



the Quarterdeck Log

Membership publication of the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. Published quarterly — Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall. Not active on a subscription basis. The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association is a Non-Profit Corporation of Active Duty Members, Retired Members, Reserve Members and Honorably Discharged Former Members of the United States Coast Guard who served in, or provided direct support to combat situations recognized by an appropriate military award while serving as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

Volume 14, Number 1

Amphibious Fleet Monument

Dedication Ceremony Remembers Douglas Munro and APA Fleet

On 23 April 1999, a couple hundred people from across the nation gathered at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT. This was not a graduation ceremony although a new class of ensigns would leave there less than a month later. Instead, it was a dedication ceremony; one that would pay tribute to the Coast Guard men of the WWII APA fleet and to the memory of the Coast Guard's sole Medal of Honor recipient, SM1/c Douglas Munro.

Many of men in the crowd served aboard the APA's and sported ballcaps indicating their respective vessel. The CGCVA was well represented of course, including national president Joe Kleinpeter and national secretary-treasurer Ed Burke.

The guest speaker was Academy Superintendent RADM Douglas Teeson, representing Coast Guard Commandant ADM James Loy. Since many CGCVA members have ties to the APA fleet and many could not attend this ceremony, RADM Teeson's remarks and a letter from Marine Corps Commandant Charles C. Krulak are contained herein.

RADM Teeson's remarks:

"Welcome to the United States Coast Guard Academy. We are privileged today to recognize

and thank those people — so aptly described as our "greatest generation" — to honor their valiant service, reflect on their selfless dedication to their country, and remember the tremendous sacrifices they made for the free world."

"The people who fought and won World War II paid a formidable price for our freedom; one that many of us even today don't fully comprehend. This is especially true of those who fought the war at sea, for there are few landmarks to sea battles. Now, thanks to the vision of Mr. Bernie Muraca and the generosity of the Manafort Brothers and the APA Associations, we have such a landmark here at the Coast Guard Academy, here in the seaport city of New London, which has launched generations of seagoing leaders."

"From the day the United States entered World War II, some of the earliest U.S. successes against the Axis powers were achieved by Coast Guardsmen. At Pearl Harbor, gun crews in the Coast Guard Cutter Taney led a counter-attack. In the Atlantic, Cutter Northland made the first capture

of German forces at sea by intercepting a trawler (continued on page 25)



One side of the monument dedicated 23 April 1999 at the Coast Guard Academy, saluting the WWII APAs.



Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association OFFICERS

Joseph L. Kleinpeter, LM
National President
John W. Campbell, LM
National Vice President
E.P. Burke, LM
National Secretary/Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Two-Year: Paul Scotti, LM and Ray Hertica, LM,
Four-Year: W. Figone, LM, and B. W. Herbert, LM
A. L. Grantham, LM Past National President

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

National Secretary/Treasurer
17728 Striley Drive
Ashton, MD 20861-9763
Message & Fax (301) 570-5664

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Liz Scotti, PNP, National President
Jane Maxwell, PNP, National Vice President
Nancy Burke, National Secretary/Treasurer

THE QUARTERDECK LOG

LCDR Edward Swift, LM, USCG
Editor-In-Chief

APPOINTEE'S

Walter W. Gorr, LM, Parliamentarian; Vince Stauffer, LM; Chairman, By-Laws; William G. Miller, LM, Chaplain; Robert J. Maxwell, LM, PNP, Budget Director/Convention Planning Director, Sidney Weinstein, LM, Sales

The Administrative office is for contact with the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association for all matters, i.e. change of address, membership, tax-deductible contributions and articles and photos for the Quarterdeck Log.

From the President

Dear Shipmates:

This has been an incredibly busy time for me, both on the family and business fronts. Still, I have attempted to attend as many CGCVA-related events as possible and also keep up my pursuit of getting new members for the CGCVA



JOE KLEINPETER

through the internet. I am very pleased to see the number of members who are now on-line and we will continue to publish and expand that listing in the *QD Log*.

The 23 April 1999 ceremony at New London, CT, saluting the APA's and Douglas Munro was most impressive and it was a privilege to attend with our Secretary-Treasurer Ed Burke and many other CGCVA members.

The Coast Guard Festival at Grand Haven, MI (Coast Guard City, USA) is coming up and, as I've stated before, this is a fantastic event if you're a Coastie or were one. The three communities really go out of there way to make you feel comfortable. I believe that the Coast Guard Commandant, ADM James Loy, will attend the Grand Haven Festival this year. If you can get there, do it... it will be a wonderful experience.

There's just so many interesting things to do and see across our great country... many of which directly or indirectly link to the Coast Guard and its rich wartime history. One of our members, **Ralph Ahlgren**, invites CGCVA members visiting the San Francisco area to see the restored *SS Jeremiah O'Brien*, a liberty ship used during the Normandy Invasion. Ralph was a volunteer crewman on the *O'Brien* during its return trip to Normandy during the 50th anniversary commemoration in 1994. He joined the ship in Le Havre, France and enjoyed two months of sea time as the ship returned to its homeport in San Francisco, CA. For more information on the *O'Brien* or a ship visit, contact Ralph at 3335 Becerra Way, Sacramento, CA 95821-3705.

From the Vice President

Upon returning to New Jersey from my annual snowbird trek to Florida in mid-May, I received an invitation to take a boat trip on board the 110-foot CGC *Adak* to New York for the "Parade of Ships". Also on board was MGEN David R. Gust who is in charge of the electronic warfare facility in Ft. Monmouth, NJ. Another guest was Ambassador Vladimer Galuska and his wife. Vladimer is the Permanent Representative of the Czeck Republic to the United Nations. It was a most interesting event with fire boats shooting water high into the sky and the Navy presenting two missile frigates and three missile destroyers. They even had a small aircraft carrier bringing up the rear of the parade.

For Memorial Day weekend, we traveled to Annaville, PA to participate in a parade honoring

WWII veterans. Bubs and I rode in one of the convertibles and were honored guests. I was one of two USCG WWII veterans present, the other was **Don Watson**. The parade was organized by Mary Jane and Carl Gacano, and we were certainly



JACK CAMPBELL

treated royally by this wonderful couple. It was amazing that two people from a small town could put together such a wonderful event. Next year they will be honoring the Korean War veterans so it would be most fitting if one of our CGCVA Korean War vets could attend and represent our organization and the Coast Guard. Semper Paratus!

Jack Campbell



(Above) WWII vets from all five armed-services at the Annaville, PA parade. (Right) Jack with LCDR James Tabor of the CGC *Adak* and MGEN Gust.



From the Editor

In the last issue, I mentioned a program, "Everyone Is A Recruiter" and am pleased to report that several CGCVA members volunteered to participate. They include: Albert Ryzner, Clare Poland, Rod Whalen, Charles Donato, Stanley Syrek, Michael Berke, Jim Goggins, Joe Hannon, Bill Healy, Bob Maxwell, Ralph Johnson, John Baer, and Phillip Healey. Phil, in fact, went so far as to organize a luncheon, invite other CGCVA members, and arrange for a CG guest speaker and the CG recruiters in the Boston area to participate. Nice going Phil!

