



Australian-American Association of the Northern Territory Inc.

NEWS LETTER

Jan – Feb – March 2010

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President's Message

Our Bombing of Darwin Commemoration on Friday 19th February was one of the best yet with an excellent turnout of VIPs, members and the general public. The weather was fine, although quite hot, unlike other years when we have to endure tropical downpours during the ceremony.

Of course, the highlight was the visit of the newly appointed United States Ambassador, Mr. Jeffrey Bleich and his wife Rebecca on their first visit to Darwin. The "Sundowner" at the Trailer Boat Club on the evening of the 18th was very well attended and this provided an ideal opportunity for members to meet and talk to Ambassador Bleich. I am sure that we will see a lot more of the Ambassador during his term of office.

Peter Radtke OAM President

Coral Sea 2010

Sundowner:

Time: 6pm

When: Tuesday 4th May 2010

Place: Trailer Boat Club

*** see more details on page 2

Commemoration:

Time: 8.40am

When: Friday 7th May 2010

Place: USS Peary Gun - Esplanade
Stay and enjoy Morning Tea

RSVP: By Monday 3rd May 2010 to Karen via aaantdiv@hotmail.com or Phone: 8931 0496

CORAL SEA COMMEMORATION

The date for our Coral Sea Commemoration has been set for Friday 7th May at the USS Peary Gun Memorial on the Esplanade starting at 8.40am. It has not yet been decided who the United States representative will be; however, we have asked if it would be possible for a US Navy ship to visit Darwin at that time. That would certainly add some stature to the ceremony. As usual we will have special Coral Sea messages from Prime Minister Rudd and President Obama read out at the ceremony.

Similar to last year, after the ceremony, we will be holding a morning tea under the shady trees adjacent to the Peary Gun and again our Federal member Damian Hale has kindly agreed to sponsor this. It provides a good opportunity to mingle with our honorary members and other invited guests.

The weather is always great at that time of year and it is hoped that we can achieve a good turnout of members for this function.

Our Company Members

**Conoco Phillips Petroleum Company • National Flags
Value Travel • Shenannigans Irish Pub**

2009-2010 Committee

- President – Peter Radtke**
- Vice President / Public Officer – Rick Setter**
- Treasurer – Ross Evans**
- Secretary – Karen Williams**
- Committee Member – Nick Panas**
- Committee Member – Carmel Touhy**
- Committee Member – Korin Lesh**
- Committee Member – Vacant – interested?**

State	Home of
Oregon	The world's smallest park, <i>totaling</i> 452 inches, created in Portland on St. Patrick's Day for leprechauns and snail races
Pennsylvania	The first magazine in America: the <i>American Magazine</i> , published in Philadelphia for 3 months in 1741

Courtesy www.factmonster.com

CORAL SEA SUNDOWNER

We are holding a "Sundowner" at the Trailer Boat Club on Tuesday 4th May from 6.00 to 7.30 pm and as it is just prior to our Coral Sea Commemoration on the following Friday. We have arranged to have one of our new members and noted historian Norm "Hawk" Cramp give a short talk on the background to the Battle of the Coral Sea in May 1942. This was the first naval battle where the opposing ships did not sight each other. The entire battle was fought by aircraft launched from the aircraft carriers of the opposing sides. I am sure that Norm will give a very informative account of this historic sea battle.

Bombing of Darwin 2010



Trailer Boat Club – Drinks to Welcome US Ambassador



US Ambassador, Mr. Jeffrey Bleich & Peter Radtke



USS Peary Gun Bombing of Darwin Wreath Laying



Trailer Boat Club – Drinks to Welcome US Ambassador

Pictures Courtesy of Gary Haslett