

The Quarterdeck Log

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Assoc.

1993

Vol. 8

Spring

No. 2

THE STATE OF THE COAST GUARD COMBAT
VETERANS ASSOCIATION
DICK STENT, PRESIDENT

We are now over 1330 members and growing rapidly. Winter has finally come to Central Ohio and we are starting to pay for our mild winter. Not only did Puxatawney Phil see his shadow on Ground Hog Day, but so did Buckeye Chuck see his shadow and "Thar Blows Old Man Winter."

On February 7, I attended the 50th Anniversary of the sinking of the Dorchester at the Veterans Memorial in Columbus, Ohio. As you know, the Dorchester was sunk on 3 February 1943 at 0053, and the Coast Guard played a major role in this tragedy. The Tampa was carrying the Escort Commander of the Convoy and the Escanaba and Commanche were on the flanks. The Coast Guard also had crew on the Dorchester, 26 of whom were lost at sea. As all of you know, a Stamp was created to honor the four Chaplains who gave up their life jackets so that others could survive. One of those Chaplains, Captain Poling was born in Columbus, Ohio.

We had an excellent turnout of about 300 people for this occasion. I was recognized by the Chaplain conducting the program as the President of CGCVA. One of our County Commissioners lost a brother on the Dorchester and she could not carry out her part of the program. It was a very moving historical event.

Last week, Evelyn and I attended the Navy League's Groundhog Bash which is an annual event. Thank God I did not win Miss Piggy which have to keep for a year.

NOW HERE THIS!! THIS IS NOT A DRILL!!

Our Reno Convention commissioned me as the new Secretary of our association. Though I am still learning the ropes, I want you all to know that I stand ready to assist in any way to further the success of the Coast Guard Combat Vets Association. Likewise, if I do not have all of the answers, rest assured I will seek aid and advice from others to accomplish our mission successfully. After taking office, securing the records and sorting out the incoming applications I have uncovered a rather serious problem. I would like to share it with you.

We operate in accordance with our charter and bylaws and having applied for a federal tax exemption and having received the same the association is required to meet standards of membership upon which the exemption was granted. The Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(19), states, "- - based upon information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exception, we have determined you are exempt from Federal Income Tax under provisions of the -(code indicated above). It further goes on to say, "Based upon your representation that at least 90% of your members are war veterans and that you are organized and operated primarily for purposes consistent with your current status as a war veteran organization, donors can deduct contributions made to or for the use of your organization."

Just when you discover where the grass is greener, you're too old to climb the fence.

A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men. B.Franklin.

These statements reduced to common terms indicate that we are a tax exempt association. This being the case, THE ITEMS WE PURCHASE ARE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION and the ITEMS THAT WE RECEIVE AS DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. This being the case this authority is a most valuable asset. As a result our records must be impeccably kept, they must be accurate and they must be consistent with our authority to exist. They are subject to inspection and audit. Should we fail to maintain proper records in compliance with our authorization, our authority may be lifted and our status lost.

With this in mind I present the problem. We must prove our right to maintain this authority - that is, that no less than 90% of our membership must be U S Coast Guard Combat Veterans. Each and every one of us must prove our qualifications under the authority to be members. (Of course if you have already provided this information with proof such as indicated above, but please be certain that your records with the association are complete.

I must therefore request that each of you reflect upon your membership application and deliver to me as soon as possible a proper proof or indicia of your discharge, release to reserves, DD-214, copy of your orders, award or medal certificate will suffice. Regardless of when you became a member, please dig up a copy of any of the items mentioned and ship them along to me. If you already done so, there is no need to repeat, but we do need at least one proof and application They will attached to your record and we will then have a complete and proper record for proof of our right to exist. Each of you joined the association with the understanding that you were qualified to be members of The Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association. Help me make the records proper and complete. I need your help, I can't do it alone.

Be mindful of the fact that our members include all Coast Guard (active, reserve, retired), as well as SPARS, and all regular members of our service through to and including those who served at Desert Storm. Ed Burke, Sec.

Semper Paratus

Recently, I have been receiving phone calls and letters as to what we are going to do about the sensitive subject of Gays in the Services. As your President I do not feel that we can solve this problem as an Association of Combat Veterans. However, I do feel that each member should express his or her views on this subject to his or her Congressional Representative and to each of his or her Senators in their State. I feel that 1350 voices in the form of a letter are better than one letter from the Association. Your Congressional and Senatorial Representatives will make sure your words reach the proper authorities. I also feel that each persons own words mean more than a form letter that we might generate within the Association. Good writing and let those people in Washington know how you feel.

Semper Paratus,

Dick Stent, President, C.G.C.V.A.

COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Quarterdeck Log

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Joshua S. Sparrow, Editor-in-Chief

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The Association is a Not-for-Profit Association of Active Duty members, retired 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 Guard.

I may have my faults, but being wrong is not one of them..

I am not overweight, I am undertall.

Too soon old, too late smart.

Never marry for money, it is cheaper to borrow it.

Don't confuse me with the facts, my mind is already made up.

If all else fails, lower your standards.

Attention Coast Guard Combat Vets

Baltimore Maritime Museum

proudly presents the history of the
USCGC TANEY

Written by LT(jg) Brian J. Whetstine, USCGR

50 years of service! From its commissioning in 1936 to its decommissioning in 1986 and its new role as a floating museum in Baltimore's Inner Harbor...

Relive the TANEY'S exciting history from its line island cruises off Hawaii in the late 1930s to the attack on Pearl Harbor. In photographs and in the words of TANEY'S crew, witness the TANEY'S experiences in peace and war from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and beyond. Read the remarkable story of the Coast Guard's own "Queen of the Pacific" over her historic 50 years of service to the nation.

- **A beautiful hard-cover edition that promises to be a collector's item.**
- **Pictures and stories detailing the TANEY'S wartime exploits in WWII, Korea and Vietnam as well as its service in search and rescue, drug interdiction, coastal patrol, and weather monitoring missions.**
- **The history of the TANEY as told by those who lived it. A lot of memories!**
- **The book, \$29.95, is available on a pre-publication basis. It is a limited edition, available only through the Baltimore Maritime Museum.**
- **The Baltimore Maritime Museum will use the proceeds from the book for the continued maintenance and preservation of the USCGC TANEY.**

Note: Give a gift of history! Purchase an additional copy for other family members such as children or grandchildren, enabling them to remember you and the TANEY. This volume makes an excellent gift for your local school or library.

ORDER FORM: USCGC TANEY

Please enter my order for _____ copies of the USCGC TANEY History at the pre-publication price of \$29.95. Publication date: August 1993. \$ _____

Optional: For those who want the very best, there will be a special collector's edition bound in bonded leather. Your name will be engraved on the cover in gold foil and your book will be autographed by the author. Price: \$45. \$ _____

Postage and handling \$4.50 per book. \$ _____

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Name to be stamped on cover as written below, not to exceed 21 characters/spaces:

Please mail order form to: **Baltimore Maritime Museum, Pier 3, Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202 037-44704**
Make checks payable to Friends of the Baltimore Maritime Museum

One of the earliest lessons I learned in the Military was not to volunteer. With the passing of all of these years that part of my memory has failed me and I am now the editor of your Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association Journal. I take this office without condition however and ask for a little assistance. If you write your article or report on a computer, it would make it a lot easier if you send me a copy of your work on a floppy disk in ASCII format or as written in one of the standard word processors such as Word Perfect, Enable, Volkswriter, or for that matter any of the IBM compatible word process systems. I can then convert and save a load of rekeying time. Likewise, since we publish on 8.5 x 11 inch format and I am going to try to see that we can be more easily read and remembered, we will be publishing as you see in twin columns. Those of you who write on a computer, please set on 40 letter columns and those on the typewriter set your tabs 40 spaces apart. It can save a mess of re-keying. Believe or not this edition of the QUARTERDECK LOG took about 60 hours of keying and cut and paste. The title of this newsletter is not etched in cedar or teak. If you have a better idea - send it along. Ed and I had about 30 ideas, and this what we called it for now.