The program was designed to get all of "Team



ED SWIFT

Coast Guard" working together to help restore the Coast Guard's workforce to strength. Basic information on the many officer, enlisted, reserve and auxiliary programs will be provided to help explain the qualifications for each. Participants are not expected to be recruiters but rather provide information to potential candidates and then refer them to the local Coast Guard Recruiting Office.

For those who participate in this program, the best course of action is once you receive the package of information, contact your local CG Recruiter and see how you can best assist.

(continued on page 14)

From the Secretary-Treasurer

CGCVA Reunion 2000

The Reunion/Convention Committee has been to Fort Mitchell, KY and completed the arrangements for the CGCVA Sunday, Oct. 22 — Thursday, Oct. 26, 2000 Convention/Reunion. We believe there will be plenty of fun and official activities to satisfy all who attend.

There will be an Opening Ceremony on Sunday afternoon. The Mayor and Chief of Police will be invited and we will continue the program we started in Corpus Christi, TX — donating to the children of the area in which we hold our convention. Please remember to bring a stuffed animal or two or cash to donate to this fund.

On Monday at 9 a.m., we will tour the Wright-Patterson USAF Museum, returning at 3 p.m. On Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. (following the Business Meeting), there will be an Argosy Casino Tour, returning about 9 p.m. On Wednesday at 9 a.m., there will be a tour of Covington & Cincinnati, followed by a Riverboat Luncheon Cruise on the Ohio River, returning about 3 p.m.

Of course our Hospitality Room will be open all the time (except during the Opening Ceremony, Business Meeting and Awards Banquet). This is the place where sea stories run rampant, friendships are renewed and new ones established.

Food in the hotel is not only reasonable but it is very good and the staff is cooperative and helpful. This will be the most spacious place of all the reunions we've had and that's why we'd like to make this the largest and best CGCVA convention of all. To do this, we are opening our convention to all Active Duty, Retired or former Coast Guard personnel, whether or not they are qualified for CGCVA membership. They will be invited to participate in all of our activities except the Business Meeting. We ask that they pay the Registration Fee and they are welcome to join the tours and Awards Banquet at the same fees we pay. Also, they will be able to obtain a room if they want to hold a meeting or reunion separately but they will have to arrange this through the CGCVA Reunion/Convention Committee Chairman Bob Maxwell or myself.

We ask CGCVA members who belong to other groups or CG activities to please advise their meeting Chairman of our invitation. At present, we are providing adequate time for planning and it will reduce their workload as we have already done considerable legwork for this reunion. All inquiries can be directed to **Bob Maxwell** at P.O. Box 2790, Burney, CA 96013, Ph: (530) 335-3876, Fax: (530) 335-3304. Bob will furnish answers to all questions.

Let's try and make this our biggest and best Convention/Reunion ever! I will be sending out invitations to various organizations like the Secretary Class 327, APAs, Greenland Patrol and others. There will be ads placed in various CG magazines as well. Please help us by doing your part and let everyone know about this convention. We will provide more information as the time gets closer. *Semper Paratus!* **Ed Burke**

A Soldier, a Sailor, an Airman, a Marine and a Coast Guardsman got into an argument about which service was the best. The arguing became so heated, they ended up killing each other. When they all arrived at the Pearly Gates, they asked St. Peter which branch of the American Armed Forces was the best. St. Peter said he couldn't answer that but would ask God the next time he saw him. Some time later the five again see St. Peter and remind him of the question. "Ah yes," he said, "I have it right here" and he pulled out a piece of official looking paper. "Subject: Which Military Service Is Best? Gentlemen, all branches of the Armed Services are honorable and noble. Each of you served your country well and with distinction. Being a member of the American Armed Forces represents a special calling warranting special tribute, respect and dedication. Be proud of that."
Very respectfully, GOD, U.S. Coast Guard (Retired)

Quarterdeck Log

Statement of Purpose

This publication is designed to be an instrument of information and inspiration for all who hold allegiance to the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. Please be aware that any mistakes in this publication are there on purpose and for a purpose; we publish something for everyone and some people are looking for errors!

Reunions — Notices

CGCVA Convention/Reunion 2000

The CGCVA is interested in entering the new millennium with as many Active Duty, Retired, and former Coast Guard people from every nook and cranny to attend our Reunion/Convention in Covington, KY in October 2000. All Coast Guard groups, vessels, and all others are encouraged to schedule their reunions with ours. We have contracted an excellent room rate and the Drawbridge is easily accessible by air or road. Anyone interested in obtaining information in regard to this idea can contact **Bob Maxwell** at P.O. Box 2790, Burney, CA 96013-2790. Call him at (530) 335-3876, or fax him at (530) 335-3304. Arrangements will be made for meeting rooms for the groups that want to hold a separate meeting. There will be a large final night banquet for all to attend. If we get a good crowd together, we will have a better chance of getting the Commandant, Admiral Loy to be our guest speaker. The price is right and there will be plenty of rooms if we act early. Please pass this on to the meeting or reunion representative of other special Coast Guard groups.

LORAN Reunion

The 22nd annual reunion of Coast Guard LORAN Construction and Operations Personnel in the Pacific (1944-46) will be held 9-11 Sept 1999 at the Lodge at Palmer Gulch (in the Black Hills of South Dakota), Hill City, SD. Contact: **Roger Kelm** at 2610 So. Hawthorne Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105-4512. Ph: (605) 338-0234.

LST-16

The first ever reunion for WWII crewmen of *LST-16* is in the planning stages. If interested, contact (on the East Coast) **Joseph Niemec** at 6324 Witherole St., Rego Park, NY 11374. Ph: (718) 896-2458. On the West Coast, contact **Dominic**

Pizzulli at 2700 Neilson Way, Santa Monica, CA 40405. Ph: (310) 396-1150.

USCGC Point Grey

Robert MacLeod of 8268 Ferrel Pl., Harrisburg, NC 28075 is looking for crew members who served on *CGC Point Grey* during 1967-69 in Vietnam for a possible reunion. Ph: (704) 455-6868. FAX: (704) 455-6858. E-mail: RGBYSHEAST@aol.com.

USS/USCGC Lansing

Crew members from the *USS/USCGC Lansing (DE/DER-388, WDE-488)* will hold their reunion October 21-24, 1999 in New Orleans, LA. Contact: **Terry A. Moberg** at 902 Cindy St., Brainerd, MN 56401. Ph: (218) 829-3288.

Bering Sea Patrol

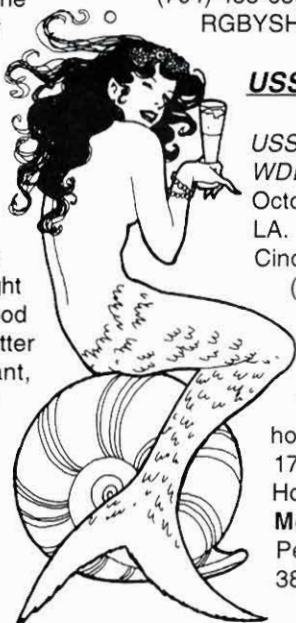
The Bering Sea Patrol - Alaska Veterans of the USCG will be holding its 24th annual reunion 14-17 Sept 1999, at the Flamingo Hilton Hotel in Reno, NV. Contact: **Bill McIntire** at P.O. Box 2070, Peachtree City, GA. Ph: (770) 631-3862. E-mail: BMCXI@aol.com.

