

NOVEMBER 2020

# Bratenahl



## LAMPLIGHTER

### What's Inside...

President Trump Visits Bratenahl | Richard B. (Dick) Ainsworth, Jr.  
Gordon Hall – Bratenahl's Forgotten English Manor | Philanthropic Thanksgiving



  
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Elevating Community Through Connection,  
Communication and Caring

**This issue sponsored by Dick & Joan Ainsworth**

## Richard B. (Dick) Ainsworth, Jr.

William Beckenbach

Semper Fortis – the U. S. Navy motto meaning “Always Courageous,” is undoubtedly embodied by Bratenahl’s soft-spoken Dick Ainsworth. Admiral “Buzz” Little, USN (Ret) stated, “Lieutenant JG Ainsworth exemplified the grit and dedication familiar to many of our sailors throughout our Navy’s history. “

Shortly after receiving his commission as a U. S. Navy officer in July 1965, Ensign Ainsworth was assigned to the USS Ogden, LPD-5. The Ogden was an amphibious transport dock ship commissioned on June 15, 1965. LPDs are warships that embark, transport, and deploy U.S. Marines landing forces for warfare missions.



After training off Norfolk, Virginia, the Ogden joined the Pacific Fleet at her homeport of San Diego on October 29, 1965. On February 8, 1966, USS Ogden departed San Diego, bringing 494 Marines, 212 vehicles, and cargo to arrive in Vietnam on February 28. Marines and equipment were offloaded, and many damaged vehicles were loaded for return to the United States. The remaining Marines were taken to Okinawa. The return to the United States included stops in Sasebo, Japan, Hong Kong, and Pearl Harbor before arrival in San Diego on April 4, 1966.

Three weeks after arriving in San Diego, Ogden again departed for Vietnam on May 6 with 589 troops, 284 vehicles, and cargo arriving on June 6. With stops in Subic Bay, Philippines, Yokosuka, Japan, and Pearl Harbor, the ship arrived back in San Diego on July 7.

For the remainder of 1966, the Ogden conducted training and exercises off of the southern California coast. The ship made her claim to aviation and amphibious history when, on November 28, 1966, a vertical take-off and landing aircraft made several landings on the smallest ship ever used by this type of aircraft.

On February 1, 1967, Richard was again on his way to Vietnam, arriving on March 6. During the five months of operation there, they experienced their first combat operations. Assault craft and helicopters took part in search and destroy missions within the Cua Viet River, the Demilitarized Zone, and Vietnam’s Da Nang triangle region.

During this period, Lieutenant JG Ainsworth was a Mike Boat operator piloting troops and supplies up the central Vietnam Coast, making beach landings while taking gunfire in a hostile environment. He was responsible for successfully supplying joint forces while under the “protective umbrella” of Agent Orange, the deadly defoliant.

On September 1, 1967, Ogden departed for San Diego, arriving on September 28, 1967, completing an eight-month deployment.

As a young junior officer of 23 years, Richard Ainsworth served with distinction from 1965 to 1968. His duties included being an officer of the deck on the bridge while underway, and serving as Ogden’s Gunnery and Deck Division Officer and its Lay Catholic Chaplain.

Richard Barber Ainsworth Jr. was born in Cleveland on January 21, 1942, to Richard and Mary Ainsworth. He attended University School and went on to earn a B.A. degree at Yale University in 1964. One of his part-time roommates at Yale was Dick Cheney, the United States’ 46th vice president. Dick is proud that they have remained long-term friends.

Richard married Joan Horsburgh on October 30, 1965, the day after his arrival in San Diego. Joan was born in Cleveland on December 30, 1942, to Donald and Elaine Horsburgh. Richard and Joan had two children: Richard B. III, born in 1969, and Alison, born in 1973.



Joan received her B.A. degree from Wells College in 1965 and an MBA from Case Western Reserve University in 1986. She was an active social worker in San Diego County, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Cleveland, Ohio. Joan Ainsworth today is listed as a noteworthy art museum fund-raising director by Marquis Who’s Who.

After leaving the Navy, the family moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where Richard received an MBA from the University of Michigan in 1970

They returned to Cleveland, where Dick started as an assistant trust officer with Cleveland Trust Bank. Mr. Ainsworth became an assistant treasurer and pension fund manager for Reliance Electric. He then became the chief financial officer of Acme Cleveland, executive vice president of Kirtland Capital, a senior vice president of Key Bank’s Trust Department, and Senior Partner at HPM Partners, an investment and wealth management firm, offering executive financial counseling, financial wellness coaching, and retirement plan management.

