

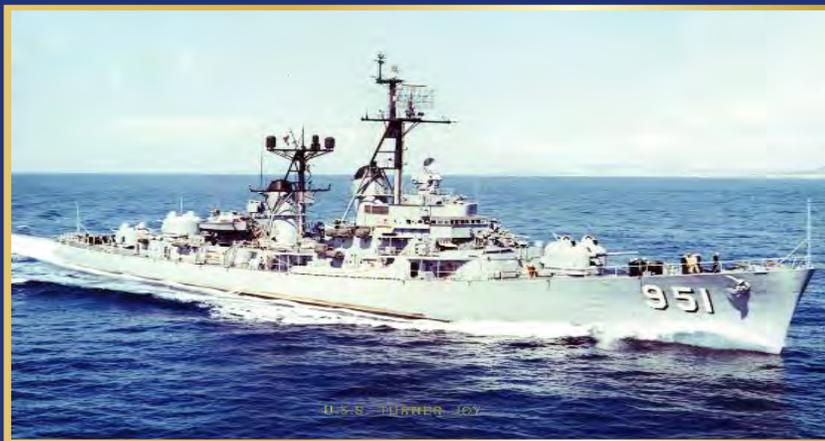
USS TURNER JOY (DD-951) NEWSLETTER *THE 21MC*

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Dave Leverenz, Editor

December 18, 2021



THE SHIPS MOTTO: "ESSE QUAM VIDERI" - TO BE RATHER THAN SEEM TO BE!



**FOLLOWING ORDERS:
'PROTECT A U.S. ASSET'**

[A SPECIAL ORDER GIVEN TO THE USS TURNER JOY (DD-951)]



1st edition – 4 August 2021

From Jim Chester: I am wishing all of you in the TJRG Veteran's Social Group & your loving families a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FROM THE EDITOR

A defining moment in the recent history of the U. S. Navy and the concept of the various instances of naval seapower in the 20th century has become known as “The Tonkin Gulf Incident.”

Volumes of books and untold hours of press have already been devoted to this subject over the past several decades concerning the Tonkin Gulf Incident (TGI), which took place on 2 August and 4 August 1964 in the Tonkin Gulf off the coast of Vietnam and precipitated a 10 year involvement in the ground war in Vietnam. On the front page of this newsletter is a picture of the front cover of the new book: FOLLOWING ORDERS: ‘PROTECT A U. S. ASSET.’

We mentioned previously that Chad James, the author of this book, has provided a detailed compendium of the events leading up to, during, and after the actual incident itself. His references include an in-depth discussion of the current at the time strategic and tactical situation leading up to the incident over the first three chapters. The next several chapters outline a detailed review of the occurrences immediately following the attacks.

Chad closes his treatment with a lengthy list of eye-witnesses who testified to the events, and follows up with four separate bibliographies and an appendix of relevant documents.

If you ever wanted to understand what really happened during the “Tonkin Gulf Incident,” this book would be a good place to start.

I have personally reviewed some 132 pages of declassified message traffic (PACFLT, CINCPACFLT, NSA, CIA, DOD, and White House) who were addressees on these messages. This data was only declassified and released in 2019. Until that time the details of communications between the North Vietnamese naval forces involved in these engagements were not well known nor understood.

Note that the U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command, Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. has already accepted the book to be placed into their Archive Library.

You can contact Chad James directly if you are interested in this fascinating work.

Email: chadjamesproducts@gmail.com

Home phone: 520-241-3589

Shipping order address online: www.cjeproducts.com

I want to extend to all my shipmates and all members of the TJRG family best wishes of the season! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and every one of you and your families!

Dave Leverenz

TJ MEMORIES October 2021. Dave Leverenz - Formerly First Lt on the TJ - '67-'68

Glancing over my copy of the 21MC from August 2021, it occurred to me that for the motto of our ship – TO BE, RATHER THAN SEEM TO BE – there is actually a bit of interesting history which applies and gives significance to this particular motto.