USS Spokane

Plans are underway for the 3rd reunion of the *USS Spokane (CLAA-120)* in May or June, 2000 in the mother city of Spokane, WA. Contact: **Reunion Committee** at 4979 Grimsby Dr., San Jose, CA 95130. Ph: (408) 866-4392.

USS LST 829

The 17th ship's reunion of the Coast Guard-manned *USS LST 829* will be held 23-26 Sept 1999 at the Hilton Hotel in No. Charleston, SC. Contacts: **Joseph Chramoff** at 1020 Raymond Rd., Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Ph: (518) 885-4417 or **Albert J. Ryzner** at 4 Autumn Ct., No. Dartmouth, MA 07247. Ph: (508) 995-0734.



Reunions — Notices

USS LST 22

Crew members of *USS LST 22* are planning their 5th annual reunion. It will be held 22-26 Sept 1999 at Buffalo, NY. Contact: **Jack A. Pfeifer** at 11325 SW Timberline Dr., Beaverton, OR 97008. Ph: (503) 644-0048.

USS Gen. Howze

The next reunion for shipmates from the *USS General Robert L. Howze (AP-134)* will be held 4-6 Oct 1999 in Las Vegas, NV. Contact: **Leo Albright** at 233 Redbud Dr., Paradise, CA 95969. Ph: (530) 872-7173. Fax: (530) 872-9152. E-mail: usshowze@aol.com.

Attn: Coast Guard Chiefs!

The USCG Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA) will hold its 31st Annual Convention at the California Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas during the week of 16 August 1999. The CPOA Auxiliary will hold its 21st Annual Meeting there at the same time. All information along with Convention and Hotel registration forms are in the April 99 issue of *The Chief* magazine. For further information, contact the **CPOA National Office** at (703) 941-0395 or e-mail them at cgcpoa@aol.com.

CGC Wachusett

The 3rd Reunion of the *USCGC Wachusett* will be 25-26 September 1999 at the Best Western Southcenter in Seattle, WA. All hands that served on the cutter are welcome to attend. Contact: **James W. Ashe** at 35 Lexington Avenue, Gloversville, NY 12078. Ph: (518) 725-8377. E-mail: whec44@klink.net.

Greenland Patrol

All ships, stations and aircraft units of the USCG and Navy plus the Army 500th AA Battalion of the WWII Greenland Patrol will hold a Reunion and dedication of a Memorial Bronze

Plaque at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT, 22-24 September 1999. Contact: **John S. Stamford** at 1533 Wales Avenue, Balwin, NY 11510. Ph: (516) 223-1467. E-mail John at JSTAM8885@aol.com.

USS Covington

Crew members from the *USS Covington (PF-56)* will hold their next reunion 9-11 September 1999 at the Holiday Inn-Riverfront in Covington, KY (at the Mayor's invitation). Contact: **Dan Clifford** at 3715 River Oaks Drive, Des Moines, IA 50312-4634. Ph: (515) 279-2069.

LST 786

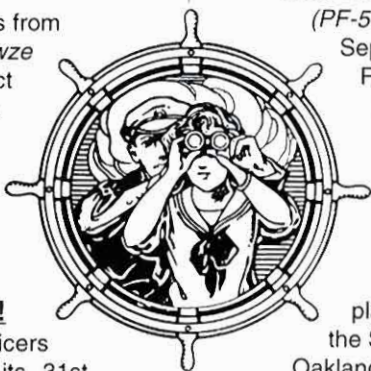
The next reunion for *LST 786* is planned for 6-8 October 1999 at the Starlite Motel, 500 No. 3rd Street, Oakland, MD 21550, the same place as the last reunion. For more information, contact: **Brien Mathews** at Ph: (315) 592-2198. E-mail: bmathews@worldnet.att.net (Brien Mathews).

CGC Taney

The next reunion for *USCGC Taney (WPG/WHEC-37)* is scheduled for 16-19 September 1999 at Jacksonville, FL. Contact: **CAPT W. G. Churchill** at 28 Cypress Grove Lane, Ormond Beach, FL 32174. Ph/Fax: (904) 615-0800.

Remembering The Sea Cloud

The *American Heritage Magazine* is preparing to do an article on the *Sea Cloud*, the first fully integrated ship in the Navy and is looking for persons who served on board *Sea Cloud* under CAPT Carlton Skinner in 1943-44. The famed painter Jacob Lawrence sailed on *Sea Cloud* and remembered his time there as, "the best democracy I've ever known." If you have any anecdotes or recollections or photos depicting life aboard the ship, please contact **Carla Davidson** at the *American Heritage Magazine*, 60 Fifth Avenue,



Reunions — Notices

New York, NY 10011. Ph: (212) 620-1806. Fax: (212) 620-2332. E-mail: cdauidso@forbes.com.

Trying To Locate Dad

CGCVA member Louis Ciancaglini was sent a letter from a "WWII English War Babe" who is trying to locate her father. Perhaps someone reading this could help.

Valerie Jean Bergson says her father was either U.S. Navy or Coast Guard, stationed in Poole Dorset during 1944. She was conceived in October 1944 (after the D-Day invasion) so there were far less U.S. military personnel in England at that time. Her mother passed away 15 years ago but told her the father's last name was Patterson, nickname "Pat", and that he was from Iowa.

She believes he was of Swedish origin, was about 5' 4" tall, of stocky build with light brown/fair hair and brilliant blue eyes. Her Dad was sent back to the U.S. when her mother was 8-1/2 months pregnant but he continued to stay in touch and send support.

All contact ceased many years ago before Valerie could get more information from her mother. If anyone can assist, contact Valerie at 2 Michelmersh Green, Bournemouth BH80NU, Dorset, England. Ph: 01202-518721.

E-Mail Addresses

To assist Association members in contacting each other, member names and their e-mail addresses will be published as they are received. Previously listed e-mail addresses will be listed regular-face, new ones will be added in **bold-face** type.

LCDR Ed Swift. eswift@ballston.uscg.mil
Joe Kleinpeter. PointBanks@aol.com
Baker Herbert. uscgw64@aol.com
Ed Burke. edekrub@aol.com
Fred's Place. www.fredsplace.org/
CAPT John M. Austin. jaustin@sault.com
Elisha Sellers, Jr. elsellers@webink.net
MKC Roger Grinnel. RGrinn9471@aol.com
Roland Bishop. Oakauth1@aol.com
Paul R. Spengler. paulspeng@aol.com
Douglas R. Peterson. farpete@juno.com

