

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

N E W S L E T T E R

MID WINTER FEBRUARY 2010

MEDAL OF HONOR

Page 2

NAVY TRIVIA BY DOUG

LIPERT Page 2

HIGHLIGHTING

BRISTOL SHIPMATES

Page 3

News You Can Use

Page 7-8

History Lesson Page 8

HUMOR Page 18 by

Charlie Weaver

This may save your life

Page 20 by Debra Jackson

Ten Steps to Better

Health Care Reform Page

20

Risky Driving Behavior

Page 20

2010 Handbook Page 22

by Duane Haugan

Highlighting Our

Military Page 22 Leland

Phillips

The Wizard Of Oz Page 23

Sandy & Lou

Tea Party Trenton, NJ

4/15/09 by Ed Lynch

The Few, The Proud, The

Marines Page 24 by Don

Tanner

Prayer for the USA Page 24



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Douglas R. Lipert
January 31, 2010

Well it's our newsletter time again, and what a wonderful time of the year to be communicating with all of you . The Holidays are behind us and our heads can stop spinning ! Whether it was to be getting together with family and friends or remembering one's we have lost. Now it's how to get over cabin fever. Just remember sit down -TAKE FIVE - and BREATHE!!!

I wanted to say to those of you that have not been to a reunion , our next one is now set for October 7th to the 10th. Please try to set your sites on attending . It is a wonderful and vibrant time. I can guarantee you this - It's a great time ,meeting up with old friends and meeting new ones!

By my experience the past four reunion's that I have attended , have been some of my greatest moments .As a matter of fact ,I just received a picture of myself on the fantail of the Bristol in front of gun mount #53 dated Jan. 1958 that I had sent to my mother ,BOY WHAT MEMORIES !!

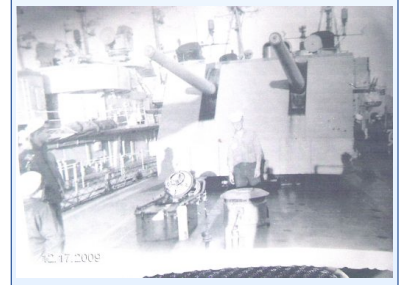
Now just to recap our 2010 reunion in Philadelphia, Pa. Preparations are being made and we hope to see you all there. We try to make every year better and better .The final preparations are being made for tours and happenings in the area and so far it looks to be a great time to be had by all. I will now leave you with this quote written by Mark Twain

" 20 years from now you will be more disappointed by things that you didn't do ,than by the ones you did do- So throw off the bowline . Sail away from the safe harbor . Catch the trade winds in your sails ,Explore , Dream , Discover ."

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in Philadelphia.



Doug Lipert as he looks today (photo above) and how Doug looked while aboard Bristol (photo below). Doug was a TM3 in this photo.



USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Highlighting Medal Of Honor Awardees



Colonel Bob Howard is a native of Alabama, with his home record San Antonio, Texas.

He entered military service on July 20, 1956 and was medically retired on September 30, 1992. He received a direct appointment from Master Sergeant to First Lieutenant in December 1969. His thirty six years of military service included over 33 years on airborne status.

He participated in two movies concerning airborne and special operations missions, both featuring John Wayne. He made a parachute jump on the filming of *The Longest Day* and as an Airborne Instructor in *The Green Berets*.

Military assignments include duty with the 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions; 2d Ranger Battalion; 3d, 5th, and 6th, Special Forces Group; 5th Infantry Division; 7th Corps, XVIII Airborne Corps. He served in the Eighth United States Army and Combined Forces Command. Service in Vietnam included serving with 1/327th Airborne Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, 5th Special Forces Group, and MACV SOG. Colonel Howard commanded a Reconnaissance Company, MACV SOG in Vietnam, a separate Ranger Company at Fort Benning, Georgia, two Ranger Companies while assigned to the 2d Ranger Battalion. He was the Post Commander of Kelly Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany, Executive Officer of the 2d Ranger Battalion, and the Mountain Ranger Camp.

Medal of Honor citation

The [President of the United States](#) in the name of [The Congress](#) takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR to

FIRST LIEUTENANT

ROBERT L. HOWARD

UNITED STATES ARMY

for service as set forth in the following CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. 1st Lt. Howard (then Sfc .), distinguished himself while serving as platoon sergeant of an American-Vietnamese platoon which was on a mission to rescue a missing American soldier in enemy controlled territory in the Republic of Vietnam. The platoon had left its helicopter landing zone and was moving out on its mission when it was attacked by an estimated 2-company force. During the initial engagement, 1st Lt. Howard was wounded and his weapon destroyed by a grenade explosion. 1st Lt. Howard saw his platoon leader had been wounded seriously and was exposed to fire. Although unable to walk, and weaponless, 1st Lt. Howard unhesitatingly crawled through a hail of fire to retrieve his wounded leader. As 1st Lt. Howard was administering first aid and removing the officer's equipment, an enemy bullet struck 1 of the ammunition pouches on the lieutenant's belt, detonating several magazines of ammunition. 1st Lt. Howard momentarily sought cover and then realizing that he must rejoin the platoon, which had been disorganized by the enemy attack, he again began dragging the seriously wounded officer toward the platoon area. Through his outstanding example of indomitable courage and bravery, 1st Lt. Howard was able to rally the platoon into an organized defense force. With complete disregard for his safety, 1st Lt. Howard crawled from position to position, administering first aid to the wounded, giving encouragement to the defenders and directing their fire on the encircling enemy. For 3 1/2 hours 1st Lt. Howard's small force and supporting aircraft successfully repulsed enemy attacks and finally were in sufficient control to permit the landing of rescue helicopters. 1st Lt. Howard personally supervised the loading of his men and did not leave the bullet-swept landing zone until all were aboard safely. 1st Lt. Howard's gallantry in action, his complete devotion to the welfare of his men at the risk of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Highlighting our Shipmates

Ronald C Conran, MM2, 1954-1956,

Ron Conran's career

Ron attributes his successful career as an engineer with his service in the US Navy. Ron states, "Thanks in part to the navy technical schools and training it created a springboard for many opportunities throughout my career."

The photo below shows Ron and his wife, Barbara, who celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary last year. Ron and Barbara have 6 children, 19 grandchildren and hoping for a great-grandchild.



Ron and Barbara enjoy traveling. They just finished all 50 states and have 71 countries under their belts. Their goal is an even 100.

Among Ron's accomplishments are: graduated from Florida Technological University; worked at Cape Canaveral, FL, 14 years (space program); built a city in Saudi Arabia (principal mechanical engineer); built 3 nuclear power plants; 2 prisons; 2 forensic labs; 2 canine training centers; and, completed 70 odd construction projects throughout the US. Ron plans to retire next year.

Photo at right Ron as he looks today.



The photos at the extreme right hand are photos of Ron as he looked in 1955 at Guantanamo Bay. Ron can't remember the name of the shipmate who appears with him in the engine room.

Bristol visited Cork, Ireland in November 1955. Ron was actually born in Ireland to American parents and has always been an American citizen. The Irish newspapers made a "big deal", as Ron puts it, out of the visit of two American destroyers. Cork was once a fully walled city. Some of the walls and gates remain today. A description of Cork written in 1577 speaks of the city as, "the fourth city of Ireland" that is, "so encumbered

with evil neighbours, the Irish outlaws, that they are fayne to watch their gates hourly...they trust not the country adjoining [and only marry within the town] so that the whole city is linked to each other in affinity". Ron joined our association in December 2009. Welcome aboard Ron.



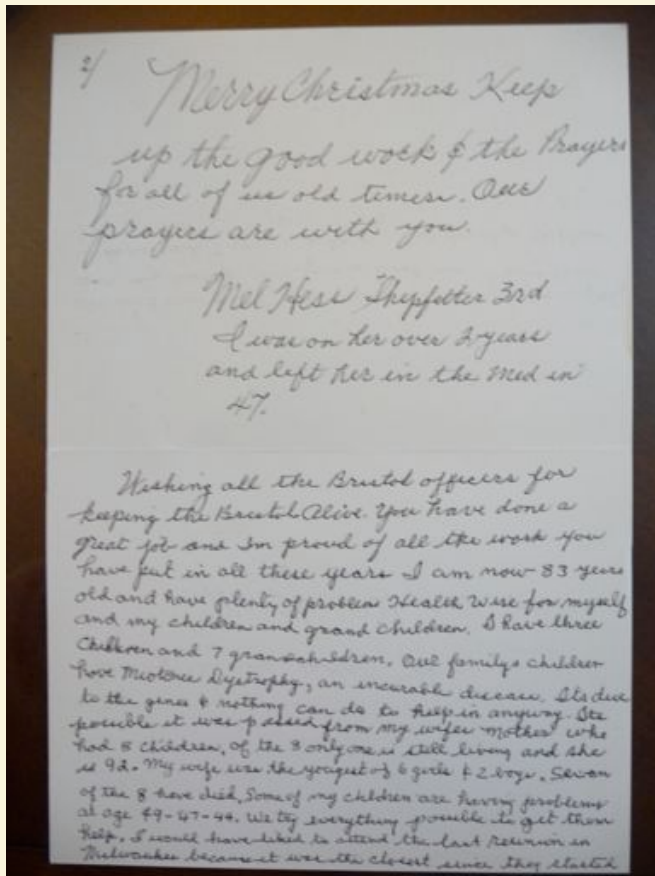
Two American destroyers, the U.S.S. Eugene A. Greene (top left) and the U.S.S. Bristol (right), arriving in Cork Harbor yesterday, where they are on a courtesy visit. Below (left)-Mrs. Mary O'Donovan (left) and Mrs. Sarah Collins, of Scilly, Kinsale, with their nephew, Seaman John Coleman of the Bristol. Right-Ronald Conran, another member of the Bristol crew, seen here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Conran and his brother, Floyd, as they greeted him on the quayside.

