



# KNOX KNEWS

October 2008

The eighteenth reunion at Milwaukee was attended by BILL ATKINSON, GERALD and MARLENE BAKER, JOE CABOT and nephew CRAIG HALL, DEE and PAM COLLINS, JACK COUSINS, ED EWOLDT, MARCUS GOOGER, MIKE HALOSKI, JIM and SUE HEALY, RICHARD HUEHN, CLIFF JENSEN, BILL and ELAINE KELLY, ED KENT, ORV and NANCY KRIEG, VAUGHAN and CAROL KRUGER, PETE LOPEZ, SUZANNE McCLANAHAN and BRION SELLINGER, BILL and BARBARA MATTHEWS, JACK and MARY PATTERSON, WILLIAM RHODES and BETTY NORTON, HAROLD RINGSTROM, GARY RUSCH, JOSHUA and CHRIS RUSSELL, OTTO SCHIESS, BILLY JACK SMITH and BEVERLY, AL SMITH and daughter HELEN SMITH-TARCHALSKI, DON and LOLITA SNIDER, THOMAS SOLTIS, PAUL STOUT and BILLIE ANN BRADEN, BRUCE and LINDA THOMPSON, RAY THOMPSON and BOB and CORAL WOODARD,

Our tour to the Great Lakes Naval Station brought back many memories for some of the guys that went through their "boot" training. Didn't look the same. There was a Memorial Service at the Chapel for those departed shipmates. Chaplain LT. Epperson conducted the service and read the names of those shipmates. Try as we may we are not advised when we lose shipmates consequently there are times when many months pass before we can notify the membership.

After a windshield tour of the base facilities, Ed Ewoldt was seated next to a clouded window and thought he was getting a cataract. Every seat was taken so he had to peek through unclouded portions of the window. We next went to the Navy Exchange for some shopping. Vaughan Kruger was able to replenish some of his uniform. He bought a white hat and neckerchief – that's the only thing that I can still fit into also Vaughan.

Lunch was at the former Officers Club now called Port 'O Call during which time our bus driver was involved in a minor scrape with a car that required about 45 minutes for security to fill out forms, etc. and forced the cancellation of the tour of the Kringel bakery in Racine. The return trip to Milwaukee was via Kenosha, WI where we toured the Jelly Belly factory/warehouse via "train" where we were given the entire process of Jelly Belly from very humble beginnings to mention of President Reagan having a taste for licorice jellybeans that were always available at the White House. We were treated to samples at



the end of the tour.

The second tour was to Manitowoc, WI and the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, rich in maritime history. A visit to the USS COBIA, one of the 28 submarines built at Manitowoc's shipyard in WWII. During our time at the Maritime Museum and sub tour Pete Lopez became ill and we immediately went to a hospital about five miles away where Pete was evaluated as beginning cardiac failure. Later Pete was transferred to a Green Bay hospital for further treatment.

Continuing our tour we went to lunch that was included at the Light House Inn in Two Rivers, WI right on the shore of Lake Michigan. Lunch was a treat of a family style meal with Garden Salad, Roast Beef, Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Dressing, Steamed Broccoli, Rolls and beverage and a decadent Black Forest Cake for dessert.

Our next stop on the return trip was a guided tour at Kohler Waeldehaus Village. Then we toured the Kohler Design Center and finishing with sightseeing through the Wisconsin countryside returning to our hotel.

The surprise of the day for most of the members was the appearance of Plank Owner ROBERT BEACHKOFSKI his wife Elaine and son who were able to join us for lunch at the Light House. The Beachkofski's reside at Menasha, WI very close to Manitowoc.

Saturday was a free day to visit Milwaukee, shop or just relax and tell sea stories until 2 PM and the regular business meeting. Items covered included discussion of yearly dues. One member who was not present thought our dues were too high, we read his letter to the membership and after discussion those members present voted NO to reducing the yearly dues. Much discussion also transpired about the way we vote for reunion sites and it was decided that henceforth all members will have a vote but only those who attend the reunions will be counted.