Specifically, the actual TJ motto on our ship's Squadron 19 insignia is "ESSE QUAM VIDERI," which translates roughly to what you see above and on the header of our newsletter. Here is the back story.

It turns out that this particular motto, Esse Quam Videri, is shared by a host of other organizations (mostly schools, about 90 of them), and in particular, happens to be the state motto of the state of North Carolina, adopted in 1893. The particular significance of this phrase harkens back to Cicero (Quintus Tullius Cicero 102 – 43 BC) more than 2000 years ago. This quotation derives from his essay on Friendship – "Laelius De Amicitia" in 44 BC, in which he wrote these words.

Reaching painfully back into my days of high school and college Latin, I looked over the original text and came up with the following more or less pertinent derivation in order to explain what Cicero was getting at. The gist of what he was saying has to do with the fact that "fewer people are endowed with virtue than WISH to be thought to be so...". It is an admonishment to the general populace to "Walk the walk," as well as "talk the talk," rather than just hoping to seem to be doing that (specifically, being virtuous)... In other words, appearances are never as important as substance.

So esse quam videri – BE – rather than SEEM TO BE!

SHIPMATE COMMENTS

Brian Bauer, GMG3, OB AUG 75-NOV 78, Alamogordo, NM

Some of the best memories during my military career were on the Turner Joy. Served 19 years in the U.S. Air Force as an Aircraft Armament Systems Specialist.

Michael G. Austin, LCDR, OB 1971-1973, Weapons Officer, Shepherdstown, WV

My experience in T.J. will always be the most challenging and rewarding phase of my life. We had by far the best crew in my naval experience. I am writing a book about the final Vietnam deployment. I will be using many notes I kept on events and would like to see TJ crew input included. michael.austin@frontiernet.net.

Rodney B. McDaniel, LTJG/LT, OB JUL 60-MAY 62, New York, NY

TJ was my first destroyer and second ship! It was when I decided to stay in the Navy and make it a career.

Carroll Abbot, YNC, OB 69-70, Andover, MN

I'll be skydiving on or about 4 April wearing a TJ T-shirt. This will be my 2nd skydive!

Carrol (Skip) Screws, STG1, OB 1975-1980, Sun Valley, NV

"HI" to all I knew 1975-1980, Van Dyke, Comstock, Rieke, Feyerabend.

Graham Henning, OB 1959-~1963, Grand Junction, CO

Just to let you know, Graham has been in memory care in Grand Junction, CO since OCT 2020. He has very little of his past memory, but he chooses to wear his USS TURNER JOY ball cap every day. He was a member of the first crew.

Carl C. Shriner, Jr., BMSN, OB 1967-1968, Gray, LA

The time on the TJ was the best duty I ever had. I will always remember Chief Moberg. He knew every sleeping spot I had and could always find me. I really enjoyed BMOW. See you at the reunion (already past-"Bubba" was there).

Manuel S. Padilla, RMC, OB 1959-1961, San Diego, CA

My Granddaughter was accepted to the United States Naval Academy in March 2017. She graduated in March, 2021. We were unable to attend her graduation. Due to COVID-19, we were lucky to receive travel reimbursement. My Granddaughter is currently training aboard ship and has yet to deploy!

Robert Waterhouse, LT, OB 1964-1965, Weapons Officer, Guttenberg, Iowa

Due to scheduled hip surgery, we won't be attending this year's reunion. We will miss seeing everyone and look forward to the next one!

John-Olav Johnsen, LTJG, CICO, OB NOV 74-MAR 77, Placitas, NM

Retired from the Naval Reserve in 1995 after 22 years Active and Reserve Service in the Rank of CDR (O-5). Retired from Nation Nuclear Security Administration in 2014.