The caption reads: *Two American destroyers, the USS Eugene A Greene (top left) and the USS Bristol (right) arriving in Cork Harbor yesterday, where they are on a courtesy visit. Below (left)-Mrs Mary O'Donovan (left) and Mrs Sarah Collins, of Scilly, Kinsale, with their nephew, Seaman John Coleman of the Bristol. Right-Ronald Conrad another member of the Bristol crew, seen here with his parents, Mr and Mrs M Conran and his brother, Floyd, as they greeted him on the quayside. Editor's note: I tried to get microfilm from the "Irish Examiner", but their files don't*



USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

A Christmas Card from Mel Hess



Melvin Hess, Plank Owner, SF3, 45-47

Mel writes, "Merry Christmas, keep up the good work & the prayers for all of us old timers. Our prayers are with you."

Wishing all the Bristol officers for keeping the Bristol alive. You have done a great job and I'm proud of all the work you have put in all these years. I am now 83 years old and have plenty of problems health wise for myself and my children and grandchildren. I have three children and 7 grandchildren. Our family's children have myotonic dystrophy, an incurable disease. It's due to the genes & nothing can do to help in anyway. It's possible it was passed from my wife's Mother who had 8 children. Of the 8, only one is still living and she is 92. My wife was the youngest of 6 girls & 2 boys. Seven of the 8 have died. Some of my children are having problems at age 49-47-44. We try everything possible to get them help.

I would have liked to attend the last reunion in Milwaukee because it was the closest since they started. Editor's note: Mel lives in Kankakee, IL. When we think that we are having a bad day, let's remember that someone else maybe having a worse day. Let's all be thankful for what we have and not be worrying about what we don't have. Keep in mind those shipmates who are not very well and who need our prayers. I want to thank Mel for his welcomed Christmas card to remind me how lucky I am to have relatively good health and that is the most important thing I have (besides my favorite dance partner, my "Dancing Queen").

DO YOU REMEMBER THESE GUYS?

I am the good looking one on the left !! Walt is the mature one on the right

We get together once in a while ..always sea stories of of our less the capable Bristol skippers ...and the wonderfully supportive white hats.

Linc

On the Bristol ... Dave Lincoln 1952 to 55 and Walt Jarck 1953 to 1957 at Walt's North Georgia house reunion November 2009.

Dave L



David Lincoln (left) and Walter Jarck at Walt's home in

Myotonic dystrophy (*dystrophia myotonica*, DM) is a [chronic](#), slowly progressing, highly variable inherited multisystemic [disease](#). It is characterized by wasting of the muscles ([muscular dystrophy](#)), posterior subcapsular iridescent [cataracts](#), heart conduction defects, [endocrine](#) changes, and [myotonia](#). Myotonic dystrophy can occur in patients of any age.

Myotonic dystrophy is a [genetic](#) condition which is inherited in an [autosomal dominant](#) pattern and thus will be passed along to 50% of a carrier's offspring, on average.

Myotonic dystrophy is one of several known [trinucleotide repeat disorders](#). Certain areas of [DNA](#) have repeated sequences of two or three [nucleotides](#).

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

How to Simulate Being A Sailor

1. Buy a dumpster, paint it gray inside and out, and live in it for six months.
2. Run all the pipes and wires in your house exposed on the walls.
3. Repaint your entire house every month.
4. Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of the bathtub and move the shower head to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you turn off the water while you soap down.
5. Put lube oil in your humidifier and set it on high.
6. Once a week, blow air up your chimney, with a leaf blower and let the wind carry the soot onto your neighbor's house. Ignore his complaints.
7. Once a month, take all major appliances apart and reassemble them.
8. Raise the thresholds and lower the headers of your front and back doors so that you either trip or bang your head every time you pass through them.
9. Disassemble and inspect your lawnmower every week.
10. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, turn your water heater temperature up to 200 degrees. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, turn the water heater off. On Saturdays and Sundays tell your family they use too much water, so no bathing will be allowed.
11. Raise your bed to within 6 inches of the ceiling, so you can't turn over without getting out and then getting back in.
12. Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Have your spouse whip open the curtain about 3 hours after you go to sleep, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and say "Sorry, wrong rack." (Who had a curtain?)
13. Make your family qualify to operate each appliance in your house - dishwasher operator, blender technician, etc. Re-qualify every 6 months.
14. Have your neighbor come over each day at 0500, blow a whistle so loud Helen Keller could hear it, and shout "Reveille, reveille, all hands heave out and trice up."
15. Have your mother-in-law write down everything she's going to do the following day, then have her make you stand in your back yard at 0600 while she reads it to you.
16. Submit a request chit to your father-in-law requesting permission to leave your house before 1500.
17. Empty all the garbage bins in your house and sweep the driveway three times a day, whether it needs it or not. "Now sweepers, sweepers, man your brooms, give the ship a clean sweep down fore and aft, empty all sh**cans and butt kits!")
18. Have your neighbor collect all your mail for a month, read your magazines, and randomly lose every 5th item before delivering the rest.
19. Watch no TV except for movies played in the middle of the night. Have your family vote on which movie to watch, then show a different one-- the same one every night.

AN ACTUAL CRAIG'S LIST PERSONALS AD

To the Guy Who Tried to Mug Me in Downtown Savannah night before last. Date: 2009-05-27, 1 :43 a.m. E.S.T.

I was the guy wearing the black Burberry jacket that you demanded that I hand over, shortly after you pulled the knife on me and my girlfriend, threatening our lives. You also asked for my girlfriend's purse and earrings. I can only hope that you somehow come across this rather important message.

First, I'd like to apologize for your embarrassment; I didn't expect you to actually crap in your pants when I drew my pistol after you took my jacket. The evening was not that cold, and I was wearing the jacket for a reason. My girlfriend had just bought me that Kimber Model 1911 .45 ACP pistol for my birthday, and we had picked up a shoulder holster for it that very evening. Obviously you agree that it is a very intimidating weapon when pointed at your head ... isn't it?!

I know it probably wasn't fun walking back to wherever you'd come from with that brown sludge in your pants. I'm sure it was even worse walking bare-footed since I made you leave your shoes, cell phone, and wallet with me. [That prevented you from calling or running to your buddies to come help mug us again].

After I called your mother or "Momma" as you had her listed in your cell, I explained the entire episode of what you'd done. Then I went and filled up my gas tank as well as those of four other people in the gas station, -- on your credit card. The guy with the big motor home took 150 gallons and was extremely grateful!

I gave your shoes to a homeless guy outside Vinnie Van Go Go's, along with all the cash in your wallet. [That made his day!] I then threw your wallet into the big pink "pimp mobile" that was parked at the curb ... after I broke the windshield and side window and keyed the entire driver's side of the car. Later, I called a bunch of phone sex numbers from your cell phone. Ma Bell just now shut down the line, although I only used the phone for a little over a day now, so what 's going on with that? Earlier, I managed to get in two threatening phone calls to the DA's office and one to the FBI, while mentioning President Obama as my possible target. The FBI guy seemed really intense and we had a nice long chat (I guess while he traced your number etc.). In a way, perhaps I should apologize for not killing you ... but I feel this type of retribution is a far more appropriate punishment for your threatened crime. I wish you well as you try to sort through some of these rather immediate pressing issues, and can only hope that you have the opportunity to reflect upon, and perhaps reconsider, the career path you've chosen to pursue in life. Remember, next time you might not be so lucky. Have a good day!

Thoughtfully yours, Alex

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SLOW DAY IN TEXAS

It's a slow day in a little East Texas town. The sun is beating down, and the streets are deserted. Times are tough, everybody is in debt, and everybody lives on credit.....

On this particular day a rich tourist from back east is driving through town. He stops at the motel and lays a \$100 bill on the desk saying he wants to inspect the rooms upstairs in order to pick one to spend the night.

As soon as the man walks upstairs, the owner grabs the bill and runs next door to pay his debt to the butcher.

The butcher takes the \$100 and runs down the street to retire his debt to the pig farmer. The pig farmer takes the \$100 and heads off to pay his bill at the supplier of feed and fuel.

The guy at the Farmer's Co-op takes the \$100 and runs to pay his debt to the local prostitute, who has also been facing hard times and has had to offer her "services" on credit.

The hooker rushes to the hotel and pays off her room bill with the hotel owner.

The hotel proprietor then places the \$100 back on the counter so the rich Traveler will not suspect anything.

At that moment the traveler comes down the stairs, picks up the \$100 bill, states that the rooms are not satisfactory, pockets the money, and leaves town. No one produced anything. No one earned anything. However, the whole town is now out of debt and now looks to the future with a lot more optimism.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is how the United States Government is conducting business today.

One Nation, 'Under God'

One day a 6 year old girl was sitting in a classroom. The teacher was going to explain evolution to the children. The teacher asked a little boy: Tommy do you see the tree Outside? TOMMY: Yes. TEACHER: Tommy, do you see the grass outside? TOMMY: Yes. TEACHER: Go outside and look up and see if you can see the sky. TOMMY: Okay. (He returned a few minutes later) Yes, I saw the sky. TEACHER: Did you see God up there? TOMMY: No. TEACHER: That's my point. We can't see God because he isn't there. Possibly he just doesn't exist.

A little girl spoke up and wanted to ask the boy some questions. The teacher agreed and the little girl asked the boy: Tommy, do you see the tree outside? TOMMY: Yes. LITTLE GIRL: Tommy do you see the grass outside? TOMMY: Yessssss! LITTLE GIRL: Did you see the sky? TOMMY: Yessssss! LITTLE GIRL: Tommy, do you see the teacher? TOMMY: Yes. LITTLE GIRL: Do you see her brain? TOMMY: No. LITTLE GIRL: Then according to what we were taught today in school, she possibly may not even have one!

Out of the mouths of babes.

News You Can Use

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SENATE HEALTHCARE BILL A LUMP OF COAL FOR AMERICA'S RETIREES ON CHRISTMAS EVE

On Christmas Eve the U.S. Senate effectively put lumps of coal in the stockings of tens of millions of America's retirees with the passage of its version of healthcare reform according to ProtectSeniors.Org, a non-profit retiree advocacy group with more than 55,000 members nationwide.