Jack Shuler. JNMNSHU@aol.com
LT Thomas W. Lefebvre, USCGR (Ret.)
golfer@playful.com
Butch Martin. MYGWING
VADM Thomas R. Sargent, USCG
vadmsarg@inetworld.net
Herb Cohen. hcohen@intermind.net
Michael Glenn. Mugsy@Compuserve.com
John Liss. ajliss@redrose.net
Frenchy Benoit. CGFrenchy@aol.com
William G. Donaldson. bjdonaldson@juno.com
Ralph G. Sproston. rsproston@juno.com
Ken Black. knb@ime.net
Bob Schaar. rls7@bellatlantic.net
Bill Beckwith. gm2uscgwph@mindspring.com
Marcel Bujarski. marcel@bujarski.com
Ray Hertica. rhertica@sprintmail.com
Thomas E. Bretz. TMinGVAZ@aol.com
Stan Feldman. railpix@trainweb.com
Thomas Pitman. pitman@popalex1.linknet.net
Thomas Barnes. LAPrivateEye@aol.com
Joe Manion. manjoe@aol.com
Dean Pancoast. DPancoast@aol.com
Leo Albright. usshowze@aol.com
LCDR Ed Swift (at home). swift@gte.net
GM1 Kris Swift. evlswift@pacbell.net
DC2 Mike Holcomb. seasmoky@aol.com
RM1 Robert Pinkerton. robert.s.pinkerton@gte.net
David L. Teska. teska@falcon.cc.ukans.edu
Nick Mlinscek. cambria@warwick.net
BMCS Jack Crowley. jccc99@gateway.net
LST Association. www.uslist.org
MCPO Dan McCrummen. HDMc3@alaska.net
Al Duffield. Alduffield@aol.com
Jeff L. Anderson. jeffola1@juno.com
Frank Dettner. frnknsuz@jps.com
Paul E. Wheeler. PEWheels@aol.com
George A. Wolf. gepewolf@aol.com
Bill Parks. MUQH49A@juno.com
Byron E. Jennings. Byron E 26
Raymond Sorensen. LST886@aol.com
Lee Boyle. Leeruth@aol.com

American Legion Post 1529

In the spring of 1947, in Buffalo, NY, the Coast Guard American Legion Post 1529 was formed by 75 men and women who had served in the Coast Guard during WWII. During their first two years, post meetings were held in a brewery. Later it was in a German restaurant. They've also met at several different Legion Posts and even member's homes over the years. In 1988-89, John Baer, a CGCVA member, was the Post Commander. Today, the post has 56 members and meets in Tonawanda Post 264. And they're still looking for new blood. If you'd like to be a

member of the only Coast Guard American Legion Post in the country, contact **John Baer** at 25 Faragut Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150. Ph: (716) 692-9138.

Engineroom Justice

Just wanted to provide a response to Norm Bowker's poem, "The Snipe" in the last QD Log. It's too bad that those old wooden decks, which those topside in the "day light" holy-stoned, are now gone because they were the best place for all of us engineers to dump any extra fuel oil while refueling at sea. What do the rest of you black gang types think about it?

Rick Blythe

History of the Purple Heart Medal

On August 7, 1782, at his Newburgh, New York headquarters, GEN George Washington devised a Badge of Military Merit, which was the "figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding." This badge was for "any singular meritorious action" and permitted the wearer to pass guards and sentinels without challenge. The honoree's name and regiment were inscribed in a Book of Merit. What Washington wrote in his orderly book on August 7, 1782 still stands today:

"The road to glory in a patriotic army and a free country is thus open to all. This order is also to have retrospect to the earliest stages of the war, and to be considered a permanent one."

After the Revolutionary War, no more American soldiers received the Badge of Military Merit. It was not until October 10, 1927, that Army Chief of Staff, GEN Charles Summerall, directed a draft bill to be sent to Congress "to revive the Badge of Military Merit." The Army

withdrew the bill on January 3, 1928, but the Office of the Adjutant General filed all correspondence for possible future use.

Although a number of private efforts were made to have the medal reinstated, it wasn't until January 7, 1931 that Summerall's successor

GEN Douglas MacArthur, confidentially reopened the case. His object was to have a new medal issued on the bicentennial of George Washington's birth.

At the same time, revisions to Army regulations defined the conditions of the award:

"A wound which necessitates treatment by a medical officer and which

is received in action with the enemy, may in judgement of the commander assigned to make the award be construed as resulting from a singularly meritorious act of essential service."

At that time the Navy did not authorize the issue of the Purple Heart, but Franklin D. Roosevelt amended that. By Executive Order on December 3, 1942, the award was extended to the Navy, Marine Corps, and the Coast Guard beginning December 6, 1941.

Long Island Coasties Gather

CGCVA Member Vince Anthony writes that the Nov. 2, 1998 gathering of the Long Island Coasties was a huge success. There were about 68 in attendance, including one SPAR, two WAVES, and two Navy men. Their speaker was Frank Braynard who spoke about the Titanic and other vessels of that era. This is a great group of ex-Coasties and all CGCVA members are welcomed at their quarterly luncheons, usually located at one of the Long Island, NY Coast Guard Stations. To find out more about them,



contact **Vince Anthony** at 9 Park West, New Hyde Park, NY 11040-3503 or call (516) 742-3149.

The United Nations Command

The pre-dawn quiet of a rainy, peaceful Sunday morning, June 25, 1950, was abruptly shattered by the crash of cannons and the snarl of automatic weapons as soldiers of North Korea marched southward. The invading hordes breached the 38th Parallel and rolled back the lightly-armed Republic of Korea Army constabulary forces toward their capital of Seoul.

Two days later, the United Nations called on the countries of the world to unite and assist in driving the invader from the ROK. In its resolution, the UN Security Council named the United States as executive agent to implement the resolution and direct UN military operations in

Korea.

President Harry S. Truman, armed with the UN resolution and recognizing a threat to the Free World, determined the U.S. could no longer remain neutral while communist powers trampled the free nations of the world. GEN Douglas MacArthur was ordered to provide whatever assistance was needed to repel this invasion. On July 24, in Tokyo, GEN MacArthur committed U.S. Air and Naval forces, officially establishing the United Nations Command (UNC).

Peak strength for the UNC on July 27, 1953 (the day the Armistice Agreement was signed) was 932,964. This included: Republic of Korea (590,911); United States (302,483); United Kingdom (14,198); Canada (6,146); Turkey (5,453); Columbia (1,068); Belgium (900); South Africa (826); The Netherlands (819); and Luxembourg (44).

Let Your Name Live On

For years, the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association has been operating from day-to-day through the collection of dues and the contributions of our members. The time has come for us to be more concerned about the future. Will you consider naming the CGCVA in your will? Any help in the form of cash, stocks, or life insurance policies will help assure the future of the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. It can be as easy as using one of these sample forms of bequest:

— (Whatever is left after other bequests have been granted.) "All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, including real and personal property, I give, devise and bequeath to the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association, a Corporation created under the laws of the State of Ohio, located at (give the current designated Administrative Office or Headquarters address)."

— "I give, devise, and bequeath to the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association, a Corporation created under the laws of the State of Ohio, located at (give the current designated Administrative Office or Headquarters address), _____ % of my estate."

— "I give, devise, and bequeath to the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association, a Corporation created under the laws of the State of Ohio, located at (give the current designated Administrative Office or Headquarters address), the sum of \$ _____ for the (Name a specific fund), the principle of which shall remain in perpetuity."

Please remember: The CGCVA is a Non-Profit Association. All donations are tax deductible.

Coast Guard Memorial Dedication

An idea, conceived by CGCVA Life Member #1, CWO4 Michael K. Opsitnik, USCG (Ret.), turned to reality on 11 November 1998 when a USCG Memorial Monument was dedicated to honor Coast Guard members and their families who are, or will be, interred in the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Boulder City, NV.

