

## **To All ACAV Members, Former Shipmates and Friends,**

I hope all of you know by now that the former USS ADAMS DDG-2 has been returned to Donation Hold Status at the direction of the CNO, Admiral Mullen a former ADAMS Class Commanding Officer. On April 25 I received a letter from Vice Admiral M. P. Fitzgerald, Director Navy Staff for the CNO, confirming this decision. We now have until March 31, 2008 to find a home for ADAMS and submit an Application for Donation to NAVSEA.

### **So what to we do now?**

Our City Search Team of retired Captains Jim Aldrich (DCA/MPA on DDG-11, 67-70) and Bob Branco (MPA on DDG-23 68-69, XO on DDG-20 77-79, CO on DDG-2 83-85) are currently investigating the possible berthing of ADAMS in the Jacksonville/Mayport area of Florida. ADAMS was home ported in Mayport for twenty three (23) years. Other members of our ACVA Board are making the rounds once again of existing museums as back up locations. Anyone with connections to any museum that you believe might be interested in adding ADAMS should contact me by email at [tecrosserbsausnr@aol.com](mailto:tecrosserbsausnr@aol.com) or by phone at 623-849-9526. ACVA will follow up on all leads. We are still working with some of the cities that we have previously worked with, to see if they can commit to a berth and funding.

### **Comprehensive Survey Team to visit ADAMS**

On the morning of May 7, ACVA submitted an Official Request to NAVSEA so that on Monday May 21, marine surveyor Joe Lombardi can conduct a re-survey of ADAMS in order to update the one he conducted a few years ago. Thanks to previous Donations this update has been made possible. Information from the update will help us in our talks with those people we are asking to offer ADAMS a berth.

Not only did ACVA file a Formal Request with NAVSEA to allow Joe Lombardi's resurvey but also to allow a team from ACVA to go aboard ADAMS on May 22, for what we are calling a Comprehensive Working Survey. We have also asked for two extra days on ADAMS, May 23-24 if necessary to complete our work.

Bob Branco took a volunteer list I put together in 2004-2005, made new phone calls and came up with a revised list of volunteers that will be divide into six (6) teams of 2-4 persons each to cover as many spaces on Adams as team size and time permit. Bob has come up with a standard survey form so we can document missing or broken items in each space and the overall condition of that space. The team consists of seven (7) former Enlisted, two (2) former Warrant Officers and four (4) former Officers (all O6). NAVSEA placed a limit on the size of our team at fifteen (15) and if Joe Lombardi joins us, we will be just under that limit. There is one additional member that is being talked to about his availability. Looks like I finally get to be part of a Zone Inspection Team.

This team plans to take many photos, lots of Video and then take a minimum of two (2) weeks to compile a report and post photos to the ACVA and/or ADAMS web sites.

### **Moving Ahead After the Survey Work**

At a special meeting the night of May 7, the ACVA Board passed two very important motions. The first was to, **"Begin efforts to raise \$100,000 within four (4) months in order to begin work on a Donation Application."** The second was to, **"Develop a strategy to address the need to have \$5-7 million in the bank by March 31, 2008."**

Having the Donation Application written and filed with NAVSEA will use up almost 75% of the money we propose to raise under motion number # 1. Much of this money will need to be raised from former ADAMS Class Sailors. The money raised under motion # 2 will need to be raised from Corporate Donations and from the Public in and around the area where ADAMS will have her final berth.

### **A Long and Difficult Passage Lies Ahead**

The course we have charted will be a long and difficult and thru uncharted waters for most of us. Other groups have made it and ACVA will do its best to keep all of us on track.

Our ACVA Board has an urgent need to acquire two new members Board Members. First we must acquire Professional Legal Assistance (Pro Bono if possible). Having a former ADAMS Class Sailor in this position would be nice but not mandatory. Perhaps there is a son or daughter of a former ADAMS Class crew member or even a grandson or granddaughter willing to lend us their counsel.

Our second need is for someone with a background in finance to come aboard as Treasurer for ACVA. Our current Treasurer has been trying to retire for the past several months so we need to find him a replacement as soon as possible. A CPA would be ideal for this position.

### **Final Comments on the future of ACVA and ADAMS**

No one said it would be easy and no one said it would be quick. Some on our board have worked with other groups to try and find a home not only for ADAMS but other ADAMS Class ships and come up short. I don't want to see us end up short again. I hope that with the help of all those who ever walked across the Quarter Deck of an ADAMS Class ship and called her home for even a short time we will be successful.

Donations to help make this dream come true can be sent to our ACVA secretary Dave Myerly at the following address.

**Dave Myerly**  
**5 Bush Road**  
**Denville, NJ, 07834-2906**

Dave can also assist you in becoming an ACVA Member and becoming a Plank Owner. Dave can be contacted at [DaveDDG2@aol.com](mailto:DaveDDG2@aol.com).

Questions and comments can be sent to me at the email or phone number in paragraph # 2 or mailed to me at the following address.

**Tom Crosser**  
**8520 West Clarendon**  
**Phoenix, AZ, 85037-2723**

With the help of our ADAMS Class Shipmates we can and will be successful.

Tom Crosser  
President, ADAMS Class Veterans Association, Inc.