Having been exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam, he contracted cancer of the left kidney in 2000, which had to be removed. In 2016 he suffered the failure of his right kidney

and had to enter a rigorous renal dialysis treatment program occupying three sessions per week at five hours per session that will take place for the remainder of his life. The good news is that he remains cancer-free. The ordeal has afforded Dick much more time to spend with Joan, plus countless hours of reflection time while strapped into his dialysis chair, reading, writing, doing crossword puzzles, and following the latest Fox News Reports.

Dick has spent much of his spare time collecting fine art and serving as board chair of the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. He was also a significant fundraiser for the 2004 Bush-Cheney reelection campaign.

Being grateful patients of University Hospitals, Dick and Joan have expressed their appreciation through longstanding support of the hospital's annual fund, an endowed chair for his Hematologist, and other projects. The couple also established a charitable gift annuity in support of the U.H. Rainbow Center for Women and Children. They believe it is a win-win proposition being members of the UH Diamond Legacy Society.

Also, Dick and Joan are proud benefactors of the Ainsworth Garden at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Dick and Joan have been Bratenahl summer residents since January 2008. Their winter home is in San Diego, California. Dick always tries to be optimistic and continues to look for non-traditional investment opportunities. He recently invested in farmland to build a theater and executive retreat to be called "Fields O'Greene" in Madison Township, Ohio, in the heart of our state's wine-growing region.

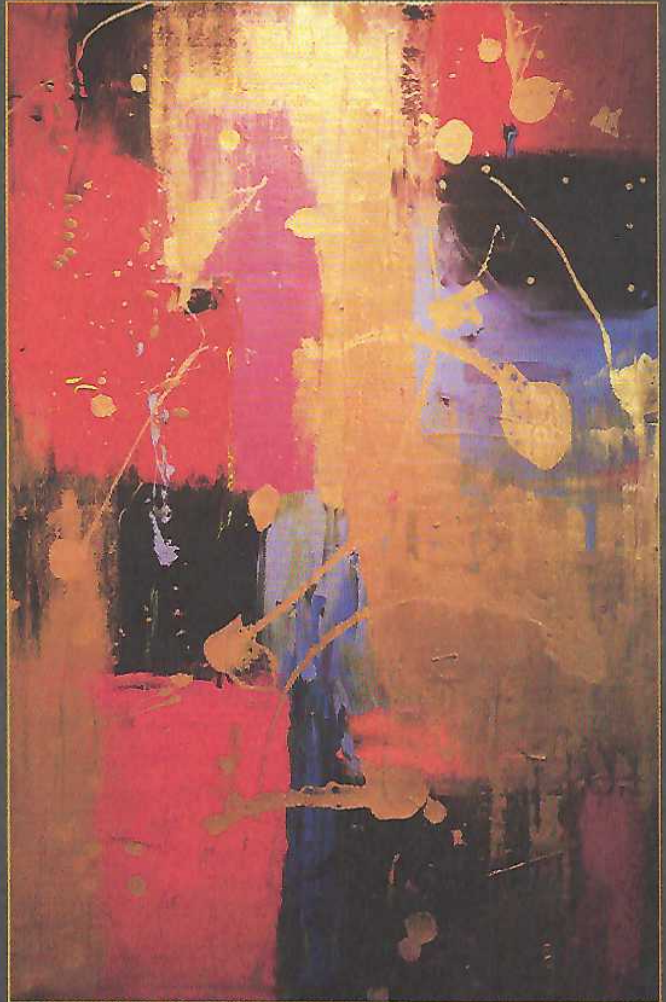
In sitting for this interview, Dick said, "I've been lucky all of my life – born into a wonderful and erudite family; excellent education and social connections; the shock and 'real world' exposure, as well as basic survival, from the Vietnam War experience; a fortuitous series of gifted and caring business mentors during his business career; ability to withstand and bounce back from numerous medical challenges (mainly by keeping up a positive, 'glass is half full' attitude through it all; a wonderfully patient and supportive family, anchored by Joan, his bride of 55 years; two great children, and two super-star grand-daughters; and finally, but not least, finding a perfect retirement setting (with lots of new and talented friends) within the friendly confines of the Shoreby Club and Bratenahl in general.

With all of that to be thankful for, "Joan and I definitely feel a need to give back wherever we feel we can make a positive difference."

In addition, Dick and Joan wish everyone in Bratenahl all the best during this Holiday Season and throughout the New Year.



# DiBenedetto Corna Gallery



*Circus Circus* 9'H x 4'W  
as seen on the 2021 cover of *AMERICAN ARTWORK*

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