

## the uarterdeck Log

Summer, and Fall. Not sold on a subscription basis. The Coast Guard Combat Veterane Association is a Non-Profit Corporation of Active Duty Members, Relired Members, Reserve Members and Honorabity Discharged Former Members of the United States Coast Guard who served in, or provided direct support to combet ethations recognized by an appropriate military award while serving as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

Volume 12, Number 4

# "Shipwreck Trail" Ceremony CGCVA Shares Lead Role In Treasury Class Cutter Dedication

On Nov. 24, 1997, the Coast Guard, NOAA, and Indiana University collaborated on the 60th anniversary of the USCG Treasury Class with a dedication ceremony. It was also the 10th anniversary of the creation of an artificial reef with the cutters' Bibb and Duane off Kev Largo, Fla.

The culmination of many, many months of effort to create the "Shipwreck Trail", a project the CGCVA was actively involved in, was the mounting of a bronze plaque. suitably inscribed, on the Duane.

The day's activities began at the Coast Guard Integrated Support Command (formerly Base Miami Beach). On that morning, approximately 80 Coast Guard veterans of the Treasury Class cutters and their family and friends were met by a sign, "Welcome 327 Sailors" before they boarded the USCGC Thetis (WMEC-910).

Already onboard were representatives from the 327's, including: Hank Rogers, Alfred Givens, George Benton, Louis



Representatives from the various 327-foot Treasury Class Cutter associations joined with CGCVA president Joe Kleinpeter (2nd from right) during dedication ceremonies for the "Shipwreck Trail" aboard the USCGC Thetis Nov. 24, 1997.

Russell, and Jim Jasper from the Spencer & Bibb; David Blum, John Borrelli, James Buza,

> Bob Spitacht, and Larry Hotch from the Campbell: Grea Bevirt, Bert Van Der Veer, and Dick Dehn from the Ingham; Albert Viau from the Duane: and Perry Bradley and John Hitchings (who served on the Campbell, Bibb, Duane and representing Tanev) Alexander Hamilton.

In addition to the 327 sailors, others instrumental in creating the "Shipwreck Trail" (continued on page 19)



The bronze plaque placed by divers on the USCGC Duane Nov. 23, 1997.



## COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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## THE QUARTERDECK LOG

LCDR. Ed Swift, USCG, Editor-In-Chief

The Administrative Offices are 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:

The past three months have been a quite busy time for me lately, as well as for the CGCVA.

Ed and Nancy Burke and I, along with several CGCVA members, participated in the "Shipwreck Trail" ceremonies. It was a rough ride but a great time



JOE KLEINPETER

Perhaps more important than what I've been up to lately is what is coming up for our Association — our biennial Convention/Reunion — this time in Corpus Christi, Texas. This should be a fantastic event and your Reunion Committe has put in a tremendous amount of time and work to bring you the best that Corpus Christi can offer. We have included a special tear-out section — the center four pages of this issue — for you to use as reference and to mail in your reservations and selection of tour packages. Just turn to pages 15-18 for all the information. And don't forget to pre-register for some chances to win big prizes. See pages 15-18 for details.

Sales of our CGCVA items and attracting new members continues to go well on the Internet. (cont. on page 28)

"Sands of Emerald Beach" CGCVA Reunion in Corpus Christi, Texas November 4-8, 1998

Information on tours and registration included in special pull-out section of this issue Pages 15-18

Don't forget to pre-register!

### From the Vice President

Once again I would like to thank the members of the Association who contributed to the Plaque Fund. The monies are now in a CD earning interest. We are hoping it will not be too long before we have a commitment to place the plaque in an area that will do it justice. We have been told that the battleship *Missouri* is going to be towed to Hawaii as a memorial, perhaps sometime in the spring. If so, this would be a tremendous site in which to-obtain exposure for the CGCVA and the contibutions of the Coast Guard.

This past fall, Admiral Kramek went to England to work with the British Life Saving Service. Since Poole is the home of this service, he also took some time from his busy schedule to visit the Coast Guard plaque mounted on the quay during the 50th anniversary of D-Day. The admiral placed a wreath at the plaque and spoke in memory of the men who put their lives on the line those many years ago. Also attending the service were the Mayor of Poole, Susie (the same little girl who befriended the men on the 83-footer during WWII), her husband and several other interested visitors.

Recently, I was able to initiate a program at the USCG Training Center at Cape May, N.J., one in which the CGCVA sponsors a Physical Fitness Award to the outstanding graduating recruit in each company. The award consists of a color certificate which was designed by Ed Burke (a sample was shown in the last QD Log). The recruit also gets a



JACK CAMPBELL

CGCVA watch. This type of exposure is certainly something we need and costs relatively little to the Association. By sponsoring this award, the CGCVA is able to impart information regarding the Coast Guard during wars and conflicts to all 4,000 or so recruits going through Cape May each year, as well as their friends and families. I have had the honor of presenting these awards at several recent graduations, however, any CGCVA member is more than welcome to attend the weekly Friday ceremonies and personally present the award himself.

Until next issue, Semper Paratus!

Jack Campbell

## From the Editor

This is the final QD Log issue for CY97. It wraps up events that have taken place during the last three months of the year, hence its numbering as Vol. 12, No. 4. I hope that is of some help to those members who think they're only receiving three issues a year. Sorry if it appears a bit confusing but it does work out to four issues every year.

Hey, we have a new commandant waiting in the wings. Full details inside but VADM James M. Loy, currently the Coast Guard Chief of Staff, recently got the nod to become the Service's 21st commandant. VADM Loy is a Coast Guard combat veteran, having served in



ED SWIFT

Vietnam where he did 43 combat patrols. Hopefully he'll consider membership in the CGCVA and be able to attend some of our events.

After several years of serving as your QD Log editor, I've finally used all the feature material (those that were basically timeless and could be printed anytime) that I inherited with the job. As such, I'm actively soliciting the membership for more materi-

al for <u>YOUR</u> newsletter. Especially appreciated are photos (color or b&w) and artwork. Please, no negatives. Thanks in advance for your inputs for future *QD Log* issues.

Looking forward to Corpus Christi!

Swifty

## From the Secretary

### 1998 REUNION - CONVENTION

I went down to Corpus Christi recently and met with our Convention Director Bob Maxwell to finalize details for the "Sands of Emerald Beach" reunion in November. I believe that we are going to have a great time there. The Holiday Inn is very nice and has an excellent location right on the water. There is an indoor swimming pool too so bring your swim suits or bikinis and be ready to have fun. The hotel restaurant serves good sized portions of delicious food at reasonable prices.

Transportation to and from the airport is provided by the Holiday Inn in a stretch limousine that I'm sure you will enjoy. We are also investigating the rental of a van to help you get around town, however, that would have to be supported by the members who want to use it for transportation. Are there enough of you out there who would be willing to pay a <u>FAIR</u> amount when using it? Let us know your thoughts on this matter on a note when you send in your reservation/tour sheets.

The Association is going to handle the tours at this reunion. This way we will be there to respond to any questions about the tours we have set up for you. Information explaining the when, where and cost of the tours are listed on a form in the center of this issue, along with the reunion registration form and the agenda. We have one additional trip if there's enough interest to do it...a fishing boat trip in the Nueces Bay area around Corpus Christi, with transportation to and from the dock.

I found the Texas hospitality to be outstanding. The Coast Guard is well respected in the Corpus Christi area and I believe it will be well worth the trip to attend the "Sands of Emerald Beach" reunion/convention. I look forward to seeing ya'll in Corpus Christi this November!

### CGCVA PLAQUE DONATIONS

Monies for our plaque project continue to come in. Thanks to the following members who have contributed lately: Robert M. Crowe, William S. Hill and Carl V. Stanton.

#### OVER THE BAR

I was sad to learn of the passing of Al Courter during the holidays. His wife, Edith, requests that any donations in Al's name be made to a Cancer Research Fund. One such organization is the Damon Runyon —



E.P. "ED" BURKE

Walter Winchell Foundation, where 100% of all contributions go into research.

Also, members can make donations to the CGCVA to remember shipmates. Recently, contributions to the CGCVA have been received in honor and memory of: Robert H. Workman, Albert F. Courter, Jr., Benjamin M. Chiswell, Art Green, Mark A. Whalen, and Kenneth Weida. Ed



## CROSSED THE BAR



## Robert H. Workman

Joined: 8/10/90 CTB: 12/21/97

Albert F. Courter, Jr.