The Senate bill does nothing to protect the earned post retirement health care benefits of millions of American workers and the legislation actually penalizes companies that do the right thing by continuing to provide retiree prescription drug benefits. It does not contain any of the provisions of a proposed bill in the House of Representatives that would prohibit employers from making post retirement cuts or doing away with the earned health benefits of people after they retired.

"It is a disgrace that the Senate bill does absolutely nothing to protect the right of retirees who for decades took less in wages and paid time off from their employers to be assured of healthcare coverage in their golden years," said Paul Miller, executive director of ProtectSeniors.Org. "These people earned this benefit during their working years and now the Senate is willing to simply throw them under the bus. They are not asking for a handout, just that corporate America treat these people fairly and live up to their responsibility."

According to Miller if just half of the estimated 18 million retirees who receive healthcare benefits through their former employers see those benefits either reduced or eliminated entirely it would overwhelm an already overburdened government health care system.

According to a report in the Wall Street Journal (Firms Warn of Cuts to Benefits; 12/24/09) the Senate bill includes a change in the tax status of payments for retiree health benefits would negatively impact many companies' earnings statements and encourage companies to drop drug benefits for millions of retirees.

"It is disappointing that the Senate did nothing to protect retirees' earned benefits and actually inadvertently encouraged corporations to reduce benefits," said Jim Casey, president of ProtectSeniors.Org. "It's a shame that people who have already earned health benefits by making sacrifices during their working years now have to fight their own elected officials to keep them."

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USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

545 vs 300,000,000 (Republicans & Democrats Alike - No One Is Blameless).



545 PEOPLE
By Charlie Reese

EVERY CITIZEN NEEDS TO READ THIS AND THINK ABOUT WHAT THIS JOURNALIST HAS SCRIPTED IN THIS MESSAGE. READ IT AND THEN REALLY THINK ABOUT OUR CURRENT POLITICAL DEBACLE.

Charley Reese has been a journalist for 49 years. Politicians are the only people in the world who create problems and then campaign against them.

Have you ever wondered, if both the Democrats and the Republicans are against deficits, WHY do we have deficits? Have you ever wondered, if all the politicians are against inflation and high taxes, WHY do we have inflation and high taxes?

You and I don't propose a federal budget. The President does. You and I don't have the Constitutional authority to vote on appropriations. The House of Representatives does. You and I don't write the tax code, Congress does. You and I don't set fiscal policy, Congress does. You and I don't control monetary policy, the Federal Reserve Bank does.

One hundred Senators, 435 Congressmen, one President, and nine Supreme Court justices, 545 human beings out of the 300 million are directly, legally, morally, and individually responsible for the domestic problems that plague this country.

I excluded the members of the Federal Reserve Board because that problem was created by the Congress. In 1913, Congress delegated its Constitutional duty to provide a sound currency to a federally chartered, but private, central bank.

I excluded all the special interests and lobbyists for a sound reason. They have no legal authority. They have no ability to coerce a senator, a congressman, or a president to do one cotton-picking thing. I don't care if they offer a politician \$1

million dollars in cash. The politician has the power to accept or reject it. No matter what the lobbyist promises, it is the legislator's responsibility to determine how he votes. *Continued on next page*

News You Can Use

COFFEE FILTERS

Coffee filters ..who knew! And you can buy 1,000 at the Dollar Tree for almost nothing.

1. Cover bowls or dishes when cooking in the microwave. Coffee filters make excellent covers.
2. Clean windows and mirrors. Coffee filters are lint-free so they'll leave windows sparkling.
3. Protect China
... Separate your good dishes by putting a coffee filter between each dish.
4. Filter broken cork from wine. If you break the cork when opening a wine bottle, filter the wine through a coffee filter.
5. Protect a cast-iron skillet. Place a coffee filter in the skillet to absorb moisture and prevent rust.
6. Apply shoe polish. Ball up a lint-free coffee filter.
7. Recycle frying oil. After frying, strain oil through a sieve lined with a coffee filter.
8. Weigh chopped foods. Place chopped ingredients in a coffee filter on a kitchen scale
9. Hold tacos. Coffee filters make convenient wrappers for messy foods.
10. Stop the soil from leaking out of a plant pot. Line a plant pot with a coffee filter to prevent The soil from going through the drainage holes.
11. Prevent a Popsicle from dripping. Poke one or two holes as needed in a coffee filter.
12. Do you think we used expensive strips to wax eyebrows? Use strips of coffee filters.
13. Put a few in a plate and put your fried bacon, French fries, chicken fingers, etc on them.
Soaks out all the grease.
14. Keep in the bathroom. They make great "razor nick fixers."

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Continued from page 8

Those 545 human beings spend much of their energy convincing you that what they did is not their fault. They cooperate in this common con regardless of party.

What separates a politician from a normal human being is an excessive amount of gall. No normal human being would have the gall of a Speaker, who stood up and criticized the President for creating deficits. The president can only propose a budget. He cannot force the Congress to accept it.

The Constitution, which is the supreme law of the land, gives sole responsibility to the House of Representatives for originating and approving appropriations and taxes.

Who is the speaker of the House? Nancy Pelosi. She is the leader of the majority party. She and fellow House members, not the President, can approve any budget they want. If the president vetoes it, they can pass it over his veto if they agree to.

It seems inconceivable to me that a nation of 300 million can not replace 545 people who stand convicted -- by present facts -- of incompetence and irresponsibility. I can't think of a single domestic problem that is not traceable directly to those 545 people. When you fully grasp the plain truth that 545 people exercise the power of the federal government, then it must follow that what exists is what they want to exist.

If the tax code is unfair, it's because they want it unfair. If the budget is in the red, it's because they want it in the red. If the Army & Marines are in IRAQ , it's because they want them in IRAQ . If they do not receive social security but are on an elite retirement plan not available to the people, it's because they want it that way.

There are no insoluble government problems. Do not let these 545 people shift the blame to bureaucrats, whom they hire and whose jobs they can abolish; to lobbyists, whose gifts and advice they can reject; to regulators, to whom they give the power to regulate and from whom they can take this power. Above all, do not let them con you into the belief that there exists disembodied mystical forces like "the economy," "inflation," or "politics" that prevent them from doing what they take an oath to do.

Those 545 people, and they alone, are responsible. They, and they alone, have the power. They, and they alone, should be held accountable by the people who are their bosses. Provided the voters have the gumption to manage their own employees. We should vote all of them out of office and clean up their mess!

Charlie Reese is a former columnist of the Orlando Sentinel Newspaper. What you do with this article now that you have read it is up to you, though you have several choices: You can agree to "vote against" everyone that is currently in office, knowing that the process will take several years and ask your representative to vote in TERM LIMITS; You can decide to "run for office" yourself and agree to do the job properly; or, Lastly, you can sit back and do nothing or re-elect the current

For those that don't know about history ... Here is a condensed version:

Humans originally existed as members of small bands of nomadic hunters/gatherers. They lived on deer in the mountains during the summer and would go to the coast and live on fish and lobster in the winter.

The two most important events in all of history were the invention of beer and the invention of the wheel. The wheel was invented to get man to the beer. These were the foundation of modern civilization and together were the catalyst for the splitting of humanity into two distinct subgroups: Liberals, and Conservatives.

Once beer was discovered, it required grain and that was the beginning of agriculture. Neither the glass bottle nor aluminum can were invented yet, so while our early humans were sitting around waiting for them to be invented, they just stayed close to the brewery. That's how villages were formed.

Some men spent their days tracking and killing animals to B-B-Q at night while they were drinking beer. This was the beginning of what is known as the Conservative movement.

Other men who were weaker and less skilled at hunting learned to live off the conservatives by showing up for the nightly B-B-Q's and doing the sewing, fetching, and hair dressing. This was the beginning of the Liberal movement.

Some of these liberal men eventually evolved into women. Those became known as girlie-men. Some noteworthy liberal achievements include the domestication of cats, the invention of group therapy, group hugs, and the concept of Democratic voting to decide how to divide the meat and beer that conservatives provided.

Over the years conservatives came to be symbolized by the largest, most powerful land animal on earth, the elephant. Liberals are symbolized by the jackass.

Modern liberals like imported beer (with lime added), but most prefer white wine or imported bottled water. They eat raw fish but like their beef well done. Sushi, tofu, and French food are standard liberal fare. Another interesting evolutionary side note: most of their women have higher testosterone levels than their men.

Continued on next page

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Continued from previous page

Most social workers, personal injury attorneys, journalists, dreamers in Hollywood and group therapists are liberals. Liberals invented the designated hitter rule because it wasn't fair to make the pitcher also bat.

Conservatives drink domestic beer, mostly Bud or Miller. They eat red meat and still provide for their women. Conservatives are big game hunters, rodeo cowboys, lumberjacks, construction workers, firemen, medical doctors, police officers, engineers, corporate executives, athletes, members of the military, airline pilots and generally anyone who works productively. Conservatives who own companies hire other conservatives who want to work for a living.

Liberals produce little or nothing. They like to govern the producers and decide what to do with the production. Liberals believe Europeans are more enlightened than Americans. That is why most of the liberals remained in Europe when conservatives were coming to America. They crept in after the Wild West was tamed and created a business of trying to get more for nothing.

Here ends today's lesson in world history: It should be noted that a Liberal may have a momentary urge to angrily respond to the above before forwarding it.

A Conservative will simply laugh and be so convinced of the absolute truth of this history that it will be forwarded immediately to other true believers and to more liberals just to tick them off.

And there you have it.

Rules For Kickin' Ass

Rules for the Non-Military

Make sure you read #13

Dear Civilians, 'We know that the current state of affairs in our great nation has many civilians up in arms and excited to join the military. For those of you who can't join, you can still lend a hand. Here are a few of the areas where we would like your assistance:

1. The next time you see any adults talking (or wearing a hat) during the playing of the National Anthem - kick their ass.
2. When you witness, firsthand, someone burning the American Flag in protest - kick their ass.

CANNON BALLS!!! DID YOU KNOW THIS?