I would also appreciate your assistance and cooperation in the way of advertising or photo contributions in sharp clear form. If we can have a few pages of ads, such as business card ads, which I propose to offer at \$10 per issue or \$35 per year we can publish a healthy and profitable journal without digging into the treasury. Such cards as business, shipmate search, retirement notices, reunion notices and so can be cheaply and effectively used with a great response. I would also appreciate an effort by each and every one of the members to seek out one other 4 candidate for membership. If you cannot do so, is there some one you would like to find? Perhaps we should set up a mail buoy and you all write to it. I'll convert to the questions to one liners for insertion in to the Journal.

I like to create fun section to our journal - a recollection or faux pas, an experience that will make those oversized bellies bounce, a joke or a one liner to that we Coasties will enjoy and lighten up our journal.

It is my plan to make our journal more readable, more exciting and something to want to pass on. We plan on printing extra copies and shipping them out to usual Coast Guard and Navy retirement centers where many our colleagues have moved to for retirement or later occupations. Give us your ideas & suggestions so that we might make our association well known and popular amongst the ranks of the Coast Guard.

Josh Sparrow, Editor
14736 Mc Knew Road, Burtonsville, MD
20866 - 301-470-6161. Fax 301-490-5607

THE MAIL BUOY

Last time I saw -----
was at -----
has anyone seen him or her since?
Chief Sam Lowe at the Sand Island Aloha Tower Liberty Boat New Years eve 1953-54. Note: See Crossing the Bar, this issue. Larry Gettings at the Radio Shack at Wake Island. Steve Lucardi leaving the DE docks for the states at the end of the Korean effort. Capt. Dave Gershowitz in Brooklyn. Capt. John Dougherty, who made regular flights from TH (remember when Hawaii was the TH?) Capt. Meyer Robbins at the Paymasters at 80 Lafayette St. New York City. An original Alex Haley letter? Any of the Crew of the USCGC WDE 485 RICHEY or the crew from Wake Island of French Frigate Shoal. The HEALEY TWINS, STAN LEV, CDR. J.F.BILLS, CDR HUDGINS, CWO HUTCHINSON from the Ellis Island Receiving Center. Address your answers to the Editor. This should be enlightening. What about the crew of the Cutter SPENCER that over the German U-Boat 409? Does anyone have any photos of the RICHEY and CDR.Yost's Boxer Pups or for that matter the Slone Chimp travelling up from San Diego to LA after returning from the 14th District? Does anyone have an photos of Col.John Devereau when he returned to Wake during the Korean War, he was taken and held all during WWII as a prisoner.

Bet that each and everyone of us has a tale (not tall) to tell, any incident to recall, a memory not to be forgotten with those guys who wore the Shield on the Sleeves. If we could find these guys we could enlist their membership if they are not already members. How about a list of the Light Ship and Light House Crews.

Stephen H. Goldrick, whose article "The Voyage of the CGC 83481" starts in this issue is looking for the whereabouts of shipmates Clifford B. Slade, Steve Sweeney of Edina, MN and Cheslie N. Carpenter of Kingston, RI.

Josh Sparrow - Editor - CGCVA LOG

COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS
ASSOCIATION
TREASURER'S REPORT

TOTAL FUNDS ON HAND - 3-6-93 \$5,297.80

Clothing and Small Stores: -
CGCVA Baseball caps, blue, gold
lettered, plain visor \$10.00
CGCVA Logo Patch 5.00

Order after 1 May 1993

4" CGCVA Decal (Window)	2.00
CGCVA Baseball cap, blue, gold lettered, senior officer eggs,	12.00
CGCVA Baseball cap, blue, gold lettered, flag officer eggs,	13.00

If there is any interest we can order the following:

Jumbo Night Shirt, CGCVA Logo	16.00
"T"Shirt, (Add \$2.00 for XXL) CGCVA Logo	12.00
Sweatshirt - (Jersey) CGCVA Logo (9 oz. Material)	22.00
Hooded Sweatshirt - (Jersey) CGCVA Logo (9 oz. material)	27.00
\$2.00 additional for XXL	

All items of clothing & small stores will be shipped first class mail at no extra charge. Send your check to our Treasurer, Baker Herbert, at 6858 Lafayette Rd., Medina, OH 44256 for your wants and selection.

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Master-At-Arms

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Tracy, CA 95376

W A N T E D

G O O D W O M A N

Must be able to clean,
cook, sew, dig worms,
and clean fish. Must
have boat and motor.

Please send picture of
boat and motor.



***Vancouver Council
Hosts USCGC Citrus***

The Vancouver Council (Wash.) hosted a reception for the officers and crew of the Coast Guard's medium-endurance cutter USCGC Citrus (WMEC-300), in port to participate in the city's annual Veterans Day celebration. Among the highlights of the reception, held at the local American Legion post, was the presentation of a Navy League plaque to Lt. Cdr. Al Bernard, the ship's commanding officer, by Council President Flo Fidler, who in turn accepted a ship's plaque from Bernard on behalf of the council. The council also took the opportunity to pay tribute to the memory of Signalman 1st Class Douglas Munro of Cle Elum, Wash., the only Coast Guardsman ever to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

OLD FOLKS ARE WORTH A FORTUNE

With silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs. I have become a lot more social with the passing of the years; some might even call me a frivolous old gal. I am seeing five different gentlemen everyday. As soon as I wake, WILL power helps me get out of bed, then I go to see JOHN, then CHARLIE horse comes along, and he is here, he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves, ARTHUR it is shows up and stays the rest of the day. (He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint.) After such a busy day, I am really tired and glad to go to bed with BEN Gay. What a wild life!!!!

Cat - "Would you be very upset if I asked you to take your silly-assed problem down the hall?"

God must love calories, He made so many of them.

Always look a gift horse in the mouth, it beats looking at the other end.

Good judgment comes from experience; experience comes from bad judgment.

You can't teach an old dog new tricks, but they do learn a few of their own.

NEW MEMBERS

ACHSTETTER, Mary C. (ZABEL) - Hawaii
WWII Dick Stent.

ANTOINE, John S.T. - RICHEY - Herb
Reith

ARCURI, Angelo C. - PSU301, Desert
Shield/Storm - Herb Reith

BALLEAUX, Ralph E. - GRESHAM - Al
Grantham

BANNON, John P. - USS CAMP/75007 - Jim
Bunch

BARHITE, Henry G. - LST-785 - The
Association

BARNES, Martin H. - TALLAPOSA/ARS
CONNORS/GRESHAM - Al Grantham

BAXTER, Gordon L. -
C G-271/CALYPSO-FLEET RESERVE
ASSOCIATION

BENTSEN, Edward R. - USS PETERSON/GEN.
HOWZE/AQUARIUS - Herb Reith

BOGGS, George H. - HOUMA/CGAS BILOXI -
Jim Bunch

BRANNON, Robert P. CALLAWAY - Jim
Bunch

BRIGHT, Robert A. KOREA - Mike
Opsitnik

CAREY, Richard P. DUANE - Robert J.
Carey

CHURLEY, Michael - PERIOA - Jim Bunch

CROGNALE, Stanley J. Sr. CAMRIA - Dick
Stent

CUNNIFF, John E. - ANDROSCOGGIN RON
THREE - Jim Bunch

DECKER, Edward M. - LST-327, Malcolm
Burge

DREEKE, Robert W. - PT GLOVER - CG
Retiree Newsletter

EDMONDS, Howard O. - PT MAST/PT
PARTRIDGE
J. G. Blaine

GEYER, Louis W. - USS BRUNSWICK - Jim
Bunch

GIANNINO, F. "Abner" B. - WWII - Herb
Reith

GOFF, Edgar H. - ARGO/CAVALIER -
Robert Dennis

HAMRICK, W. Michael - INGHAM - INGHAM
ASSOCIATION

HEADMAN, Thomas H. - SEA MISS/USS
POOLE/
MOHICAN - Self

HUNTZBERRY, Harold H. - LST-204 -
Larry Lantro

JOHNSA, Theodore R. - NORTH STAR/IRIS
- Al Courter

KAPLAN, Henry - ARGO - Edgar Goff

KOHLRUS, Edward J. LST-886 - Joseph
McAuley

LAVA, Anthony- ST-886/IROQUOIS/NEWELL/
PLAINTREE - Leslie Bill Wright

LOCKWOOD, John W. RADM, PT WHITE -
Richard Stent

MAGUIRE, Peter J. III - LCI-85 - Jim
Bunch

MARSHALL, George J. - PT JEFFERSON/PT
MARONE - CG Retiree Newsletter

MATTHEWS, Ervin L. - USS LST24/ACACIA
- Wm. Fergusson

MC KEOWN, Harold F. - LT-229/FS-202 -
American Legion Magazine

MURPHY, Neil J. - LEONARD WOOD/JOSEPH
HENES - Al Courter

NESTOR, John M. - LST-67/LST-168 - Jim
Bunch

O'DONNELL, Eugene E.E. - WWII/KOREA/
VIET NAM - Paul Faulhaber

OSTERBERG, George E. - 83494 - self

PARKER, Robert E. Sr. - LYBRA/HUNTER
LIGGETT - Mike Opsitnik

PETERSEIM, Walter F. - USS SHEBOYGAN,
Jim Bunch

POWELL, Willie M. - KETCHIKAN - Dick
Stent

PUCKETT, Louis H. - USS LSM-425/USS
LST 170/NOURMAHAL - CG Retiree
Newsltr.