Joined: 9/1/87 CTB: 12/24/97

Morris M. Aaron

Joined: 6/23/88 CTB: 11/21/97

Robert Stoneham

Joined: 5/23/94 CTB: 12/4/97

Byron G. Vetterli

Joined: 8/20/95 CTB: 12/20/97

George O. Phelps

Joined: 4/18/94 CTB: date unknown

## From the Treasurer

### CGCVA ACCOUNTS:

Currently on hand in all funds and certificates of deposit as of 12 January 1998 is \$46,061.18. Funds earned but not received are \$3,500+ from investments in certificates of deposit. My 1998 bank information was not received in time to include with this issue of the *QD Log*. One of our CDs for \$5,000 is for the Plaque Fund which VP Jack Campbell is handling and its six-month CD has already earned \$62.23+.

Another \$569.50 is in the bank for this Plaque Fund. When the plaque is purchased, these funds will be deducted from the Association's overall balance, which, if the purchase was now, we would have less than \$41,000 on hand in all remaining funds plus the interest from the CDs.

The Association also owes at least \$3,000 for Christmas ornaments and models. We have not been billed for these as yet but have received monies from their sales. President Joe

Kleinpeter has put up the front money on this enterprise, which was initially connected to the Shipwreck Trail.

#### DUES:

Dues expiration date is noted on your *QD* Log label. \$25 pays for <u>TWO</u> years of membership and if your dues expiration date is close, you should send your \$25.00 to myself or the

Secretary, checks payable to CGCVA. Life members never have to pay dues and fees for life memberships are as follows: Under age 30 (\$200); 31-40 (\$185); 41-50 (\$165); 51-60 (\$145); 61-70 (\$115); 71-80 (\$85); 81-89 (\$50); and 90 and up there's no charge. Semper Paratus!

### PERSONAL NOTES:

A few members have asked me to run for

Trustee (formerly Director) this year in Corpus Christi. I would be honored to be nominated and elected to this position for several reasons. First, my love of the CGCVA and our members. Second, I would like to lend a hand with our insur-



BAKER HERBERT

ance and corporation papers in Ohio. Third, it seems prudent to continue selling Small Stores through the mail (I grew up with Sears and Roebuck and Montgomery Ward). I remember Sears would send you coupons in lieu of change and the coupons were fair traded at our Southern Maryland grocery stores. In any event, I will work on any project assigned within my time limits, elected or not. Why? Because this is the

greatest organization in the world and some of you older timers helped me grow up in the Coast Guard at age 15, after the Navy gave me the boot at age 14. Semper Paratus!

## **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!

### MISCELLANEOUS

Member Bill Herbst recently notified the CGCVA that the 1998 Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Mich.

will be held July 24-Aug. 2. By the way, the title of "Coast Guard City, USA" for Grand Haven has been used for many years now but it will become official at this year's festival.

Several CGCVA members, including our president, have gotten a lot of mileage out of surfing the WEB and chatting with each other via e-mail. As a result, the *QD Log* editor would like to include an e-mail section in future issues. Send your e-mail address to Ed Burke or me. Baker

### **USCGC Mesquite**

I am attempting to put together a "gathering" of Mesquite shipmates who served aboard under LCDR George Lawrence (1952-53). LT T.C. Pennock was XO and E.J. Schwndler was First Lieutenant. Should you be one of the crewmen or know the whereabouts of any, please contact William Hermes at 1225 N. Homer Street,

Lansing, MI 48912. Ph: (517) 487-9875. Fax: (517) 346-7315. E-Mail: jobitomi@aol.com.

**AP Transport Reunion Group** 

A reunion for shipmates of the USS Generals' Mitchell (AP-114); Randall (AP-115); Gordon (AP-117); Richardson (AP-118); Weigel (AP-119); Breckinridge (AP-176); and Admirals' USS Capps (AP-121); Eberle (AP-123); Hughes (AP-124); and Mayo (AP-125) will be held June 4-7, 1998 in Norfolk, Va. Contact: Chuck Ulrich at 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. Ph: (516) 747-7426.

**Cutter Nicknames Sought** 

Dr. Robert Browning, the Coast Guard Historian is compiling an extensive listing of ship/cutter nicknames and could use your help. Many CGCVA members served aboard CG cutters or CG-manned vessels and no doubt many had some pretty wild nicknames. He'd like to know what they were and how and why they were given the nickname. The final listing will be published in a future issue of the *QD Log*. So, if you would like to send in some of those colorful names, write to Commandant (G-CP-H), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd Street, Washington, DC 20593-0001.

### CG Shootists Reunion

A reunion of CG Rifle and Pistol Team Members is being planned for Sept. 1998 in Las Vegas,

Nev. Team members and support personnel who served from 1958-1961 at the USCG Receiving Center, Cape May, N.J., are being sought. Contact: CHGUN "Mike" Opsitnik at 5033 Cliffrose Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89130-0192. Ph: (702) 656-8383.

USS Sheboygan (PF-57)

Our next reunion will be held where else but Sheboygan, Wisc., on May 4-7, 1998. There's still time to make plans. Contacts: Robert (Pinky) Renner at 1026 N.E. 52nd Ave., Ocala, FL 34470. Ph: (352) 236-6666. Howard Seelye at 3830 Lake Garden Dr., Fallbrook, CA 92028. Ph: (619) 723-9099. Rollie Strasshofer at 34110 Chagrin Blvd., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022. Ph: (216) 831-2124.

255-Foot Class Cutters

The first reunion of all 13 USCG 255-foot class cutters will be held at the Plaza Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada Sept. 27 - Oct. 1, 1998. For more information, contact the reunion committee at P.O. Box 33523, Juneau, AK 99803 or call (907) 789-2579.

### LST-16

The first ever ever reunion for WWII cremen 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 or call (718) 896-2458. On the West Coast, contact: Dominic Pizzulli, 2700 Neilson Way, Santa Monica, CA 40405 or call (310) 396-1150.

### **USCGC Modoc**

The 11th Reunion of crew members from the USCGC Modoc (W-46) will be held May 28 - June 1, 1998 at the Holiday Inn (Greentree) in Pittsburgh, Pa. Contacts: Bob Woodbury at 18

Ninth Ave., Halifax, MA 02338 or call (781) 293-7992. Moe Steinberg, P.O. Box 178, Carle Place, NY 11514 or call (516) 334-5309.

U.S. Naval Ship Reunions

A reunion will be held for the USS Eppling Forest (LSD-4, MCS-7), COMINFLOT ONE, MIN DIV 31,32, and 33 (1943-68) at the Sheraton Metrodome Hotel, Minneapolis, Minn. June 4-7. 1998. Contact: Charles Y. Avent at P.O. Box 55, Southaven, MS 38671. Ph: (601) 393-2929.

**USCGC Taney** 

The next reunion for former crew members of the USCGC Roger B. Taney (W-37) will be held Oct. 15-18, 1998, at the Quality Inn Resort Hotel on Hotel Circle in San Diego, Calif. For information, contact Harry Nelson, 18327 Van Ness, Torrence, CA 90504 or call (310) 324-7282.

## USCGC Carrabasset

I am trying to arrange a reunion for crew mem-

bers who served aboard the USCGC Carrabasset during WWII. My service was as a QM3/c during the fall and spring of 1943-44. The ship, along with the CGC's Bedlow and Jackson and USS Cymophane, worked convoy duty commencing around Norfolk. Cape Hatteras to Cape Lookout. The Carrabasset was commissioned in 1920 as a Navy seagoing tug, then transferred to the Coast Guard in 1924. She had a length of 155' 10" and a speed of about 12 knots, making her ideal to work with slow moving tankers and merchantmen. She was decommissioned in the summer of 1946. Call or write Bob Iles, 339 Pennbrook Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446 or call (215) 855-2450.

## USCGC Campbell

The 13th annual reunion of the USCGC Campbell (W-32, WMEC-909) Association will be held 17-21 May 1998 in Baltimore, Md., at the Best Western Hotel & Conference Center, 5625 O'Donnell Street. All hands who served in USCGC Campbell (W-32) during the 45 years she served her country from 1937-1982, as well as all current active duty and former crew members of the USCGC Campbell (WMEC-909) are welcome to attend. For details, contact: David A. Blum, 8341 Sands Point Blvd., Tamarac, FL 33321 or call (954) 722-8161.



USCGC Carrabassett (W-55) as draw from memory by Bob Iles in 1945. Bob put cutter at anchor since he couldn't remember what the anchor looked like. Also, he later realized the life raft was wrong, the cutter actually had large, square-like, wooden ones.

### Luncheon Group Forming

Former shipmates now living in Southern Indiana and Northern Kentucky are requested to contact **Bob Swaney** at 827 Freedom Drive, Seymour, IN 47274 or call (812) 523-2077 to get details of a new luncheon group now forming. The purpose of this group will be to provide a forum for fellowship and discussion for those Indiana and Kentucky Coast Guardsmen who served on the Greenland Patrol, 1940-45, as well as other CG commands.

#### USS LST 22

Crew members of USS LST 22 will hold their 4th annual reunion Oct. 22-25, 1998, at Fort Myers, Fla. Get details from Reunion Coordinator Jack A. Pfeifer, 11325 SW Timberline Drive, Beaverton, OR 97008 or call (503) 644-0048.

