

KEN GILES QM-3 is our newest LIFE MEMBER. Ken was aboard USS FRANK KNOX

from 6/66-4/68. Giles did not begin his Navy life as a Quartermaster; he began as a Boatswains Mate. "It wasn't my decision to be a BMSN", says Giles. Once aboard, Giles was part of the after refueling station work party, the GQ – phone talker relaying lookout information to the bridge officers. During his time as a BMSN he worked for BMCS Parker. Parker lived close the Ken's family and would hitch a ride with Giles while FRANK KNOX was in the Long Beach shipyards.

Giles recalls the powder residue from gunfire missions was thick and smelly. He also recalled working on the after refueling station and seeing cases of Salisbury Steak come on board – cases stamped as made in 1943! Giles recalls "that steak covered in the Navy's gravy was sooo good to a hungry sailor."

Are you wondering how Giles became a Quartermaster? An opening for a QM striker came up. Giles applied and was accepted. As a QM Giles reported to Chief Whitehead. It was a good transfer for Giles. Today Giles is retired and lives with his wife Dianne in Yorba Linda CA. Welcome aboard Ken!