It was necessary to keep a good supply of cannon balls near the cannon on old war ships. But how to prevent them from rolling about the deck was a major problem. The best storage method devised was to stack them as a square based pyramid, with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem -- how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others.

Answer:

The solution was a metal plate with 16 round dimples, called, for reasons unknown, a Monkey. But if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls quickly rusted to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make the plates of brass - hence, Brass Monkeys.

Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts more, and more rapidly than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey.

Thus, it was quite literally, cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey. And all this time, you thought that it was just a vulgar expression, didn't you? You must send this fabulous bit of historical knowledge to at least a few uneducated friends.



3. Regardless of the rank they held while they served, pay the highest amount of respect to all veterans. If you see anyone doing otherwise, quietly pull them aside and explain how these veterans fought for the very freedom they bask in every second. Enlighten them on the many sacrifices these veterans made to make this Nation great. Then hold them down while a disabled veteran kicks their ass.

4. If you were never in the military, DO NOT pretend that you were. Wearing battle dress uniforms (BDUs) or Jungle Fatigues, telling others that you used to be 'Special Forces'. Collecting GI Joe memorabilia, might have been okay when you were seven years old, now, it will only make you look stupid and get your ass kicked.

5. Next time you come across an *Air Force* member, do not ask them, 'Do you fly a jet?' Not everyone in the Air Force is a pilot. Such ignorance deserves an ass-kicking (children are exempt). *Continued on next page*

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Continued from page 9

6. If you witness someone calling the *US Coast Guard* 'non-military', inform them of their mistake - and kick their ass.

7. Next time Old Glory (the US flag) prances by during a parade, get on your damn feet and pay homage to her by placing your hand over your heart. Quietly thank the military member or veteran lucky enough to be carrying her - of course, failure to do either of those could earn you a severe ass-kicking.

8. Don't try to discuss politics with a military member or veteran. We are Americans, and we all bleed the same, regardless of our party affiliation. Our Chain of Command is to include our Commander-In-Chief (C in C). The President (for those who didn't know) is our C in C regardless of political party. We have no inside track on what happens inside those big important buildings where all those representatives meet. All we know is that when those civilian representatives screw up the situation, they call upon the military to go straighten it out. If you keep asking us the same stupid questions repeatedly, you will get your ass kicked.

9. 'Your mama wears combat boots' never made sense to me - stop saying it! If she did, she would most likely be a vet and therefore would kick your ass!

10. Bin Laden and the Taliban are not Communists, so stop saying 'Let's go kill those Commies!' And stop asking us where he is! Crystal balls are not standard issue in the military. That reminds me - if you see anyone calling those damn psychic phone numbers, let me know, so I can go kick their ass!

11. 'Flyboy' (*Air Force*), 'Jarhead' (*Marines*), 'Grunt' (*Army*), 'Squid' (*Navy*), 'Puddle Jumpers' (*Coast Guard*), etc., are terms of endearment we use describing each other. Unless you are a service member or vet, you have not earned the right to use them. Using them could get your ass kicked.

12. Last, but not least, whether or not you become a member of the military, support our troops and their families. Every Thanksgiving and religious holiday that you enjoy with family and friends, please remember that there are literally thousands of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen far from home wishing they could be with their families. Thank God for our military and the sacrifices they make every day. Without them, our Country would get it's ass kicked.

AND ONE MORE:

13. If you ever see anyone either standing for or singing the national anthem in Spanish - KICK THEIR ASS. If you got this email and didn't pass it on - guess what - you deserve to get your ass kicked. I sent this to you, because I didn't want to get my ass kicked.

21 Suggestions for Success, by Jackson Brown, Jr

1. Marry the right person. This one decision will determine 90% of your happiness or misery.
2. Work on something you enjoy and that's worthy of your time and talent.
3. Give people more than they expect, and do it cheerfully.
4. Become the most positive and enthusiastic person you know.
5. Be forgiving of yourself and others.
6. Be generous.
7. Have a grateful heart.
8. Persistence, persistence, persistence.
9. Discipline yourself to save money even on the most modest salary.
10. Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated.
11. Commit yourself to constant improvement.
12. Commit yourself to quality.
13. Understand that happiness is not based on possessions, power or prestige, but on relationships with people you love and respect.
14. Be loyal.
15. Be honest.
16. Be a self starter.
17. Be decisive, even if it means you'll sometimes be wrong.
18. Stop blaming others. Take responsibility for every area of your life.
19. Be bold and courageous. When you look back on your life, you'll regret the things you didn't do more than the ones you did.
20. Take good care of those you love.

Leaders vs. Followers

When leaders make a mistake, they say, "I was wrong." When followers make mistakes, they say, "It wasn't my fault." A leader works harder than a follower and has more time; a follower is always "too busy" to do what is necessary. A leader goes through a problem; a follower goes around it and never gets past it. A leader makes and keeps commitments; a follower makes and forgets promises. A leader says, "I'm good, but not as good as I ought to be;" a follower says, "I'm not as bad as a lot of other people." Leaders listen; followers just wait until it's their turn to talk. Leaders respect those who are superior to them and tries to learn something from them; followers resent those who are superior to them and try to find chinks in their armor. Leaders feel responsible for more than their job; followers say, "I only work here." A leader says, "There ought to be a better way to do this;" followers say, "That's the way it's always been done here."

**Fort Hood Texas
11-5-2009
13 fallen heroes
and one Guardian Angel**

mking51_2000@yahoo.com



Capt. John Gaffaney
Arrived at Fort Hood the day before the shooting to prepare for a deployment to Iraq

We Will Not Forget



Capt. Russell Seager
Seager, 51, of Racine, Wis., was a psychiatrist who joined the Army a few years ago because he wanted to help veterans returning to civilian life, said his uncle, Larry Seager of Mauston.

We Will Not Forget



Lt. Col. Juanita Warman
Warman, 55, of Havre De Grace, Md., was a military physician assistant with two daughters and six grandchildren.

We Will Not Forget



Maj. Libardo Eduardo Caraveo
Caraveo, 52, of Woodbridge, Va., arrived in the United States in his teens from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, knowing very little English said his son, also named Eduardo Caraveo.

We Will Not Forget



Michael Grant Cahill
Cahill, a 62-year-old physician assistant, suffered a heart attack two weeks ago and returned to work at the base as a civilian employee after taking just one week off for recovery, said his daughter Keely Vanacker

We Will Not Forget

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Pfc. Aaron Thomas Nemelka
Nemelka, 19, of the Salt Lake City suburb of West Jordan, Utah, chose to join the Army instead of going on a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, his uncle Christopher Nemelka said.

We Will Not Forget



Pfc. Kham Xiong
Xiong, 23, of St. Paul, Minn., was a father of three whose family had a history of military service.

We Will Not Forget



Pfc. Michael Pearson
Pearson, 22, of the Chicago suburb of Bolingbrook, Ill., quit what he figured was a dead-end furniture company job to join the military about a year ago.

We Will Not Forget



Pvt. Francheska Velez
Velez, 21, of Chicago, was pregnant and preparing to return home. A friend of Velez's, Sasha Ramos, described her as a fun-loving person who wrote poetry and loved dancing.

We Will Not Forget



Sgt. Amy Krueger
Krueger, 29, of Kiel, Wis., joined the Army after the 2001 terrorist attacks and had vowed to take on Osama bin Laden, her mother, Jeri Krueger said.

We Will Not Forget



Staff Sgt. Justin M. DeCrow
DeCrow, 32, was helping train soldiers on how to help new veterans with paperwork and had felt safe on the Army post

We Will Not Forget

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Spc. Frederick Greene
Greene, 29, of Mountain City, Tenn., went by "Freddie" and was active at Baker's Gap Baptist Church while he was growing up, said Glenn Arney, the church's former superintendent and a former co-worker of Greene's

We Will Not Forget



Spc. Jason Dean Hunt
Hunt, 22, of Frederick, Okla., went into the military after graduating from Tipton High School in 2005 and had got married just two months ago, his mother, Gale Hunt, said. He had served 3 1/2 years in the Army, including a stint in Iraq

We Will Not Forget

Special Hero and Guardian Angel



Police Officer Kimberly Munley of Killeen Texas
Munley, has been hailed a hero by Fort Hood base commander Lt. Gen. Robert Cone, who credited her Friday, Nov. 6, 2009 with bringing the massacre to an end and saving an untold number of lives when she shot the Fort Hood assailant

We Will Not Forget

November 5th 2009
Another date we
will not forget

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION



Have you heard about the VA MOVE Program?

If you are overweight or obese, you are at increased risk of health conditions including heart disease, diabetes, some cancers, sleep apnea and gallstones. The best way to manage your weight is to keep a balance between what you eat and drink and how active you are.

Hey, you can do it too! Veteran weight loss Success Stories continue! Read about how the Veterans at the Sioux Falls, SD, Medical Center recently celebrated a collective weight loss equivalent to the mass of two Volkswagen Bugs: 4,000 pounds; how an Omaha, Veteran weighed 453 pounds in 2007 then successfully lost 130 pounds to improve his health; and how a Syracuse, NY Veteran not only changed his life with MOVE! but also influenced his whole town through his church!

My personal success story is that I have lost 40 pounds at this writing. I joined the VA MOVE Program 19 February 2009. Check out the VA MOVE website at: <http://www.move.va.gov> for further info.



Mission Statement :

The mission of As a Mom is to support, encourage, inspire, mentor, educate, inform and mobilize principled mothers, grandmothers, daughters, & guardians – Moms – who actively fight for our children's future. We proudly stand up for our nation's Constitution by creating a sisterhood of Mommy Patriots both online and in person dedicated to the 9 Principles & 12 Values of "The 9.12 Project"* To

which we add this: Children are a gift from God and a sacred responsibility.

We will protect our children's future liberties by:

- Working to return our Government to its constitutional roots;
- Boldly speaking out against deficit spending;
- Holding our elected officials accountable for their actions;
- Giving meaning to the Constitution by sharing our country's true history;

We stand as Moms boldly, proudly and dignified. We stand for the future and we will be heard.