The Silver State Chapter, Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officers Association, was officially granted a charter on Coast Guard Day, 4 August 1995 and the first chapter meeting was held two months later. At that meeting, CWO Opsitnik proposed the construction of a memorial similar to twelve monuments of military organizations installed at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Members present approved the proposal and authorized Opsitnik to proceed.

The local Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association (Las Vegas Mavericks Chapter) learned of the project, volunteered their support, and a joint committee was formed. By early 1996, the group's Fund Committee had contacted and gotten pledges for the project by several other groups, including the 11th Coast Guard District Retiree Council, National CWO&WOA President George Borlase, and local printing and mail order companies. Things were moving and, with the assistance from the several other groups, letters were mailed soliciting funds for the project and approximately \$10,000 was raised.

In meeting with the Nevada Commission For Veterans Affairs, the group was informed of available dates for the dedication ceremony and they opted for Veterans Day, November 11, 1998. This was approved by the Commission and finally the big day arrived.

It had rained all night and didn't end until 10 a.m. on the day of the ceremony. Still, the weather didn't dim the crowd and they enjoyed hot coffee from the Fund Committee, cakes from the Santa Fe Hotel & Casino, and gallons of cran-

berry drinks donated by Ocean Spray Corp.

Attending the ceremonies was CAPT Lawrence Brudnicki, Chief of Operations at Coast Guard Pacific Area, who addressed the 250 plus Coast Guard families and veterans organizations representatives. Nevada's two U.S. Senators and two U.S. Congressmen addressed the crowd and several Boulder City officials were present, along with representatives from the Nevada Commission For Veterans Affairs.

The Boulder City HS Band entertained with

patriotic melodies and the Nellis Air Force Base Honor Guard presented the Colors. The Invocation and Benediction were given by Air Force Chaplain, CAPT Amy Daniels who eagerly volunteered for the assignment. Why? Perhaps because her brother is a Coast Guard Commander, her grandfather a CG retiree (after 27 years), and her father is RADM Edwin Daniels, Sr., USCG (Ret.). Admiral Daniels and his wife also attended, flying in from North Carolina for the ceremony.



The Coast Guard Monument at the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City, NV, dedicated on Veterans Day 1998.

Just prior to the unveiling and dedication of the monument, CWOA Silver State President, CWO4 "Wib" Coe, USCG (Ret.), the Treasurer of the Memorial Fund, presented a check in the amount of \$5,000 to a representative of "Operation Godspeed", the organization building a Veterans Memorial Cemetery Chapel. This represented monies collected over and above the cost of the monument.

Individuals interested in contributing to "Operation Godspeed" should contact **CWO Michael Opsitnik** at 5033 Cliffrose Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130.

The Coast Guard Veterans Memorial Fund Committee thanks all who supported this worthwhile project over the past three years.

Michael Opsitnik

Editor's Note: This story was received some time ago but not in time to be included in the last QD Log. Sorry it took awhile to run it. Great work Mikel

The Four Chaplains

Most CGCVA members know the saga of the sinking of the Army Transport *Dorchester* on 22 January 1943 in the North Atlantic and the heroic actions by "the four chaplains" on the ship. Still, I feel the official monument in Stapleton, Staten Island, NY carries erroneous information about the event, information that does not reflect well for the Coast Guard. Because of this, I have tried to set the record straight but with limited success.

The large polished granite slab supports a large brass plaque and smaller plaques of the four chaplains who gave their lives that frigid night so that others would survive. Engraved on the large plaque is the story of the sinking of the *Dorchester* by a German U-Boat. On that evening, two Coast Guard cutters, *Escanaba*

and *Commanche*, were serving as escort vessels for the convoy when the *Dorchester* left the convoy a few hours short of its Greenland destination.

The plaque reads, "The ship, taking on water rapidly, began listing to starboard because security reasons prevented the use of distress flares. The escort vessels, still close enough to assist, pushed on into the darkness unaware that the *Dorchester* was sinking. Over-crowded lifeboats cap-sized, rafts drifted away before anyone could reach them."

The verbage in the last two sentences is where I felt there is a discrepancy. After all, the *Escanaba* picked up 132 survivors and the *Commanche* rescued another 93, yet there is no mention of their lifesaving efforts that night.

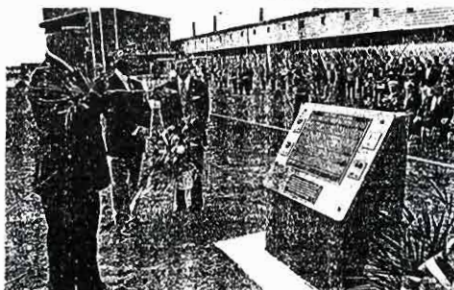
I wrote to Staten Island Borough President Guy V. Molinari, informing him of the discrepancy and asking for the plaque information to be corrected. While this appears unlikely, the Memorial & Executive Committee of the Staten Island Veterans Organizations, Inc., has indicated a willingness to add another plaque giving recognition to the Coast Guard for their valor in saving 225 of

the *Dorchester's* crew.

I have also tried to reach the Executive Director, Chapel of Four Chaplains in Valley Forge, PA, asking for their literature and pamphlets on the *Dorchester* to be changed to reflect the actions by the two Coast Guard cutters but have yet to receive a reply. Hopefully, this will be corrected one day. **SCPO Bruno Yoka, USCG (Ret.)**



The Four Chaplains Memorial



*Officials and veterans gather to rededicate the monument to the Four Chaplains of the *Dorchester*. CGCVA member Bruno Yoka feels that the inscription on the plaque has some erroneous information on it.*

Saluting Top Recruits

Any CGCVA member who happens to be at Cape May Training Center for the weekly Friday graduations is welcome to present the CGCVA-sponsored Physical Fitness Award to the winning recruit... a certificate and CGCVA watch. This is a great way to get new Coasties familiar with the Coast Guard's distinguished combat history and also with our Association.

Jack Campbell and Ed Swift have attended several graduations and made the CGCVA presentations. Recently, two other CGCVA members, **Al Duffield** and **Joe Hannan**, did the same and highly recommend it to any CGCVA member in the Cape May area on a Friday morning. Al said that the Commanding Officer, CAPT Sally Brice-O'Hara and CWO Bill Carson go out of their way to make the attending CGCVA member feel like a VIP. Al made the presentation to SR Miles Peacock on 27 March. Joe made the CGCVA presentation on 14 May to SA Joseph Sturgis.

Since the last *QD Log* issue, the following recruits have received the CGCVA-sponsored Physical Fitness Award:

SR Ryan J. Reed (Papa 154) of Albany, NY, will report to USCG Station Charlevoix, MI.

SR Christopher J. Belisle (Quebec 154) of Oxnard, CA.

SR Miles D. Peacock (Romeo 154) of Sacramento, CA.

SR Jolee S. Goldsmith (Sierra 154) of Philadelphia, PA, will report to ET "A" School, Petaluma, CA

SR Yamasheka Young (Tango 154) of

Marietta, GA, will report to *CGC Hamilton*, San Diego, CA.

SR Matthew J. Larsen (Uniform 154) of New York, NY, will report to *CGC Chinook*, New London, CT.

SA Peter N. Gardikis (Victor 154) of Phoenix, AZ, will report to *CGC Morgenthau*, Alameda, CA.

