



# FLAMIN' CAIMAN TALES

[www.flamincaiman.org](http://www.flamincaiman.org)

Jan 2022

## COMMANDER'S SCUTTLEBUTT

Alpha, Beta, Delta, Omicron...I was looking forward to Iota, but we skipped all the way to Omicron. The virus has used up more than half the Greek alphabet. There's no going back now. It should be over before we know it. The pandemic has changed many things in our lives, some for the better and some not so much. One of the better changes, at least for my wife and I, is that we can now communicate easily with our doctor(s) via the Internet. Up until a few years ago, I only needed to talk to a doctor once every 5 to 10 years. Now it's more often and it's a lot easier. Thanks to the pandemic, we now know how to use Zoom, Google Meet, Duo and Facetime to have a video chat with our docs and kids using our phones and computers. Another good change for the better is curb side pickup or home delivery. Many businesses, and not just restaurants, have added these options to get products and services. Maybe we could have a curbside or a Zoom reunion? Not an iota chance of that. See you all in Albuquerque.

## RESERVATIONS ARE OPEN

The Albuquerque Crowne Plaza is open for reservations. You must call to make your reservations for the reunion. The dates are April 18 through April 21. The rate is \$99,00 a night plus 13.88% tax for a total of \$112.74 and is valid up to three days before and three days after the reunion. This includes breakfast for up to two guests per day in their restaurant located in the hotel. All 22 rooms on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> floors are blocked out for the group. Make your reservations soon. Call the hotel reservation group coordinator, Michelle Padilla at 505-998-6412 and she will make your reservation or 844-356-6173. Tell her it is for USS CAIMAN. The attached list shows the shipmates that are still registered for the reunion.

## CONSIDER

When we were on the boat, every non-quail was considered a risk to the boat and us. We should consider every non-vaccinated person as a risk to the health of us and our loved ones. There are reports that vaccinated persons have contracted covid, but the infection rate is exceptionally low, and they have a mild case of the virus. At our age we are at substantial risk and many of us have other health problems that increase our susceptibility to contracting COVID. I suggest you consider your friends, loved ones and shipmates in your decision to be vaccinated or not.

## DONATION

We have a WWII shipmate that donated to our reunion. He stated that the reunion location was too far for him to travel and hopes the donation will help the rest of the crew enjoy the reunion. Again, the fabulous CAIMAN crew shows they support each other.

## COVID

If a relative of yours died from the Covid virus, you may be able to get reimbursed up to \$9,000 for funeral expenses. That is \$2,000 more per person than the \$7,000 upper limit announced in February. The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) is accepting applications from eligible families. The FEMA measure was part of the December COVID-19 relief law which also included a second stimulus check of up to \$600. The law includes \$2 billion for people who have been harmed by the pandemic and may have gone into debt to pay for the funeral and burial of a loved one.

<https://www.cnet.com/personal-finance/covid-funeral-reimbursement-now-9000-heres-how-to-apply-today>

## 2022 COLA ANNOUNCED

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently announced that the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase for 2022 will be 5.9 percent. This is the largest increase since 1981. But Medicare increases to \$170.10 each month.

The new COLA rate is effective Dec. 1, 2021, and the adjustment will appear in the Dec. 30, 2021, payment. This increase pertains to military retirees, veterans receiving disability payments from the Department of Veterans Affairs, Social Security recipients and others. By law, COLA is based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which is a broad measure of consumer prices generated by the BLS from the third quarter of the previous year to the third quarter of the current year. It measures price changes for food, housing, clothing, transportation, energy, medical care, recreation, and education. The COLA increase has averaged 1.65 percent for the past 10 years (2011-2020), and in 2009, 2010 and 2015 the increase was zero.

## NEWSLETTER

If you receive the newsletter by snail mail, you should consider changing to email delivery. Emailing saves CAIMAN money and reduces my work. I need to add address labels to all the envelopes, plus return labels, and stamps. Then stuff the newsletters into the envelopes. If you would like to receive the newsletters by email, please email me [#dbfrider@comcast.net](mailto:#dbfrider@comcast.net) (delete first character). Please include your name as email addresses do not always have a person's name.

## DUES

As we approach our ninth reunion, for the CAIMANITES that pay their dues biannually at the reunion, it is that time again. Dues is \$10.00 each reunion or \$75.00 for lifetime. If you pay for lifetime, I can leave this article out of the newsletters.

## NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE & HISTORY

Another attraction in Albuquerque is The National Museum of Nuclear Science & History. Dings and I did not pick that as the reunion tour as we did not believe most of the attendees would be interested. We select tours that we believe the majority of the attendees will enjoy and also something that is different than an average tour. The cost of the museum for veterans is \$8.00 and it is a self-guided tour.

---

### ELECTIONS

As I wrote in the last newsletter, we are behind in the CAIMAN board elections. The board has decided to have the election for all three positions during the 2022 reunion with the vice commander next election in 2024 and commander and secretary in 2026. This will put the elections back on the original schedule. Hawkeye is a candidate for Commander, Dings for Vice Commander, and Smitty for Secretary/Treasurer. If you want to be a candidate for any board positions, contact the secretary before the next reunion to submit your name.