#### USCGC Bibb

The 8th annual reunion of the USCGC Bibb (WPG/WAGC/WHEC-31) will be held Nov. 5-9, 1998, in Washington, D.C. Contact: Richard Olsen, 574 Wyoming Ave., Maywood, NJ 07607.

### USS Callaway

The 32nd reunion of the Coast Guard-manned USS Callaway (APA-35) will be held Oct. 5-8, 1998, at the Buffalo Hilton Hotel, 120 Church St., Buffalo, N.Y. Former crew members and relatives should contact: Wallace Shipp, 5319 Manning Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20016 or call (202) 363-3663.

### **LORAN Reunion**

The 21st annual reunion of Coast Guard LORAN Construction and Operation Personnel in the Pacific 1944-46 will be held Oct. 1-4, 1998 at

Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, Harrodsburg, Ky. Contact: **Jim Teater**, P.O. Box 135, Burgin, KY 40310. Ph: (606) 748-5588.

### USS Sellstrom

Crew members of the USS Sellstrom (DE-255) are invited to a reunion Sep. 11-13, 1998, in Chicago. Contact: Adrian Galassi at 6922 W. Jonquil Terrace, Niles, IL 60714. Ph: (847) 966-4781.

### **Attention Chiefs**

The Mobile, Alabama Chapter of the U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association will be hosting the 30th Annual Chiefs

Convention at the Clarion Hotel in Mobile from Aug. 31- Sept. 4, 1998.

This convention is in conjunction with the Chapter's 20th Annual Old Timers Picnic. The picnic will be held on board the USCG Aviation Training Center (Walters Park) on Sept. 5th. For details on both events, contact: BMCS Jack Crowley, USCG (Ret.) at (334) 649-8800.

### 255-foot Cutters

The first reunion of all 13 USCG 255-foot class cutters will be held Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 1998, at the Plaza Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas. Contact: R. A. Morgan at P.O. Box 33523, Juneau, AK 99803. Ph; (907) 789-2579.

### **Greenland Patrol**

Members of the 1940-45 Greenland Patrol will hold their next reunion at the Regency Plaza Hotel in San Diego, Calif. from Sept. 27-30, 1998. **Ken Hartman** has put together a package of events and is the Greenland Patrol contact at 3960 S. Higuera #169, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Ph: (805) 543-7632. For hotel information, members should contact Ms. Karen Gamer at Tarsadia Hotels at (800) 291-0638.

### USS LST 829

The 16th reunion of the Coast Guard-manned USS LST 829 will be held Sept. 10-12, 1998, at the Holiday Inn Select, Ft. Myers, Fla. Former crew members should contact: Mike (Doc) Newland at 2261 Carambola Lane, N.W., James City, FL 33956. Ph: (941) 283-1519.

### Welcome New Members

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

### NOVEMBER 1997:

Charles D. Didonato (Sam Belfiore); Rodney A. Williams (Joe Kleinpeter); Thomas C. Siart (Joe Kleinpeter); Jason E. Mayfield (Paul Ladut); Pete Constantine (John Stamford); Christopher J. Megella; Anton T. Nerat (Erv Mouritsen); Samuel B. Bromley (Dan Whitaker); Kenneth C. Garrison (Erv Whitaker); Paul A. Larkin (John Stamford); and Enrico Massi (Walter Lawlor).

### DECEMBER 1997:

James A. Hodgman (Ed Burke); Van R. Field (Joe Kleinpeter); Howard R. North (Roger Grinnell); Paul E. Hill (Joe Kleinpeter); Charles J. McNeil (Bill Wells); Carl N. Seals (Joe Kleinpeter); Danny A. Burns (Joe Kleinpeter); Leonard E. Butscher (Joe Kleinpeter); Ernest H. Braun (John Stamford); Niels P. Thomsen (Joe Kleinpeter); John W. Leather (Nicholas Nekrewich); Paul C. McCurry; James E. Jones (Thomas Taylor); William R. Groomes (Bill Wells); and Glen A. Janecek (John Stamford).

## Let Your Name Live On

For years, the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association has been operating from day-today 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.

JANUARY 1998:

Ezra L. Ross (Claud Hauser); Louis J. DiDonato (Domenico Manobianco); Charles W. Meyer (Bill Wells); Mark S. Clawson (Baker Herbert); Parald L. Austin (William Wolf); Peter Pushkar (Joe Kleinpeter); Robert Balkovic (Michael Davidek); Howard I. Smith (L.A. Polito); Fred H. Brown (Ed Burke); Raymond J. Walsh (Rod Whalen); Robert E. Cahill (Chuck Ulrich); George Gray (Ed Swift); Robert H. Hanford (Donald Thurow); Melvin S. Gardner (Charles Griffin); Leo

John R.

SMALL STORES:

Cromwell (Joe Kleinpeter).

Greenberg:

The following CGCVA items are available. Send orders to Baker Herbert at 8886 N. Leroy Road, P.O. Box 544, Westfield Center, OH 44251-0544 or call (330) 887-5539, fax (330) 887-5639. Please make checks payable to: CGCVA.

and

Baseball Cap; plain visor, gold-lettered "Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association" with embroidered CGCVA logo, one size fits all.....\$11

CG Garrison Caps; fore 'n aft, CGCVA Logo, white lettered "Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association." Must state size.....\$25

CGCVA Embroidered Logo; 4"......\$5 2"......\$4

Sweatshirt; size XL only, white, extra heavy 12oz. with embroidered CGCVA Logo in dark blue over front of sweatshirt. Only six left.............\$60

U.S. Mint USCG Bronze 200th Anniversary Coin, 1-1/2" diameter with keepsake box. The CGCVA, the CGC Modoc and Dick Stent's Ohio Coin Collectors begged the U.S. Congress to strike these coins. These are a great keepsake for grandchildren, children, relatives and friends.

To keep from having to ship these coins to and from Corpus Christi, order yours now at \$5.00 each or three for only \$12.00

Men's Wristwatch; gold color with white CGCVA logo on face, good (\$20.00); better (\$25.00); best (\$30.00)

Flags; U.S., USCG and CGCVA, 10" with stand......\$10.00 per set

(All the above prices include first-class mailing)

Book; hardback, "The Coast Guard At War, Vietnam 1965-1975" by Alex Larzalere, sent book rate......\$25.00

 (The following are available with the prices indicated. Send your check to me made payable to CGCVA and Joe Kleinpeter will ship you the materials)

Plastic Model Kits:

| Plastic Model Kits;                         |       |
|---|-------|
| CGC Eagle in bottle under full sail, 12"\$4 | 9.95  |
| 44' Motor Life Boat, composite, 15"\$       | 19.95 |
| 36' Double Ender Motor Life Boat, 10"\$1    | 5.00  |
| USCGC Taney, 12"\$2                         | 20.00 |
| USCGC Burton Island, CG/Navy, 12"\$2        | 20.00 |
| (continued on next page)                    |       |

Wooden Model Kits:

40' UTB, 41' UTB, and 44' MLB, 33" x 9" wooden kits, suitable for radio control or static display, all parts die cut for precision fit. Kits come with deck hardware and decals. \$90.00 each or all three for \$250.00 and start your own station.

CG Squadron One T-Shirt; 82' patrol boat on front (send boat number of choice) with RVN Coastal Patrol Zones for Division's 11,12, and 13 on back......\$22.50

McNeil of the Callaway

Boston-born Captain Donald C. McNeil, was the beloved skipper of the USS Callaway. the ship that was hit by a suicide plane at Luzon but continued on, despite nearly 50 casualties among her crew, to discharge some of the liberators of Manila.

Captain McNeil, who began his wartime duty afloat fighting the wolf packs in the North Atlantic a month after Pearl Harbor, commanded the Coast Guard attack transport Callaway through seven invasions in one year, watched it shoot down three Japanese planes and dodge many enemy shells to put an aggregate of some 15,000

Marine and infantrymen ashore on invasion beaches from the Marshall Islands to Iwo Jima.

Captain McNeil placed the Callaway in commission in September, 1943, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Four months later, after tiresome maneuvers with various Marine units off San Diego, the ship was carrying Fourth Marines into Roi-Namur in the Marshall Islands.

Continuing as flagship for a transport division, the Callaway carried Carlson's Raiders into Emirau in the Bismark Sea while a naval task force stood off Kavieng and Rabaul and diverted enemy shipping and aircraft. Captain McNeil's

ship was the only APA used and carried 80 per cent of the invasion force.

The Callaway struck at the enemy for the third time in Saipan. The boat group commander and his assistant, in two LVPs, located a channel through "Hari Kari Pass" while under heavy fire, and enabled reinforcements to get ashore to beleaguered Marines in the first crucial hours of the beachhead. Shells from dual five-inch batteries ashore fell close to the Callaway and that evening she underwent her first air attack from

four Japanese bombers without sus-

taining damage.