RACINE, Ulric J. "Rick" - BWI -
Narsarsuak, Greenland - Jim
Bunch

RADIN, Arthur E. - PSU-301/Desert
Shield/Storm - Vince Stauffer

REICHSTETTER, Robert C. - USS
KIRKPATRICK - Baker Herbert

RICHARDS, Thomas - LST-167 - American
Legion Vetnet

ROMERO, Cesar - CAVALIER - Edgar H.
Goff

ROSMAN, Hyman, - ALGONQUIN/USNF-1503
- Jim Bunch

SAUNDERS, Romaine - CGC 400/403 PEARL
HARBOR -'41 - Pearl Harbor
Survivors

SHIRRELL, Marshall - COR CAROLI -
Vernon J. Kimmell

SIEGEL, Seymour - USS KILPATRICK -
Herb Weinstein

SLONEKER, Wilbur H. - TANEY (PEARL
'41)/ARIADNE/ONONDAGA - Jim
Bunch

SMITH, Ansel D. - SHERMAN - Self]

SMITH, Richard J. - NETTLE - CG
Retiree Newsletter

SOLLMAN, Mary M. (HASTIE) -
CG-258/CG-264 Dick Stent

STASIEWSKI, Walter A. - CORSAIRS/LOWE
- Self

SWIFT, Edward B. - Desert Storm - John
Stamford

TESETH, Paul R. "Tiny" - MARCHARD/
CALLAWAY - Jim Bunch

WARD, John T. Sr., - HOWARD D. CROW/
RICKETTS, - Self

WEV. Oscar C. B. - SEBAGO/MODOC/COR
CAROLI - Dick Stent

NEW MEMBERS

Continued

YANCOVICH, Norman J. - MENGES - Paul
Wulf
YOUNG, Rodney O. - Vietnam -
Christopher Wood

I N V I T A T I O N

Cyril J. O'Brien, of 10004 Reddick Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20901, (301) 593-8904, who was a Marine Corp Combat Correspondent in WWII and who is now writing a book for the Marine Corp on the recapture of GUAM passes on an invite from Governor ADA to all who participated in the liberation of the Island to come back to Guam in 1994 to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation. --- and that Governor Ada will help pick up the tab for any vets who participated in the liberation. Cyril provided us with a copy of the press release and the offer and wants whoever is responsible in the CGCVA who were in the fight to Col. Warren H. Wiedham USMC (ret) who is the Governors representative for the return. Cyril is also looking for details and Coast Guard info of the landing etc and some details from participants. He is especially on the lookout for the Coxswain who took him ashore that day. Col. Warren H, Weidhahn (USMC Ret.), can be contacted at POB 1179, Alexandria, VA 22313-1179. You can also contact John O. Blaz, Admin., Veterans Affairs Office of the Governor, POB 327 Agana, Guam 96910, (011-671) 472-60 or 1293.

Joshua S. Sparrow
Hickory Dickory "Doc"

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**USCG's Leland Addresses
Wilmington Council**

Rear Adm. W. Ted Leland, commander of the Fifth Coast Guard District, was the guest of honor and principal speaker at a dinner meeting of the Wilmington Council (N.C.). Leland briefed the council on the Coast Guard's multimission role in today's changing world and stressed the importance of a strong U.S.-flag Merchant Marine as well. Also attending the meeting was Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Robert L. Brady, who was presented with the council's Enlisted Coastguardsman of the Year Award for the Wilmington area. The award was presented by Council President Henry N. Helgesen. Shown here, from left, are: Helgesen; Jonni Brady; Leland; Brady; and Deese Thompson, a council director.

Just when you discover where the grass is greener, you're too old to climb the fence.

A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men. B. Franklin.

Too much of a good thing is wonderful.

Be reasonable, do it my way.

The best way to make a small fortune - is to start with a large one.

All play and no work make for a lot of good times.

Never do today what you put off until tomorrow.

When my ship comes in I'll probably be at the airport.

VOYAGE OF THE CGC 83481

I don't know if the voyage of the CGC 83481 is of common knowledge in the Coast Guard and therefore I write this saga of the sea and the story of one of our 83 footers. It one of a group of five in a flotilla consisting of the 83481, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Your author was a member of the original crew as a Motor Mac 2/c. We boarded in Sept. 1943 and made our first trip to New London, CT to the CG Academy in October of that year for training in Sonar and other training required for convoy escort duty. The voyage across the sound was extremely rough. Upon completion of training, we returned to St. George, Staten Island, NY where we received orders to report to Recife Brazil, where we were to work with the South Atlantic Fleet under the command of Adm. Ingraham, USN.

We departed St. George on 11-10-43 at about 0500 for Cape May where we remained overnight to leave the next day for Norfolk along the Coast. After a brief stopover we made way for the south only to run into a terrific (Hurricane) type storm which caused us to run 43 hours rather than the usual 19 or 20 hours required. During the trip I spent much of my time being ill and cleaning disc fuel filters which were filling with rust caused by the bounce of the high seas. Considering the beating we took rounding Hatteras, Skipper Slade decided to run the balance of the US voyage along the Intracoastal Waterway to Miami. Spent Thanksgiving there and then on to Cayo Francis, Cuba. We refueled from a concrete ship there, then to Neuvitas (where we had to retake our shots, because of missing shot records) then on to Gitmo Bay where the a blinker message demanded that we arrive in uniform of the day, white hats, chambray shirts, dungarees and shoes before we docked. We arrived in cutoffs, straw hats and lacked shoes, the forerunners of McHales Navy, I guess.

Then on to Jacmel Bay, Haiti, via the renowned Windward Passage which is usually rough but was uneventful for 83481. There the refueling was from hand pumps from 55 gallon drums marked made in Germany. This operation took

all day. Then on to Ponce on the North Coast of PR, St. Thomas, VI where we celebrated Christmas. Our cook had become ill and I have having had restaurant experience (a bus boy) cooked dinner for all hands. Dinner included 6 blueberry pies. I surprised all including myself.

The other refueling and supply stops included Antigua, St. Lucia, and Port of Spain, Trinidad. We left there for Georgetown, British Guiana escorting a small navy tanker loaded with High Octane fuel. There I had liberty to fill up on milk which had run out long before on our voyage. The next leg was Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana, then on to the lee side of "Devils Island" off the Coast Cayenne, Fr. Guiana. Then off to Belem along the So. Atlantic Coast of Brazil where we arrived on Feb. 5, 1944, after refueling Sao Luis, Fortaleza, Natal and Recife. (Who was it that said Join the CG and see the world?). The Recife assignments was to tow targets for the Navy Airwings and in the course of that duty we caught the towing cable with our portside prop, ala the "Caine Mutiny." After Recife we headed for Salvador and then North to Maceio. There I was reassigned to the CGC Yeaton on 6-6-44 which was then located in Guantanamo. I flew there via Navy PBM (Flying Boat). The last time I saw the 83481 was when she stopped at Gitmo on her way back to the States.

I do not know what happened to the rest of the flotilla which was separated from us along the way. I did see the 482 in a movie called "Beachhead" with Tony Curtis, Frank Lovejoy and Mary Murphy where it was shown picking up some Marines after their completion of some mission.

