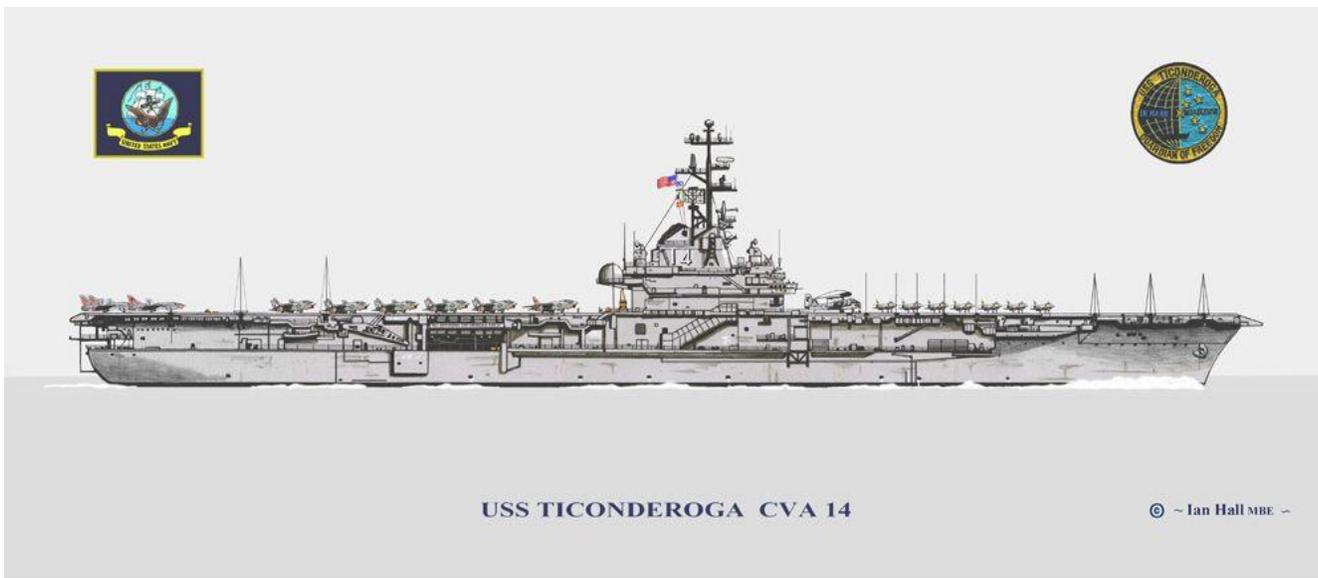


# USS TICONDEROGA Veterans' Association

# NEWS

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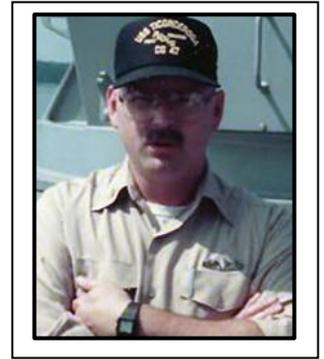


## Happy Holidays, Shipmates!

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT – JON KETTL

GREETINGS SHIPMATES, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY!

Hard to believe that 2025 is almost done but I know I'm looking forward to 2026 and our upcoming reunion in Mobile, Alabama! Hotel reservations can be made now. See pages 17-19 for additional details and the registration form. We will have a charter motor coach to take us to Naval Air Station Pensacola to visit the National Naval Aviation Museum on Friday, May 15. Sign up on the reunion registration form on page 19. If you submit your reunion registration form (and money) early by March 15, you get a \$20 discount on your banquet meal. Also, we are planning a special event for the ladies on Saturday afternoon, May 16. We'll have more information on that in the March 2026 newsletter.



In other news, our reunion committee is in the early planning stage for the 2027 reunion. We're trying to go west but costs and safety remain paramount. Early contenders are San Diego, Tucson, Denver, and Green Bay (it *is* west... of Lake Michigan). Regrettably, Las Vegas has been deemed way too expensive and is consequently off the table.

As a result of much discussion at the 2025 Orlando general membership meeting, the Parliamentarian and I have drafted proposed By-Law changes beginning on page 5. The current By-Laws are posted on our website, <https://ticovets.org>. The proposed changes were approved for presentation to the general membership (you) by the Executive Board of Directors during a Zoom call on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Minutes of that meeting are available upon request. I strongly encourage each of you to review these proposals carefully. If you have questions or concerns, reach out to any member of the leadership team for clarification. If they can't relay your issue, please feel free to contact me directly. At the 2026 reunion in Mobile next May we will be voting to adopt, amend or reject these changes. Suggestions are always welcome; just get them to me by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Remember, members must be present to cast a vote and there is no proxy voting.

Membership: As many of you know, our membership numbers continue to decline for a wide variety of reasons. None of us are getting any younger. I heartily request that each member make a concerted effort to contact three shipmates (who is not already a member) and encourage them to join us. Of course, new members are most welcome to attend the 2026 reunion in Mobile but this is not a requirement for membership. Complete details on how to join are on our website at <https://ticovets.org>.

Finally, there are a number of upcoming vacancies in our leadership team. They include Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor/Web Master. Please consider volunteering!