1944, found the September, Callaway at Anguar, southermost of the Palau group, where she discharged units of the Army's 81st (Wildcat) Division. As yet she had sustained no loss of life and had received less than a dozen Purple Hearts.

The invasion of Leyte followed and Captain McNeil's ship ducked in under one air raid to discharge her Army personnel and left at dusk under anoth-

er. Captain McNeil was more concerned about submarines in the narrow approaches to San Pedro Bay. "If there had been subs out there, the story might have been different," he commented.

The Callaway's first five actions were smooth in comparison to the sixth — the invasion of Lingayen Gulf. The flagship was leading a column of attack ships through narrow, twisting straits between Japanese-held islands in the Philippines. That was the morning the Japanese hit, and hit hard - January 8, 1945.

That was the morning the third Japanese plane fell before the guns of the Callaway, but not before she had scored a searing blow in the superstructure of the transport.

The attack killed several members of the crew instantly. The attack started a blaze on the starboard side of the superstructure which turned

men into human torches. Captain McNeil helped remove a burned man from the safety belt of his gun and commended him for his courage. The boy tried to smile through his scorched lips. He died later. Another victim was the Captain's own steward.

After it had discharged its troops 24 hours later on the Luzon beaches, the Callaway tried to mend its damage in the shelter of a pinpoint island. One month later she was ready for action again and March found her standing off Iwo Jima, 750 miles from Tokyo. She put ashore Marine reinforcements and evacuated wounded.

Appointed ensign upon graduation in 1923, Captain McNeil had 23 years in service. At one time or another he served on the cutters Mojave, Commanche, Campbell, Tahoe, Ossipee, Tahoma, Galatea, Shoshone, Davis, Burrows and Gresham, and was assigned as commanding officer of the Acushnet, Galatea, Ossipee, Tahoma and Campbell.

(This tribute to Captain Donald C. McNeil, who died Aug. 25, 1945 at age 47 in Boston as a result of 42 months of rigorous wartime sea duty in the Atlantic and Pacific, was written by War Correspondent William A. Haffert, Jr., who served with him through five Pacific invasions. It was contributed to the QD Log by CGCVA member Warren W. Smith, a USS Callaway crewman).

### Voyage of the Forest Dream and Other Sea Adventures

CGCVA Life Member CAPT Niels P. Thomsen,

USCG (Ret.) has lived a life of adventure and meaning with achievements of consequence that span more than 75 years. At the age of 90, he has just published his memoirs, "The Voyage of the Forest Dream and Other Sea Adventures", an action-packed chronicle of the last commercial sailing ship to depart from the Pacific Northwest in 1925 on a planned prolonged voyage around the world to Mauritius in the Indian Ocean via Cape Horn and the

Cape of Good Hope.

Captain Thomsen came to Seattle as a runaway on his 15th birthday in search of the sailing ships as depicted in Joseph Conrad's tales of the sea. After 10 years as a seaman and officer in the Merchant Marine, he joined the Coast Guard at the beginning of World War II where he spent four years in Alaska and the South Pacific as a



Niels Peter Thomsen, 90, a CGCVA life member, has written a book that tells of his life on sailing ships

Coast Guard officer with the Navy in forward areas. During this time he served as navigator of the USS Hunter Liggett at Guadalcanal and Bougainville in 1942-43.

He retired in 1952 on a service connected WWII combat disability. Upon retirement, he was promoted to the rank of Captain by virtue of a Legion of Merit decoration for his part as Senior Officer Present in the ramming and sinking of a Japanese submarine in Southeast Alaska.

In 1992, Thomsen learned of a diary journal of Malcolm Chisholm, about the Forest Dream voyage of 1925. As part of the crew from that memorable trip, Thomsen recalled Chisholm reading to him from his diary daily during the fateful 14-month voyage. The recovery of Chisholm's diary resulted in Thomsen's obsession as the only sur-



The USS Hunter Liggett wearing her WWII paint scheme

viving member of the Forest Dream to present the previously untold story as Chisholm had intended.

For more information about this exciting book, contact Captain Niels P. Thomsen at 19222 Olympic View Drive, Edmonds, WA 98020 or call at (425) 771-7137, Fax (425) 712-1880.

## Saluting Top CG Recruits

CGCVA Vice President Jack Campbell's idea of showcasing our Association to Coast Guard recruits at Cape May, N.J., has been a huge suc-

cess. Jack and LCDR Ed Swift were on hand at Recruit Graduation Exercises there Dec. 12, 1997, to present the (Right) SA Ryan D. Warnke receives the first CGCVA-sponsored Physical Fitness Award at Recruit Training Center Cape May, N.J. The award was presented by CGCVA VP Jack Campbell and Cape May CO Captain. (Below) SA Larount Magri receives his CGCVA award.



first ever CGCVA-sponsored Physical Fitness Award Certificate and CGCVA Wrist Watch to SA Ryan D. Warnke of Lansing, Wisc. SA Warnke, graduating with Bravo Company 152, will report to Radarman "A" School.

A copy of the CGCVA certificate for the Physical

Fitness Award was shown in the previous QD Log. This award, along with the wrist watch, is presented to the graduating recruit who has demonstrated the highest overall level of physical fitness.

Other recent recipients include: SA Larount Magri (Charlie 152); SA Melissa A. Moser of Boston, Mass., (Echo 152) reporting to USCGC Polar Star, SA Michael D. Earl of Miami, Fla., (Foxtrot 152) reporting to Coast Guard Station Little Creek, Va.; SN Christo-pher L. Monville of Los Angeles, Calif., (Golf 152) reporting to Coast

Guard Integrated Support Com-mand San Pedro, Calif.; and SA Timothy J. Lilien of Philadelphia, Pa., (Hotel 152) reporting to USCGC Tampa.

CGCVA VP Jack Campbell has been able to attend a few graduations and make the presentations, however, any CGCVA member who happens to be

at the Cape May Training Center for the Friday graduations is welcome to do the honors. This is a great way to get new Coasties familiar with the Coast Guard's distinguished combat history and also with our Association.

## VADM Loy Picked For Commandant

On February 3rd, President Clinton announced his intention to nominate Vice Admiral James M. Loy, USCG, to be the 21st Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, succeeding Admiral Robert E. Kramek.

Vice Admiral Loy has served his country for 34 years, distinguishing himself in a number of challenging assignments and consistently demonstrating strong leadership. A native of Altoona, Pa., Vice Admiral Loy joined the armed forces as a cadet at the Coast Guard Academy in 1960.

Currently, Loy is serving as the Coast Guard's

Chief of Staff, a post he has held since July 1996.

His previous flag assignments include Commander, Atlantic Area and Commander, U.S. Maritime Defense Zone Atlantic from June 1994 to July 1996; command of the Eighth Coast Guard District; and Chief of the Office of

Personnel and Training. He commanded the CGC Point Lomas on 43 combat patrols in Vietnam, the CGC Valliant in Galveston, Texas; and the CGC Midgett in San Francisco.

Vice Admiral Loy and his wife, the former Kay McGirk, have two children: Kelly Loy Morf of Cary, N.C., and Michael, a Coast Guard officer stationed in New Orleans.

The admiral's awards include three Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medals, the Defense Superior Service Medal, two Legion of Merit awards, the Bronze Star with Combat V, the Meritorious Service Medal, five Coast Guard

Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon and other unit and campaign awards.

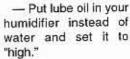
Going To Sea?

Here's same suggestions for the ex-sailor who misses the "good old days" and wants to simulate shipboard life:

- Sleep on the shelf in your closet.
- Replace the closet door with a curtain.
- Six hours after you go to sleep, have your wife whip open the curtain, shine a flashlight in your eyes, and mumble, "Sorry, wrong rack."
- Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of your bathtub and move the

shower head down to chest level.

- When you take showers, make sure you turn off the water while soaping.
- Every time there's a thunderstorm, go sit in a wobbly rocking chair and rock as hard as you can until you're nauseous.



- Don't watch TV except for movies in the middle of the night. Also, have your family vote on which movie to watch, then show a different one.
- Have the paperboy give you a haircut.
- Once a month, take every major appliance completely apart and then put it back together.
- Use 18 scoops of coffee per pot and allow it to sit for 5 or 6 hours before drinking.
- Have a florescent lamp installed on the

bottom of your coffee table and lie under it to read books.

- Raise the thresholds and lower the top sills on your front and back doors so that you either trip over the threshold or hit your head on the sill every time you pass through one of them.
- When making cakes, prop up one side of the pan while it is baking. Then, spread icing really thick on one side to level off the top.
- Put on the headphones from your stereo (don't plug them in). Stand in front of your stove and say (to no one in particular), "Stove manned and ready." Stand there for 3 or 4 hours then say, "Stove secured." Roll up the headphone cord and put them away.