This long cruise was quite an accomplishment considering the straight line distance of 4,348 miles from New York to Salvador. Many of the things that occurred I have forgotten but I cannot forget sleeping on deck while underway at night and finding a flying fish staring me down when I awoke. I'm still looking for the whereabouts of then Ens. Clifford B.

Slade, but have had no luck. (See
lookout column). Semper Paratus
Stephen H. Goldrick, 244-407.



"CROSSED THE BAR"

STEPHEN L. LYON

SAMUEL J. FURIOSO

SAMUEL N. LOWE

Chief Sam was the Instructor Chief of the Editor at Cape May, Boot Camp Company M 19 Graduating 3-19-52. Our condolences to his widow Ida. Sam also served aboard the Spencer and the Mohawk.

NOTES OF INTEREST

On February 7, 1993, Secretary Ed Burke along with Editor in Chief Josh Sparrow, attended memorial services at Ft. Myers Chapel on the Commemoration of the 50th year of the sinking of the Dorchester in the North Atlantic. Despite our presence no one seemed to recall that had the CG not come to the rescue all hands would have been lost. It was a terrible disaster to be sure, but thanks to our ships the loss was greatly reduced.

Saturday, February 27th 1993 saw Ed Burke seated in the seat of the President and Josh Sparrow in that of the Veep at the Situation room at the White House. Are we ever lucky that there were no situations for us to handle. This was on the day following the "Bombing" of the NY World Trade Center. They were accompanied by their ladies, Nancy and Bonnie respectively. The tour was a result of an offer made by the USCG Liaison at the White House LT Scott Burlingame, who lives with his family in Virginia. Scott was indeed a gracious host and well informed in and about the chambers of the executive branch of government. We were escorted to the Rose Garden, Press Room, Cabinet room, and through the many passage ways of the White House that few ever see. Should any of our members be in town and want a

similar tour, contact Our Man at The White House, Lt. Burlingame at his office. We will gladly provide the number if desired. Scott promised to write up some details of his position and events he has been a part of. We were so proud to see The Coast Guard Colors fully 17 festooned with all of the Battle and War streamers of our long service to the Country. Its amazing how many of those streamers had nothing to do with the Coasts of the United States, Yes who ever named it the Coast Guard? Ed and I had little room to expand our chests further in feeling proud of our service. The White House is decorated with many Nautical Items including Ships Clocks, Barometers, Ship paintings, and even the Mess Gong from the Old Constitution ."Old Ironsides." Despite our being on site it was hard to imagine that our government is run from these rooms and chairs. A few photos were taken and some will be within or published later on. Several of our members including the President, Secretary and Editor were present on March 23, 1993 at the State of the Coast Guard Speech by the Commandant at Bolling Field, Washington, DC.

Member Joe McAuley attended DORCHESTER Memorial at US Naval Station Staten Island on 22 Jan. 1993 where he was well received. He reminds us of the fact that only 7 of our brother Coast Guardsmen survived that sinking. 234 of 902 personnel on board survived in total. The rescue Cutters included the Duane, Comanche and Escanaba. His history goes on to recall the sinking of the ESCANABA by a U-Boat later on in the war.

Not only is it newsworthy, but every one of us who attend one of these events might bring some one else out of the woodwork for membership. Let us know of items of interest to the membership when they happen or even when you find out that something will occur of interest.

One of my neighbors is looking for information to write a history of the USCGC Taney.(Now harbored in Baltimore, MD Harbor). It was one of those great boats known as the SECRETARY CLASS of Cutters that served in our fleet from 1936 to 1986.

It is a wonder that that much rust could hold together and survive effort in three plus wars. Send your information to Brian J. Whetstine, 8747 Contee Rd. Apt 402, Laurel, MD 20708 or call him at 301-490-3156 (wk 301-6881077). See full page paid advertisement in this issue.

We have received a commemorative booklet and letter from Frank Rosemond, formerly Signalman 1c, USCG (JUNE 1943-JUNE 1946) regarding the 52 Coast Guardsmen assigned aboard the USS KALAMAZOO, AOG-30, in the Spring of 1944 as plank owners when the ship set out on its shakedown cruise from Norfolk, VA around the Chesapeake Bay. It was then 4 on, 8 off until arrival in Pearl Harbor in May of 1946. The CG crew departed the KALAMAZOO in June of 1946 at Mobile, AL. 46 Years later Frank reports the AOG-30 is still afloat as a US Navy Replenishment Oiler with US Navy Personnel manning her. The ship and crew earned six battle stars.

Your association President, Dick Stent issue an Honorary Membership to R. Jay Lloyd, Master Chief, USCG at Washington, DC. Your association officers will have met with Master Chief Lloyd by the time of publication of this issue.

To our member who lost the CAMBRIA letters at the Convention, they have been found and can be recovered by contacting Baker Herbert, our Treasurer out in Medina, OH.

I'D LIKE TO MEET THE GUY THAT NAMED THE COAST GUARD. BY PO1 Chris Yacich-From a Suggestion by LT Scott Wilson.

I'd like to meet the guy that named the Coast Guard and find the bit of coast he had in mind.

I wonder if he's telling where invasion barges roar; The coast that we are shelling on a South Pacific Shore; Wherever troops invade, we're there to land 'em with LCI's and LST's galore.

Where the shot and shell are raining, Won't somebody start explaining, Oh I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard!

I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard and find that bit of coast he had in mind.

Whatever he was thinking is a thing that puzzles me, When submarines I'm sinking in the middle of the sea.

And when I'm dodging enemy torpedoes, Or landing troops upon a foreign shore,

Then I have a salty hearing, while in my hands my gun is burning

Oh, I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard!

I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard and find that bit of coast he had in mind.

It wasn't on a tanker we'd protect from submarines, the Coast of Casablanca wasn't soft by any means.

I couldn't find it on the beach of Attu,

I couldn't find it at Guadalcanal, If he thinks that name will rate it,

Oh I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard!

I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard and find that bit of coast he had in mind.

I spend my time in sneezin' in the Greenland icy night, the while my knees are freezin' and there's not a coast in sight.

No gals, no grub, no place to scrub each morning, Just icy floes and Eskimo seals,

From my ears the ice is fallin' while my voice is callin'

Oh, I'd like to find the guy that named the Coast Guard!

From Sea, Surf and Hell - published by Prentice-Hall Publishing Co.

REUNION NEWS

PAST: 500 VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II SERVICE ON COAST GUARD DE'S HONORED AT COAST GUARD ACADEMY - New London, CT NOV. 1, 1992. Present Pres. Dick Stent, Art Green and others.

Contact Carmine A. Ciampa, 6 Brassie Way, No. Reading, MA 01864 for details of the USS WAKEFIELD (AP-21) Renunion scheduled for June 25-28, 1993, Ex Sec of the USS Wakefield Assoc.,

The **ASSOCIATION OF GUNNER'S MATES** will hold their 2nd Annual Reunion in Louisville, KY, on September 24 and 25 1993, This is a "New" Organization with 200+ members of Veteran and current Gunner's Mates of the US Navy and Coast Guard. Contact Jack Photenhauer, Director at POB Box 247, Hammond, IN 46325

We should get behind the group called "Medals for Maggie Committee" who are seeking to secure the Medal of Freedom for "Colonel Maggie" Martha Raye for the comfort, inspiration and joy Martha Raye has provided to Three Generations of American Service Men and Women at War. Having served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and having been wounded twice while visiting troops in Nam. She is justly entitled to Medal of Freedom. For further information contact Medals for Maggie Committee, Tri-County Council, Vietnam Era Veterans, 257 Osborne Rd., Albany, NY 12211.

Looking for some words and information about the SPARS and our female Coast Guard Personnel. Want to have a contribution from Edith Courter, President of the CGCVA Auxiliary. Her address is 13343 Thornwood Trail, Hudson, FL 34669-3639, (813)-856-7387.

EDITH COURTER, President of the Auxiliary has a real great thing going. She is looking for our ladies to assist in creating a quilt with patches for each of the fifty states. Each section is to have a hand sewn quilt design for their state, the state bird or flower depicted and if possible a state CG Station named. Check with Edith for details and how you might cooperate to make this idea a successful reality. Bonnie Sparrow has spoken for Maryland.