Shaun M. Byrnes, ENS, OB AUG-OCT 1965, Falls Church, VA

I am truly honored to be considered a shipmate despite serving just over two months on the TJ in the Gulf of Tonkin. I am also happy to report that I am in contact with my supervisor on the TJ; Bob Waterhouse after 64 years.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER: Since the last 21MC was published & mailed on NOV 14, 2021, we have undertaken a fund raising drive for our 501 (c) 7 Veteran's Social Group. Quite a few TJRG Members have come forward with big donations & many more TJRG Members with smaller donations. Thank you one and all! I will be donating \$90.00 per month in CY 2022. Our target is to grow the TJRG funds back to \$22,000.00 or greater so we can have another reunion. Since we have had one reunion cancelled due to COVID-19 & another reunion hindered because of the Delta Variant of COVID-19, we hope in the future this will NOT be a major problem. When we get sufficient funds for another reunion, hopefully next Calendar Year (CY) & vote on the location (coming soon in another 21MC Newsletter [choices are: Branson, MO; Jacksonville, FL; and San Diego, CA]), we will then be able to determine location & once again start the process of determining safety issues if COVID-19 is still around. Once again, we are way ahead in the areas of financial accounting & proper reporting, plus being satisfactory on legal and administrative compliance issues & expect to have the CY 2021 Internal Audits, Federal and [WA] State Reports & Non-Profit Tax Returns done by End of March [or earlier] if possible. There will be a major update in our web site over the next few weeks. Please remember, we now produce unaudited financial statements & post them on the web site at the beginning of the new CY. After the Internal Audit is complete & an official finding is produced, if there are no changes, we then delete unaudited financial statement and post audited financial statements, plus Federal and State Reports and Returns. I am very happy to say, your EXCOM; Tod Hale, Chad James, Mike Stockreiter and now Dave Leverenz [21MC Editor] have served you well in my professional opinion & I strongly feel I have a great team

Our New Web Site! www.ussturnerjoy.com. For those of you that have not seen our new web site; the EXCOM and myself encourage you to STOP by and visit.

TAPS!: It is with Great Regret that we report the following shipmates who have passed on:

Jesse Lee Blodgett, 61 years old, MMC, OB late 1970's for about three years, Died approximately 2001 in Poulsbo, WA. Reported by Greg Stohl!

Charles E. Turner, 85 years old, GMG3, OB 59-61, reported by his wife in Port Angeles, WA. He passed away in February 2021.

Gary Lape, 74 years old, BT3, OB 66-67, reported by his wife Patti. He leaves behind his wife Patti and four sons. He loved to help develop teenagers into adult mature citizens. He made his civilian life career as a Millwright. He is reportedly interred at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, OR

Gene Windhorst, 77 years old! ET2, OB 61-63! Survived by his wife Pam and two children. Interred at Omaha National Cemetery. Reported by his family and friends, and he loved the USS Turner Joy, wearing his ball cap to the end of his life.

**ONGOING
NOTES**

* **VETERANS REGULATORY INFORMATION UPDDATE:** Blue Water Navy Veterans are NOW entitled to a presumption of service connection for conditions related to Agent Orange. The extension of the presumption is an extension of Public Law 116-23, the Blue Water Navy Veterans Act of 2019, signed into law by President Donald J. Trump on June 25, 2020. Veterans with questions about benefits or filing a claim can visit the VA Agent Orange website below. They can also call the disability benefits call center at 1-800-827-1000.

www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agentorange/navy-coast-guard-ships-vietnam/.

* **OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION:** When you open the website www.ussturnerjoy.com at the top of the page is a tab to click on for OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION. Per Federal and State law, the public and TJRG members must have access to these documents. Please take a few minutes and view/study these documents.

* **REQUIRED WASHINGTON STATE VOLUNTARY DONATION DISCLOSURE.**

Per legal guidance from the State of Washington Secretary of State we must make sure solicitations for voluntary donations have the required disclosure information as described in the Charities Solicitation Act; RCW 19.09.100. This disclosure is on our website at the top of the page in the red bar. Just click on that tab and this will bring up the State of Washington required RCW 19.09.100 disclosure to be read before voluntary donations are made.