As 2025 comes to a close, I wish you all peace and joy during the holiday season! Be well to each other, to your families, and to our nation. See you in Mobile!

Warmest regards,

Jonathan "Jon" Kettl  
President, USS TICONDEROGA Veterans' Association  
[President@Ticovets.org](mailto:President@Ticovets.org) or [jonkettl@gmail.com](mailto:jonkettl@gmail.com)  
(540) 316-1331

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER – CHAPLAIN BRETT INMAN



Science affirms that in order to prove something is true it must be measurable and repeatable so that others can also confirm the said “truth”. This, of course, does not mean that something is not true in absolute terms if you cannot find a way to repeat it in a lab or measure it with current methods and instruments. It just means that our present-day level of science will not affirm something as true by our present definitions.

This is important to understand biblically because Scripture unapologetically counts miracles as proof of what is true. One of the clearest themes in the Gospels (first four books in the New Testament) is that Jesus used miracles not just as displays of power or compassion, but to validate His claim to be God. His miracles were signs that pointed to His divine identity, authority, and mission.

In the Old Testament God repeatedly guided, protected and cared for the nation of Israel using miracles (Moses’ validation of having been sent by God- Exodus 4:1-9; Plagues of Egypt- Exodus 7-12; Parting of the Red Sea-Exodus 14:21-31; Mannah from Heaven- Exodus 16; Fire from Heaven (Elijah) 1 Kings 18:38; Sun stands still- Joshua 10 and many other could be cited).

In the New Testament we see miracles used by Jesus and his Apostles to confirm Jesus’ identity and His message (Virgin birth of Jesus- Matthew 1:18-25; Jesus’ resurrection found in all four of the Gospels- Luke 24, Matt 28, John 20, Mark 16; Feeding 5,000-Matthew 14:13-21; Raising of Lazarus- John 11:1-44; Calming the storm- Mark 4:35-41 and many other miracles could be recounted from the Gospels and the Book of Acts).

The miracles Jesus performed are claimed to be evidence of His divine authority. He forgave sins as only God could do according to the religious leaders of the day. He controlled nature by immediately calming the sea and stopping storms just like God in the Old Testament. He was able to walk on water, materializing food to feed thousands, and transport matter instantly. He controlled the spiritual realm by casting out demons and could summon Angels if desired. He commanded life from death by raising the dead and promising eternal life to His followers. He claimed to be the source of life. He identified himself as the great “I AM”.

These were purposeful signs with each one pointing to Jesus’ divine identity. His life and works were the fulfilment of biblical prophecy found in the Old Testament saying the Messiah would do exactly what Jesus did.

These miracles were confirmed by multiple witnesses who claimed to have seen them in the towns and villages where Jesus had performed them. The early explosive church growth is often cited as indirect evidence of the truth and impact of Jesus’ miracles and resurrection. The transformation and willingness of the Apostles to die for their belief in the miracles they claimed to see Jesus perform should certainly be noted.

If God is all powerful, as He claims, then He can certainly perform miracles if He desires. Miracles should not be rejected outright just because they presently do not meet the definition of proof. How many things in our modern life would have seemed impossible and miracle like in the first century (radios, televisions, phones, lasers, MRI machines, spaceships, nuclear propulsion, hypersonic missiles, heart transplants etc.) Where the inventions in my list are repeatable that was not the intent with Jesus’ miracles. They were intended to be unique displays of the power of God to validate who He was.

Warmest regards,

Pastor Brett Inman

## LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY – ERIC YOUNG

Greetings Shipmates and family members!

Hope all of you are doing well. It is that time of year when the leaves are changing colors, holidays are coming, and for those of us in the north, colder weather (yes, I am jealous of my Shipmates that live in warmer states haha). Sometimes the holidays and colder weather can affect our loved ones in different ways. Take the time to check in on your Shipmates/brothers/sisters. Sometimes that one call or text can make a big difference to someone that might be struggling (especially if they are struggling in silence).

As I type this, we are about six months away from our next reunion in Mobile, Alabama! I am really hoping for a good turnout! I know Becky and I are looking forward to it! Also, please continue to reach out to Shipmates that haven't joined the organization yet, especially our cruiser Shipmates! Our organization needs to continue to grow its membership.

From my family to yours, we wish you a healthy and blessed holiday season!

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## LETTER FROM THE TREASURER – BOB SULLIVAN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS Shipmates, Families and Friends!

Once more we get to the most wonderful time of the year... at least here in sunny FL. It's finally lower humidity, cool nights and somewhat cooler days. No snow and none in the forecast LOL. It was great to see all those who attended the 2025 reunion in Orlando and it's hard to believe but here we are almost five months from the next. Mobile looks to be some fun and memorable times. Heidi and I look forward to enjoying the moments with all who attend.

