



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

# KNOX KNEWS

Received word on October 23 Capt. WILTON L. ATKINSON (RET) Passed away June 1, 2013 2 weeks before his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. Capt. Atkinson served aboard the Knox July 1946 – March 1950.

WELCOME ABOARD!

New member GENE BUTLER IC3, 9/56 – 7/58, 8093 NW CR 2080, BARRY, TX 75102, wife Ellander, home phone 903-695-2780  
Drop him a line and make them feel at home.

We have received additional copies of the novel "Murder On *Pratas Reef*" by Rick Ainsworth. It is once again in our Ships Store and can be ordered along with all other items in the Store.

"MURDER ON PRATAS REEF"	\$15
BASEBALL CAP Black/Gold with insignia	\$18
FRANK KNOX COIN	\$10
FRANK KNOX ARLEIGH BURKE COIN	\$10
USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY PATCH 2 for	\$ 5
ROUGH RIDER PATCH	\$ 5
SHIELD & ANCHOR PATCH	\$ 5
SHIP PHOTO 8 X 10 (Black/White)	\$ 5
SHIP PHOTO 8 X 10 (Colorized '52)	\$ 5
SHIP SUNK BY GREEK NAVY (Color)	\$ 5
COLOR PHOTO W/ SHIP PATCH	\$ 5

LICENSE PLATE FRAME: Heavy Cast Metal with USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY (Top & Bottom)	\$18
<i>Now available</i> <i>NEW</i>	
<i>FRANK KNOX COIN</i>	<i>\$10</i>
“      “      “ <i>Arleigh Burke Award</i>	<i>\$10</i>
NAME BADGE (USS FRANK KNOX DDR-742 Name/Rate/Rank Dates Aboard)	\$10
Wife Name Hometown/State	\$10

All items sent 1<sup>st</sup> Class US Mail

Make check payable to ORV KRIEG. Mark Memo Line USS FRANK KNOX SHIP STORE

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The next REUNION  
will be at the BIG EASY.**

**New Orleans, LA. The dates are September 17 – 20, 2014.**

**The hotel and other happenings are still being negotiated and that  
information will be forthcoming as soon as details are worked out.**

**REMEMBER,** you must be a paid up association member to attend a  
reunion, so be sure to send in your dues today. **DON'T BE LEFT OUT.**

New Orleans promises to be a fantastic trip. Make your plans now to see  
old shipmates and friends and you'll be sure to re-acquaint with many  
old time pals renew friendships.

**Be sure to checkout the FRANK KNOX website. Go to:**  
[www.ussfrankknox.org](http://www.ussfrankknox.org)

## A SAILORS POEM

Sent to me by Ken Bullock

Come gather round me lads and  
I'll tell you a thing or two  
About the way we ran the Navy  
in nineteen fifty two

When wooden ships and men of iron  
were barely out of sight;  
I'm going to give you some facts  
just to set the record right.

We wore the ole bell-bottoms,  
with a flat hat on our head;  
Always hit the rack at night and  
never "went to bed".

Our uniforms were worn ashore  
and we were mighty proud;  
Never thought of wearing civvies,  
in fact they were not allowed.

What happened to the Kiwi brush,  
and the old salt-water bath;  
Holy stoning decks at night cause  
you stirred old Bosn's wrath!

We always had our gedunk stand  
and lots of pogeiy bait;  
And it always took a hitch or two  
just to make a rate.

In your sea bag all your skivvies,  
were neatly stopped and rolled;  
And the blankets on your sack  
had better have a three-inch fold.

Your little ditty bag, it is hard to believe  
just how much it held;  
You wouldn't go ashore with pants  
that hadn't been spiked and belled.

We had scullery maids and succotash  
and good old SOS;  
And when you felt like topping off,

you headed for the mess.

Oh we had our belly robbers  
but there weren't too many gripes;  
For the deck apes were never hungry  
and there were no starving snipes.

Now you never hear of Davy Jones,  
Shellbacks or Polliwogs;  
And you never splice the mainbrace  
to receive your daily grog.

Now you never have to dog a watch  
or stand the main event;  
You even tie your line today,  
back in my time they were bent.

We were all two -fisted drinkers  
and no one thought you sinned;  
if you staggered back aboard your ship  
three sheets to the wind.

And with just a couple of hour of sleep  
you regained your usual luster;  
Bright eyed and bushy tailed,  
you still made morning muster.

Rocks and shoals have long since gone,  
and now it's UCMJ;  
Then the old man handles every thing  
if you should go astray.

Now they steer the ships with dials,  
and I wouldn't be surprised;  
If they sailed them  
from the beach computerized.

So when my earthly hitch is over,  
and the good Lord picks the best;  
I'll walk right up to HIM and say,  
Sir, I have but one request.

Let me sail the seas of Heaven  
in a coat of Navy blue;  
Like I did so long ago on earth  
way back in nineteen-fifty two

*Nancy and I wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a Blessed New Year. ~ Orv*

**W**hat in the world do leaping lords,  
French hens, swimming swans, and  
especially the partridge who won't come  
out of the pear tree have to do with  
Christmas?

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics  
in England were not permitted to  
practice their faith openly. Some one  
during the era wrote this carol as a  
catechism song for young Catholics. It has  
two levels of meaning---the surface  
meaning plus a hidden meaning known  
only to members of their church. Each  
element in the carol has a code word for a  
religious reality which children could  
remember.

The partridge in the pear tree was Jesus  
Christ.

Two turtle doves were the Old and New  
Testaments,

Three French hens stood for faith, hope  
and charity.

The four calling birds were the gospels of  
Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

The five golden rings recalled the Torah  
or Law, the first five books of the Old  
Testament.

The six geese a-laying stood for the six  
days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the  
sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit—  
Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation,  
Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.

Eight maids a-milking were the eight  
beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of  
the Holy Spirit—Love, Joy, Peace,  
Patience, Kindness, Goodness,  
Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control.

The ten lords a-leaping stood for the Ten  
Commandments.

The eleven pipers stood for the eleven  
faithful disciples.

The twelve drummers drumming  
symbolized the twelve points of belief in  
the Apostles Creed.

So there is your history for today.  
This knowledge was shared with me. I  
found it interesting, enlightening and now  
I know how that strange song became a  
Christmas Carol---so pass it on if you  
wish.

*12/10/2019  
Happy Christmas  
to all  
from Orv*