Once again the Tin Can Sailors organization donated door prizes for our reunion. Names were placed in a bowl and drawn, winners were:

JIM HEALY . . . . . \$5.00 Gift Coupon

JACK PATTERSON ..\$5.00 Gift Coupon

GARY RUSCH . . . , \$10.00 Gift Coupon

OTTO SCHIESS . . . Tin Can Sailors Gift Coupon for Books of Naval Ships

TOM SOLTIS . . . . .Tin Can Sailors Gift Coupon

MARCUS GOOGER Tin Can Sailors Gift Coupon USS KIDD DD-661 Book

AL SMITH . . . . . One year membership subscription to Tin Can Sailors

BRUCE THOMPSON License Plate Holder

Following the Business meeting was the Annual Bazaar Auction where the items brought by attendees were put up for bids. There were many very useful items with a lot of happy smiles for the items bought. Bill Atkinson donated a ship's plaque that undoubtedly hung in the Ward Room that went for the handsome sum of \$250.00 (I was going to start the bidding at \$50.00 when the opening bid was \$100.00!) There were many fantastic items and everyone got into the spirit of the day with hot and heavy bidding. With the absence of Pete Lopez the auctioneer turned out to be me with the able assistance of Vaughan Kruger, Helen Smith-Tarchalski and Nancy Krieg. All had a good time and the final tally was a whopping \$2,221.00 for the coffers! Thanks once again for all of the donated

prizes and the enthusiasm of the Knox crew and ladies. Next year we'll try to beat the total with more wonderful gifts with Pete Lopez once again your auctioneer. Start making your plans now.

Saturday evening began with a cash bar cocktail hour at 6:30 with dinner following at 7:30. Carol Kruger filled in as Chaplain and offered Grace. We then followed with the singing of the National Anthem. A place setting for all MIA/POW'S was prepared at the front of the room and the explanation of the service was given, Mike Haloski assisted with the lighting of the candle.

The banquet meal prepared and served by Champp's was very good, I heard no complaints. The service and the staff did an excellent job as they brought out 50 meals for our dining pleasure.

After dinner the attending Plank Owners were recognized and asked to please stand, then the first time attendees were asked to please stand.

Ed Ewoldt was recognized and presented with an engraved Glass Trophy as being our only eighteen-year attendee. He has made every reunion!!

The banquet was followed by a DVD presentation of "Sworn to Secrecy" with interviews with many crewmembers of 1950 including 92-year-old Captain Sam Caldwell who had this to say, "OF ALL MY COMMANDS, THE KNOX WAS MY FAVORITE AND HAD THE BEST CREW." He also said that his job was to manage, that he was a generalist, "I RELIED ON THE SKILL AND EXPERTISE OF THE CREW, I KNEW A LITTLE ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS, BUT THEY WERE THE EXPERTS."

As we did not have a featured speaker many of the audience took the microphone and regaled the crowd with some sea stories to cap off the evening. It's a wonder we survived the wars.

After our return to Florida received email from Bill Atkinson:

Orv and Nancy...

It was great seeing you at Milwaukee and that your trip home was safe and uneventful. I am looking forward to all of us meeting again next year in Williamsburg. My home is the same but with electricity now, so things are sort of back to normal. Still have to get some house repairs done and find a new vehicle to drive, but all in all...I feel blessed that things are not worse as some people around here have had it. I was wondering if you had any contact with Pete and how he is doing? Has he gone home? Anyway... Thanks for having planned a great reunion and see you again next year. Will keep in touch during the year. Need any Jelly Beans? I have loved them since I was a little guy and all through my life. I am afraid I was the "proverbial kid in a candy store" and went crazy buying bags of the delicious beans. Anyway.... you both take care and talk to you again soon...Bill

Bill had pictures of the destruction at Houston. .. a very large tree fell on his car along with damage to his house. Hurricanes are not nice!!!