Our financial health continues in a positive direction:

1. The 3rd Qtr FY2025 (Aug-Oct) Treasurer audit was completed by Ernie St. Pierre with team mates John Dupont and Larry Qualter without discrepancies. I thank them for ensuring our Association is fiscally accountable, financially stable and accurate.
2. Our CD continues to grow bit-bit-bit. During the two years we have invested, our return has grown to almost \$1,200.00.
3. In December I will submit our Illinois Not For Profit annual report. In January I will submit our NFP tax form. Also in January, the post office box renews. PO Box will be a little more expensive in 2026 as the USPS has increased their rates.
4. My usual reminder about dues: 2026 membership dues are due by December 31, 2025. Please get them in soonest. Consider a life membership if affordable. Application/renewal form is on our website and in this newsletter on page 15. You can email me the e-form ([treasurer@ticovets.org](mailto:treasurer@ticovets.org)) and Zelle the funds to the same: [treasurer@ticovets.org](mailto:treasurer@ticovets.org).
5. Can't wait to see the reunion applications in my inbox or PO Box. I really would like to see more of you attend! So as soon as the forms are available (the form is in this newsletter on page 19), please get them in. Make me busy; I dare you! LOL

Heidi and I wish each and every one of you and your families enjoy a most wonderful and fun holiday season. See you next year!!

**PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES:** (changes in **bold** text)

Full Text and current By-Laws available at <https://ticovets.org>

ARTICLE I NAME:

The name of this organization shall be the USS TICONDEROGA Veterans' Association.

ARTICLE II MISSION:

The mission of the Association shall be to perpetuate the memory of USS TICONDEROGA (CV/CVA/CVS-14) commissioned May 8, 1944, and USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47) commissioned January 22, 1983, and **include the ship's company, embarked staffs, squadrons and any other detachments in addition to the same of all TICONDEROGA-class AEGIS cruisers for the purpose of** exchanging mementos and memories of tours of duty. The Association shall be a non-profit 501(c)(19) **organization** incorporated in the State of Illinois May 24, 1999, in perpetuity. Such purpose to include:

- (a) planning and arranging annual general membership meetings (**also called reunions**);
- (b) locating former shipmates and urging their participation in this Association;
- (c) contributing mementos, pictures, plaques, artifacts, insignia, papers, letters, or other memorabilia relating in any way to the activities of, or service aboard, the aforementioned ships, together with any available funds for their procurement, shipping, display or maintenance as set forth in ARTICLE XI - ASSOCIATION ASSETS;
- (d) establishing, administering, and accepting voluntary earmarked contributions (as either direct donations or legacy gifts) to support any approved and adopted memorial program of the Association, **with** those contributions not specifically earmarked to be allocated to the General Fund;
- (e) in the event of dissolution of the Association, all Association monies and other assets will be turned over to the museums and memorials of the Association to be used for necessary expenses **and for the preservation of the same, until such funds are exhausted.**

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP:

Section 1. Regular membership is open to all **former crew members of** USS TICONDEROGA (CV/CVA/CVS-14) and USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47), in addition to **those personnel identified in ARTICLE II – MISSION above.** All **Regular and Life** members of the Association may cast one vote in the business of the Association. **There shall be no proxy voting.**

Section 2. **Life** membership is open to all **former crew members of** USS TICONDEROGA (CV/CVA/CVS-14) and USS TICONDEROGA (CG-47), in addition to **those personnel identified in ARTICLE II – MISSION above for those choosing to pay a one-time membership fee in accordance with ARTICLE X – DUES, Section 2 of these By-Laws.** All **Life** members of the Association may cast one vote in the business of the Association. **There shall be no proxy voting.**

Section 3. Honorary membership shall be bestowed upon the surviving spouse of any paid deceased member identified by any **Regular or Life** member of the Association. The President, on recommendation of other members and once validated by the Secretary **and** with the approval of the Executive Board of Directors, may appoint additional Honorary memberships in exceptional cases

where such an honor is deemed warranted. Honorary members shall pay no dues, may not hold any elected office of the Association, and may not cast a vote in the business of the Association.

Section 4. Associate membership shall be **open** to all other military or civilian official passengers who served aboard these ships while underway (such as embarked staff, flight and air group personnel, technicians, news media, space/moonshot recovery personnel, etc.). Associate membership shall also be open to relatives and friends of members who wish to participate in Association activities. An Associate member shall pay annual dues or may elect a Life membership in accordance with ARTICLE X – DUES, Section 2 of these By-Laws. **Associate members shall have all the rights of a Regular or Life member except they may not cast a vote in the business of the Association nor may they hold any elected office.**

#### ARTICLE IV MEETINGS:

Section 1. An annual general membership meeting (**also called a reunion**) of the Association shall be held in locales approved by the membership at the prior annual general membership meeting. A representation of the voting members present **shall constitute** a quorum for the purpose of conducting general membership meetings. If necessary, **ad hoc** meetings may also be facilitated through electronic media to conduct **either an Executive Board of Directors meeting or a Board of Directors meeting as deemed necessary by the President. A quorum (simple majority (51%) of the Board) must be present if any vote is to be cast. The Executive Board of Directors may also schedule** a general membership meeting **as warranted by either the Executive Board of Directors or the Board of Directors. A quorum in a general membership meeting shall be defined as all voting members present.** Members for any of these Association meetings must be notified via electronic media (i.e. e-mail or phone call,) a minimum of **three (3)** days in advance.

Section 2. The President shall call an Executive Board of Directors meeting on the day of or prior to the annual general membership meeting.