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Our European arrogance in alphabetical order

1. The American Cemetery at Aisne-Marne, France. A total of 2289
2. The American Cemetery at Ardennes, Belgium. A total of 5329
3. The American Cemetery at Brittany, France. A total of 4410
4. Brookwood, England American Cemetery. A total of 468
5. Cambridge, England.. 3812
6. Epinal, France American Cemetery. A total of 5525
7. Flanders Field, Belgium. A total of 368
8. Florence, Italy. A total of 4402
9. Henri-Chapelle, Belgium. A total of 7992
10. Lorraine, France. A total of 10,489
11. Luxembourg, Luxembourg. A total of 5076
12. Meuse-Argonne. A total of 14246
13. Netherlands, Netherlands. A total of 8301
14. Normandy, France. A total of 9387
15. Oise-Aisne, France. A total of 6012
16. Rhone, France. A total of 861
17. Sicily, Italy. A total of 7861
18. Somme, France. A total of 1844
19. St. Mihiel, France. A total of 4153
20. Suresnes, France. a total of 1541

Apologize to no one. Remind those who think we are arrogant of our sacrifice and don't confuse arrogance with leadership. The count is 104,366 dead brave Americans.

Do you remember days like this?



Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technicians render safe all types of ordnance, both conventional and unconventional, improvised, chemical, biological, and nuclear to include Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

They perform land and underwater location, identification, render-safe, and recovery (or disposal) of foreign and domestic ordnance.

They conduct demolition of hazardous munitions, pyrotechnics, and retrograde explosives using detonation and burning techniques.

They forward deploy and fully integrate with the various Combatant Commanders, Special Operations Force (SOF), and various warfare units within the Navy, Marine Corps, and Army. They are also called upon to support military and civilian law enforcement agencies.

EOD Technicians' missions take them to all environments, every climate, in every part of the world. They have many assets available to arrive to their mission, from open and closed-circuit scuba and surface-supplied diving rigs, to parachute insertion from fixed-wing and fast-rope, rappel, and Special Purpose Insertion Extraction (SPIE) from rotary aircraft, to small boats and tracked vehicles.

See sidebar article on one of the leading EOD technicians in Iraq.

Photo right shows GySgt Burghardt gesturing to the insurgent that he is still able to get into evacuation vehicle on his own power.



Leading the fight is U S Marine Gunnery Sgt. Michael Burghardt, known as 'Iron Mike' or just 'Gunny'. He is on his third tour in Iraq. He had become a legend in the bomb disposal world after winning the Bronze Star for disabling 64 IEDs and destroying 1,548 pieces of ordnance during his second tour.

Then, on September 19, he got blown up... He had arrived at a chaotic scene after a bomb had killed four US Marines.. He chose not to wear the bulky bomb protection suit. 'You can't react to any sniper fire and you get tunnel-vision,' he explains. So, protected by just a helmet and standard-issue flak jacket, he began what bomb disposal officers term 'the longest walk', stepping gingerly into a 5 foot deep and 8 foot wide crater.

The earth shifted slightly and he saw a Senao base station with a wire leading from it. He cut the wire and used his 7 inch knife to probe the ground. 'I found a piece of red detonating cord between my legs,' he says.. 'That's when I knew I was screwed.' Realizing he had been sucked into a trap, GySgt Burghardt, 35, yelled at everyone to stay back. At that moment, an insurgent, probably watching through binoculars, pressed a button on his mobile phone to detonate the secondary device below the sergeant's feet 'A chill went up the back of my neck and then the bomb exploded,' he recalls. 'As I was in the air I remember thinking, 'I don't believe they got me....' I was just ticked off they were able to do it. Then I was lying on the road, not able to feel anything from the waist down.'

His fellow Marines cut off his trousers to see how badly he was hurt. None could believe his legs were still there 'My dad's a Vietnam vet who's paralyzed from the waist down,' says GySgt Burghardt. 'I was lying there thinking I didn't want to be in a wheelchair next to my dad and for him to see me like that... They started to cut away my pants and I felt a real sharp pain and blood trickling down. Then I wiggled my toes and I thought, 'Good, I'm in business.' As a stretcher was brought over, adrenaline and anger kicked in. 'I decided to walk to the helicopter. I wasn't going to let my team-mates see me being carried away on a stretcher.' He stood and gave the insurgents who had blown him up a one-fingered salute. 'I flipped them one.. It was like, 'OK, I lost that round but I'll be back next week.'

Copies of a photograph depicting his defiance, taken by Jeff Bundy for the Omaha World-Herald, adorn the walls of homes across America and that of Col John Gronski, the brigade commander in Ramadi, who has hailed the image as an exemplar of the warrior spirit.

GySgt Burghardt's injuries - burns and wounds to his legs and buttocks - kept him off duty for nearly a month and could have earned him a ticket home. But, like his father - who was awarded a Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts for being wounded in action in Vietnam - he stayed in Ramadi to engage in the battle against insurgents who are forever coming up with more ingenious ways of killing Americans.

Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) High-Speed Surface Ship

The littoral combat ship (LCS) is the first of a new family of surface ships for the US Navy. The LCS is a fast, highly maneuverable, networked surface combat ship, which is a specialized variant of the family of US future surface combat ships known as DD(X).

Continued on next page

Continued from Page 17

LCS is designed to satisfy the urgent requirement for shallow draft vessels to operate in the littoral (coastal waters) to counter growing potential 'asymmetric' threats of coastal mines, quiet diesel submarines and the potential to carry explosives and terrorists on small, fast, armed boats.



Littoral means close to shore, and that's where these very ships will operate. They're tailor-made for launching helicopters and armored vehicles, sweeping mines and firing all manner of torpedoes, missiles and machine guns.

These ships are also relatively inexpensive. This one's a bargain at \$208 million, and the Navy plans to build 55 of them.

This trimaran is the first of a new fire breathing breed, ready to scoot out of dry dock at a rumored 60 knots.. It's like a speedy and heavily armed aircraft carrier for helicopters.

Pirates Beware!!!

The Grandfather's Table

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table, but the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor." Therefore, the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since grandfather had broken a dish two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched it all in silence. One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four year-old smiled and went back to work. The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days, he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

Children are remarkably perceptive. Their eyes ever observe, their ears ever listen, and their minds ever process the messages

they absorb. If they see us patiently, provide a happy home atmosphere for family members, they will imitate that attitude for the rest of their lives. The wise parent realizes that every day the building blocks are being laid for the child's future. Let us be wise builders and role models.

Always remember: "What goes around, comes around!" However, "Treating others as you would treat yourself or that you would like to be treated will grant you more love than not!"

The Fence

There was a little boy with a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, to hammer a nail in the back fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence.

Then it gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence. Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper.

The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence.

The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one. Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed.

They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

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Al Capone

Many years ago, Al Capone virtually owned Chicago. Capone wasn't famous for anything heroic. He was notorious for enmeshing the windy city in everything from bootlegged booze and prostitution to murder.

Capone had a lawyer nicknamed 'Easy Eddie.' He was Capone's lawyer for a good reason. Eddie was very good! In fact, Eddie's skill at legal maneuvering kept Big Al out of jail for a long time.

To show his appreciation, Capone paid him very well. Not only was the money big, but Eddie got special dividends, as well. For instance, he and his family occupied a fenced-in mansion with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day. The estate was so large that it filled an entire Chicago City block. Eddie lived the high life of the Chicago mob and gave little consideration to the atrocities that went on around him.

Eddie did have one soft spot, however. He had a son that he loved dearly. Eddie saw to it that his young son had clothes, cars, and a good education. Nothing was withheld. Price was no object. And, despite his involvement with organized crime, Eddie even tried to teach him right from wrong. Eddie wanted his son to be a better man than he was. Yet, with all his wealth and influence, there were two things he couldn't give his son; he couldn't pass on a good name or a good example.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision. Easy Eddie wanted to rectify wrongs he had done. He decided he would go to the authorities and tell the truth about Al 'Sacrifice's' Capone, clean up his tarnished name, and offer his son some semblance of integrity. To do this, he would have to testify against The Mob, and he knew that the cost would be great. So, he testified. Within the year, Easy Eddie's life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a lonely Chicago Street. But in his eyes, he had given his son the greatest gift he had to offer, at the greatest price he could ever pay. Police removed from his pockets a rosary, a crucifix, a religious medallion, and a poem clipped from a magazine. The poem read: 'The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour. Now is the only time you own. Live, love, toil with a will. Place no faith in time. For the clock may soon be still.'

The Little Fireman

In Calgary, Alberta a 26-year-old mother stared down at her 6 year old son, who was dying of terminal leukemia. Although her heart was filled with sadness, she also had a strong feeling of determination. Like any parent, she wanted her son to grow up & fulfill all his dreams. Now that was no longer possible.

The leukemia would see to that. But she still wanted her son's dream to come true. She took her son's hand and asked, 'Billy, did you ever think about what you wanted to be once you grew up? Did you ever dream and wish what you would do with your life?' Mommy, 'I always wanted to be a fireman when I grew up.'

Mom smiled back and said, 'Let's see if we can make your wish come true.'

Later that day she went to her local fire Department in Calgary, where she met Fireman Bob, who had a heart as big as Alberta. She explained her son's final wish and asked if it might be possible to give her 6 year-old son a ride around the block on a fire engine. Fireman Bob said, 'Look, we can do better than that. If you'll have your son ready at seven a.m. Wednesday morning, we'll make him an honorary Fireman for the whole day. He can come down to the fire station, eat with us, go out on all the fire calls, the whole nine yards!'

And if you'll give us his sizes, we'll get a real fire uniform for him, with a real fire hat - not a toy - one-with the emblem of the Calgary Fire Department on it, and a yellow slicker like we wear and rubber boots.'

