

November 2006

Knox Knews

The sixteenth reunion at Branson Missouri was a great time enjoyed by:

KEN and YOKO ARTHURS, WILLIAM ATKINSON, RONALD AUBIN, GERALD and MARLENE BAKER, JOE CABOT, JAMES and LEATHA CAMPBELL, IRELL CLIFFORD, DEE COLLINS, JOE DEMPSKY, RICHARD and IDA DUFFY, ED EWOLDT, GEORGE and JEAN GLAZE, MARCUS GOOGER, TED and MITSUKO HALLMAN, MIKE HALOSKI, JIM and SUSAN HEALY, RICHARD HUEHN, ORV and NANCY KRIEG, VAUGHAN KRUGER, DON and BETSY LANDERS, PETE LOPEZ, TOM MARK, WILLIAM and BARBARA MATTHEWS, LONNIE McCAIN, TOMMIE and MARIAN MOBLEY, REGINALD MUMLEY, BOB O'KON, JACK and MARY PATTERSON, LARRY and BETTY J. PORTER, ORLIN and KIRK PUTMAN, WILLIAM RHODES, GARY RUSCH and JOAN BELKE, JOSHUA and CHRIS RUSSELL, JOHN and ANN SARTIN, OTTO SCHIESS, JOSEPH and SANDRA SCHRECK, AL SMITH & HELEN SMITH-TARCHALSKI, BILLY JACK SMITH and BEVERLY, DONALD and LOLITA SNIDER, PAUL STOUT and BILLIE ANN BRADEN, A.C. and PAT STUCKEY, BOB and DONNA SUMMERS, DAVE and NANCY TRUEDELL, LOREN and ADA VINEYARD, JOSEPH VIROSTKO, BOB and CORAL WOODARD.

There was a delightful cruise on the Branson Belle Showboat on Thursday that included a Memorial Service for our departed shipmates. Once again PETE LOPEZ served as Chaplain. The names of those shipmates are:

HARRY COX, 11/46-12/47, CLARENCE "CASEY" PARSONS, 11/44-11/45, LEE WILSON, 5/45-10/46, MARTIN L. BICKLEY, 3/49-4/52, SYDNEY COCKRELL, 12/61-11/64 CURTIS BURNSIDE, 2/45-5/46, JACK GENE KIRK, 1/50-1/54, WILLIAM E. MARTIN, JR, 1/69-12/69, FOSTON JAMES BREAUX, 11/45-2/46, THOMAS R. PEARSON, CO, 7/56-5/58, JOHN G. FALLAU, 11/44-11/45, JERRY L. GRAHAM OSCAR H. MILLER, JR., 1/46-5/47, BILLY MOSS, 11/49-4/53, CHARLES E. SANDERS 10/61-9/64 and ROGER J. ZELLER, 3/46-4/47

On Friday we were treated to Dinner/Theatre at the White House Convention Center. Buses were arranged for transportation to both locations (driving in Branson is a very slow tedious process). The dinner was good, I wonder what kind of kitchen they must have to put out that many meals (and we weren't the only group) and we were also recognized on their flashing billboard sign! The show itself was GREAT with a review that showcased groups from the 40's - 50's - 60's, really a lot of talent and energy. All of the comments heard were positive.

Saturday was the Business Meeting and White Elephant Sale. It has been suggested that we discontinue calling it White Elephant because so many of the items are really great with a lot of thought behind the selection. There are just too many to list but the proceeds from the Sale netted \$3023.00 for our fund. So long as we remain solvent there is no need to raise dues. Quite a few of the attendees paid their 2007 on Saturday evening. Master Rosters will be sent starting in January. You must be a paid up member to receive the Roster and all Newsletters and attend reunions.

Many, many THANKS to VAUGHAN KRUGER, HELEN SMITH-TARCHALSKI MIKE HALOSKI and PETE LOPEZ for all their help!

Our Guest Speaker was Mr. Kenneth Sewell, former Navy man, who is researching the incident in December, 1950 of our encounter along with USS McKean of what has turned out to be a Russian submarine outside Sasebo Harbor. Mr. Sewell gave a very interesting talk about the happenings of that day. He has also written another book, "Red Star Rogue" about a near nuclear incident in Hawaii. He brought along some of the book that he donated to us which we sold with all proceeds going into our general fund, many thanks to him.

There were a few cancellations due to health and other problems. FRANK TREADWAY and ROBERT "NICK" NISCHWITZ both wanted to say hello and wish success for a great reunion. Also received a letter from Commissary Chief LLOYD HUMMER who served aboard the Knox from June 1950 to Nov. 1952 now 92 years young living in Annandale, NJ and asked to pass along his regrets that he could not attend and to say hello to all former shipmates.

Now on a very sad note, upon returning to Clearwater I received an e-mail from NORINE NISCHWITZ:

Well, as you know we could not make the convention due to Nick being ill. We had so looked forward to being with you all.

The sad part is his problem started Aug. 18 and it was in the hospital 12 days, home five, back once more for 12 days and home about a week and half, then back once more for about ten days and home a few and back again until this past Tuesday.

