
506 RED WING AV
KENYON

MN 55946

**MIDWEST
FEDERAL**



PERIOD FROM 3/01/88
TO 3/31/88
TAX ID 41-1517829

DESCRIPTION	DATE	TRANSACTION AMOUNT	BALANCE
CALVERT ASSOCIATES 37-002916 5.50% DAILY PASSCARD OLD ACCOUNT NUMBER 0370055072			
BEGINNING BALANCE	12/31		1,449.76
INTEREST EARNED THRU 03/31	3/26	19.83	1,469.59
YEAR TO DATE INTEREST EARNED		19.83	

*...just what you've
been looking
for!*

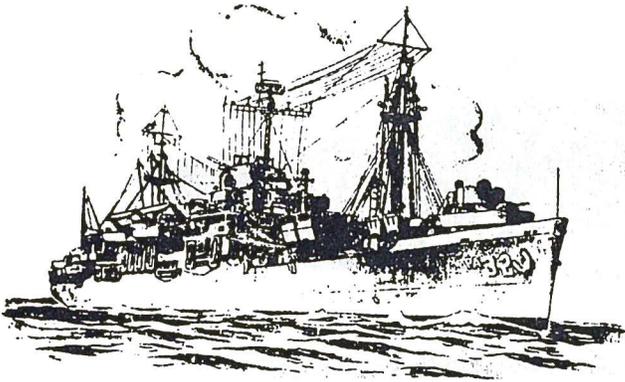


**CALVERT ASSOCIATES
KENYON, MN. 55946**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



**3rd CLASS
PERMIT NO.
10**



U. S. S. CALVERT APA-32

William Haggarty 52-56
2668 Dunhill Dr.
Maryland Heights, Mo. 63043



Deepest Sympathy

MEMBERS PASSED AWAY

J.N.Lello LTJG 42-44 May 13, 1986
Thomas Summerlin SN 44-45 Aug.27,1987
Larry B. Rawls CBM 42-44 June 9,1987
Paul E. Johnston EN1 51-54 June,1987
Arthur E. Shaffer F1 50-51 June 5,1988