We received letters and e-mail from shipmates saying they had to miss the reunion but to pass along their greeting for a great reunion. Among those are CAPT. WILTON



ATKINSON . . . PHIL & NANCY RICHARD, Phil had a hip replacement making travel difficult . . . CAPT. WM. CLOUGHLEY . . . RICHARD & SHARON GREENE . . . NORMAN "GENE" HODGERSON . . . CAPT. WILLIAM and MURIEL HEMBURY . . . CAPT. ORLIN & KIRK PUTMAN . . . FRANK & CHRIS TREADWAY . . . RAY HOWELL, busy with FEMA and Hurricane Gustav, KEN and YOKO ARTHURS saying they would be traveling in Japan and CAPT. WILLIAM KING who donated the Flag that flew over the U.S.S Constitution for the Bazaar Raffle.

With JACK PATTERSON'S reservation form was a newspaper clipping from the Indianapolis Star of July 27, 2008 stating survivors of the USS INDIANAPOLIS held a reunion marking the anniversary of the sinking in 1945. Just more that 300 of the nearly 1,200 men aboard survived.

August 13, 2008 received correspondence from Capt. William C. Hembury (CO 3/48 – 12/49)

Regrets for my delay in responding to the invitation to the up-coming FRANK KNOX DDR-742 Reunion! Not out of mind – out of reach!

A slip-up to the floor of my patio put me in the way of a hip fracture. Fortunately it was a severe bruise to my right leg.

But I was with cane and walker for about 6 weeks. I am back to full duty but not so as to permit attending and really contributing to an event of importance to me.

So, please relay my regards to all – and special to you. Keep up the Navy spirit, especially that of the USS FRANK KNOX DDR-742.

Relatedly, I'm continuing my signature project; Channel Park, San Diego LLP.

Accompanying is a copy of some evidence (though already "timed") of the on-going work. The FRANK KNOX DDR-742 is to have a place in the pictorial display of navy ship progression from the DELAWARE, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ship of the U.S.Navy to the AEGEIS cruiser. I'll be waiting for the Knox Knews!

Sincerely,

Bill Hembury

Two weeks before heading for the reunion we received letters from two prospective members. Glad to say both signed up, WELCOME ABOARD!

WILLIAM (Bill) FORTENBERRY RD1 aboard 11/53-6/58 and DARRELL

PATTERSON BMC aboard 10/62 – 5/67. New Roster will be printed in January.

Also received inquiry from RAY THOMPSON, ETCS 12/61 – 8/65 who made reservation at the hotel and signed up immediately and attended the reunion. Another WELCOME ABOARD!

BOB O'KON had planned to attend the reunion but his doctor advised against traveling Maybe next year.

Some late breaking new!!!! October 5<sup>th</sup> received a phone call from Martha Lopez saying Pete is off of the ventilator, still on oxygen but doing much better. Said when sedation was reduced he woke up and thought he was in Oklahoma. Prognoses calls for continued

improvement and getting out of the hospital soon. Keep Pete in your prayers, we need him back auctioneering and leading the vocals.

Still no news from any of the hotels contacted in Williamsburg but we will inform you when we have something in writing. Until then or the next Newsletter, calm seas and light winds.

*Orv & Nancy*

BASEBALL CAP (Black & Gold w/ ship embroidery)	\$15	\$ _____
License Plate Holder (Heavy cast metal w/ USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY)	\$18	\$ _____
USS FRANK KNOX & US NAVY PATCHES (both for)	\$ 5	\$ _____
SHIP'S COLOR PHOTO (with shield patch)	\$ 5	\$ _____
SHIP'S PHOTO 8X10 BLACK & WHITE	\$ 5	\$ _____
SHIP'S PHOTO 8X10 ('52 COLORIZED)	\$ 5	\$ _____
PHOTO SHIP SINKING BY GREEK NAVY	\$ 5	\$ _____
PROUD NAVY VETERAN Bumper Sticker	\$ 2	\$ _____
NAME BADGE (Magnetic back)	\$10	\$ _____
MURDER ON PRATAS REEF (a novel)	\$24	\$ _____
Total		
Enclosed.....		\$ _____

All items sent First Class Mail