JOHN J. TRACEY of 11 Session Street, Wellesley, MA 02181 on the lookout for crew members of the CGC TUPELO.

GREENLAND PATROL REUNION - Datona Beach, Fl Oct. 10-14, contact A. F. Courter, 14334 Thornwood Trail, Hudson, FL 34669 or John Stamford, 1533 Wales Ave, Baldwin, NY 11510. USS CALLAWAY (APA-35) VIRGINIA BEACH, VA OCTOBER 4-8, 1993. Contact R L Stambach, 4283-b Island Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33919-4427 tel.813-481-0359. The speaker at this reunion is CDR BRUCE E. MELNICK, USCR RET., who is the only Coast Guardsman to make a Space Flight having flown on the ENDEAVOR & DISCOVERY.

To date the Greenland Patrol reports attendees due from the following ships: **NORTHLAND** WPG49, **MOHAWK** WPG78, **MODOC** WPG646, **TAMPA** WAG 48, **TAHOMA** WPG80, **ESCANABA** WPG77, (RAY O'MALLEY, SURVIVOR) **NANOK** WYP169, **COMANCHE** WPG76, **ALATOK** WYP 172, **ARUNDLE** WYT90, **NOGAK** WYP171, VP6, **ALGONQUIN** WPG75, **BIGHORN**, **AIVIK** WPY164, & **NORTHSTAR** WPG59. The **LAUREL** is one of the fleet as well and is based at Mayport, FL today. See squib by Al Courter in this issue.

USS **AQUARIUS** (AKA-16), San Diego, CA Oct.7-11. 1993. Contact Jim Martin 200 El Camino - Sp359, Oceanside, CA 92054, (619) 433-6508.

THE TAMPA, (WPG48) will hold their third reunion in Overland, KS at the Hallmark Inn on Sept. 16-18, 1993. Contact John Pearse at (417) 546-4499.

President Dick Stents ship, the **MODOC** will hold their 6th annual reunion at Wilmington, NC, starting May 15, 1993 - for more information contact Moe Steinberg, at 516-334-5309.

REUNION OF THE CREW OF THE USS LST-764 with the National LST Association in Orlando, FL Sept.1-6, 1993. Contact Rod Whalen, 317 Grand Central Ave., Amityville, NY 11701 (516) 691-4229.

RESCUE FLOTILLA AT NORMANDY, headed by Jack Campbell held a reunion at Ft. Lauderdale, FL in late March 1993.

USS GENERALS REUNION ASSOCIATION - 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040-2339 is looking for shipmates. Call (516) 7477426 or write with Info. The General P-2 Class Transports included General Wm. Mitchell AP-114; Gen. George Randall AP-115; Gen. W. H. Gordon AP-117; Gen. W.P. Richardson, AP-118; Gen. Wm. Weigel, AP-119.

USS CAVALIER (APA-37) WWII ASSOCIATION Reunion, Las Vegas, NV 9/26-28/93. Contact Herb Cohen, Pres., 4151 Sanderling #346, Las Vegas, NV 89103.

USS LOWE (DE-325)(WWII) FROM 13-16 MAY 1993, Cincinnati, OH Contact: Thomas L. Taylor, 1604 Burke Rd. Baltimore, MD 21220 (410)335-2970.

USS POOLE (DE-151)(WWII) FROM 19-21 AUG., 1993 at Valley Forge, PA Contact: Donald Macchia, 256 Spruce St. Bloomfield, NJ (201)748-0731.

USS PETERSON (DE-152)(WWII) OCT. 7-9, 1993 Tampa, FL Contact: Tom Freeman, 5009 No. Mango St. Chicago, IL 60630. (312) 725-8161.

USS SELLSTROM (DE-255)(WWII) OCT. 1-3, 1993 Chicago, IL Contact: Adrian Galassi, 6922 W. Jonquil Ter. Niles, IL 60648 (708)966-4781.

USCGC MODOC (W-46)(WWII) May 15-19, 1993, Wilmington, NC Contact: Bob Woodbury, 18 Ninth Ave., Halifax, MA 02338 (617) 293-7992.

USCGC CAMPBELL (W-32) MAY 1993, Las Vegas, NV. Contact: David A. Blum, 8341 Sands Point B'lv., Tamarac, FL 33321 (305) 722-8161.

USS CALLAWAY (APA-35)(WWII) OCT 4-8, 1993 Virginia Beach, VA Contact: Robert A. Stambach, 4283-B Island Circle, Ft. Myers, FL 33919-4427 (813) 481-0359.

USS FINCH (DE-328/WDE-428) 29 SEP-3 OCT San Antonio, TX Contact Bob Stevens, 409 Dellwood, Tilton, IL 61833. (217) 442-4602 or Lloyd Biggs POB 639 Atmore AL 36504.

USS KOINER (WDE-431) AUG. 16-19, 1993 Asheville, NC Contact: Rex Thomas 910 Camilla La. Seneca, SC 29678 (803) 882-6461 or J. Harold McCabe 1331 Girard Ave, Wyomissing, PA 19610 (215) 374-0489.

USS LST-886 SEP 15-19 1993 Dearborn MI Contact: Joseph McAuley, 89 Jeanette Ave. Staten Island, NY 10312 (718) 984-4349 or Tony Lava, 2429 Fred St. Warren, MI 48092 (313) 751-7389.

USS GULFPORT (PF-20)(WWII) SEP 15-19 1993 in Cincinnati OH Contact: Arthur B. Noonan, 509 Hawthorne St. Covington KY 41014. (606) 581-6423.

USCGC MOJAVE (W-47)(WWII) IN JUNE 1993 Colorado Springs, CO Contact: John Dearing, 4813 High Pt. Dr. Panama City FL 32404 (904)785-9768.

BERING SEA PATROL - ALASKA VETERANS REUNION SEP 28-30 1993 Minden NV Contact: F J "Dinty" Moore or G. Vince Stauffer at POB 1854, Carson City NV 89702 (702) 883-2856 or (206) 294-7532

USS DURANT (DE-389)/USCGC DURANT (WDE-489), USS LANSING (DE-388) USCGC LANSING (WDE-488) AND USS RAMSDEN (DE-382) USCGC RAMSDEN (WDE-482) SEP 1993 Ft Mitchell, KY Contact: Larry Eckard POB 5310, Hickory, NC 28603.

VIETNAM BROWN WATER SAILORS (Mobile Riverine Task Force, WPBs, Task Forces 115-116-117) 8-11 July 1993 Chattanooga, TN Contact: Albert Moore, Rt 5, Box 499, Conover, NC 28613 (704) 464-7228.

PATROL CRAFT SAILORS ASSOCIATION (WWII -ERA PCs, WPGs) 28-30 May 1993 +ortland, OR Contact: Bob Lisey 8830 Pembleton, Sterling Hts, MI 48312 (313) 264-6664.

USCGC DUANE (WPG-33) 6-8 Aug 1993 Contact: Ron Golec Rt 1, Box 36-B, Alstead NH 03602 (603) 835-6009.

USS COR CAROLI (AK-91)(WWII) 27-29 AUG 1993 Denver, CO Contact: Lee Bergfeld, 609 So. Ridge Ave, Steeleville IL 62288-2117. (618) 965-3694.

USS LCI NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (LCIs 1-1098) 18-22 Apr 1993 Las Vegas, NV Contact: Robert Kirsch RD#4, Box 117, Evans City PA 16033-9004 (412)538-8151

DESTROYER ESCORT SAILORS ASSOC 6-10 Sep 1993 Nashville, TN Contact: DESA POB 680085, Orlando, FL 32868 (407) 877-7671.

APAS WWII 306 JUNE 1993 Radisson Plaza Hotel, 20 W. Baltimore St. Baltimore MD Contact: H. Don Smith Middletown VA (703) 869-4543.

JIM BUNCH CGCVA MEMBER SEEKING SHIPBOARD DOG MASCOT STORIES.

Shipboard stories/photos sought, will be copied and returned of "Dog Mascot" stories etc., James C. Bunch, POB 871 Floral City FL 34436.

RESEARCHER SEEKS WORLD WAR II COAST GUARD DATA

Willis J. Keith, Office of Fisheries Management/SMP SC Wildlife & Marine Resources Dept. POB 12559, Charleston SC 29422-2559 is seeking information and data regarding Ft Johnson site, James Island, near Charleston SC. WWII Captain of Port Charleston personnel were billeted there. Looking for Guard and Beach Patrol Dogs were kenneled nearby. Any information obtainable is sought.

