Chief Whitehead, QMC, on the FRANK KNOX in 1966-1968 was rumored to refer to Quartermasters as “choirboys”, squared away both on and off the ship. Steady and precise they marked the charts, wound the chronometers and assisted in celestial navigation. I expected my interview with QM-2 Don Critz and SN Don Landers to be records and a little inside information, nothing more. I had no idea. The pair of Dons” became friends aboard FRANK KNOX in 1961-62. The pair met a couple of young ladies from Los Angeles on evening. To maintain contact the pair traveled North to LA every chance they got to use days off. – by hitch-hiking. Their method was to walk to the grassy center area separating the North bound and South bound lanes of the US 5 freeway to LA. They were highly successful in catching a ride to LA, UNTIL, one day they were spotted by the CA Highway Patrol. The patrolman gave each of them a ticket. Today hitch hiking is legal in California IF, IF you don’t stand in a roadway to solicit. Violate that code and the fine is $200 plus court fees. For a Seaman and Second Class this is a pricy ticket today and even more so in 1961. Come to San Diego and swap stories with the “Dons”. They will be there!