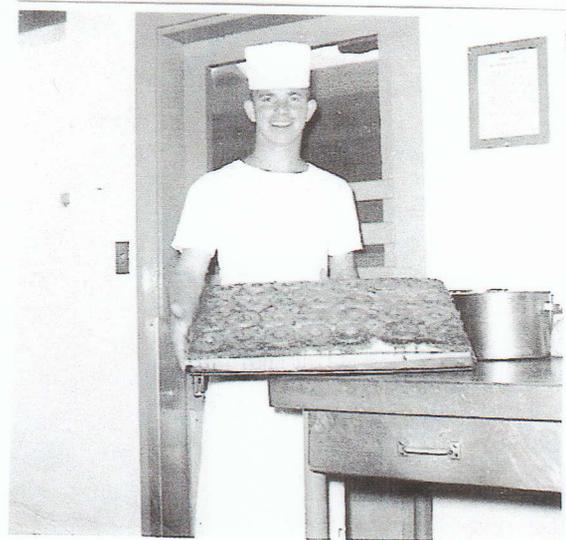




Lee Daley (on Left) with bakers in Hawaii



Lee as we know him " The Baker"

Article from David J. Osinski,
enlisted at Toledo, Ohio, May 1966
June 1966 was approaching. Graduation from High School was at hand. Based on the trend line of my high school academic performance, I knew that going on to college in the Fall meant certain failure. I had no appreciable skills save those of a paper boy, soda jerk at the A&W Root Beer stand, occasional lawn mower, trash picker upper, cafeteria worker and part time clerk at the old Lion Store in Downtown Toledo.

I was dimly aware of Vietnam. Not politically active, or very active in general, I felt that I could at least fulfill my military obligation in the immediate years ahead while I gave thought to what I might do with my life.

My father had served with MARS Task Force in WWII, in China-Burma-India Theater of operations. Other uncles had also served in WWII. One uncle had served in the US Navy aboard a destroyer and saw action in the Philippines. He was Happy to hear I was considering the Navy and I recall him mentioning clean sheets and three square meals a day.

Thinking of my father in the mud and rain of Burma shifted my preference to the Navy. Learning that the Navy

I told my father I was going to enlist in the Navy and asked him to accompany me to the Recruiting Station on Summit St., Downtown Toledo. I was still 17 and needed a parent's signature to enlist. He agreed. I enlisted before I graduated from high school. Note. On every dream sheet I filled out, except the last one, I volunteered for Vietnam. It was only the last one, in 1966, where I did not request assignment to Vietnam. It was only the last one, in 169 where I did not request assignment to Vietnam, and of course that is when I received orders to the USS ASKARI, ARL 30.

P.S. It is good to see that the MRFA convention will be in San Diego this year. If I am in the USA, I will do my best to drive down and attend.

Board Position descriptions:

President: The President will preside over all meetings of the Association, preserves order and decorum, and will perform all duties incident to the office of President. He will give notice of all meetings and conduct the correspondence of the Association. He will provide newsworthy information to the Newsletter Editor for each Newsletter's scheduled distribution.

Vice-President: The Vice-President will render such assistance to the President as he may require and will perform the duties of the President in the absence or disability. He is the primary recruiter for the Association chairman of the Membership Committee.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer will keep the accounts of the Association. The Treasurer's summary will be reported at the biennial meeting or sooner. At least one elected officer will be co-signer of the Association Treasury; however only the Treasurer is required to sign checks for paying the Association bills. If requested, he will provide the President with monthly financial statements and a status of the current membership dues.

Secretary:

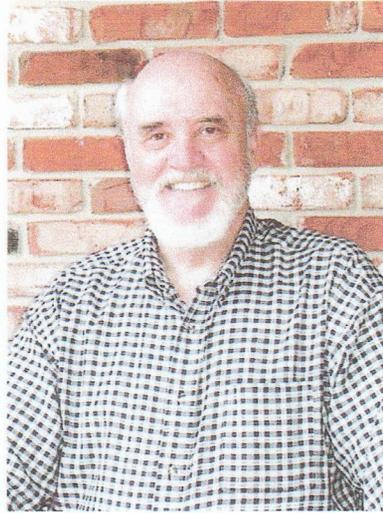
Publish and retain the Association minutes of all meetings. Provide a method of correspondence to members through the publishing of the Association Newsletter. Solicit information from members to be shared with other members. Maintain the Association membership list and work with the Treasurer to ensure that the paid membership is up to date.

A thought for future discussion:

We recently lost a valued member of our Association, Merrill Franklin Davis. The memory of Merrill Davis will be reprinted on the 4th page of this newsletter but the passing of Merrill Davis caused me to think of a function of our Association that is missing, an honor guard. I am sure that everyone realizes that our members are aging and we will suffer more funerals of our members. Why doesn't our membership offer to defray the expenses of a member that travels to the funeral to represent our Association. At the very least we should be prepared to send a donation to the members charity or church of no less than \$100.00. Steve Klosterman

Article from Jim Jellison, LCDR (retired)

I joined the Navy in 1968 to escape the small town in Pennsylvania where I lived and some bad memories(ex-girlfriend). The Navy sent me to California, for Boot Camp, and it has been my home of record ever since. I eventually earned a commission and retired after 24 years of service.



In Memory of

Merrill Franklin Davis

February 5, 1933 - February 21, 2012

Merrill Franklin Davis, age 79, Bloomington, Ind., passed away on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at IU Health, Bloomington Hospital. Born on February 5, 1933 in Columbus, Ohio, he was a lifelong Buckeye fan. He graduated from Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in Education and completed a Master of Theology degree at St. Mary's Theological Seminary and Ecumenical Institute in Baltimore, Maryland. He served aboard the U.S.S. Askari in the Pacific during the Korean War and enjoyed the camaraderie of shipmates as a member and past secretary of the U.S.S. Askari Association.

He retired as an Area Director for the Social Security Administration in 1986 and later worked for the Monroe County Community School Corporation as a para-educator, retiring from that position in 2010. He felt blessed by the love of his family and the many friendships he maintained with former co-workers and members of his church family at Vineyard Community Church.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara (Grange) Davis; four children: Jenifer and Alleyn Davis of Goshen, Ind. and Andrew and Sharon Davis of Bloomington, Ind.; two grandsons: Benjamin (Lindsay) Grossmann and Eli (RhiAnnon) Grossmann of Goshen; five great-grandchildren: Dylan, Brooklynn, Charlotte, Ellenore, and Loreli Grossmann of Goshen; four sisters: Wanda McCall of Winter Haven, Fla., Wilma Doebler of Temperance, Mich., Carol (Ken) Rice of Waxhaw, N.C., and Twila Jessop of Charlotte, N.C.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Davis and Minnie Mabel (Allen) Davis and two brothers, Carl Davis and Ken Davis.

At Merrill's request, there will be no visitation. Memorial donations can be made to Vineyard Community Church, 2375 S. Walnut St., Bloomington, IN 47401.