Section 3. Both annual and ad hoc meetings of the Association or of the Association's Executive Board of Directors shall be conducted by the President or, in their absence, by the Executive Vice President, or, in their absence, by elected officers in order of their seniority as defined by ARTICLE V - DIRECTORS.

Section 4. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with **these By-Laws and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.** From time to time, specific rules of order noted in these By-Laws or by other recognized "Association rules of conduct" as defined by the Executive Board of Directors will supersede the applicable section of **Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.** The Association members shall transact such other business as may properly come before them.

Section 5. The Secretary shall record the minutes of business conducted at the annual general membership meeting **and any ad hoc meeting. These** minutes shall be distributed to the Association members in the next scheduled newsletter release **and may also be posted to the Association web site immediately.**

Section 6. The Treasurer shall give an Association financial report at the annual general membership meeting, which has previously been audited by the Audit Committee.

Section 7. The President shall submit a budget for membership approval for the ensuing year at the annual general membership meeting. Such a budget **shall be** submitted in writing and approved by the Executive Board of Directors **prior to presentation** to the Association membership present for approval during the annual general membership meeting.

#### ARTICLE V DIRECTORS:

Section 1. The Executive Board of Directors shall be the senior governing body of the Association and shall include all elected officers during their term of office, **including** the Association Chaplain, and, as past presidents of the Association, the most recent five (5) past presidents of the Association. **A simple majority (51%) of the Board** shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at any meeting of the Executive Board of Directors. **All members of the Executive Board of Directors shall have voting rights.**

Should a Director become incapable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities of the role to which they were elected due to death, **ill health**, incapacitation, misconduct, or resignation, the current President shall nominate a replacement to fulfill the remaining term. Such nomination is subject to a **simple** majority approval of the Executive Board of Directors.

Section 2. Prior to the adoption of these By-laws of May 20, 2023, thirteen (13) Directors/Past Presidents along with the elected officers constituted the Executive Board of Directors. As part of the adoption of these By-Laws of May 20, 2023, it was approved to reduce the total number of former Directors/Past Presidents through attrition by one Director/Past President in order of appointment annually until such time as there are not more than five (5) such members. Should any of these Directors/Past Presidents so identified become incapable or unwilling to fulfill this role or responsibilities **as either accepted or determined by the President**, the position would be permanently vacated, and the subsequent Directors/Past President would sunset the **following** year.

Section 3. Upon any member's departure from the Executive Board of Directors, all Association property, documents, records, memorabilia, and electronic files shall be turned over to the current President **without delay**.

Section 4. Any Association matter may be submitted for consideration by a member in good standing to the annual Executive Board of Director's meeting held before and after the annual general membership meeting. The request should be in writing, addressed to the outgoing or newly elected President, as appropriate, and in time to be included in the agenda for the Executive Board of Director's meeting. Should it become necessary between annual Association meetings of the Executive Board of Directors to conduct a vote on any issue that cannot wait until the next scheduled Executive Board of Director's meeting, a written request to the President and/or Executive Vice President for such a vote must be made. The President must authorize the Secretary to notify all board members of **this matter and schedule an** ad hoc meeting via a certified notification media (i.e., e-mail).

#### ARTICLE VI OFFICERS:

Section 1. The following officers shall be nominated and elected **for a one year term** at the annual general membership meeting to be effective at the beginning of the following Calendar/Fiscal year:

President  
Executive Vice President

First (1<sup>st</sup>) Vice President  
Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Vice President

They are to be elected by a **voice vote or acclamation**. **Should the annual general membership meeting be scheduled for an every other year progression for any reason, or if an annual meeting is canceled for any reason, these officers shall automatically serve a two year term.**

Section 2. The following officers shall be nominated and elected **for a three year term** at the annual general membership meeting to be effective at the beginning of the following Calendar/Fiscal year:

Secretary  
Treasurer

They are to be elected by a **voice vote or acclamation**.

Section 3. The Secretary and Treasurer will not be elected in the same year. In those circumstances in which both positions must be filled, the President **may** appoint an interim member to **fulfill** the function for no more than one year. All other officers, **except the Chaplain**, shall have a term of one year **and may be renominated and reelected to current positions or other leadership positions in consecutive or nonsequential years**. **Any member of the Executive Board of Directors may recommend persons for any position. Following the nomination and election for all positions, a voice vote for each respective officer shall be cast during the general membership meeting.**

**Section 4. The Chaplain shall serve indefinitely or until such time as (1) their resignation is accepted by the President for any reason or (2) their conduct warrants dismissal for cause, as articulated in ARTICLE V – DIRECTORS, Section 1, Paragraph 2, as determined by the Executive Board of Directors.**

Section 5. In the event of a vacancy **in the office of Executive Vice President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Chaplain**, the President has the sole authority to appoint a member who volunteers to fulfill the vacancy on an interim basis until the next annual general membership meeting, at which time the volunteer, or any other nominee, **may** be elected to fill the vacancy **in accordance with the terms of Sections 1 and 2 above**.

Section 6. Should the **existing President** become incapable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities of the role to which he was elected due to death, **ill health**, incapacitation, misconduct, resignation, or any other cause, the **current Executive Vice President shall fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the President on an interim basis for the remainder of the term**.