UNAUDITED ONGOING FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FOR TJRG MEMBERSHIP FROM 11/4/2021 TO 12/18/2021

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction/Event</u>	<u>Checking</u>	<u>Savings</u>	<u>Total</u>
11/14/21	Balances per NFCU C/B & S/R ADD	\$ 837.90	\$10,163.04	\$11,000.94
10/29/21	Dividend SUBTRACT	\$ 0.01	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.16
11/8/21	Debit - Admin Exp	\$ 109.00	\$ -	\$ 109.00
11/27/21	Balance per NFCU Bank stmt ADD	\$ 728.91	\$10,165.19	\$10,894.10
12/1-12/18	Member dues	\$ 540.00	\$ -	\$ 540.00
12/1-12/14	Member donations SUBTRACT	\$ 530.00	\$ 3,340.00	\$ 3,870.00
12/7-12/12	Office supplies	\$ 178.59	\$ -	\$ 178.59
12/12-12/13	Postage	\$ 271.60	\$ -	\$ 271.60
12/13-12/13	EXCOM mailings	\$ 34.85	\$ -	\$ 34.85
12/16/21	GEN mailings	\$ 31.95	\$ -	\$ 31.95
12/18/21	Balances per NFCU C/B & S/R	\$1,281.92	\$13,505.19	\$14,787.11

DONATIONS FOR 2021

- *
- The following TJRG members donated between \$1000.00 and \$2000.00 in CY 2021.
Homer G. Roberts, William harris
- *
- The following TJRG members donated between \$500.00 and \$999.00 in CY 2021.
Richard D. Alexander, Michael G. Austin, Richard Jones
- *
- The following TJRG members donated between \$250.00 and \$499.00 in CY 2021.
Jim Chester, Fred Imhoff, Jeffrey Richard
- *
- The following TJRG members donated between \$100.00 and \$249.00 in CY 2021.
Darrel K. Crabill, Edward S. Briggs, Charles Nagle, Mike Stockreiter,
Chad James, Bill Donges, Richard G. Sommers, Carl S. Shriner, Jr.
- *
- The following TJRG members donated between \$10.00 and \$99.00 in CY 2021.
Robert Durkee, Delbert Harris, Jonathan Littman, Arthur Builderback,
Wylie E. Blevins, Marvin Middlestat, Robert Meyers, David F. Leverenz,
David Arondt, Donald Proffit, Alfred C. Lopez
- *
- The following outside donations were received on behalf of TJRC who served honorably and are passed on. Outside contributions/donations between \$20.00 to \$100.00 in CY 2021.
Susanna Gibbons, Daniel L. Price, Sandy Ruff

2022 – 202_ USS TURNER JOY REUNION GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Spouse/Partner: _____ E-mail: _____
Street: _____
City, State & Zip: _____
Home/Cell Phone: _____
Member E-mail: _____
Dates Served Onboard: _____ Rank/Rating on TJ: _____
Years of Active Duty: _____ Retired: _____ Retired Rank/Rating: _____
Present Occupation/Employer: _____

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Comments for possible inclusion for the 21 MC
newsletter: _____

Donations: They are always welcome! Currently the funds for the TJRG are “fully replenished” and the Federal IRS and State Conversion costs are paid for! Thank You So Much! Now, as a regulated 501 (c) 7 tax exempt, non-profit, Veteran’s Social Group and State of Washington Charitable Organization operating under IRS Rule 501 (a), we are a healthy Veteran’s Organization. We are always seeking donation funds for follow on reunions: Donations in fiscal categories have been reported by name per IRS RR&G’s!

Annual Dues: They are \$ 20.00 per year (NOV/DEC). Membership Dues may be paid in advance for the year and more out years. Your Dues and donations subsidize all reunion activities!

**Please send this application with your check payable to:
USS Turner Joy Reunion Group
c/o Jim Chester-President
1330 Thompson Street
Carson City, NV 89703-0605**