I lost the love of my life, of 63 years, Tuesday Morning, Oct. 24. I decided to stay with him Monday evening, and I am so thankful I was close by....They had put an expandable love seat next to his bed, and I could reach between the rails and hold his hand. At this point he was on morphine, and some other medication to keep calm and pain free. The nurses were in and out pretty much of the night, and he was having some breathing problems, so about four thirty in the morning I decided to get dressed, the nurses had just left, and as I was walking toward the wash basin, when I looked at him, and he was leaving me. His heart just could not do any more.

He is at Jefferson Barracks, and as he was being driven to the ceremony area, two sailors and a marine saluted him. That made him happy. The one thing we were in a torrential rain from the time we left mass the entire procession. So we will have to go out shortly and see the exact spot he is in. My space is reserved next to him, since I was in the Marine Corp.

Sorry to have written so much, but just wanted you to know, and let some of the Plank Owners know that it is another one down.

While at the visitation there was a man there I did not know. He turned out to be a retired FBI agent also. After introduction, he brought out two pictures, and as I looked at the number on the ship it was 742, I looked at him and said "that is my husbands ship."

I do not know if Nick knew that, as they usually are all chatting after lunch at the retired agents luncheon. If I understood him, he was aboard at the end of Nam, and I do not know how long, but he did mention that he went to another ship. Also, he lives here in Kirkwood, so after things calm down, I will follow up. More later. I feel he did not know about Nick being aboard the same ship prior to him. I think he picked up the info from the obituary, which I had written.

Norine Nischwitz

The Hospitality Room was a cozy meeting place to renew old friendships, many ship-mates brought memorabilia enjoyed by all. Retired Chief ROBERT HOEFLER sent photos of the K-guns getting a washing distributed for the taking. Many thanks.

NEW MEMBERS:

LARRY BONNER 1951 - 1955, JAMES BOYD 1961 - 1963, RAY COPENHAVER 1954 - 1957, IRVING EISENBERG (P.O.) 1944-1946, DAVE TRUDELL 1962-1964
WELCOME ABOARD!

Received an e-mail from new member JIM BOYD:

Orv, many thanks for the package you sent me; enjoyed reading thru all. Was saddened by the news of the deaths of Ski Wodarczk and Syd Cockrell. As the leading BM, Ski showed me the ropes in my first job as 1st Div. Officer in 1961. Syd was a deck hand in the division.

On a brighter note, I was thrilled to see that some of the non-rated in 1st Div. went on to have very successful careers. Syd C. made NCCM, Bob Guzman GMCS and Paul Pencack

BCCM. In addition, in 1972-72 in Charleston I ran across QM1 Ed Smith who had been SN/BMSN in 1961-63. At the same time I saw SD1 Terecito Albano who was Admiral's Steward for COMCRUDESFLOT 6 in Charleston. Albano was Captain's Steward in 1961-63 as a TN.

All of the "old hands" of the 1960s and earlier recall how tough it was to come aboard as SA with no "A" school and become a striker in any rating, especially other than BM. This was probably true for FAs in the Engineering Department as well. On top of that the non-rated were re-toured as mess cooks due to overall shortages as non-rated, non-designated men. It was tough to make rate without a school. So my hat's off to all who made the jump.

Sorry we found each other too late to make the Branson Reunion; thinking seriously about the West Coast in '07. Have a great time in Branson.

Best wishes to all

Jim

E-mail received from Bob O'Kon, Past President:

Hi Chiefs,

Like to pay honor to a friend.: Gunnery Sgt. John G. Moore, USMC (RET).

Marine John Moore was known throughout the United States as the "FLAGMAN".

John made flag presentations to all organizations, FREE OF CHARGE. All donations went to charity. Marine John invested tens of thousands of dollars for flags. He had

every flag from the start of America and all countries of the world. John presentations on the "History of the Flag" was most interesting, especially at schools and colleges. John went to the Supreme Commander on August 21, 2006. John will be missed, whether you are Army, Navy, Marine, Coast Guard or Air Force or civilian. Service made no difference to John, as long as he could make his presentation of the History of the Flag.

Vic Miranda, FRA PRPSW

This is a partial letter FROM THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS:

I am writing to share with you the most current information regarding the theft of a laptop and a hard drive containing personal identifying data on service members and veterans.

We encourage all service members and veterans to be extra vigilant and carefully monitor their financial records. For information on how to protect yourself against identity theft, please visit the Federal Trade Commission's Web site (www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or call 1-877-438-4338.

From R. James Nicholson

This received U.S. NAVY CRUISER SAILORS ASSN:

DEAR MR. KRIEG:

The vital, valiant, and versatile Sailors who served aboard the robust and reliable DESTROYERS of the UNITED STATES NAVY are most welcome to come aboard U.S. NAVY CRUISER ASSOCIATION. DESTROYER SAILORS coming aboard U.S. NAVY CRUISER ASSOCIATION will receive our 56 page quarterly magazine, a publication packed with history, photographs, and current information.

