

## U.S.S. Saratoga Mirror @ CPO Club Mayport

In 2004 the Chief's club in Mayport contacted Brad Senter and asked if the Saratoga Association would be interested in putting up some type of memorial for Sara in memory of her 38 years of service to our great country. After months of going back and forth it was decided to install a 5' X 9' mirror inside the club with a picture of Saratoga and all the names of shipmates who passed away while serving aboard the ship. Brad contacted Gorman's Etched Art Studios in Jacksonville to get a price for the project. The price was \$2500. Tom Laquiere, was contacted, a member of our Association to see if he would head up the fund raising project for the mirror. He started sending out letters to CVA/CV-60 shipmates and the money started rolling in. Unfortunately only about \$1250 was raised, but fortunately a former CO of Saratoga, a retired admiral donated the additional \$1250. He asked to remain anonymous.

Diane Senter, Brad's wife started working on the design and layout for the mirror, when it was finished a rough proof was sent out to all the shipmates who made a donation for the project. Everyone was pleased with the design with the exception of two admirals. They both wanted a different plane coming off the catapult. After an

extensive search it was determined who was senior in rank and it was decided to have an intruder coming off the cat. Meanwhile the USS Forrestal Association got wind of the project and they decided to have a similar project as well for the chief's club. Brad did all the research in getting names from all the cruise books of the deceased shipmates. After all the information was gathered and the design was done, it was submitted to Gorman's for the work. The mirror was completed and was in place by the spring of 2005. A dedication ceremony was held for the Saratoga mirror and the Forrestal mirror in May 2005. Several former COs of both ships and shipmates as well attended the ceremony.