Section 7. All elected officers must be either a Regular or Life member in good standing (i.e., dues paid). **Associate and Honorary members may not hold any elected office in the Association.**

#### ARTICLE VII DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties and responsibilities of the Association's officers shall be as listed below.

Section 1. President:

(a) Shall be the senior officer of the Association;

- (b) Shall **chair** all annual, general, and ad hoc meetings of the Association;
- (c) Shall receive quarterly reports from all other officers as to the activities of **committees or** chairmen under their **purview**;
- (d) Shall ensure quarterly reports from the remaining members of the Executive Board of Directors are reviewed and compiled in an annual report included in the Association newsletter as needed;
- (e) Shall ensure that the annual reports are reviewed at the annual general membership meeting;
- (f) Shall have final authority in the appointment of or termination of committee chairmen as recommended by the Vice President in charge of such committee;
- (g) Shall submit an annual budget for membership approval for the ensuing fiscal year at the annual general membership meeting as identified in ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS, Section 8;
- (h) Shall award Honorary memberships as warranted **and** as described in ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP, Section 3;
- (i) Shall have the authority to approve expenditures exceeding budgeted amounts or for new, non-budgeted purposes only up to an aggregated total of \$1,500.00 per fiscal year. Any authorization for funds beyond this amount must be approved by the Executive Board of Directors.

Section 2. Executive Vice President:

- (a) Shall perform the duties of the President in their absence or incapacity, whether temporary or permanent;
- (b) **With the President,** shall co-chair the annual general membership meeting and be responsible for coordinating the activities of **all active committees as warranted**;
- (c) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and to provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 3. First (1<sup>st</sup>) Vice President:

- (a) Shall chair the Association Newsletter/Website Committee;
- (b) Shall monitor all activities pertaining to the Association website and oversee the activities of the Webmaster;
- (c) Shall be responsible for **an annual review and upkeep/maintenance of** the Association By-Laws;
- (d) **Shall distribute the Association By-Laws via our web site as needed**;

(e) Shall give detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 4. Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Vice President:

**(a) Shall be familiar with the existing By-Laws of the Association;**

**(b) Shall observe and learn the operations of the Association to prepare for possible future leadership responsibilities.**

Section 5. Secretary:

(a) Shall keep minutes of annual general membership meetings and publish **these minutes** in the next newsletter following that meeting;

(b) Shall keep records and files of all Association correspondence;

(c) Shall receive membership applications, dues, and renewal forms from Treasurer for membership roster maintenance;

**(d) Shall keep an up-to-date membership file and distribute the membership roster only to other officers of the Association upon request;**

(e) Shall be custodian of Association property per ARTICLE XI – ASSOCIATION ASSETS;

(f) Shall maintain an updated list of all members of the Executive Board of Directors, including their contact information, for limited publication in the newsletter;

(g) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 6. Treasurer:

(a) Shall manage all Association funds and keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements in the Association's books for the fiscal year;

**(b) Shall receive membership applications and dues (new and renewal) forms from members and will forward same to the President and Secretary for membership roster upkeep and maintenance; deposit funds received; retain copies of all applications and deposit slips.**

(c) Shall receive a quarterly statement of all documented expenses from any Association member who may, in the course of their normal duties in support of the normal business of the Association, present for approval and payment through their supervisory Vice President if applicable. These statements must be submitted directly to the Treasurer within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter. The Treasurer shall determine the validity of each expenditure, consulting with the President or supervisory Vice President as needed, and, if warranted, shall make payment of all approved reimbursements. Reimbursement requests submitted more than 60 days after the end of the quarter shall be disapproved. Exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the President;

(d) Shall inform the President of all requests beyond the scope of the budget. Payment of these expenditures shall be made only if specifically approved by the President;

(e) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President **and the Audit Committee** and provide an annual report at the **annual general membership meeting**;

(f) Shall be responsible for all tax-related **and corporation** filings;

#### Section 7. Chaplain:

(a) Shall report to the Association President;

(b) Shall care for the spiritual, moral, and emotional well being of the Association members and Pastoral care as requested;

(c) Shall write quarterly article for newsletter along spiritual/moral lines;

(d) Shall conduct a religious service at the annual general membership meeting that includes a memorial for members who have passed in the previous years;

(e) Shall respond to death notices as available; and

(f) Shall provide a list of local places of worship to those attending annual general membership meeting as desired.

Section 8. Normally, no officer nor member of the Association shall receive any salary or compensation for either their service or time to the Association. Exceptions shall be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the **President and Executive** Board of Directors.

Section 9. Any member **of the Association** may be removed from **the Association** by the President for conduct not deemed in the best interest of the Association, upon receiving in the affirmation of two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VIII ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

All officers and committee chairmen must hold regular membership status per ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP and be in good standing within the Association. The President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be bonded in an amount not less than \$50,000.00 in total, and the Reunion Coordinator, if one is appointed, shall be bonded in the amount not less than \$25,000.00.

#### ARTICLE IX VOTING:

Voting privileges for member of the Association shall be extended **only** to those Regular and Life members who are in good standing within the organization.

#### ARTICLE X DUES:

Section 1. All dues for membership in the Association shall be reviewed by those officers and members of the Executive Board of Directors present at the annual general membership meeting and adjusted, if necessary, to reflect current and projected operating expenses and financial health of the

organization. An adjustment will require a vote by a simple majority of the total number of officers of Executive Board of Directors and members present at the annual general membership meeting.