---

### SALE

The ships store is having a half price sale at our next reunion for CAIMANITES and adult supervisors. When the price for the items purchased is totaled, the price will be halved and rounded to the nearest dollar.

---

### KLAXON

We have had another klaxon donated and Hawkeye refurbished it. This 1943 klaxon came off a WWII boat that a shipmate was stationed on when it was a reserve boat. We will have a special drawing for the klaxon. These older klaxons are becoming exceedingly rare and are expensive. As I wrote before, the nukes have an electronic something that replaces the klaxons that we know, and it sounds like a sick cow.

---

### SENDING INFORMATION

When sending information to CAIMAN, please include a return address or a note informing us who sent the information. Use the secretary's address:

USS CAIMAN SS323 ASSN.  
7050 WHISTLE LN NE  
BREMERTON, WA 98311

---

### SUB VETS

If you have joined Sub Vets (USSVI) recently and did not qualify on CAIMAN, please inform me. When the Sub Vets publish the list of new members only their quail boat is mentioned. I am asking for this info just so we can have accurate records of CAIMAN shipmates.

---

### SUB VETS CONVENTION

The next Sub Vets convention is on August 24 – 27, 2022 in Buffalo, NY at the Hyatt Regency hotel. This is an opportunity to reconnect with shipmates and friends from other boats. Since Niagara Falls is near and the Plan of the Week has tours available, this is a chance for a second honeymoon with submarine sailors to help you celebrate. I know all the adult supervisors will welcome that possibility.

---

## THANKS

Thanks to the donations and shipmates paying their dues we will continue to have free drinks in the hospitality room. CAIMAN now has a coffee maker so there will be coffee available as long as the hospitality room is open. It brews a 12-cup pot and has warming plates for three pots so we will have fresh coffee available. One pot will be decaf for the attendees that prefer the non-lead version. The coffee shop I frequent promised me a special price on fresh gourmet coffee, (leaded and unleaded). We won't have any stale canned stuff. The coffee will be ground and ready to be used. Just like on the boat, the coffee pot will be on.

---

### ETERNAL PATROL

We normally receive news of a shipmate's status from, relatives, other boats, or Sub Vets. We appreciate relatives informing us of a shipmate's status and the informal network between submarine sailors does an excellent job of informing us of shipmates passing. Sometimes we do not receive notice of a shipmate's status until a long time after he has passed.

Becker, Richard EMC(SS) (63/64) 10 July 2018  
Daniels, Samuel QM2(SS) (61/61) 15 September 2021  
DeVore, Robert TMC(SS) (51/52) 13 October 2021  
Hepp, Glenn T. EM2(SS) (61/63) 27 November 2021  
Jeske, Alvin ET2(SS) (50/52) 11 October 2021  
Jones, Albert CAPT (56/60) 29 September 2021  
Palmer, Rodney CDR (49/50) 4 November 2021

---

### SAILING LIST

We have added three to our sailing list. Decklog informed us of a previous unknown shipmate from CAIMAN's early years before officer's diaries were published, but he is on eternal patrol. The second shipmate was on our lost list. I located him because his daughter talked him into putting his info on Facebook. He is interested in coming to the reunion. The third found us. I am hoping I will be able to locate all our shipmates. Everyone needs a dream. Several shipmates have assisted in locating our lost shipmates and I greatly appreciate any assistance I have received.

Located shipmates	1377
Hopefully at the next reunion:	404
Eternal Patrol:	973
Lost List:	38

---

**When I assumed command of the Pacific Fleet on 31 December 1941; our submarines were already operating against the enemy, the only units of the Fleet that could come to grips with the Japanese for months to come. It was to the Submarine Force that I looked to carry the load until our great industrial activity could produce the weapons, we so sorely needed to carry the war to the enemy. It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of peril. – Chester W. Nimitz**