HINGHAM (MA) LST MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

During WWII 1984 LSTs were built in Hingham, Fore River and Boston Navy Yard. One, USS LST-372 was manned by the USCG. All will be memorialized at the Memorial. Dedication tentatively scheduled Tues. May 25, 1993. Donations toward the Memorial can be forwarded to Eugene G. Creedon, 4 Summer St. Kingston MA 02364. (617) 585-8115.

TEXAS MARITIME MUSEUM - COAST GUARD EXHIBIT

Located in Rockport TX "Always Ready.. the Coast Guard in Texas" chronicles the History of the USCG in Texas Waters. All forms of uniform, lightship, flags, medals and models as well as 2 Videos are available for visitors view. Open Sunday, Wednesday through Saturday.

DON CHALMERS SEEKING CREWMEMBERS OF "YP" BOATS WHO SERVED IN 1942 IN THE AREA OF GUADALCANAL AND TULAGI. 1615 NE 201ST ST. TROUTDALE, OR 97060.

FORMER USCGC TANEY CREWMEMBERS WANTED

Contact Brian Whetstine, 8747 Contee Rd Apt 402 Laurel MD 20708. 301-490-3156 (HO), 301-688-7877 (Work)

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE QUARTERDECK LOG
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RICH PERSON - A CGCVA member who has enough money to last the rest of their life or till next Friday - whichever comes first.

COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION
Quarterdeck Log

Published Quarterly: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall
Joshua S. Sparrow, Editor-in-Chief
Address All Correspondence and Address Changes to:
14736 Mc Knew Rd., Burtonsville, MD 20866
Tel. No. 301-470-6161 - Fax 301-490-5607

STATE OF INDIANA WAR MEMORIAL MILITARY MUSEUM

The Indiana War Memorial is looking for donations from Indiana Vets that have served in the various armed conflicts and wars of the US. Communications with that group indicates that they have **NOTHING** featuring the United States Coast Guard. First contact: Mr. Charles L. Cosand, Exec. Sec. Indiana War Memorials Commission, 431 No. Meridian St., Indianapolis IN 46204.

The Association is a Not-for-Profit Association of Active Duty members, retired 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 Guard.

ADDRESS OF COMMANDANT KIME
STATE OF THE COAST GUARD

March 23, 1993

Just before putting this issue to rest, President Dick Stent, Secretary Ed Burke and I attended the luncheon and address of the Commandant at Bolling Field Officers Club. My guess is that there were 600 in attendance including virtually all of the CG Brass, Congressional Staff and Staff of Secretary Pena of the Department of Transportation. The Commandant is a fine speaker and presented more than an hour of information concerning our service, that I will attempt to summarize for the membership. First, the Commandant addressed the oldest and often forgotten Coast Guard whose primary works are safety and humanism. This past year has invoked much of this tradition with such events as Hurricane Hugo and now most recently the Storm of the Century when the press reported that the CG had every available unit, plane, person and boat at work during the peak of the storm to answer the highest number of calls that ever occurred in CG history. With this in mind the Commandant commended every member of the service both military and civilian who answered the call.

Adm. Kime then discussed the Fiscal Year 94 budget which is yet to be approved and his expectations that despite tighter funds our demands would be met and answered. He talked of the completion of the newest Icebreaker Healy which is under way and should be in service in 1998. His message included talk of the new 210 midlife maintenance ships, the new seagoing buoy tender series and the coastal tenders which are due. He spoke as well about the helicopter and aircraft fleet, the new 45 series boats and so on.

Admiral Kime also spoke about the involvement of the CG in National Security and our involvement with the DOD. For that matter as he spoke our brothers and sisters are actively engaged in the Adriatic, Persian Gulf and to our South with Haiti and in So. America in the drug interdiction program. Same old, same old, Coast Guard? He spoke as well about the affiliate bodies and the need to

uphold the reserve program which might be reduced by 25%. Admiral Kime spoke as well about his meeting with Senator Nunn (who was a Coast Guardsman) and our relationship with DOT and DOD. For that matter as he spoke the Admiral stated that we had 2000 service folks on such duty. In addition to all of this our training goes on as the very best available and we now have some 300 foreign students in our CG programs from 68 foreign countries.

Law enforcement continues to be one of our major duties, and it involves as usual, oil and environmental problems, fisheries, safety at sea and the usual life saving missions of the CG. The dollars may get smaller, but the needs get bigger all of the time.

Admiral Kime spoke briefly on Merchant Marine problems, oil spills, drug interdiction and DOD requirements as well as the constant dealings with Illegal Immigrants.

Admiral Kime said that he has been a part of the discussions and is a signed to the agreement concerning Homosexuals in the Service. His feelings are that we will follow the national rule and that any professed gays may leave the service with early processing during the current six month investigation period. All other issues remain conduct situations and will be dealt with according to the UCMJ. The three questions regard homosexuality will not be asked during that period.

The Admiral spoke about the treaties under way at this time regarding fisheries and the coverage between ourselves and Canada to avoid moving Ice Breakers around through the Canal to meet national problems that either nation might need the other to meet.

He spoke concerning sub-standard requirements of foreign fleets (a favorite subject of your editor) and the need to beef up safety at sea. The current technology has changed many things over the years including the reduction of LORAN C and replacement by pinpoint location (within yards) of ships at sea for location, navigation and safety.

Finally Admiral Kime spoke of reductions in staff and he indicated that we would not be grossly effected by reason of a total reduction of some 285 persons over the next four years. He is pleased with the stability and placement of our officers and personnel and is trying to make less moves of people the standard of the service. That our people and our schools are at the top of his list and one of the most wanted schools is that of the CG Chief's Academy at Petaluma which will be required for advancement to the rate by all enlisted personnel. All vacancies to that school are scooped up by other services if they are offered and unfilled by our own. He complemented his officer staff which is about 50% academy and the balance from the ranks. He was most pleased and repeated his awards to our own Master Chief Petty Officer Lloyd who we had the opportunity to speak with today.

At the end of the address, questions were accepted from the floor. Admiral Kime is fine speaker and speaks from the heart, well equipped and we are proud of him.

All in all it was an exciting day and we probably secured a boat load of new members. The CG is proud of us and we are of it as always.

Josh Sparrow

The sooner you fall behind the more time you'll have to catch up.

If at first you don't succeed, quit. There's no sense in being obstinate about it.

Early to bed and early to rise, ruins a lot of good times.

I'm too busy to get organized.

Like a rooster, he thought the sun rose every morning to hear him crow.

Never go to bed mad - stay up and fight.

Those who indulge, bulge.

Promise him anything, but never put it in writing.

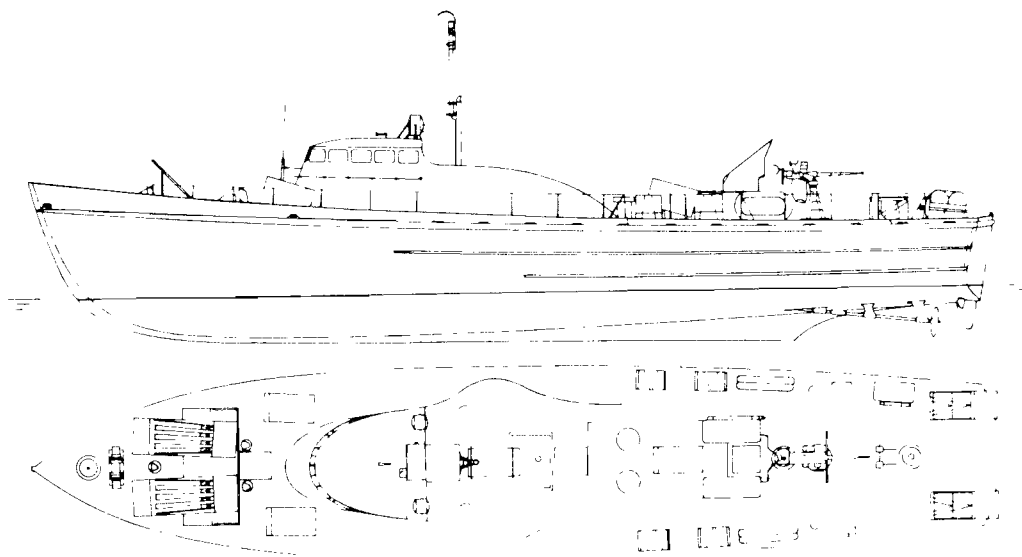
I'm so far behind, I think I am first.