Regular Members shall pay the annual dues amount determined by the Executive Board of Directors prior to each calendar year to receive all member benefits as described in these By-Laws, including distribution of the newsletter, for that year. A Regular Member may pay dues in advance for multiple years. Dues paid for a calendar year, after the beginning of that year, shall be effective for the remainder of that year only (i.e., dues will not be amortized for a partial year). A form to accompany payment will be provided in the newsletter **and** on the website. Annual dues run from January 1 to December 31 and currently cost \$20.00.

Section 2. Life Membership shall be available to those eligible members who wish to participate. The dues amount for Life membership shall be determined by age groups and the current effective amounts shall appear on the dues form in the newsletter and on the website. The current amounts are as follows:

29 and under.....	\$1,100.00
30 – 39.....	\$ 900.00
40 – 49 .....	\$ 700.00
50 – 59 .....	\$ 550.00
60 – 69.....	\$ 350.00
70 and over.....	\$ 150.00

Life members shall receive all member benefits, including all future newsletters, for the member’s lifetime or as long as the Association exists.

Section 3. **Regular and Associate** members who do not pay annual dues for one (1) year at the end of any calendar year shall no longer be a member. Any former member may apply as a new member.

**ARTICLE XI ASSOCIATION ASSETS:**

All material donated to or purchased with Association funds, including pictures, display materials, files, artifacts, printed material, electronic media, etc., shall become the sole property of the Association and shall be **held in the custody of the Secretary, either physically or constructively.**

**ARTICLE XII MEMORIALS:**

The Association shall establish and support, within the limit of available funds, such suitable memorials to veterans of the USS TICONDEROGA **Veterans’ Association** as are recommended by the Board of Directors and as approved and adopted by a **simple majority vote of members present at the annual general membership meeting.**

**ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES:**

Section 1. The President shall be a de facto member of and shall have the authority to assign current officers or members thereof to any committee for the purpose of oversight and general guidance, except as otherwise noted below. Members may also be dismissed from their committee assignment at the sole discretion of the President.

Section 2. Committees shall be of three types:

(a) Special purpose committees whose chairmen (who may be past members of the Executive Board of Directors) are appointed by the President. They report directly to the President.

(b) Standing committees whose chairmen are appointed jointly by the President and designated supervisory Vice Presidents but report directly only to their designated supervisory Vice President.

(c) The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of all current members of the Executive Board of Directors.

Section 3. Each appointed committee chairman shall select their own committee members.

Section 4. Special purpose committees and their duties are:

#### BUDGET COMMITTEE:

This committee shall prepare a proposed Association budget for each fiscal year beginning January 1 and ending December 31 and present it to the President who will submit it for approval by the Executive Board of Directors and subsequently to the general membership for approval at each annual membership meeting. Members shall be the Executive Vice President, the 1st Vice President, and the Treasurer.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE:

This committee shall audit the records of the Treasurer. **Members** shall be appointed by the President **and** shall serve a three (3) year term. Any vacancy in this special committee shall be filled by appointment of the President.

Audits shall be conducted:

(a) quarterly and summarized annually;

(b) prior to a change of personnel in the office of Treasurer;

(c) at least 30 days prior to the general membership meeting, with a written report submitted to the President to be reviewed by the Executive Board of Directors; and

(d) the Chairman of this committee shall prepare a written report for the general membership at the annual general membership meeting.

Section 5. Standing Committees and their duties are:

#### NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE COMMITTEE:

Under the supervision of the 1st Vice President, this committee shall publish a newsletter (digital and hard-copy) as needed for communication to the complete membership. The first edition after the annual general membership meeting will contain a list of officers for their current term plus the new

officers for their term commencing January 1. This newsletter shall also include the minutes of the annual general membership meeting and any accepted amendments and/or additions or deletion to the By-Laws as adopted **or proposed** at the annual general membership meeting.

Section 6. Nominating Committee:

Under the supervision of the President, and with the active participation of **the Executive Board of Directors, in addition to** three former Association Presidents, this committee establishes guidelines for the nomination of elected officer positions of the Association. It shall solicit recommendations from all members in good standing and in attendance at the general membership meeting as to both the availability and suitability of those to be nominated.

ARTICLE XIV        AMENDMENTS

**Section 1. The sum of all voting members present represents a quorum for the purpose of conducting a general membership meeting.**

**Section 2. All amendment procedures shall be conducted in accordance with the Illinois General Not For Profit Corporation Act (805 ILCS 105) of 1986 and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, of September, 2020.**

**Section 3. Member-Initiated Amendments: These By-Laws, or any part thereof, may be repealed, amended, altered, or added to by submitting the proposed modification in writing, signed by a member in good standing of this Association no later than 180 days prior to the next annual general business meeting, to any member of the Executive Board of Directors for consideration. Such a proposition shall, if deemed valid by the Executive Board or Directors, be published in the Association newsletter at least 60 days before the annual general membership meeting and brought before the body at that meeting for discussion. Assuming a quorum has been established, adoption of the proposition shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the voting members. All approved and adopted By-Laws amendments shall take effect immediately unless otherwise specified.**