SA Samuel D. Colby (Whiskey 154) of Honolulu, HI, will report to QM "A" School in Yorktown, VA.

SA Ohmar Acuna (X-Ray 154) of Anchorage, AK, will report to Air Station Elizabeth

City, NC.

SA Joseph M. Sturgis (Yankee 154) will report to *CGC Cheyenne*, St. Louis, MO.

SA Scotttschau (Zulu 154) of San Antonio, TX, will report to MK "A" School in Yorktown, VA.

SA Eric R. Brielmaier (Alpha 155) of St. Petersburg, FL, will report to *CGC Dependable*, Portsmouth, VA.

SA William K. Tims (Bravo 155) of Riverside, CA, will report to *CGC Alex Haley*, Kodiak, AK.

The Cavalier and More

In the last *QD Log*, I enjoyed reading of the experiences of other CGCVA members and I wanted to record some of my own personal and unusual experiences while serving in the Coast Guard during WWII.

After enlisting in July 1943 after high school graduation but before my 18th birthday, I entered boot camp in Sheepshead Bay, NY. I was assigned to amphibious training with the Marines at Camp Lejeune, NC, then reassigned from an AKA transport to the *USS Cavalier*.

While serving there I spent nine days in the LCPV (landing craft) in Saipan when the *Cavalier* was ordered to leave because the enemy fleet was on its way. It left most of the boats and



From left, CGCVA member Joe Hannah, SA Joseph Sturgis and Marge Hannan at 14 May 1999 Recruit Graduation Ceremonies at Cape May, NJ.



From left, CGCVA member Al Duffield, SR Miles Peacock and RADM Thomas Barrett at 27 March 1999 Recruit Graduation Ceremonies at Cape May, NJ.

crews behind to fend for themselves without food or supplies. During this time, only one ship arrived with supplies for the ground troops. At night on guard duty we watched for enemy swimmers trying to get close to our boats with explosives. Patrols would challenge us for the signals to show we were friendly and on one occasion, when we were slow to respond with the correct signal, started to shoot at us.

Next came landings at Tinian, Leyte and Luzon, then on to an operation behind enemy lines at Subic Bay.

I was in the first wave at the landing at Subic Bay. Information was that this was to be a friendly landing. No ships or planes bombarding the beach for safety. As we hit the beach, from over the dunes came a bunch of heads, but to our relief they were friendly natives. That night leaving we were torpedoed. We were towed from Subic Bay to Pearl Harbor... a slow moving target for enemy subs, but got there with no further problems. After repairs at Pearl we were ready for sea trials but the war ended in 1945.

Being only one point short of discharge, I did the unthinkable and volunteered for "shore duty in Southern California". Of course, before I knew it, I was on my way to Alaska. I was sent to Mt. Ranier Ordinance Depot in Washington first. What a gem! The depot had been a condemned Italian

Prisoner of War camp, declared unfit for POWs by the International Red Cross. The Red Cross had no objection to us staying there however and we settled into unheated barracks with only a small pot bellied stove for comfort.

Next, I was sent to a naval air station nearby and put on a plane to Annette Island, AK. Our sea bags were thrown on the runway and the plane took off. The only person around was an airman who had no idea who we were but he called the Coast Guard base in Ketchikan and they sent a boat for us.

Arriving at the base about midnight, we were given a choice of assignments: sea duty, lighthouse duty or a Loran station. I chose sea duty and was assigned to the buoy tender *Clover*. While on board, a tidal wave hit and killed a number of Coast Guardsmen assigned to a lighthouse and we were ordered to evacuate a Loran station nearby.

Finally I was replaced by a Seaman 2/c and discharged in 1946 as a MOMM3/c. Surprisingly, then at 21 years of age, I knew how to drive a landing barge but didn't know how to drive a car.

In recent years, I have remained associated with old shipmates through the CGCVA and the USS Cavalier WWII Reunion Assoc. I've been their reunion chairman for six get-togethers in Las Vegas an am working on a Fall 1999 reunion there.

Herb Cohen, CGCVA Life Member

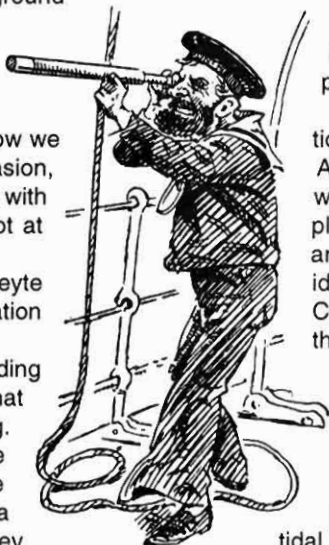
Editor's Note: Additional information on the USS Cavalier is provided in the Feature section of this issue, starting on page 16.

Any husband who says, "My wife and I are completely equal partners," is talking about either a law firm or a hand of bridge.

— Bill Cosby

CGC Haida Returns

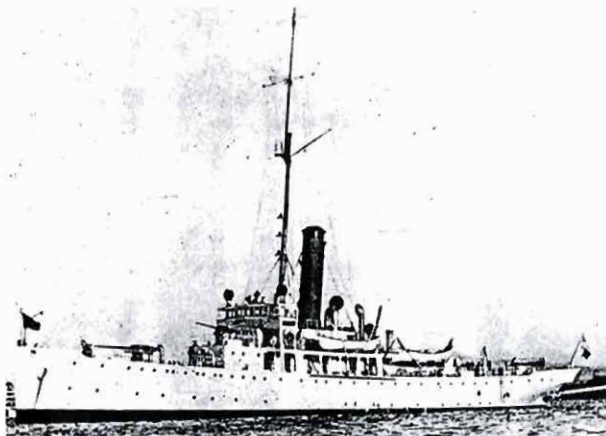
I was a 17-year-old SA from Omaha, NE when I made my first cruise aboard the *CGC Haida*.



Scotch Cap Light Station on Unimak Island, Alaska. A 200-foot tidal wave generated by an earthquake on 1 April 1946 destroyed the station, and all five Coast Guardsmen operating the station perished.

Despite my being seasick a lot, I had several significant experiences on that trip, as documented in the following newspaper headline and report filed upon our return:

"Haida Back After Long Stay At Sea: Weathers Four Storms And Has Busy Night In Dutch Harbor Gale."



USCGC Haida early in her career. She was extensively employed in Alaskan waters prior to WWII. Here, she is painted in traditional cutter colors: a white hull and superstructure, a buff stack, mast and ventilation, and black funnel caps. Wooden decks were a natural wood finish and steel decks were gray.

"After nearly two months absence from Juneau during which she cruised into the shadow of the Arctic Circle and back again for 6,200 miles on the log, the Coast Guard cutter *Haida* is back at her moorings at the Government Wharf. She sailed from Juneau to Attu, the outermost island in the Aleutian chain. Other points on *Haida's* voyage were Seward, Kodiak, Chignik, Unalaska, Chernofski, Atka, Nome, Sabonga and King Island."

The *Haida*, during the course of Bering Sea Patrol, took medical aid to many, gave help to two storm-tossed vessels, saved two men from drowning, worked on a third who did not revive, and weathered four severe storms heightened by winds of 80 mph or better. One of the gales blew so hard that the plates of the ship were battered and damaged."