Vice Admiral James M. Loy, commandant selectee

## Special Pull-Out Section

# "Sands of Emerald Beach"

## CGCVA Readies for 1998 Convention/Reunion in Corpus Christi

As your convention director, it will be my sincere pleasure to welcome all the CGCVA members and guests to our 7th Biennial Convention, to be held Nov. 4-8, 1998, in beautiful Corpus Christi, Texas.

I have made two trips there to plan the gala

event and I can honestly say that we will have one of the most outstanding reunion packages ever. There are many things to do there and we have worked hard to put together several interesting yet easy of the wallet tour packages.

The Holiday Inn Emerald Beach Hotel is great, the food super, and the

opportunity to relax and enjoy comeraderie outstanding. Room rates for us are only \$56.

The key to making this reunion a real success is to register early, both for the hotel and the tour events. To sweeten the pot, the Holiday Inn will draw from a list of all those CGCVA members who have made reservations prior to Oct. 1st, the winner receiving three free nights lodging. In addition, those who mail in the CGCVA registration form prior to Oct. 1st will be eligible for a drawing for a buffet cruise for two aboard the Captain Clark Flagship and another drawing for one free trip on the Mexico shopping trip.

While I'm on the subject of tours, the Mexican

trip will be a great opportunity to enjoy some outstanding shopping across the border from old Laredo. Also, don't miss the chance to visit the Columbus fleet...full-size replicas of the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria. Tours start on Nov. 5th with a visit to the USCG Air Station at Corpus



The Holiday Inn Emerald Beach Hotel in beautiful Corpus Christi — home base for the 1998 CGCVA Reunion & Convention, November 4-8.

Christi and a dinner cruise of Corpus Christi harbor that evening. Sightseeing of Corpus Christi and a visit to VFW Post #2394 is planned for Nov. 6th. Then, on Nov. 7th, enjoy the Laredo/Mexico shopping trip.

All of the above are available in our tour packages. The Holiday Inn general manager Bill Morgan and the City of Corpus Christi welcome you and, of course, I look forward to seeing you! Don't forget to pre-register!

Please use the forms on the next three pages to indicate your preferences for the tour packages and to send in your reservations. Hope to see you in Corpus Christil Bob Maxwell

## Special Pull-Out Section

### Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association

Registration

Pre-Registration

Late Registration

| \$8.00 I                         | Per Person  | "SANDS OF  | EMERALD BEA   | CH"  | \$10.00 Pe   | er Person                                   |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|                                  | Per Couple 10   |  | f for Pre-Regist  | \$18.00 Per Couple   |  |   |  |
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| Tel.#:                           |   | No. in y   | our group:  | No. Ro   | om(s) Req'o  | l   |  |
| Date of A                        | Arrival:  | Date of I  | ate of Departure:   |  |  | Total Days:                                 |  |
| I require the following Tickets: |   | 100 TO 10 | Business Lunch<br>\$14.50 Each  |  |  | _Aux. Friendship Luncl<br>\$12.00 Each      |  |
|                                  | Awards Bang   | uet  | Chicken   |  | London Broil   |   |  |
|                                  | \$24.50 Eac   | h  | (Please indicate for each Banquet Ticket) DIETARY REQUIREMENT, PLEASE ADVISE UPON ARRIVAL |  |  |   |  |
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|                                  |   | Make yo  | our reservation.  |  |  |   |  |
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|                                  | Ashton  | MD 20861-9763  |   | get back   | to you ASA   |   |  |
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Note: If you have a problem w/Registration or have special requirements Call: Bob Maxwell at (530)335-3876 or Fax (530) 335-3304. Bob will return your call ASAP.

When you arrive at the Holiday Inn, Corpus Christi, TX. you can check in and come to the CONVENTION CENTER, sign in and pickup your envelope, you are now ready for the 'SANDS OF EMERALD BEACH'.

## Corpus Christi Tours

The following tours have been set up for

### Sands Of Emerald Beach Reunion.

The deadline for registering for these tours is October 1st 1998.

### Thursday, Nov. 5th 1998; C.G. Air Station 10:00a.m. to 2:30p.m.

Number in party: \_\_\_\_ times \$10.00=:

For those going to the CG Air Station, the bus will depart the hotel at 10:00a. The group will tour the Air Station at Corpus Christi and hopefully will be able to visit a Construction Tender and/or a 110' Cutter.(We're working on this) Lunch will be available at the "All Hands Club" at a reasonable price. Then return to the Hotel by 2:00p.

Cost \$10.00 ea.

Sub-Total \$

| Evening                   | Harbor Cruise 6:00p.m. to 8:00  | 0 p.m.        |  |  |
|---------------------------|---|---------------|--|--|
| This will I               | be a two hour cruise of Corpus Ch                                     | ıristi Harboı | onboard the St   | tern Wheeler "Captain                    |
|                           | gship". Includes a Delicious Buff                                     |               |  |  |
|                           | ation.There will be a cash bar onb                                    |               |  |  |
|                           |   |               |  | Cost: \$29.50                            |
| Number i                  | n Party: times \$29.50 per p  | erson=        | Sub-   | Fotal \$                                 |
| Friday, N                 | Nov. 6th 1998: Sightseeing of   | Corpus Ch     | ıristi & visit t   | VFW Post#2394 (After                     |
| Bus. Mtg.                 | .) 2:30p.m. to 7:30p.m.   |               |  |  |
|                           | ng tour of Corpus Christi and the<br>the Santa Maria with a stop at a |               |  |  |
|                           | to the Museum. Bus leaves Hote  |               |  | Cost: \$18.00                            |
|                           | n party: times \$18.00 per pe   |               |  | Total \$                                 |
| Saturday                  | November 7th 1998: La   | redo/Mexic    | o Shopping T   | rip                                      |
|                           | epart the hotel at 7:00a.m. and w                                     |               |  |  |
| include a v<br>own for lu | visit to Mexico for the best shoppi<br>nch.                           | ng of any of  | the border town  | ns. You will be on your<br>Cost: \$20.00 |
| Number ir                 | n party: times \$20.00 per pe   | erson =       | Sub-7  | Total \$                                 |
|                           | Please No Cash, Check/M.O   | . Only        | Grand Tota   | d: \$                                    |
|                           | to: CGCOMVETS   |               |  |  |
| Mail to:                  | E.P. BURKE  |               | Contract of the Contract of th | & Address (Print)                        |
|                           | 17728 STRILEY DRIVE   |               |  |  |
|                           | ASHTON, MD., 20861-9763   |               |  |  |
|                           | Tel: (301) 570-5664 Msg/Fax   |               |  |  |
|                           | nplete, as this form can be separa                                    |               |  |  |
|                           | A Check/M.O. for your Registre<br>Ticket(s) made out To: CGCOM        |               |  |  |
| audicon.                  | Tiones(a) made out 10. COCOM  | APID LIGHT    | e, Double chec   | k your ligures, thanks                   |

# "Sands Of Emerald Beach"

## Agenda

| Wednesday, 4 Novem | ber 1998: |
|--------------------|-----------|
|--------------------|-----------|

0900-1500 Arrival, Registration, Hospitality Room.

0930-1100 Pre-Convention Meeting w/Officers & Board Members.

1600-1700 \* Opening Ceremony.

1800-Close Hospitality Room-Entertainment.

#### Thursday, 5 November 1998:

0900-1600 Arrival, Registration, Hospitality Room.

1000-1430 Visit to C.G. Air Station, Corpus Christi, TX. Bus Dpts @

10:00a.m.

1800-2000 Evening Cruise w/Buffet. Bus Dpts @5:45p.m.

1600-Close Hospitality Room

#### Friday, 6 November 1998:

0900-1000 Arrival, Registration, Hospitality Room.

1130-1430 \* Biennial Business Meeting w/ No-Host Luncheon.

1430-1930 Sightseeing Tour of the City w/visit to Maritime Museum & visit

to VFW Post #2394. Bus Dpts @2:30p.m.

1500-Close Hospitality Room.

### Saturday, 7 November 1998:

0700-1400 Shopping trip to Mexico @ Laredo, TX. Bus Dpts @7:00a.m.

0900-1700 Arrival, Registration, Hospitality Room.

1800-1900 \* Pre-Banquet Cocktails. Cash Bar.

1900-2100 \* Awards Banquet.

2100-Close Hospitality Room.

### Sunday, 8 November 1998:

Checkouts & Departures as scheduled.