'They're all manufactured right here in Calgary, so we can get them fast.' Three days later Fireman Bob picked up Billy, dressed him in his uniform and escorted him from his hospital bed to the waiting hook and ladder truck. Billy got to sit on the back of the truck and help steer it back to the fire station. He was in heaven. There were three fire calls in Calgary that day and Billy got to go out on all three calls. He rode in the different fire engines, the Paramedic's van, and even the fire chief's car. He was also videotaped for the local news program. Having his dream come true, with all the love and attention that was lavished upon him, so deeply touched Billy, that he lived three months longer than any doctor thought possible. One night all of his vital signs began to drop dramatically and the head nurse, who believed in the hospice concept - that no one should die alone, began to call the family members to the hospital.

Then she remembered the day Billy had spent as a Fireman, so she called the Fire Chief and asked if it would be possible to send a fireman in uniform to the hospital to be with Billy as he made his transition. The chief replied, 'We can do better than that. We'll be there in five minutes.. Will you please do me a favor? When you hear the sirens screaming and see the lights flashing, will you announce over the PA system that there is not a fire?'

'It's the department coming to see one of its finest members one more time. And will you open the window to his room?'

About five minutes later a hook and ladder truck arrived at the hospital and extended its ladder up to Billy's third floor open window-----
16 fire-fighters climbed up the ladder into Billy's room

With his mother's permission, they hugged him and held him and told him how much they LOVED him. With his dying breath, Billy looked up at the fire chief and said, 'Chief, am I really a fireman now?'

'Billy, you are, and The Head Chief, Jesus, is holding your hand,' the chief said. With those words, Billy smiled and said, 'I know, he's been holding my hand all day, and the angels have been Singing..' He closed his eyes one last time.

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

The Best Maxine I've ever seen!



Minorities

We need to show more sympathy for these people:

- * They travel miles in the heat.
- * They risk their lives crossing a border.
- * They don't get paid enough wages.
- * They do jobs that others won't do or are afraid to do.
- * They live in crowded conditions among a people who speak a different language.
- * They rarely see their families, and they face adversity all day ~ every day.

I'm not talking about illegal Mexicans ~
I'm talking about our troops!

Contributed by Earl Weaver aka Navy Salvage Diver

Amendment to Navy Awards

<p>Shows Up Three Times Ribbon Shows up for work, does the absolute minimum required, and goes home</p>	<p>D M and S in the Navy Ribbon Device denotes number of convictions</p>	<p>Missed Every Deployment Ribbon Device denotes number of deployments missed due to "circumstances"</p>	<p>Never PCS'ed Out of Same Location During Entire Career Ribbon for 20 years of arduous "homestead" service</p>
<p>Everybody Went to the Middle East Except Me Ribbon Numerical denotes number of years spent (instead of Caribbean "training" evolutions)</p>	<p>Got Divorced Again Ribbon \$ device for each divorce</p>	<p>Never Served on a Ship Before Ribbon \$ Cable device added for each additional sea tour w/assailed out of</p>	<p>I'm Not Moving! Ribbon House device denotes each successful threat to not "re-up" if PCS'ed</p>
<p>Head Up the Captain's Ass Ribbon Skull device denotes each additional surgical extraction</p>	<p>Got My Last Boss Promoted Ribbon Numerical denotes number of superiors promoted by your hard work who have already forgotten your name.</p>	<p>Drinking Buddy's Commendation Ribbon Device denotes consecutive awards</p>	<p>Always Underway Ribbon Device denotes consecutive back-to-back deployments, exercises, inspections, whatever...</p>
<p>Close Friend of the Detailer Ribbon Palm tree device for each really cushy "offshore"</p>	<p>Daddy is an Admiral Ribbon Star devices denote "daddy's" "star rank"</p>	<p>My Wife's Uncle's Roommate's Brother-in-Law's Son Served in WWII Ribbon Somebody Who Served in WWII</p>	<p>Third Class Petty Officer for Life Ribbon Device worn to denote extra privilege and pay incentives ignored or bungled</p>

Political Humor

2012 Candidate For President



HAVE DECIDED TO BECOME A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE. HERE IS MY PLATFORM:

I

- (1) 'Press 1 for English' is immediately banned. English is the official language; speak it or wait at the border until you can.
- (2) We will immediately go into a two year isolationist posture to straighten out the country's attitude. NO imports, no exports. We will use the 'Wal-Mart' 's policy, 'If we ain't got it, you don't need it.'
- (3) When imports are allowed, there will be a 100% import tax on it.
- (4) All retired military personnel will be required to man one of our many observation towers on the southern border (six month tour). They will be under strict orders not to fire on SOUTHBOUND aliens.
- (5) Social security will immediately return to its original state. If you didn't put nuttin in, you ain't gettin nuttin out. The president nor any other politician will be able to touch it.
- (6) Welfare - Checks will be handed out on Fridays at the end of the 40 hour school week and the successful completion of urinalysis and a passing grade.
- (7) Professional Athletes--Steroids. The FIRST time you check positive you're banned for life.
- (8) Crime - We will adopt the Turkish method, the first time you steal, you lose your right hand. There is no more life sentences. If convicted of murder, you will be put to death by the same method you chose for your victim; gun, knife, strangulation, etc. If you are convicted of rape well, you get the picture!
- (9) One export will be allowed, Wheat. The world needs to eat. A bushel of wheat will be the exact price of a barrel of oil.
- (10) All foreign aid using American taxpayer money will immediately cease, and the saved money will pay off the national debt and ultimately lower taxes. When disasters occur around the world, we'll ask the American people if they want to donate to a disaster fund, and each citizen can make the decision whether it's a worthy cause.

(11) The Pledge of Allegiance will be said every day at school and every day in Congress.

(12) The National Anthem will be played at all appropriate ceremonies, sporting events, outings, etc.

Sorry if I stepped on anyone's toes GOD BLESS AMERICA .

Bill Cosby

Symptoms not to ignore

Take note of these warning signs and know when you need to seek medical care. [By Mayo Clinic staff](#)

You already know that obvious symptoms, such as chest pain and severe abdominal pain, require immediate medical attention. But the not-so-obvious symptoms may leave you wondering whether you need to seek care. Here's a list of symptoms that merit at least a call to your doctor. While some of them are more urgent than others, none should be ignored.

1. Unexplained weight loss

Losing weight when you're not trying to may sound good, but in reality it can signal a health problem. If you've lost up to 10 percent of your weight during the past six months — for instance, 15 pounds (7 kilograms) if you weigh 150 pounds (68 kilograms) — see your doctor. An unexplained drop in weight could be caused by a number of conditions, such as an overactive thyroid (hyperthyroidism), depression, liver disease, cancer or other noncancerous disorders, or disorders that interfere with how your body absorbs nutrients (malabsorption disorders).

2. Persistent or high fever

Fever isn't an illness, but it is often a sign of one. Most of the time, a fever means your body is fighting a common viral or bacterial infection. However, a persistent low-grade fever — over 102 F (38.9 C) — that lasts for three days or more should be checked by your doctor. Similarly, if you have a high fever — greater than 104 F (40 C) — or if you're otherwise severely ill, see your doctor as soon as possible.

If you have an immune system problem or take drugs that suppress your immune system, fever may not be a reliable warning sign. Ask your primary doctor or oncologist what would signal a need for an evaluation.

Persistent fever can signal hidden infections, which could be anything from a urinary tract infection to tuberculosis. At other times, malignant conditions — such as lymphomas — cause prolonged or persistent fevers, as can some medications.

3. Shortness of breath

Feeling short of breath — more than that caused by a stuffy nose or exercise — could signal an underlying health problem. If you're unable to get your breath or you're gasping for air or wheezing, seek emergency medical care. Feeling breathless when lying down, with or without exertion, also is a symptom that needs to be medically evaluated without delay.

Causes for breathlessness may include chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic bronchitis, asthma, pneumonia, a blood clot in the lung (pulmonary embolism), as well as other heart and lung problems. Difficulty breathing can also occur with panic attacks, which are episodes of intense anxiety that cause physical symptoms.

Dangerous Anaphylaxis Waiting Game 2 in 5 Wait to Seek Medical Help During a Potentially Life-Threatening Allergic Response

By [Jennifer Warner](#) WebMD Health News
Reviewed by [Louise Chang, MD](#)

Nov. 9, 2009 - More than 40% of people suffering a potentially life-threatening episode of [anaphylaxis](#) wait before seeking medical attention, according to a new study.

Researchers say it's a dangerous waiting game, and more education is needed to urge people with severe [allergies](#) to seek first aid and immediate medical help during anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic response that affects the whole body. It causes swelling that can lead to a blocked airway, [hives](#), lowered [blood pressure](#), fast [heart rate](#), and wheezing. It is considered a medical emergency because if not immediately treated, a person can go into shock and die.

Anaphylaxis Symptoms Misunderstood

In the study, presented this week at the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Annual Meeting in Miami, researchers surveyed 58 people who were treated in an emergency department for anaphylaxis.

Overall, the average time between the start of anaphylaxis symptoms and seeking medical attention was 20 minutes, but 43% reported a significant delay in seeking medical attention. Of those who reported a delay, most said the delay was because they thought their symptoms would subside. About half used [medications](#) to treat their anaphylaxis symptoms before seeking medical help, but less than a third with a prescription for a self-injectable [epinephrine](#) shot used one. Epinephrine is the only rapidly effective treatment for anaphylaxis.

4. Unexplained changes in bowel habits

People often wonder what "normal" means in terms of bowel movements. It varies widely, but anywhere from three times a day to three times a week is considered normal. Know what is typical for you. Call your doctor if you notice unusual or unexplained changes such as:

- Bloody stools
- Diarrhea lasting a week
- Constipation that lasts for more than three weeks
- Unexplained urges to have a bowel movement
- Black or tarry-colored stools . Changes in bowel habits may signal a bacterial infection — such as campylobacter or salmonella — or a viral infection or parasitic infestation. Among other possible causes are inflammatory bowel disease and colon cancer.

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

This may save your life

Why keep aspirin by your bedside? **Bayer** is making crystal aspirin to dissolve under the tongue. They work much faster than the tablets.

About Heart Attacks

There are other symptoms of an heart attack besides the pain on the left arm. One must also be aware of an intense pain on the chin, as well as nausea and lots of sweating, however these symptoms may also occur less frequently.