"On Armistice Day in Dutch Harbor, the old Alaska Line vessel *Northwestern*, now a temporary floating barracks and power house at the navy base, nearly broke away from her moorings as an 80-mph wind lashed the harbor. The *Haida* crew made the *Northwestern* safely fast to the dock with a 12-inch hawser, and also secured the Wildlife Service vessel *Penguin*. On the same night, the cook from the *Penguin* fell overboard from the *Northwestern's* plunging gangplank. A *Haida* resuscitation crew worked for three hours but were unable to revive him."

"At Nome, two of the Alaska Line freighter *Sutherland's* crew were pulled from the icy waters of the Bering Sea when they fell overboard, *Haida* crew making the rescue."

"At Chignik, ship's doctor Dr. L.W. Brown saved three of four cases of septic throat, stemming an epidemic, and assisted a woman in childbirth." **Jesse Cunningham**

From The Editor (cont. from p.3)

Thanks again to all who have gotten involved so far. If interested in the "Everyone Is A Recruiter" program, call me at (202) 493-6659. By the way, this is the new phone number for the Recruiting Center Operations Officer (my current assignment). By the time this issue hits the streets however, I will have a different job and a different phone number but I'll still be assigned to Recruiting so use that phone number. My e-mail addresses remain the same both at home and at work.

Can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to our next Reunion. I just might look a little different however since I will retire in May 2000 and the Reunion is in November. I won't be in uniform then but I'll still be wearing a CGCVA ballcap that says "Swiftly" on the back so you'll know it's me. Take care all! Semper Paratus! **Swiftly**

The best way to get most husbands to do something is to suggest that perhaps they're too old to do it. -- Anne Bancroft

Welcome New Members

A hearty "welcome aboard!" to the following new CGCVA members. New member names are boldfaced and sponsors are in parentheses:

FEBRUARY 1999:

Edward F. Lewis; **Marshalena Delany** (Ed Swift); **Henry H. Hill** (Joe Kleinpeter); **Edgar F. Adler** (Chuck Ulrich); **George V. Durenberger** (Richard Blauvelt); **Eugene W. Mayer** (Richard Blauvelt); and **William H. Galloway** (William M. Owings);

MARCH 1999:

Eracleo Alimpolo (Vince Stauffer); **Billy G. Parker** (Joe Kleinpeter); **Harold L. Routzong** (Al Courter); **George M. Swezey** (John Hitchings); **James R. Pryor** (Bill Wells); **Don C. Hinkle** (Joe Kleinpeter); **Louis C. Pantages** (Morris E. Lewis); **Robert F. MacLeod** (Ed Swift); **James M. Reynolds** (Joe Kleinpeter); and **Alvin R. Mason** (Chuck Ulrich).


APRIL 1999:

Reby Cary (Al Duffield); **Frank W. Nitz** (Bob Franzago); **Edwin V. Ford** (Davenport & Jennings); **James C. Wynens** (Gordon Baxter); **Charles F. Wolf** (Byke); **William C. McLeod**; **Harold W. Schultze** (William Lewis); **John W. MacMillan** (Vincent Greco); **Edward F. Pietro** (Bill Wells); **Luigi P. Della-Luna** (Chuck Ulrich); and **Donald F. Brown** (Al Courter).


MAY 1999:

John E. Milovancevic (Ed Burke); **Michael J. Hare** (Thomas G. Taylor); **John E. Keenan**

(Albert Desrochers); **Leonard E. Bauer** (Joe Kleinpeter); **Daniel A. Wick, Sr.** (Jack Campbell); **Edward Pastucha** (Charles D. DiDonato); **Richard W. Goode** (Jack D. McCann); and **Charles A. Peterson** (Joe Kleinpeter).



CROSSED THE BAR



Sam Belifiore
Joined: 10-1-93 CTB: 5-4-99

Chester G. Csontos
Joined: 2-15-92 CTB: 4-4-99

Doc E. S. "Wynn" Kenton
Joined: 12-10-89 CTB: 4-4-99

Stanley Rosenblatt
CTB: 10-7-98

David Hughes
Joined: 12-11-91 COB: 1-99

Louis Hesem
Joined: 9-29-89 CTB: 3-24-99

Edward Kincaide*
Joined: 7-22-88 CTB: 3-97

Mr. Kincaide joined the Revenue Cutter Service in 1914. He rose from Steerage Boy 2/c to Chief Radioman. He was 99 years old when he passed.

Munro Portraits

Mr. John Silva, Jr., a retired USAF E-6, is planning to do a portrait of SM1/c Douglas Munro as part of a collection of paintings depicting Medal of Honor recipients. He has previously done similar works commemorating the "Tuskegee Airmen" and is preparing Medal of Honor portraits for the Congressional Medal of Honor convention in September 2000 in his home town of Pueblo, CO. His portrait of Munro would be among those he displays at that convention and he would like to make copies available to all interested parties.

Cost to reserve a print is \$53.75 which includes shipping and handling. An advance deposit is requested in order to guarantee a print, numbered and signed, plus a copy of Munro's MOH citation. A minimum of 250 orders are necessary to assure success in this venture. Should the project not receive the necessary 250 advance orders, deposits will be returned.

Monies should be sent to **John Silva** at 5301 6th Street, St. Petersburg, FL 33705. Ph: (727) 866-6289 or (813) 839-3883. John's e-mail is jsilva0894@aol.com. On receipt of your personal check, you will be provided (1) a receipt for money advanced and (2) your print number and an appropriate date you can plan on receiving the print.

CG-Manned USS Cavalier (APA-37)

Editor's Note: The following article was sent to me more than a year ago by Pat Spero. As the Corresponding Secretary for the USS Cavalier (APA-37) WWII Association, Pat researched and produced a comprehensive ship's history and chronological record of the Cavalier. I have taken the liberty of condensing the material submitted into this feature article. I hope I have done justice to the ship and the Coast Guard men who manned the Cavalier, and I apologize for not using it before this.

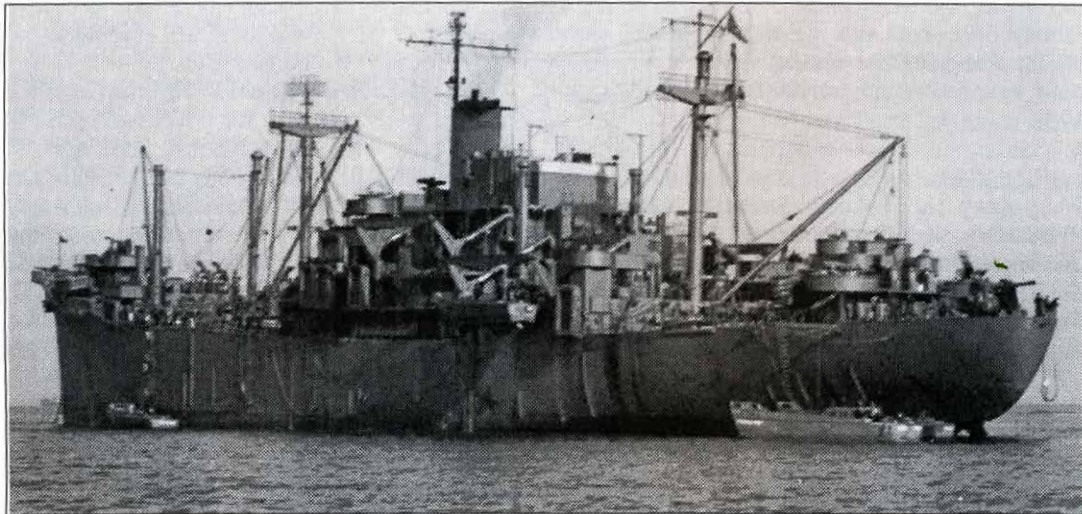
Named for a county in North Dakota, the *USS Cavalier* (APA-37) was built by the Western Pipe and Steel Company, although its original name was *Sea Swallow*. She was launched 15 March 1943 under the sponsorship of Mrs. Monroe W. Jackson and delivered to the Navy on 19 July. *Cavalier* was fitted out as an attack transport by the Bethlehem Steel Company and placed in commission on 15 January 1944 under the command of CAPT Raymond T. McElliott, USCG.