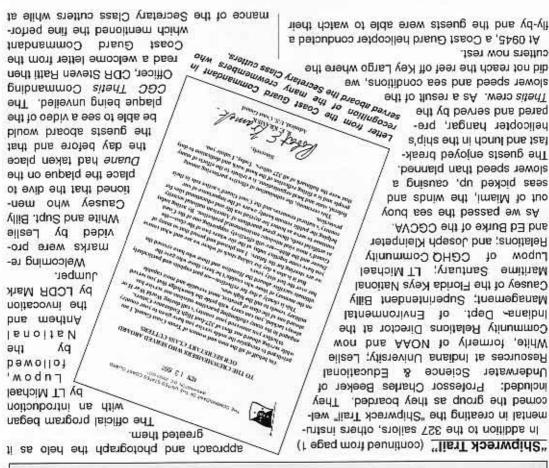
0830-End Post Convention Meeting, Officers & Board Members.

(Reunion Committee, Treasurer, Secretary & Conv. Chrmn. to

meet with Hotel Manager to settle Hotel Bill.)

\* The Hospitality Room will be <a href="CLOSED">CLOSED</a> during the following events:

Opening Ceremony Business Meeting Awards Banquet





The USCGC Thetis (WMEC 910), host vessel for the 327-fool Secretary Class cutter dedication ceremony, at its moorings at the USCGC Thetis (WMEC 910), host vessel for the 327-fool Secretary Class cutter dedication ceremony, at its moorings at

sea both in wartime and peacetime.

The keynote address was presented by RADM J. David Spade who mentioned diving on the Duane himself and serving aboard the cutter as an instructor during a 1972 Cadet Cruise. His remarks were followed by a presentation of artifacts from the various 327 associations, then a benediction by LCDR Jumper ended the program.

By this time, the expected heavy weather conditions had become quite noticeable and unfortunately several guests became ill, keeping the cutter's crew and corpsman quite busy. So much for the delightful breakfast and lunch for some!

In all, it worked out to be a most impressive ceremony, with all the 327 associations taking part. A dedication ceremony to place the various items inside a time capsule will take place at the Coast Guard Yard on March 4, 1998.

Mary Ellebracht and "Gob's Gab"

Just Doing My Job

It was October of 1943 and America was at war.

As a 19-year-old seaman in the Coast Guard, I was standing guard duty at the exit gate at the Manhattan Beach Training Station in Brooklyn (Sheepshead Bay), New York. My orders were short and specific: Allow any vehicle already on the base to leave, but allow no vehicle, none whatsoever, to enter. Incoming traffic was to go to the entrance gate about a quarter mile away.

I was decked out with all the symbols of authority — shore patrol armband, web belt, nightstick and canvas leggings. Feeling very much in charge, I walked my post in my best military manner, back and forth, back and forth.

Then, a sedan with U.S. government license plates and identifying markings drove up. The driver, an enlisted man like me, motioned for me to open the gate. I motioned that I wouldn't and

pointed to the entrance gate. Then he got out of the car and we talked it over.

The back door of the sedan opened. An officer got out and approached. My mouth dropped open and my heart skipped a beat. That officer was Jack Dempsey, world-famous heavy-weight boxing champion and now a Coast Guard commander, complete with gold braid.

Dempsey asked me what the problem was. Standing stifly at attention, I looked him in the eye and said, "Sir, my orders are to let no vehicle enter here. You will have to go down to the entrance gate."

Dempsey took it in good humor. He smiled tolerantly and said he would do just that. As he turned to leave, he said, "You're doing a good job, son. Keep it up."

Wow! Such praise from such a famous man.

Over the years, I have been telling this story to anyone willing to listen. My contemporaries have

enjoyed my story, but younger listeners are starting to ask me, "Who's Jack Dempsey?"

Charles P. Berka (Editor's Note: After boot camp, Berka was assigned to the USS Bayfield (PA-33). He participated in the D-Day landings at Normandy and later in the invasions at Iwo Jima and Okinawa)



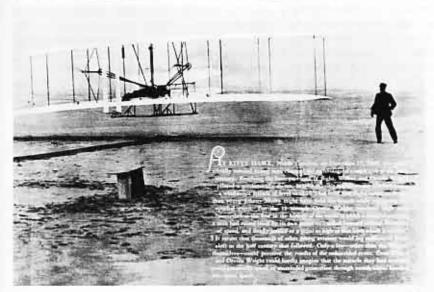
CDR Jack Dempsey In WWII

### CG History at Kitty Hawk

There are so many of us, Coasties and our fellow Americans alike, who are not aware of the role

played by our Service in what is, unquestionably, aviation's singlemost significant occurance — the Wright Brothers' historic first flight on Dec. 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, N.C.

The Coast Guard was there in '03? Indeed! We've been around since 1790 and among our predecessors we count the U.S. Lifesaving Service (USLSS). The USLSS had a direct line to WWII in the form of Surfmen. Come to think of it, when was the last time the Coast Guard men-



The original plate of aviation's most famous photograph depicts the very moment Orville Wright flew "The Flyer" on its 12 second journey into history. The photographer — Surfman John Daniels, USLSS!

tioned those courageous souls? Or recalled their brave motto: "You have to go out, but you don't have to come back."? Sadly, there are too few of us left who even remember their insignia: a life ring and two crossed oars.

To restart the part we played in aviation's history, let's go back to 1900 wherein our family's contributions begin. Back, also, to the brothers' camp at Kitty hawk. Those two bicyclemakers came to test their theories of flight using unmanned and manned gliders. The experimentation that led, ultimately, to their first powered flight would not have succeeded without the aid and encouragement of the USLSS surfmen stationed just across the dunes.

The two alone never would have carried their gliders to the top of Big Kill Devil Hill. The climb was taken time and time again (some 400 trials) — no mean feat even with help. Imagine their gratitude for the time and labor freely given over a three year timespan.

To fully understand is to witness the Wrights' primative working conditions — a wooden shack, a heating drum, a simple cookstove and burlap slings that served as beds. How grateful they must have been, not only for the physical labor, but for the shared meals and companionship at the station where the brothers were often guests. Without the help of the surfmen, there is no way the Wrights could have beaten rival Sam to the Langley punch.

Hopefully, this article may awaken us to another in the long line of unpublicized

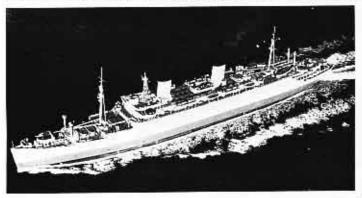
contributions made by the Coast Guard. Perhaps, we Coasties will feel a sense of pride reading this. Perhaps, prouder still, to be or to have been a part of such a glorious heritage. It may be that in 2003, when we celebrate 100 years of flight, some greater voices will reveal our true place in that monumental happening.

### Morris Aaron, USS Wakefield Vet Remembered

My friend and shipmate, Morris Aaron, passed away on Nov. 21, 1997, at his home in Olympia, Wash. Morris was a retired Coast Guard CPO and a CGCVA member. He had spent a great deal of his Coast Guard time aboard cutters in Alaskan waters and requested that his ashes be spread in those waters from a Coast Guard cutter. At his widow's (Velma's) request, I arranged for this to take place from the USCGC Mellon in January.

I was also asked to do his eulogy. For this I

recalled my days aboard the USS Wakefield, a 705-foot vessel originally built as the luxury liner, SS Manhattan. Both Morris and I were plank owners on the Wakefield, remaining with her from her commission in June 1941 until we abandoned her Sept. 3, 1942, in the North Atlantic about 1000 miles off the coast of Nova Scotia. I was one of the firemen who worked for Morris,



The USS Wakefield, ex-luxury liner SS Manhattan, moved tens of thousands of American troops safely to Europe before being gutted by fire in the Atlantic.

who was at the time a Watertender 1/c.

We shared many an adventure during those 15 months aboard the *Wakefield*, including being part of a convoy carrying the largest number of troops ever transported across the Atlantic in August of 1942.

On our return trip, in convoy with the battleship USS Arkansas, cruiser USS Brooklyn and a number of destroyers on Sept. 3rd, Morris was standing the 1600-2000 watch in fireroom #1 with four firemen. About 1815, Morris gave me permission to report to sick bay and about fifteen minutes later the ship's fire alarm sounded. Ten minutes later, the ship was in flames and within a half hour the order was given to abandon ship.

Although I didn't know it at the time, Morris and the three remaining firemen were trapped in the fireroom, the hatch area near it totally inflamed. Although not many crewmen were aware of it, there was a manhole leading to a space between the stack and a facade structure around the

stack, in this case a possible means of escape. I'm not sure how Morris was able to unbolt the manhole, probably with hammer and chisel, but he did it and saved the lives of the three firemen and himself.

In the end, 800 passengers and 745 crew including Morris climbed down the rope nets to the cruiser *Brooklyn*. Morris never received any

recognition for his actions but then again, he never expected any.