Note: There may be NO pain in the chest during a heart attack.

The majority of people (about 60%) who had a heart attack during their sleep, did not wake up. However, if it occurs, the chest pain may wake you up from your deep sleep. If that happens, immediately dissolve two aspirins in your mouth and swallow them with a bit of water. Afterwards:

- phone 911; - say "heart attack!"
- say that you have taken 2 aspirins..
- take a seat on a chair or sofa near the front door, and wait for their arrival and...

Signs of Risky Driving Behavior

Looking out for Signs of Risky Behavior

You can ride along with a driver and look for signs of risky behind-the-wheel behavior. Here are some things to look for:

Does the driver neglect to buckle up? Going unbelted might be a bad habit -- or it may indicate a poor fit or trouble fastening a belt.

Does the driver have difficulty working the pedals? A driver who lifts his or her leg to move from the accelerator to the brake, rather than keeping a heel on the floor and pressing with the toes, may be signaling waning strength.

Does the driver have difficulty merging on freeways or turning onto busy streets? Vision problems may impair his or her ability to judge the speed and distance of approaching traffic.

When merging or changing lanes, does the driver rely only on the mirrors, rather than turning fully to check the blind spots over his or her shoulder? Does the driver turn around completely when backing up? Failing to do so may be a bad habit -- or may indicate the onset of stiffness in the neck and back.

Does the driver have trouble seeing other vehicles, cyclists, or pedestrians, especially at night? Deteriorating night vision or sensitivity to glare may be the cause.

Does the driver position the car improperly for turns (especially left turns), or attempt turns from the wrong lane?

Do other drivers honk or pass frequently, even when the traffic stream is moving relatively slowly? This may indicate difficulty keeping pace with fast-changing conditions.

Does the driver tend to park far from his or her destination? A problem judging distances or making tight maneuvers may underlie the fear of closer parking spots.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS

Ten Steps to Better Health Care Reform

I. Establish Equality Under the Law

1. Every Medicare enrollee treated the same
2. Every Medicaid enrollee treated the same
3. Every taxpayer treated the same

II. Repeal Individual and Employer Mandates

1. Replace with a fair and efficient system of economic incentives
2. All insurance receives the same subsidy — regardless of where it is purchased
3. Every individual receives the same subsidy — regardless of how insurance is obtained

III. Give Seniors Some of the Same Opportunities Young People Have

1. Give all seniors access to Medicare Advantage plans
2. Make it easier for seniors to remain in their previous employer's plan
3. Give seniors access to Health Savings Accounts
4. Allow Medicare providers to implement cost-reducing, quality-improving changes

IV. Allow Health Insurance to be Sold Across State Lines

V. Encourage Personal and Portable Insurance

VI. Allow Private Insurance Alternatives to Medicaid and S-CHIP

VII. Allow Special Health Savings Accounts for the Chronically Ill

VIII. Allow Health Insurance Plans to Specialize in Solving the Problems of the Chronically Ill

IX. Allow Employers and Their Employees to Prefund Post-Retirement Health Care

X. Enact Sensible Malpractice Reform

Dallas Headquarters: 12770 Coit Road, Suite 800, Dallas, TX 75251
Washington Office: 601 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 900, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20004

www.ncpa.org

Does the driver get lost or disoriented easily, even in familiar places?

Do you find yourself giving directions or prompting the driver frequently?

Has the driver been issued two or more traffic tickets or warnings in the past two years? Tickets can predict greatest risk for collision.

Has the driver been involved in two or more collisions or "near-misses" in the past two years? Rear-enders, parking lot fender-benders, and side collisions while turning across traffic rank as the most common mishaps for drivers with diminishing skills, depth perception, or reaction time.

Does the driver seem to ignore or "miss" stop signs and other traffic signals? Perhaps he or she is inattentive or cannot spot the signs in a crowded, constantly moving visual field.

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

"I Was a Sailor Once."

Contributed by Gary Hults

Sharing a glimpse of the life I so dearly loved...

I liked standing on the bridge wing at sunrise with salt spray in my face and clean ocean winds whipping in from the four quarters of the globe I liked the sounds of the Navy - the piercing trill of the boatswains pipe, the syncopated clangor of the ship's bell on the quarterdeck, harsh, and the strong language and laughter of sailors at work.

I liked Navy vessels -- plodding fleet auxiliaries and amphibs, sleek submarines and steady solid aircraft carriers.

I liked the proud names of Navy ships: Midway, Lexington, Saratoga, Coral Sea, Antietam, Valley Forge -- memorials of great battles won and tribulations overcome.

I liked the lean angular names of Navy "tin-cans" and escorts, mementos of heroes who went before us. And the others -- San Jose, San Diego, Los Angeles, St. Paul, Chicago, Oklahoma City, named for our cities.

I liked the tempo of a Navy band. I liked liberty call and the spicy scent of a foreign port. I even liked the never ending paperwork and all hands working parties as my ship filled herself with the multitude of supplies, and to cut ties to the land and carry out her mission anywhere on the globe where there was water to float her.

I liked sailors, officers and enlisted men from all parts of the land, farms of the Midwest, small towns of New England, from the big cities, the mountains and the prairies, from all walks of life. I trusted and depended on them as they trusted and depended on me -- for professional competence, for comradeship, for strength and courage. In a word, they were "shipmates"; then and forever.

I liked the surge of adventure in my heart, when the word was passed: "Now Hear This" "Now station the special sea and anchor detail - all hands to quarters for leaving port," and I liked the infectious thrill of sighting home again, with the waving hands of welcome from family and friends waiting pier side.

The work was hard and dangerous; the going rough at times; the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust Navy laughter, the "all for one and one for all" philosophy of the sea was ever present.

I liked the fierce and dangerous activity on the flight deck of aircraft carriers, earlier named for battles won but sadly now named for politicians. Enterprise, Independence, Boxer, Princeton and oh so many more, some lost in battle, and sadly many scrapped.

I liked the names of the aircraft and helicopters; Skyraider, Intruder, Sea King, Phantom, Skyhawk, Demon, Skywarrior, Corsair, and many more that bring to mind offensive and defensive orders of battle.

I liked the excitement of an alongside replenishment as my ship slid in alongside an oiler and the cry of "Standby to receive shot lines" prefaced the hard work of rigging span wires and fuel hoses echoed across the narrow gap of water between the ships and welcomed the mail and fresh milk, fruit and vegetables that sometimes accompanied the fuel.

I liked the serenity of the sea after a day of hard ship's work, as flying fish flitted across the wave tops and sunset gave way to night.

I liked the feel of the Navy in darkness - the masthead and range lights, the red and green navigation lights and stern light, the pulsating phosphorescence of radar repeaters - they cut through the dusk and joined with the mirror of stars overhead.

I liked drifting off to sleep lulled by the myriad noises large and small that told me that my ship was alive and well, and that my shipmates on watch would keep me safe.

I liked quiet mid-watches with the aroma of strong coffee -- the lifeblood of the Navy permeating everywhere.

I liked hectic watches when the exacting minuet of haze-gray shapes racing at flank speed kept all hands on a razor edge of alertness.

I liked the sudden electricity of "General quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations," followed by the hurried clamor of running feet on ladders and the resounding thump of watertight doors as the ship

transformed herself in a few brief seconds from a peaceful workplace to a weapon of war -- ready for anything.

I liked the sight of space-age equipment manned by youngsters clad in dungarees and sound-powered phones that their grandfathers would still recognize.

I liked the traditions of the Navy and the men and now women who made them.

I liked the proud names of Navy heroes: Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut, John Paul Jones and Burke.

A sailor could find much in the Navy: comrades-in-arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman's trade. An adolescent could find adulthood.

In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea, we will still remember with fondness and respect the ocean in all its moods - the impossible shimmering mirror calm and the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow. Then there will come again a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom and chief's quarters and mess decks.

Gone ashore for good we grow humble about our Navy days, when the seas were a part of us and a new port of call was ever over the horizon.

Remembering this, WE stand taller and say, " I WAS A SAILOR ONCE." Below is photo of Tony Molnar.



USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

HANDBOOK 2010

Health :

1. Drink plenty of water.
2. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.
3. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and eat less food that is manufactured in plants..
4. Live with the 3 E's -- Energy, Enthusiasm and Empathy
5. Make time to pray.
6. Play more games
7. Read more books than you did in 2009 .
8. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day
9. Sleep for 7 hours.
10. Take a 10-30 minutes walk daily. And while you walk, smile.

Personality :

11. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
12. Don't have negative thoughts or things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy in the positive present moment.
13. Don't over do. Keep your limits.
14. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
15. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip.
16. Dream more while you are awake
17. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
18. Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner with His/her mistakes of the past. That will ruin your present happiness.
19. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others.
20. Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present.
21. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
22. Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn. Problems are simply part of the curriculum that appear and fade away like algebra class but the lessons you learn will last a lifetime.
23. Smile and laugh more.
24. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree...

Society :

25. Call your family often.
26. Each day give something good to others.
27. Forgive everyone for everything.
28. Spend time w/ people over the age of 70 & under the age of 6.
29. Try to make at least three people smile each day.
30. What other people think of you is none of your business.
31. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.

Life :

32. Do the right thing!
33. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.

34. GOD heals everything.
35. However good or bad a situation is, it will change..
36. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
37. The best is yet to come..
38. When you awake alive in the morning, thank GOD for it.
39. Your Inner most is always happy. So, be happy.

Highlighting Our Military

There are some people who feel it is necessary to constantly complain and criticize America. And there are some who dislike our military. But, when push comes to shove and you are up to your eyeballs in trouble, who do you want to see....? ... Somebody from the U.S. military that's who... And why is that? Quite simply because first, last, and always they are *Americans* and are the embodiment of some of our finest values.

Today is Thursday (about 0330 in the morning) and I am so proud of our people that I had to get up and write this piece.

Think about this chain of events...