Age and chicanery will overcome youth and skill.

Always live within your means - even if you have to borrow to do so.

Sometimes I wake up grouchy -- and sometimes I let him sleep.

The faster I go the behinder I get.



Sketch of an 83-footer in wartime configuration

Roberto J. Prinselaar
LCDR, USCG (RET)
5568 W. Fremont Ave.
Fresno, CA 93722
25 SEP 92

Mr. Richard E. Stent, Jr.
National president
Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association
2295 Haviland Road
Columbus, OH 43220-4625

Dear Richard:

I received my newsletter today, and had a lot of fun reading it, especially the story by M. Horzwitz sent in by Charles G. Derderian. I have always loved good Seastories, and have been known to tell a few myself, all one hundred percent true of course.

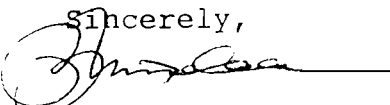
My wife and I returned from a ten month stay in Holland at the end of June, and we are extremely busy getting settled into our new home right now. I would very much like to be in Reno, but I will not be able to make it this year. I wasn't able to make it to Reno for the Korean War Veterans Association reunion this year either, so I am missing a lot this year. While in Holland I did manage to go to three reunions of the Dutch Korean War Veterans Association, and I met a lot of great guys, not only from Holland but also from Belgium, England, and the good old U.S.A.. In any case my thoughts will be with all of you, and I hope everyone there will give a few moments to think about all of the guys who were not lucky enough to make it home. One of the nicest things anyone ever said to me was "Welcome Home".

In remembrance of all of the guys who were in combat, and still have vivid memories of all the things that happened, I am sending you a poem I wrote about six or seven years ago. I have a feeling it is apropos for a meeting of combat veterans.

MEDALS

Don't envy a man his medals, all those ribbons on his chest
He did not try to get them, they're not there at his request
They were earned in stinking hellholes, where no man would like to go
Or in cold and wintry places, where there's only ice and snow
He didn't know he earned them, till they were awarded at parade,
and they were bright when he first got them, but in time the colors fade
He was told he had to wear them, and to wear them all with pride
But when the memories come to haunt him, those same medals make him hide
Cause those medals will not bring back, all those guys he left behind
And he would trade them all forever, for a little peace of mind
So don't envy a man his medals, you don't want to take his place
Thinking back to long gone battles, and meeting dead friends face to face.

Sincerely,



R. J. PRINSELAAR

USS ALBATROSS (AM-71)

Researcher desires to contact former officers and crewmembers of the USS ALBATROSS (AM-71), which served on minesweeping and escort duty in the Greenland Patrol. Any member aware of the location of any former USS ALBATROSS crewmembers is requested to contact: Mr. R. P. WEED, P. O. Box 245, Abbeville, AL 36310.

LORAN-A STATION 206 (Loran Station Hawaii) CLOSES

On 5 JAN 1993, Coast Guard Loran Station Upolu Point, the last link in the Central Pacific Loran Chain, was decommissioned.

First began in June of 1944, as Loran-A Station 206, it was built by a Navy Construction Battalion, and consisted of seven Quonset huts. The name Loran Station Hawaii came about in the late 1940s. By 1961, it had become a family duty station with housing accommodations.

In 1972, the name was changed to Loran Station Upolu Point. On 31 DEC 1992, the station turned off its signal, followed by the decommissioning on 5 JAN 1993.

MUSTARD GAS EXPOSURE RECOGNIZED FOR DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Of possible interest to CGCVA members is the recent Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) decision to recognize exposure to mustard gas as a long-term effect for disability compensation.

Veterans, and/or their survivors, who were exposed to mustard gas, and have health problems that may be related should contact the nearest DVA Regional Office. Also, DVA's nationwide, toll-free number is 1-800 827-1000.

FIRE SAFETY GUIDE

CGCVA members desiring a free home "Fire Safety Guide", from AETNA Insurance Company, can receive one by call "1-800 AETNA-HC."

VERMONT STATE VETERANS CEMETERY

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) has awarded a grant to the State of Vermont to develop a state veterans cemetery in Randolph Center. Vermont presently has only one state cemetery, and no national cemetery. The Randolph Center site, in the first phase, will provide approximately 4,000 gravesites for veterans, their spouses and dependents.

BIOGRAPHER SEEKING FORMER SHIPMATES OF ALEX HALEY

A biographer is seeking to contact Coast Guard retirees/veterans who served with the late Alex HALEY during his Coast Guard career from 1939 to 1959. During WWII, Alex Haley served on board the USCGC PAMLICO (WPR-57) and USS MURZIM (AK-95), and later at Office, Commander, Third Coast Guard District. Please contact:

Ms. Anne ROMAINE
Route 3 - Box 275-AA
Dallas, NC 28034

NASHVILLE (TN) CEMETERIES - CLOSING/OPENING

The Nashville National Cemetery, located in Madison, TN, was closed on 15 JAN 1993. However, the cemetery will continue to accommodate burials of casketed remains of eligible spouses and children of those already interred in Nashville National Cemetery, and burial space will also be available to continue the interment of cremated remains.

With the closing of Nashville National Cemetery, the State of Tennessee, with a matching grant from the National Cemetery System, has developed and opened a new State Veterans Cemetery in Nashville. The new cemetery is a 155 acre site expected to accommodate approximately 42,500 gravesites for veterans, spouses and eligible dependents.

FORT ROSS (CA) STATION - FORMER WWII COAST GUARDSMEN

A California lady, F. Kaye TOMLIN, is seeking to make contact with all former U. S. Coast Guardsmen of World War II who served at the Fort Ross (CA) Station from January 1942 to August 1945. Contact her at:

F. Kaye TOMLIN
2259 Cobblehill Place
San Mateo, CA 94402
Tele: (415) 341-9729

WORLD WAR II 50-FOOT PATROL BOATS

Any CGCVA members who served aboard the Coast Guard 50-Foot Patrol Boats of World War II, or has knowledge of, and would like to contribute information/details in preparation of a story of the boats, is requested to contact:

LCDR Herbert D. McQUARRIE, USCG (Ret)
4199 73rd Avenue, N. W.
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

USCGC PAPAW (WAGL-308) WWII SHIPMATES

A researcher (former Coast Guard) is seeking to contact former shipmates of the USCGC PAPAW (WAGL-308) that served in the South Pacific Theater during World War II. Contact: Mr. Cyril SALSIEDER, 823 2nd Street, Rothschild, WI 54474.

MILITARY Magazine - Sample Copy

MILITARY magazine, published monthly out of Sacramento, CA, covers All Types of information/data/stories concerning World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Today's conflicts. To request a "sample copy of MILITARY," just send your name and address on a postcard to:

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RESEARCHER SEEKING INFORMATION ON USCGC SPENCER (W-36)

A researcher (and CGCVA member) is seeking information/data from former "plankowners" of the USCGC SPENCER (W-36). Contact James P. TIERNEY, 100 Cambridge Street, Manchester, CT 06040.

USCGC NATSEK (WYP-170) DATA SOUGHT

An author/researcher seeks information/data regarding the loss at sea of the USCGC NATSEK (WYP-170) in the North Atlantic on 17 DEC 1942. Contact CWO James E. McDEVITT, USCG (Ret), 1903 Village Road, West, Norwood, MA 02062-2516 - Tele: (617) 679-6531.

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THE QUARTERDECK LOG
COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

With a little bit of advertising and an effort to submit articles to the Editor the Quarterdeck Log should be quite a readable item. The ads can pay most of our bills and can add some fun by some comic cards or business offerings. The cost of advertising in the Quarterdeck Log is really inexpensive when you consider that we print about 1600 copies of the Log and will distribute one to each member as well as many to each of the retirement centers and PX's where we might find more of our missing future members. If you know of anyone who might be interested or know of the whereabouts of someone who should get a copy, call or drop us a line and we will forward a copy as long as we have some.