Over the next few days the Wakefield continued to burn and Morris always volunteered to return as part of the firefighting parties. After the fire was out and the ship taken in tow, Morris volunteered to stay with her, even though the magazines had not been flooded and fuel still tanks. remained in her Eventually the Wakefield was towed back to Boston and rebuilt. and Morris, now a chief, stayed

with her throughout the process.

In February 1944, a new Wakefield emerged ready to again carry troops and fight and Morris "Mr. Wakefield" remained with her until decommissioning. He received no special recognition, which was never of concern to him. He was always willing to settle knowing he did his job well.

Farewell my shipmate. Farewell my friend.
Victor Reynolds

### Nevada CG Monument Is Planned

The Coast Guard Chief Warrant and Warrant Officers Association (Silver State Chapter) and the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association (Las Vegas Mavericks Chapter) have combined to create the USCG Veterans Memorial Fund.

The sole purpose of the Fund is to build a suitable and appropriate memorial to honor <u>ALL</u> Coast Guard men and women, regular or reserve, who served their country in war and

peace.

The monument would be built on the grounds of the Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Boulder City, Nev., to honor Coast Guard veterans who are or will be interred there. Since its opening in April 1990, there have been more than 6125 burials. The cemetery sits on 80 acres and can accommodate 50,000.

For additional information or to make a contribution, centact USCG Veterans Memorial Fund at P.O. Box 93118, Las Vegas, NV 89193-3188.

#### Somewhere...

Ever experience the excited movement that follows the attention to evening colors at some military bases. The following poem by an unknown author accurately sums up what often takes place. Think about it.

Somewhere a bugle softly sounds The message of renown. And some inside their buildings wait Until the flag comes down. And others run to get to their cars Quite harrowed or dismayed, Afraid they won't reach the gate Before retreat is played. Not thinking of the flag or those Who fought to keep it flying. How many would be glad to stand Whose bodies now are mute, Or have no hand that they may raise And stand in proud salute. So accept not as duty But a privilege even more, And receive it as an honor Instead of just a chore.

### Surprise Golf Outing

CGCVA member Edmund Reinhart, a WWII veteran, was surprised to receive a letter from President Clinton in early August 1995, inviting him to join the President in a round of golf from no less than Hawaii. Offers like that are hard to say no to, regardless of your political stance, and

Edmund received a phone call the very next day from the White House. His wife, Mae, said that Edmund couldn't believe it, "But as soon as I saw it was in Hawaii, I said, "We're going!" More calls followed from Coast Guard and White House officials with details, including a 1400 tee time at the Leilehua Golf Course at Schofield Barracks.

The event was part of the president's visit to





(Top) CGCVA member Edmund Reinhart (far left) with his fellow golfers and President Clinton (center) at the Sept. 1, 1975 golf outing at Lellehua Golf Course in Hawaii for the 50th anniversary commemoration of V-J Day.

(Above) Edmund Reinhart, his wife, Mae, and President Clinton at the golf course.

Hawaii to commemorate the 50th anniversary of V-J Day and the president's foursome took on a group headed by ADM Richard Macke, commander, U.S. Pacific Command. Along with Clinton

and Reinhart were Gov. Ben Cayetano and retired Navy LCDR Stanley Nicholls, also a WWII veteran.

Edmund is still baffled as to how he was picked out of all the WWII veterans but isn't complaining. According to Mae, "It was really a thrill" to meet Clinton and shake his hand. "But he really looked tired and he was sunburned," she said.

Reinhart played the first 11 holes and stopped there with a 63. The rest of the party kept playing past 1930, using flashlights and lighters. They finally called it quits on the 16th hole.

**Edmund Reinhart** 

### For All Those Born Before 1945

We were born before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, frisbees and the PILL. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens. Before panty

hose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes — and before man walked on the moon.

We were married first and then lived together. How quaint can you be? In our time, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of". Bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not

Volkswagons. Designer Jeans were scheming girls named "Jean" and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with our cousins.

We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent, and outer space was the State Theater. We were before house husbands, gay rights, computer dating and commuter marriages. We were the day care centers, group therapy, and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, electronic typewriters, or artificial hearts. For us, time sharing meant togetherness, not computers or condominiums. A chip meant a piece of wood. Hardware meant hardware and

software wasn't even a word.

Back then, "Made in Japan" meant junk, and the term "making out" referred to how well you did on your exams. Pizza, McDonald's and instant coffee were unheard of. We hit the scene where you bought things for 5 and 10 cents. You could buy a new Chevy coupe for \$600...but who could afford one? A pity too, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

No wonder we are so confused and there is such a generation gap today. Still, we are survivors! Consider the changes we have witnessed. USS LCI Nat'l Assn. Newsletter #23

### Pearl Harbor Day Ceremonies

As they have done for several years now, CGCVA members have gathered aboard the CGC Taney in Baltimore on December 7th to commemorate Pearl Harbor Day. 1997 was no exception.

This year, CGCVA President Joe Kleinpeter was joined by National Secretary Ed Burke and QD Log Editor LCDR Ed Swift on the decommissioned cutter (and Pearl Harbor attack veteran) for the solemn ceremonies. A total of 12 CGCVA members were in attendance and it was



CGCVA attendees at the Pearl Harbor Day ceremonies included (left to right) Ed Burke, LCDR Ed Swift, Hank Rogers, and Joe Kleinpeter.



CGCVA members aboard CGC Taney for the Pearl Harbor Day commemoration ceremonies Dec. 7, 1997.

a most impressive showing for the Association.

Members of the Coast Guard Ceremonial Honor Guard paraded the Colors and the keynote speaker was RADM George Nacarra, USCG.

The weather was quite chilly and everyone was pretty buttoned up. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a Baltimore Police helicopter dropped a wreath near the cutter in memory of all the fallen shipmates from that "Day of Infamy".

### Commandant Honors CG D-Day Vets

During his attendance at the International Maritime Organization's annual meeting in London, Admiral Robert Kramek took a day off to visit the

home of Great Britain's lifeboat service.

The headquarters of England's Lifeboat Service (RNLI) is in Poole, which was also the training and staging point of the Coast Rescue Guard's Flotilla during WWII. A bronze plaque erected to the men of Flotilla I stands on Quay and Poole commemorates their participation in the Dlandings Normandy, France in 1944.

While touring the RNLI facilities in

Poole, Admiral Kramek visited with the town's mayor, Mrs. Annette Brooks, saw the U.S. Standard in St. James' Church, and placed a wreath at the site of the Flotilla I plaque. He also met with with Susie Readmin who had developed many friendships with the Coast Guardsmen in Poole when she was just a young girl.



Admiral Kramek meets with Susie Readmin of Poole. Susie had made friends with many of the Flotilla I Coast Guardsmen during WWII.

Unlike the federally-funded U.S. Coast Guard, the RNLI is a registered independent lifeboat charity, providing support services for 220 lifeboat stations in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The UK Coastguard coordinates the response to marine incidents using specialist services such as the RNLI, MoD and Coastguard helicopters, commercial tugs, cliff rescue teams and lifeguards.

Georgette Purches of the RNLI public affairs staff said Admiral Kramek was particularly interested in their design department. Sharing of such information has played a key role in both organizations. The RNLI's first fast lifeboat, the Waveney class, was developed from a USCG design. Likewise, the USCG is now taking delivery of faster craft that is similar to ones used by the RNLI for





Admiral

Kramek with RNLI director

CDR Brian Miles at the RNLI offices.

some years.

"People tend to put charity along with amateur," says Purches. "We are not, we have been doing this since 1824."

"We are very experienced and we like to think very effective. The admiral was impressed by the scope of the (RNLI) operation." The RNLI, as Secretariat for the International Lifeboat Federation. maintains close links with the world's rescue operations and likes to exchange views with them.



Admiral Kramek with Poole Mayor Mrs. Annette Brooke at site of D-Day Memorial to Flotilla I.

**Jack Campbell** 

### Rescuee Meets Rescuers

On a frigid March night in 1943, Daniel C. Miller watched from a lifeboat as the SS Sven Foyn disappeared at a sharp angle into the stormtossed Atlantic. Her captain, never losing faith tugs would come to rescue the Norweigian whaling ship, went down with her, along with most of the officers.

The ship, sailing under the British Merchant navy flag, was riding in a Merchant ship convoy off the coast of Greenland when she struck the iceberg. A lifeboat full of crew members from Calcutta was pulled into the whirlpool created by the sinking ship before anyone could save them.

Miller and his lifeboat mates floated for more than two hours before the USCGC Modoc found them. Miller was taken to New Foundland, where he soon boarded another British merchant ship to sail the seas for another five years.

When the SS Sven Foyn sank, Miller was 15 years old. The times didn't call for niceties — not

in the middle of a war — and so Miller never had a chance to say thank you to the men of the *Modoc*. Not until this past summer — 54 years after the rescue — when Miller learned about a Modoc mini-reunion taking place in Maine.