**Section 4. Executive Board of Directors-Initiated Amendments with Member Ratification: The Executive Board of Directors shall have the authority to propose amendments to these By-Laws, or any part thereof, during the Association's annual general membership meeting. Such proposals shall be reviewed and approved during the scheduled Executive Board of Directors meeting in advance of the general membership meeting, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board members present.**

**Following Executive Board approval, the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the general membership present for ratification. Ratification or rejection shall occur at the same annual general membership meeting following a period of discussion. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present shall be required for ratification. Upon ratification, the amendment shall take immediate effect unless otherwise specified. All adopted amendments shall be communicated to the full membership via the Association newsletter within 90 days following the annual general membership meeting.**



Send THIS FORM with your Check payable to:  
 USS TICONDEROGA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION  
 Or pay via Zelle



ROBERT SULLIVAN  
 P.O. BOX 3637, ST AUGUSTINE, FL 32085  
 PLEASE PRINT

THIS IS A: NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHANGE OF ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CHANGE MEMBERSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SHIP: CV/CVA/CVS \_\_\_\_\_ CG- \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_

RATE/RANK (highest while aboard): \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS ABOARD (from/to): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**DOWNLOAD THIS FORM AT TICOVETS.ORG**

MEMBERSHIP TYPE [circle one]: LIFE REGULAR ASSOCIATE

DUES AMOUNT INCLUDED FOR PERIOD:

\_\_\_\_\_(\$20)... Dues for Jan – DEC 2025 \_\_\_\_\_(\$20)... Dues for Jan – DEC 2028

\_\_\_\_\_(\$20)... Dues for Jan – DEC 2026 \_\_\_\_\_(\$20)... Dues for Jan – DEC 2029

\_\_\_\_\_(\$20)... Dues for Jan – DEC 2027 \_\_\_\_\_(\$20)... Dues for Jan – DEC 2030

\_\_\_\_\_ Donation to General Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ LIFE Member Amount (see below)

Age 29 & under – \$1,100  
 Age 30 – 39 – \$900  
 Age 40 – 49 – \$700

Age 59 – 60 – \$550  
 Age 60 – 69 – \$350  
 Age 70 & over – \$150

# 2025/2026 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**President:**

Jonathan "Jon" Kettl  
Fredericksburg, VA  
(540) 316-1331  
Jonkettl@gmail.com  
President@Ticovets.org

**Executive Vice President:**

William "Bill" Spanbauer  
Larsen, WI  
(920) 410-7500  
Ticocg47ht2sw@gmail.com  
ExecVP@Ticovets.org

**1st Vice President:**

Ronald "Ron" Tucker  
Charleston, SC  
(443) 624-3012  
rplimsoll@gmail.com  
1stVP@Ticovets.org

**2nd Vice President:**

Keith Alyea  
Lafayette, IN  
(765) 430-0929  
nikonkeith@gmail.com  
2ndVP@ticovets.org

**Secretary:**

Eric J. Young  
North Canton, OH  
(330) 284-2602  
Secretary@Ticovets.org

**Treasurer:**

Robert "Bob" Sullivan  
St Augustine, FL  
(757) 754-0547  
Treasurer@Ticovets.org

**Chaplain:**

Pastor Brett Inman  
Tucson, AZ  
(520) 909-3998  
Binman4@Cox.net  
Chaplain@Ticovets.org

**Parliamentarian:**

Sean McConnell  
Boiling Springs, PA  
(717) 713-3895  
Sean1465@comcast.net

**Committees:****Audit Committee:**

Ernie St. Pierre  
Derry, NH  
(603) 434-2197  
phgs@comcast.net

**Newsletter Editor & WebMaster:**

K. Leland Parker  
Cookeville, TN  
(931) 252-9077  
Leland.parker@charter.net  
WebAdmin@Ticovets.org

**Directors/Past Presidents:****Director/P.P. 2024:**

Olen "Andy" Anderson  
Foreman, AR  
(903) 701-3198  
Olengene@yahoo.com

**Director/P.P. 2022/3:**

Jim Lutz  
Kearney, NE  
(308) 293-3636  
jim.a.lutz@gmail.com

**Director/P.P. 2021/2:**

Sean McConnell  
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(717) 713-3895  
Sean1465@comcast.net

**Director/P. P.2020/21:**

Larry J Qualter  
Peekskill, NY  
(914) 734-7677  
Lqualter65@gmail.com

**Director/P.P. 2019/20:**

William "Bill" Spanbauer  
Larsen, WI  
(920) 410-7500  
[ticocg47ht2sw@gmail.com](mailto:ticocg47ht2sw@gmail.com)

**PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES, SEND A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, OR MAKE A DONATION, MAIL TO:**

**ROBERT SULLIVAN  
P.O. BOX 3637  
ST AUGUSTINE, FL 32085**

**PAY BY CHECK or CREDIT/DEBIT CARD via ZELLE**

**SEE TICOVETS.ORG FOR ADDITIONAL PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS**



**53rd Reunion Mobile**

**May 14-17, 2026**

**Holiday Inn Downtown/Historic District  
301 Government Street  
Mobile, AL 36602**

ROOM RATE: Single/Double occupancy \$149.00 plus tax (12.5%)  
RESERVATIONS: All room reservations must be made individually.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS *MUST* BE MADE NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2026**