In considering our offer of membership in U.S. NAVY CRUISER SAILORS ASSOCIATION please note that DESTROYER SAILORS coming aboard any time after August 25, 2006 will have membership status for the rest of 2006 and all of 2007. Moreover by contacting Mr. Ronald J. Maciejowski a DESTROYER SAILOR will receive one free copy of the magazine of U.S. NAVY CRUISER SAILORS ASSOCIATION.

Please inform your Shipmates about U.S. NAVY CRUISER SAILORS ASSOCIATION. Thank you for your time and interest. Wishing you fair winds and following seas I am

Robert S. Kaplan

USS JUNEAU (CLAA-119) September 27, 1954

Mr. Ronald J. Maciejowski
Recruiting Chairman
55 Donna Terrace
Taunton, MA 02780

Tel/Fax (508) 824-0789 e-mail clcanavy@aol.com

(47)

DOES ANYONE KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF FORMER LT. J.P. WARLICK? HE WAS ASW OFFICER IN DECEMBER 1950. Contact Richard Shaw (rpsha@cox.net) or Ken Sewell (KRS6449@aol.com)

Received a very informative brochure from JOE DEMPSKY about Manitowoc, Wisconsin (just north of Milwaukee) that could be incorporated into a reunion in Milwaukee. Keep it in mind when you make your selections for 2008, 2009 and beyond.

Joe included information about "Shift Colors", the newsletter for Navy retirees.

Go to www.npc.navy.mil or write:

Dept of Navy

Navy Personnel Command

Shift Colors

5720 Integrity Dr.

Millington, TN 38055

1-866-827-5672

Also a note from JAMES GIBBONS GMG(SW):

I have a piece of the ship! A dummy (brass) 5"38 projectile with brass fuse, weighs about 60 lbs! We'd use the dummy round to see if what we put in the fuse setter was what the fuse was set at on the projectile. Called cutting the fuse.

You could set the fuse manually with a fuse wrench, I don't have that.

P.S. My name is on the bulkhead in Mt 51's magazine on the bottom of the sea off Cyprus where the ship lies. As just prior to giving her to the Greeks we needle-gunned the mag's and re-painted them. I did the whole forward magazine, projectile and powder room. I cut my name in her bulkhead between projectile and powder magazine.

Hope you know that all DDR's in the Navy were Frank Knox Class DDR's! As DDR-742 was the first of the DDR's! Hence first in her class.

And that the Frank Knox only ship sunk, raised using liquid Styrofoam! Somewhere in Navy archives is a book damage control! (I've seen the book so I know it exists!!) It shows how to raise a Destroyer! and pictures of the ship on the reef and interior spaces. Plus powder & projectiles (in neat stacks on bottom of reef!!) Only Hedgehog magazine not open to sea forward of frame 110.

That is why the ship lasted so long! She had in 1965 new boilers, engine, hull. While all other Gearings had hulls built in 1940's she had a new hull from 1965-1966!

(James lists five other ships he served on during his career.)

Orv

Plans for the 2007 reunion are in the works, more information later. When you receive your Information Reservation Form PLEASE return as soon as possible. We don't want anyone missing out on the festivities and commitments MUST be made early.

REUNION LOCATION QUESTIONNAIRE for 2008

Vote for Location, indicating No.1 First Choice, No.2 Second Choice, etc.

____MILWAUKEE, WIS. ____CHICAGO, IL ____CODY, WY
____OMAHA, NEB. ____CLEVELAND, OHIO ____OXNARD, CA
____NASHVILLE, TN ____ALBUQUERQUE, NM ____CRUISE SHIP
____BUFFALO/NIAGARA, NY ____PORTLAND

MAIL THIS SHEET WITH YOUR 2007DUES TO;
U.S.S. FRANK KNOX DDR-742 REUNION ASSOCIATION
585 SKY HARBOR DRIVE, UNIT 125, CLEARWATER, FL 33759

Make check payable to: Orv Krieg

Mark Memo line;USS Frank Knox Dues

NAME: _____ WIFE _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY/STATE _____
TELE () _____ E-MAIL: _____

Membership Dues 2007 (Includes Master Roster, Membership Card & all Mailings)	\$30	\$ _____
Baseball Caps (Black & Gold w/ship embroid	\$15	\$ _____
License Plate Holder (Heavy cast metal (with USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY)	\$18	\$ _____
USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY PATCH	\$ 5	\$ _____
SHIP'S COLOR PHOTO W/PATCH (New)	\$ 5	\$ _____
SHIP'S PHOTO 8 X 10 BLACK & WHITE	\$ 5	\$ _____
SHIP'S PHOTO 8 X 10('52 COLORIZED)	\$ 5	\$ _____
PHOTO SHIP SINKING BY GREEK NAVY	\$ 5	\$ _____
NAME TAG	\$ 8	\$ _____
Total Enclosed.....		\$ _____

ALL ITEMS SENT FIRST CLASS MAIL.

Please send name & address of shipmates who are not members. _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Only current paid up members receive Master Roster, Dues Card, Newsletters
and are eligible to attend reunions. Renew your membership TODAY.