Cavalier conducted sea trials in Long Island Sound and after loading ammunition, departed Brooklyn, NY on 26 January for Hampton Roads, VA where she loaded landing barges. She loaded men and cargo of the 141st and 10th

Special Sea Bees at Davisville, RI and departed for the Pacific Theater 24 February. Arriving in Honolulu 16 March, she was assigned to the Fifth Amphibious Force, Fifth Fleet and commenced training with the 167th Regimental Combat Team of the 27th Infantry Division. Named as flagship of Commander Transport Division Seven, the *Cavalier* departed Pearl Harbor on 1 June to take part in the invasion of Saipan, Marianas Islands.

Arriving off Saipan on 16 June, *Cavalier's* boat division began landing troops at Caran-Kanon at Blue Beach. Before she could land all her artillery ashore, *Cavalier* was suddenly ordered to retire from the area due to the approach of the Japanese fleet. Twenty-three of her boats were left behind and these shuttled back and forth between the beaches and the ships, returning to the beach area each day with ammunition, water and supplies, and taking wounded Marines and Army troops back to the ships.

Returning to the beach, *Cavalier* landed the remainder of its artillery, took on a large number



The Coast Guard-manned APA's were workhorses in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters during WWII



Cavalier crewmen holding native babies from the island of Tinian. The babies were abandoned by their mothers when Marines were landing and were taken back to the Cavalier for medical checks and to be kept safe.

of casualties, and left for Eniwetok Atoll, arriving 30 June. While there, *Cavalier* debarked the wounded and took on cargo, including 37 tons of dynamite for the Underwater Demolition Teams at Saipan. At Saipan, she loaded troops and vehicles of the Second Marine Division for the invasion at Tinian, Marianas Island. Arriving at the northern end of that island on 24 July, she landed her troops and cargo at White Beach and took on casualties, then headed to Pearl Harbor via Eniwetok.

At Pearl Harbor, *Cavalier* underwent repairs, then embarked equipment and troops of the 184th Regimental Combat Team of the Seventh Army Division for landing rehearsal exercises off Maui, Hawaiian Islands.

Departing Hawaii as part of the Third Fleet on 15 September, she sailed via

Enewetok to Seeadler Harbor, Manus, Admiralty Island and reported for duty as a unit of the Seventh Fleet. As part of Task Group 79.1, *Cavalier* then took part in the Leyte Landings for the Liberation of the Philippines.

Arriving off Leyte on 20 October, *Cavalier* landed troops on Yellow Beach near the burning town of Julag under opposition from Japanese mortar batteries and machine gun fire. She remained off the beach, landing troops and receiving casualties under cover of smoke screen until late in the day of 23 October, departing only hours before the Battle for Leyte Gulf. On 30 October 1944, while at Manus, Admiralty Islands, *Cavalier's* skipper was relieved by CAPT A.G. Hall, USCG.

On 30 November, *Cavalier* arrived at Berlin Harbor, Aitape, New Guinea and after loading troops and cargo of the 43rd Infantry Division, conducted landing rehearsal exercises, then departed on 28 December for the landings at

Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands. On the night of 7 January 1945, *Cavalier* made initial radar contact with Japanese destroyer *Hinoki* which was lit by star shells and sunk by escorts of the convoy under her observation.

On 9 January she arrived off Luzon in southern Lingayen Gulf and commenced landing troops on White Beach. The 6th, 7th and 8th waves, made up entirely of *Cavalier's* boats, penetrated an almost solid wall of mortar shell splashes in reaching the beaches and many of her landing barges returned with holes from exploding shrapnel.

A GREAT DAY FOR THE CAVALIER

*Do you fellows remember Tinian,
On a bright day in July,
As the Marines were going over the side,
We knew that some would die.
That is not a pleasant thought,
It was not for us to reason why.
But it all happened on that fateful day,
On the 24th of July.
There was fright among the civilians,
They knew not what to expect.
They watched the boats approach the beach,
Wondering what would happen next.
The mothers fearing for their lives,
Did not know what the Marines would do,
So they abandoned their little babies,
In hopes that God would see them through.
God was on the beach that day,
To this we can attest.
Because the Cavalier boats were also there,
Manned by nothing but the best.
The men picked up all those babies,
And returned them to our home.
To be cared for by our doctors,
And be safe and not alone.
Perhaps some of you forgot that day,
But I really don't know why.
So I'm reminding you with a picture,
From that eventful day in July.*



Sailors survey torpedo damage to Cavalier's starboard side aft at Pearl Harbor. Cavalier had been towed nearly 5,500 miles after being hit off Manila Bay.

Cavalier remained in the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard for repairs and alterations until 12 September. During this time, CDR C.R. MacLean, USCG, relieved CAPT Hall, and he was subsequently relieved by CAPT Carl E. Guisness, USCG, on 2 September. *Cavalier* departed Pearl Harbor and sailed via Eniwetok for Manila to load troops at Subic Bay. Departing 11 October for the United States, *Cavalier* arrived in San Francisco on 1 November 1945. Her Coast Guard connection ended on 16 April 1946, when CAPT Guisness was relieved by CAPT Kenneth Earl, USN.

472 Enlisted

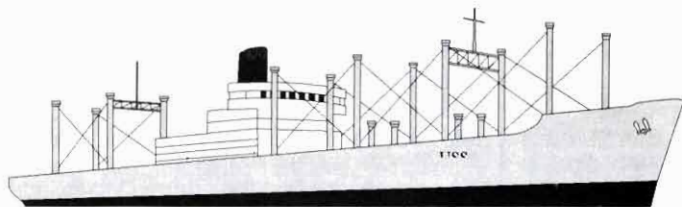
Speed — 18 knots

Artillery — two 5-inch guns

Awards Earned —

- Nine Battle Stars (*Marianas Operation; Titián Capture and Occupation; Leyte Operation; Luzon Operation; Manila Bay-Bicol Operations; North Korean Agression; Inchon Landings; Summer-Fall Offensive; and Second Korean Winter*)
- Navy Occupation Service Medal
- China Service Medal
- Korean Service Medal

- United Nations Service Medal
- Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation
- Korean Presidential Unit Citation



USS Cavalier (APA-37)