Call the hotel to make your reservation: (251) 694-0100 or use the link below:

[https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/find-hotels/select-roomrate?fromRedirect=true&qSrt=sBR&qErm=false&qSIH=MOBHI&qRms=1&qAdIt=1&qChId=0&qCiD=11&qCiMy=042026&qCoD=17&qCoMy=042026&qGrpCd=TIC&setPMCookies=true&qSHBrC=HI&qDest=301%20Government%20Street,%20Mobile,%20AL,%20US&qpMbw=0&qpMn=1&srb\\_u=1&qRmFltr=](https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/find-hotels/select-roomrate?fromRedirect=true&qSrt=sBR&qErm=false&qSIH=MOBHI&qRms=1&qAdIt=1&qChId=0&qCiD=11&qCiMy=042026&qCoD=17&qCoMy=042026&qGrpCd=TIC&setPMCookies=true&qSHBrC=HI&qDest=301%20Government%20Street,%20Mobile,%20AL,%20US&qpMbw=0&qpMn=1&srb_u=1&qRmFltr=)

Late reservations will be processed based on space availability but may be at a higher rate.

**CHECK-IN TIME IS 3:00pm / CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11:00am**

**Complimentary overnight self-parking  
24 hour access to onsite fitness center  
Free Wi-Fi  
One free breakfast per room**

Distance to Mobile International Airport (BFM) is 5 miles  
Service with American Airlines, Delta, and United

**There is NO airport shuttle service to/from the hotel.**

**USS TICONDEROGA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION**  
**53rd Reunion, Mobile, Alabama**  
**May 14 – 17, 2026**

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Wednesday, May 13**

1:00pm-10:00pm Reunion Registration Open (Magnolia Foyer)  
1:00pm-10:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Magnolia)

**Thursday, May 14**

6:00am-9:30am Free Hot Breakfast  
8:00am-10:00pm Reunion Registration Open (Magnolia Foyer)  
8:00am-10:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Magnolia)  
9:00am-5:00pm TOUR (self-guided): USS ALABAMA Memorial Park

**Friday, May 15**

6:00am-9:30am Free Hot Breakfast  
8:30am-4:00pm TOUR (group): National Naval Aviation Museum, NAS Pensacola, FL  
9:00am-10:00pm Reunion Registration Open (Magnolia Foyer)  
9:00am-10:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Magnolia)

**Saturday, May 16**

7:00am-10:00am Free Hot Breakfast  
9:00am-1:00pm Reunion Registration Open (Magnolia Foyer)  
9:00am-1:00pm Hospitality Room Open (Magnolia)  
9:00am-11:00am Board of Directors Meeting (Bienville A)  
12:30pm-2:30pm Ladies' Event (Magnolia)  
1:00pm-3:00pm General Membership Meeting (Bienville A)  
4:30pm-5:30pm Cocktail Hour & Photographs (2-Section Ballroom)  
5:30pm-5:45pm Group Photographs (2-Section Ballroom)  
5:45pm Table seating  
6:00pm-9:30pm Banquet (2-Section Ballroom)

**Sunday, May 17**

7:00am-10:00am Free Hot Breakfast  
9:00am-10:00am Memorial Service (Bienville A)

**USS TICONDEROGA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION  
53rd REUNION MOBILE, ALABAMA  
MAY 14-17, 2026  
ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM**

**MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED**

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the 53<sup>rd</sup> reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Once submitted, your canceled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a **\$20 fee**. All registration forms and **payments must be received by mail on or before April 24, 2026**. Questions? [President@Ticovets.org](mailto:President@Ticovets.org) or [Treasurer@Ticovets.org](mailto:Treasurer@Ticovets.org)

**PLEASE SEND THIS FORM AND THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE TO:**

ROBERT SULLIVAN

P.O. BOX 3637, ST AUGUSTINE, FL 32085

**Make Check OR Zelle payment to: USS TICONDEROGA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOUR</u>	<u>Price Per</u>	<u># of People</u>	<u>Total</u>
FRIDAY, MAY 15:	Tour – National Naval Aviation Museum [Transportation only; Admission is free]	\$60	_____	\$_____
SATURDAY, MAY 16:	BANQUET – Buffet style: Garden Salad, Chicken Marsala, Beef Brisket, Shrimp Etoufee, Herb Roasted Potatoes, Baked Parmesan Zucchini, Dessert	\$80	_____	\$_____
				Less discount: \$_____

**[Register by March 15, 2025, to get an Early Bird discount of \$20 per person for your banquet meal(s)!]**

**MANDATORY REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON    \$75    \_\_\_\_\_    \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**Total amount payable to USS TICONDEROGA VETERANS' ASSOCIATION: \$\_\_\_\_\_**

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

CV/CVA/CVS CG-\_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION: \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS ONBOARD: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ RANK: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME [if attending]: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITY and/or DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

BIG T Veterans' Association of  
the USS TICONDEROGA  
P.O. Box 3637  
St Augustine, FL 32085

## **CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



**53rd REUNION, MOBILE, AL  
MAY 14-17, 2026**