Tuesday – about 6 PM - Haiti was struck by a magnitude 7.0 earthquake. That event literally destroyed most of the country... it is in ruins. Thousands of people are hurt and there are no hospitals to treat them. The dead are piled up in the streets. There are no morgues and no way to get the dead to cemeteries. Thousands are homeless and there is no food to feed them, no shelter... nothing. There are literally no communications except for cell phones and internet via satellite. There is no fuel to run cars, ambulances, or any other emergency vehicles. There is no equipment to dig out those still trapped in collapsed buildings. There is no electricity and no clean water. In other words Haiti is a disaster of the first magnitude.

Yesterday, in less than 24 hours after the earthquake, the USS Carl Vinson (an aircraft carrier) departed Norfolk, VA and headed south at flank speed. She left without provisioning and managed to re-provision "on the fly" passing Mayport Naval base at Jacksonville, FL. This was accomplished with helicopters flying relay missions back and forth to the ship as it passed by Jacksonville. By this afternoon, the Carl Vinson will be in Haiti with her hospitals, helicopters, and personnel. She has the capacity to supply tens of thousands of gallons of clean, fresh water a day and some electricity to Port Au Prince. That means that this

huge ship will have recovered her crew from shore leave, re-provisioned in transit, and traveled some 1,600 – 1,700 miles in about 2 days! Outstanding! Bravo Zulu on steroids!

Meanwhile the Air Force deployed an

EVAL (evaluation) team from Florida (most probably Eglin, AFB) to see what is needed. These people tell their command what is needed to establish an operating environment for aircraft operations and personnel needs. By this afternoon you can expect to see an operating control tower at the civilian airport and C-17's, C-5's, C-130's and a host of other aircraft arriving with emergency personnel and supplies...AROUND THE CLOCK... and mind you, this is taking place in less than 72 hours from the event! Also deploying will be the civilian fire department search and rescue teams from Fairfax, VA and Miami. Standing ready to deploy are elements of the 82nd Airborne and Marine units. These personnel will help to restore order and prevent the country from falling into chaos. And we can't forget that field hospital units of the Army, Air Force, Navy, will be heading to Haiti too. By early next week (or sooner) there will be operating field hospitals in Haiti. And by this weekend a system of distributing food, tents, water, and other supplies will be in place and operating.

It is also my understanding that another aircraft carrier (I don't know which one) is also on the way to Haiti.... And that isn't all... a hospital ship is on the way... and those big planes I mentioned earlier...? They will be carrying sick and injured to hospitals here in the United States and elsewhere as they return to the United States for another load of relief supplies.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there is no other country in the world that can - *or will do* what we do. Some of our people that are assisting in this disaster relief program are just returned from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan! And yet without a complaint, here they are, off to help an impoverished people in their time of need.

So for many of us Vets, it's "hand salute" to our military and for you civilians – please – a tip of the hat to our men and women in the United States Military.... Thank God for these men and women! Nobody ... and I mean NOBODY does it better.

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Please meet Dr Starner Jones from Jackson, Mississippi. His short 2-paragraph letter to the White House accurately puts the blame on a "Culture Crisis" instead of a "Health Care Crisis". Its worth a quick read:



Roger Starner Jones, MD

Editor's note: I verified this on Snopes.com. Dr. Jones wrote a letter to the editor of the Mississippi *Clarion Ledger*; paper published his letter under "Why pay for care of the careless?" You may refer to this article on Snopes by pasting the following url to your web browser: <http://www.snopes.com/politics/soapbox/starner.asp>

Dear Sirs:

"During my last night's shift in the ER, I had the pleasure of evaluating a patient with an expensive shiny gold tooth, multiple elaborate expensive tattoos, a very expensive brand of tennis shoes and a new cellular telephone equipped with her favorite R&B tune for a ringtone.. Glancing over the chart, one could not help noticing her payer status: Medicaid. She smokes more than one costly pack of cigarettes every day and, somehow, still has money to buy beer.

And our Congress expects me to pay for this woman's health care? Our nation's health care crisis is not a shortage of quality hospitals, doctors or nurses. It is a crisis of culture. A culture in which, it is perfectly acceptable to spend money on vices while refusing to take care of one's self or, heaven forbid, purchase health insurance. A culture that thinks "I can do whatever I want to because someone else will always take care of me". Life is really not that hard. Most of us reap what we sow. Don't you agree?

The Wizard of OZ is 70 years old. Today, if Dorothy were to encounter men with no brains, no hearts, and no courage ---She wouldn't be in Oz ...



She'd be in Washington, DC.



In Memoriam

Eddie Paige, Jr, 80, of Estero, FL passed peacefully surrounded by his family on Friday, April 3, 2009. Although Eddie Paige was not a member of our association, he did serve in Bristol during the Korean War. Eddie Paige, Jr, will be honored at our next reunion. My apologies to the entire membership and especially John

McNamara, Jr, who sent me a clip from The Naples Daily News. My only explanation for this oversight is that I misfiled this in the wrong follow up folder.

Roy Brannon sent me the Funeral Service for a departed shipmate and Plank owner, Fred Agnew, Jr.

I have received word that our shipmate **Nathan**

"Duke" Siegler has passed away. He served aboard the Bristol from 1951-52 as a BMG3.

George Breeden 1947-49 CDR, John C Powell 1962-1963 CDR, also, John W Watt, 1947-1950. John was a very active member of the Association having served as Secretary from 2001 to 2003 and then as President for 2004 and 2005.

Message received by Doug Lipert

From: CSDI485@aol.com

To: drlipert@comcast.net

Sent: Friday, January 1, 2010 1:01:02 PM

GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern

Subject: USS bristol concern

Mr Lipert

My dad served on the USS Brsitol. In the past I had corresponded via email with some of his shipmates. It had been a few years since I had left a post on the association site. Today I got an email from someone saying they knew my dad and had information for me. I responded back and forth a few emails but have the feeling it is a scam. (not legitimate) He will not give me his name , nor share any information and says it must remain confidential "until we are done". I told him thanks -- but I was not interested but thought I would share this situation with you as president of the Association.

It is very disturbing to me as a daughter of a veteran, and a wife of a veteran that someone may be falsely representing your association. Thank you,

I am very disturbed by this and would usually would sign my name but do not feel comfortable now.

This message was not signed by originator.

Based on the e mail to Doug, Tony Molnar, the Association Treasurer followed up and the final communication was:

Dear XXXX:

Your Dad and Mom attended the reunion in 2007 and he is still a member of the Association. Hope they are doing OK as I know there were some serious health problems the last time I spoke to your Mom. Please give them my regards.

I have looked at all of the e mails you forwarded to me and I think your assumption is correct that the person is running a scam. I don't think you will hear from him any more because you mentioned to him that your Dad was with you when you were e mailing him. I suspect that he tries this with people whose relatives are deceased and he gets them excited about getting info that they would not have been able to find.

If anything else develops please let me know.

Best wishes for a very Happy New Year to you and your parents.

USS BRISTOL DD 857 VETERANS ASSOCIATION



The only thing evil needs to triumph, is that good men to nothing.

Ed Lynch took the photos above while attending a “Tea Party” in Trenton, NJ, on April 15, 2009. The weather was cold and damp. There were periods of rain during the demonstration. Surprisingly, there were many young people who believe that our country was founded on a government by the people, for the people, and, of the people.

Ed attended two additional “Tea Parties” in Washington, DC. Ed never protested anything before in his entire life. Ed is now 65. While in DC in Oct 2009, Ed met a group of women, one of whom had a 13 month old child with her, called “As a Mom”. The thought that these women, with their young children, showed up in DC to voice their disapproval of the way their elected representatives have performed was stimulating.

When the people fear the government, there is tyranny.

When the government fears the people, there is freedom.

Apparently, there are many politicians who have forgotten that the reason they have a job is because the people have elected them to office. One US Senator had been overheard stating that “... I just hate it when the public use our elevators.” The senator was speaking about the elevators in the US Capitol. The visitors he was talking about are US citizens. You cannot visit the US Capitol unless you are a citizen. Don’t forget to make arrangements ahead of time with your representative or senator.

Prayer for the USA

During WWII Winston Churchill requested his countrymen to join in prayer at a given time for the protection of England and the allied troops.

There is a move spreading in America asking that we all stop whatever we are doing at 9:00 P.M. EST to pray just one minute for the

safety of our country, the USA, and the protection of our troops. Remember to adjust the time if you are not in the eastern time zone. If you like, you may use the prayer below:

Lord God, we ask in all humility the You bless this country, as unworthy as we are. Protect it from every evil. Protect it from the enemy. Lord, protect it that it may seek to accomplish Your will. We ask Lord, with pleading hearts that You look kindly upon us in our unworthiness. Give us a renewal of devotion to You, to Your law and to Your Commandments. May we once more be considered One Nation Under God, let us continue to say In God We Trust. Please give our elected officials and the members of the Supreme Court the wisdom they need in these trying times. Lord God, we also pray for the protection of our troops, as they give of themselves while protecting us. Please Lord, allow future generations of Americans to line in the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave. Lord God please guide us and protect us from every evil and every harm. Amen.

The Few, The Proud, The Marines

Two Radical Arab Terrorists boarded a flight out of London .. One took a window seat and the other sat next to him in the middle seat...Just before takeoff, a U.S. Marine sat down in the aisle seat. After takeoff, the Marine kicked his shoes off, wiggled his toes and was settling in when the Arab in the window seat said, 'I need to get up and get a

coke.' 'Don't get up,' said the Marine, 'I'm in the aisle seat, 'I'll get it for you.' As soon as he left, one of the Arabs picked up the Marine's shoe and spat in it. When the Marine returned with the coke, the other Arab said, 'That looks good, I'd really like one, too.' Again, the Marine obligingly went to fetch it. While he was gone the other Arab picked up the Marines other shoe and spat in it. When

the Marine returned, they all sat back and enjoyed the flight.

As the plane was landing, the Marine slipped his feet into his shoes and knew immediately what had happened. He leaned over and asked his Arab neighbors... 'Why does it have to be this way?' 'How long must this go on? This fighting between our nations? This hatred? This animosity? This spitting in shoes and pissing in cokes?'