# 2022 ATTENDEES

NUM	LAST	FIRST	NICK	RATE	YRS	GUESTS
1.	AIELLO	PAT		TM2(SS)	60/65	LIDIA AIELLO
2.	AMATO	SAM	SAM	QM2(SS)	67/69	LIBBY AMATO
3.	ANDREWS	JEFFREY	ANDY	QM2(SS)	67/68	ALICE ANDREWS
4.	BAER	GREG	HAWKEYE	STSC(SS)	69/71	ALICE BAER
5.	BRINDLE	THOMAS		EN1(SS)	63/65	
6.	BROWN	HAL		TM2(SS)	66/68	
7.	BRUMMERSTED	DAVID	DAVE	LCDR	65/67	MAJORIE BELAIR
8.	BRYAN	THOMAS	TOM	ETCS(SS)	66/69	
9.	BURY	MIKE		CS3(SS)	68/69	JEAN BURY
10.	CHRISTIANSEN	BENT	YEO	YN2(SS)	68/70	COOKIE CHRISTIANSEN
11.	CHRISTISON	RANDALL	MR. C	LT	68/69	GINGER CHRISTISON
12.	COFFEY	DAVID		STS2(SS)	65/69	
13.	COLEBANK	PHIL		TM2(SS)	67/70	HARRIET COLEBANK
14.	DAVIS	JOHN		FTG1(SS) (DV)	68/69	VICKEY DAVIS
15.	DENGEL	ROBERT	DINGS	EN2(SS)	64/68	RENAY DENGEL
16.	ELLIOTT	MICHAEL	SLICK	QM2(SS)	66/69	SHERRY ELLIOTT
17.	ERB	RON		TM2(SS)	58/62	HELEN ERB
18.	FARRIS	CARL		EN3(SS)	54/55	DUANE HOUSTON ANDREW SIMMONS KEVIN FARRIS
19.	FIELD	CHRIS	HOOFS	ST2(SS)	67/72	CAROL FIELD
20.	FLANSBERG	WAYNE		EM2(SS)	55/58	SANDI FLANSBERG
21.	FORE	GEORGE	CRUNCH	RM2(SS)	57/60	JANET FORE
22.	GARCIA	HUGO	CIA	TM2(SS)	66/70	TERRY GARCIA
23.	HART	IRVING	BUD	CAPT	61/64	
24.	HARTMAN	DAVID		EN2(SS)	55/56	
25.	HARVEY	CHARLES	HARV	QM2(SS)	58/60	GAYLE HARVEY CARLA GARRET
26.	JURCHECK	JOHN		CAPT	68/70	NANCY JURCHECK
27.	KREH	RICHARD	RICH	FTG2(SS)	64/66	
28.	LUCE	JOHN	BIG JOHN	EN1(SS)	60/66	LAURA LUCE
29.	MAES	DENNIS		TM2(SS)	67/70	REGINA MAES DEAN MAES
30.	MAHONY	TERRY	XO	CAPT	67/69	BEVERLY MAHONY
31.	MARCOM	LINDSAY	HOT ROD	TM1(SS)	60/61	MARGARET MARCOM
32.	MCGAUGHEY	PHILLIP		LCDR	57/59	CHRISTINA MCGAUGHEY
33.	PLUMLEE	MARION	SCOTTY	MMCM(SS)	68/71	
34.	POSPISIL	WARREN	POPS	TMC(SS)	70/71	
35.	PUNZEL	PHILLIP		TM1(SS)	69/72	MELVINIA PUNZEL
36.	RIGGS	BRUCE		ET2(SS)	70/72	
37.	RUGGLES	LARRY		ETR2(SS)	63/64	LOREAN RUGGLES
38.	SCHMIDT	MARK		ATCS(SS)	71/72	
39.	SCOBLIC	TOM	BIG STONE	STS3(SS)	67/70	NANCY SCOBLIC
40.	SHAFER	GERRY	GT	LT	64/68	LORI SHAFER
41.	SMITH	DOUGLAS	SMITTY	ET1(SS)	67/69	CHERYL COFFEY
42.	STARR	GERRY		CSCS(SS)	62/63	CHARLOTTE STARR
43.	TANEY	GEORGE		ENC(SS)	69/72	MARGARET TANEY JAMES TANEY JESSICA TANEY
44.	TROUTMAN	JOHN		LCDR	66/68	SUSAN HEILMAN

45.	TURNER	SAMUEL	SAM	MMCS(SS)	66/68	RUBY TURNER
46.	UNDERHILL	ARTHUR		RM2(SS)	71/72	SHELLEY UNDERHILL RON KOHNER MIKE SEDOR NANCY SEDOR FRANK MASSEY KATHIE MASSEY
47.	WARNBERG	GURNEY	BUTCH	EM2(SS)	66/70	SHARYL WARNBERG
48.	WHEELER	DAVID		RMCS(SS)	66/68	JEAN WHEELER



# U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323)



## 2022 REUNION REGISTRATION

April 18 - 21, 2022 – CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL  
1901 UNIVERSITY BLVD, ALBUQUEQUE, NM 87102  
RESERVATIONS - MICHELLE PADILLA AT 505-998-6412  
REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 20 MARCH 2022

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME DESIRED ON NAME TAG: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME TAG \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME TAG \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ADDITIONAL GUESTS NAMES AND NAME TAGS ON THE BACK

CHECK ACCOMMODATIONS USED: CROWNE PLAZA \_\_\_\_ RV PARK \_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE **\$ 10.00**

### WELCOME LUNCHEON (TUESDAY)

BEEF # \_\_\_\_\_  
CHICKEN # \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35.00 PER PERSON \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ACOMA TOUR & CASINO (WEDNESDAY) # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$65.00 PER PERSON \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### BANQUET DINNER (THURSDAY)

BEEF # \_\_\_\_\_  
CHICKEN # \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40.00 PER PERSON \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

DOOR PRIZE TICKETS # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$3.00 EA, 4 FOR \$10.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO & SEND THIS PAGE TO:

USS CAIMAN SS 323 ASSOCIATION  
7050 WHISTLE LANE NE.  
BREMERTON, WA 98311

CHECK FOR A COPY OF THE SAILING LIST (DELIVERED AT THE REUNION) \_\_\_\_\_

IF PLAYING IN GOLF TOURNAMENT (THURSDAY) LIST NUMBER OF PLAYERS \_\_\_\_\_