It was there he met three of the Coast Guardsmen who were aboard Modoc at the time of the rescue and he was finally able to say thanks.

"They were unsung heroes," Miller said, "I owe them my life."

The Sven Foyn was, unbeknownst to crew members, was taking the northern route to Murmansk in the Soviet Union, bearing a significant amount of cargo of fuel oil and a deck cargo of airplanes, landing barges and three or four locomotive engines, all tied to the deck of the football field-long ship. "It was a very valuable

cargo," he said.

The collision may have saved his life, Miller said, because the seas around Murmansk were filled with German U-boats below, and German dive bombers circled above. "Very few got through to Murmansk," he said.

Miller is grateful to have finally met his rescuers and has kept up a



Mr. Daniel C. Miller as he looks today.

friendship with some of the Modoc crew members. "They were just great," he says, "I would be down in Davey Jones' locker without them."

Pat Hammond New Hampshire Sunday News

26

Craft Confrontation took place. defense of our shoreline that the great Christion, the main beach at Corona del Mar. It was in try a landing on that well-known strategic locable of the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor might well dustded, the thinking being that any people capa-Nevertheless, the coast had to be such exotic names as Tarawa, Saipan and

Coast Guard ensign in charge of the barge. teurs. On this particular day, there was a new going traffic for fifth columnists, spies, or sabobor entrance which checked all incoming and out-Yard. The Coast Guard had a barge at the hared to a Mayal Patrol craft at the South Coast Boat from San Diego to Newport Beach to be convertenlisted men were bringing a 32-foot Chris-Craft One sunshiny day, a new Navy ensign and two consisted of painting the boats battleship gray. military use for patrol purposes. This conversion numerous pleasure craft and converting them to The navy was in the process of comandeering

Craft. to submit to any such indignity, neither would this Lexington and Saratoga certainly weren't going salty expression was applicable. No way. The it to stop or ordered it to heave-to or whatever The Mavy craft came in. The Coast Guard told

rate. Anyway, the Coast Guard didn't have a gun that wouldn't be true and history must be accuoff his bow as Lord Melson might have done but report that the Coast Guard fired a waming shot ignoring the command to halt. I would like to The Navy ensign sailed grandly by the badge in

accompanied by two enlisted men, gave chase to ensign. He leapt into his 43-foot Chris-Craft and, authority — properly enraged the Coast Guard This flagrant disregard of security — and to fire across anybody's bow.

Coast Guard ensign demanded that the Navy came alongside the Navy boat and again the At about the Pavilion, the Coast Guard boat the Navy craft.

ensign maneuvered his craft alongside, took the

and sailed up into the bay. The Coast Guard boat stop. The navy ensign ignored the request

Rolling Thunder XI

Last year's event saw more than 270,000 partici-(Memorial Day Weekend) in Washington, D.C. Freedom event will take place May 24, 1998 The 11th annual Rolling Thunder Ride For

erans in the U.S. armed forces. of all remains, and the protection of all future vetappeal for the return of all surviving POWs, return country gather at the Nation's capital each year to Motorcyclists from across the accountability. to sussi AIM-WO9 off gnihoqqus noitstranomob Rolling Thunder is not a parade or party. It is a

.6750-406 (809) to 9543-956 (809) P.O. Box 216, Meshanic Station, NJ 08853 or call tact Rolling Thunder, Inc., National Chapter 1, For more information on this annual event, con-

Taste of War Not Worth Savoring

several thousand miles away at places carrying part of the action. The real war was going on World War II, the Pacific Coast was never really a shells at an oil rig in Goleta in the early days of After a Japanese submarine lobbed a couple of

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on Page 29 Answers to Crossword Puzzle

MIN O Z MOO O O LUM

wheel and shouted to the two enlisted men, in tones which would have made John Paul Jones proud, "Prepare to board!"

The Navy ensign snapped, in tones that would have made Stephen Decatur proud, "Prepare to

repel boarders!"

The four enlisted men lined up, two against two, divided by about a yard of water. "Board," roared the Coast Guard ensign. "Repel boarders," yelled the Navy ensign.

The four enlisted men just stood there, eyes rolling to the heavens, giggling unrestrainedly at the antics of their superior officers. No boarding

and no repelling took place.

When the two craft arrived at the South Coast Boat Yard, each ensign charged the other with numerous violations of Articles of War and each charged his enlisted men with cowardice in the face of the enemy. Nothing came of this, but according to information, the two ensigns were sent to do recruiting duty in Dubuque and Kalamazoo.

However, for that moment at least, the inhabitants of Newport Beach had a taste of war and were made aware of the truth of William

CGCVA Nat'l Secretary Ed Burke (right) with new CGCVA life member CAPT James A. Hodgman, USCG (Ret.) in Miami, Fla. Either they're outside an Elks Lodge or Ed has grown horns.

Tecumseh Sherman's advice that war is hell!
Robert Gardner
(submitted by LT C. Joseph Whitman)

From the President (continued from page 2)

I have chatted electronically with many Coast Guard veterans through the "Fred's Place" Web Page and been able to attract several to join the CGCVA. Hopefully this will continue as more and more people 'log on'. We have also been able to advertise the many CGCVA and Small Stores items this way. If you have a computer at home or work that is connected to the Internet, give it a try; it's amazing the information you can obtain and people you can get contact this way.

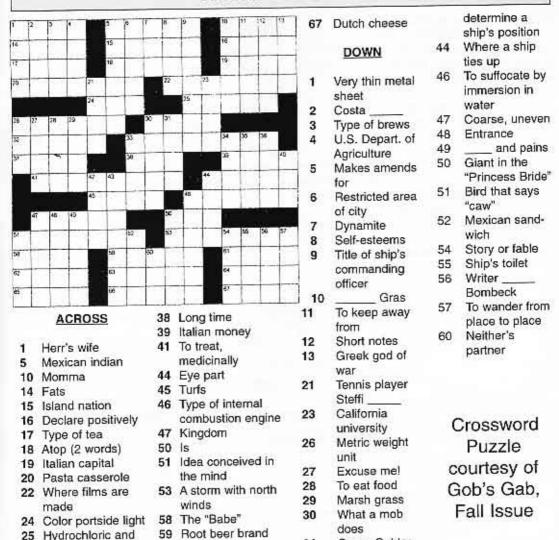
In that vein, I have suggested that the QD Log start up an e-mail registry so that CGCVA members can communicate with each other that way. If you'd like to participate, simply provide your e-mail address to either Baker Herbert or Ed Burke.

Things are heating up for the Corpus Christi reunion but don't forget the annual Coast Guard Day Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan (this year to be officially recognized as Coast Guard City, USA). Semper Paratus! Joe Kleinpeter



OD Log Editor LCDR Ed Swift presents a framed CGCVA Life Member Certificate to WWII Coast Guard Combat Artist George Gray on the occasion of his 90th birthday in NYC.

### Crossword Puzzle



| The | Quart | erde | ck | Log |
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|-----|-------|------|----|-----|

nitric, for example

26 Fine cotton fabric

edge of ship's

33 Housing for ship's

32 Top petty officer

compass

37 Heredity need

30 Guard at outer

deck

31

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42

43

(3 words)

63 Open dislike or

66 Open inflamed

spots on skin

61 Air (prefix)

62 Evil giant

distain

65 Reasons

64 Dalai

Green Gables

Necklace part

Mouth parts

New York canal

dweller

Hint

Entire

Island

Device to

Answers on

page 27

## **CGCVA Auxiliary News**

Auxiliary Members and Friends:

Time is drawing near for a fun time at Corpus Christi. We have visited the site and are very pleased with the hotel and its accommodations,

especially its location which is right on the beach! When you are not on a tour, try the pool/recreation room, which is all enlosed and together with many windows overlooking the water. We found the food not only delicious

but there was plenty of it and the prices were quite reasonable. We were treated with respect and I am sure each one of you attending this reunion will be very happy with your stay.

Nancy, Pearl and I will be looking forward to seeing you in Corpus Christi so please let us know if you need any assistance before or during your stay. Our luncheon will be a gala event with hopefully some entertainment in store for you. Remember, you do <u>not</u> have to be an Auxiliary member to join us.

Just a reminder...some of the dues are due at the reunion. We will be set up at the reunion for your convenience to pay them but not during the opening ceremony, planned tours, luncheon or banquet. Of course, we

also welcome any new members to join us.

To those who are ill, we wish you a speedy recovery and to those who have lost loved ones, we offer our deepest sympathy.

See you at the "Sands of Emerald Beach"! Loyally and with love!

Jane Maxwell, Auxiliary President



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CGCVA Form#3C(8/95)

### Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association

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Coast Guard Commandant ADM Robert E. Kramek at the site of the plaque honoring the men of the Coast Guard Rescue Fiotilia in Poole, England. Kramek placed a wreath at the monument during his visit to England in the fall.

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