As the editor of this periodical, I will attempt to see to it that the Quarterdeck Log pays for itself and if possible to recover a few extra dollars to further the activities of the association.

Our membership is now almost 1400 and growing very rapidly. We are now meeting regularly and getting much interest for our activity.

We are therefore going out to secure advertisers who will can assume will profit from their advertising. Our rates for members are 10% less than the published rates below, but as is indicated in our title one must qualify by being a Coast Guard Combat Veterans of one of our many wars, i.e., WWI, WWII, Korean Conflict, Viet Nam and now Desert Storm. If you have a qualifier amongst your company staff, we will be happy to further that cause and save you some money, otherwise, the rates are as follows:

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Our Log is published January, April, July, and October, of each year. If you do not have finished copy and will be satisfied with our type as shown in this issue, we will even do that work for you. The Quarterdeck Log by our estimation should be read by 5,000. This advertising is very inexpensive to say the least. Do you have a hobby, craft, product, service you would like to sell. Try the Log for your advertising needs.

It would help if we received all submissions of text and advertising by Mid, June, September, December and March.

Escort Sailors Association (DESA) was formed. The first convention in 1976 was attended by fewer than 100 ex-Destroyer Escort men. This past September almost 3,000 men gathered to swap old sea stories and cry over seeing their old liberty buddy for the first time in over 40 years.

Other special groups also were forming. Air Force bombardiers, PT Boat sailors, Navy divers, Mustang pilots, Guadalcanal veterans, Ex-Prisoners of War, Combat Infantrymen and a myriad of others were established.

In 1984 this writer attended his first DESA convention. One other man from the *Merrill* was there and out of that came the desire to find others who had served on her. That year the USS Merrill Reunion Association was formed and the following year, 1985, the Association had its first reunion. Ten months of digging had produced a list of over 400 men who had served on the *Merrill* while it was on active duty.

The first Commanding Officer, Lt. Commander Stephens, who had reached the rank of Rear Admiral before retiring from the U.S. Coast Guard, died in 1980. The two subsequent C.O.'s, Lieutenant Sidney K. Broussard (now Lt. Commander, USCG [Ret.]) and Lt. Commander Paul Prins (now Rear Admiral, USCG [Ret.]) were still around. Over 130 men were located.

Twenty-five more were tracked down but unfortunately, in the intervening years, had died. Eighty-two attended that first reunion in Kissimmee, Florida.

Today the Association's mailing list exceeds 200 including, believe it or not, Dorothy Merrill Adamson, who christened the ship at Brown Shipbuilding in Houston. The *Merrill* is named after her brother who was an ensign aboard the *USS Arizona* and was killed when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. He is entombed aboard the *Arizona*.

Since that time three more reunions have been held. The second in Philadelphia, the third in Charleston, S.C., and this year in St. Louis. The 1989 reunion will be held in Asheville next September.

What can you expect if your old outfit holds a reunion and you attend. Take a look at the pictures accompanying this story.

Those "kids" in their freshly pressed uniforms were all crew members of the *Merrill*. In 1944 the *Merrill* returned to the Brooklyn Navy Yard for some much-needed updating and repairs. Times Square in those days was the place for servicemen on leave: free tickets to Broadway shows, priority admission to the most popular radio show of the day and even an east coast version of the Stage Door Canteen, and of course the Paramount Theater with its "Big Band" shows.

The five "old salts" in the picture went to Times Square and had their picture taken at one of the many photo galleries that abounded in the area. Each one received a picture and upon returning to the *Merrill*



In 1944, five "old salts" on liberty hit Times Square and had their picture taken (above). Forty years later at a USS Merrill reunion, the same five men posed in the same positions, with the man in the middle holding the original picture. From left to right, Bill Fitch, Emmett Hannigan, Fran Donaldson, Milt Leppia, and Hank King.



into his sea bag it went. The end of the war came and all five went their own way, sending Christmas cards back and forth for a few years, but gradually even that came to an end.

Once in a while the old pictures were pulled out and looked at with a touch of nostalgia. Varying thoughts went through each man's mind. "Wonder where Emmett is now," "Wonder where Fran wound up," and so it went as the pictures were returned to their respective photo albums.

Over 40 years passed and now the *Merrill* was having reunions. Those same five men attended and believe it or not, each of them came with a copy of that old photo. They then posed for the new picture, each one in the same position as the original picture which is being held by the man in the middle. If you don't think that they sat up all night catching up on the last 40-plus years, then you've never been to a reunion.

Military Reunions: Going Back

by Herb Reith



In 1943 a small ship was placed in commission in Galveston, Texas. The name of the ship was the *USS Merrill* and was designated as DE-392. The first Commanding Officer was Lt. Commander Irvin J. Stephens, USCG.

It was one of almost 550 ships of this type built under a crash program to provide the U.S. Navy with a badly needed class of ship, one that was sadly lacking in this country's naval inventory. These ships were multi-purpose ships called Destroyer Escorts and were roughly based on the Royal Canadian Navy's Corvette and the Royal Navy's Frigate configuration.

Just over 300 feet long, with a width of 36 feet, they were described by the men of the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard who manned them as the only ship designed by the Navy that "rolled in dry dock."

Some were equipped with torpedo tubes, others bristled with anti-aircraft guns, while a third type were equipped with landing barges and additional berthing areas to carry troops to amphibious operations.

It was a versatile ship and filled the gap between the PT type of boats and the larger destroyers.

Approximately 200 were turned over to our Allies, principally to the Royal Navy and the Free French Navy. Of the remaining ships, the Coast Guard provided the officers and crew for 30 of the DE's, with the Navy manning the rest.

Of the approximately 200 men who reported to Houston where the *Merrill* was built, fewer than 50 had ever been to sea, with the vast majority having been civilians a year before.

Many came from the Midwest, and the smell of salt water from the Gulf of Mexico was a new experience. Some of the radio men had been "ham" radio operators, a boatswain mate had been a Boston fireman, and with the exception of two officers, the captain and the executive officer, the officers were almost all fresh out of college or Officer Candidate School. Many of the enlistees were just teenagers and this was their first time away from home.

Out of this unlikely conglomerate was to emerge a ship that performed with efficiency and dispatch all assignments that came its way.

The *Merrill* was the type of ship that never would be written up in the Annals of Naval Warfare. It was assigned initially to guard the sea lanes for the pas-

sage of convoys between the United States and the Mediterranean, making some 16 crossings. It was one of the 12 Destroyer Escorts of Task Force 60 that escorted the largest convoys ever to cross the Atlantic, both eastbound and westbound.

The Task Force encountered raging storms that tore at the *Merrill's* ventilators, stove in the planks of the little whaleboat she carried and generally raised havoc above decks. They underwent attacks by German submarines and particularly brutal air attacks by German dive bombers and torpedo planes bent on stopping the flow of war materials to Europe.

The *Merrill* was one of the "lucky ships," never suffering a fatality. Only two ships were torpedoed while under the watchful eye of the *Merrill*.

The *Merrill* was ultimately assigned to the Pacific Fleet in late spring of 1945, but arrived too late to have a decisive role in the war there.

From the time of the commissioning in 1943 to the decommissioning at Green Cove Springs in Florida in 1946, friendships were forged aboard the *Merrill* that would "live forever."

With the war over, the vast majority of the men returned to civilian life. Returning home to pick up the pieces of their lives interrupted by the war, the friendships that would "live forever" unfortunately began to take a back seat to the more important and immediate responsibilities. Tasks of getting a job, walking down the aisle with the girl who waited so patiently for her sailor's return, and then the all-important task of raising a family began to dim the past. Christmas cards from former shipmates began to drop off and in most cases ceased altogether.

Soon, with the passing of years, the times of friendship forged by war receded to the deeper portions of the mind.

In the 1970s something began to awaken in not only the minds of the men of the *Merrill*, but in the minds of World War II veterans all over the country. The family responsibilities had begun to lessen as their children married and began raising families of their own. Many began looking forward to retirement, and with the increasing leisure they began to join veterans organizations in large numbers.

Memories deeply embedded began to surface as they read the small sections in the *Veteran of Foreign Wars* and other veteran organizations' magazines listing upcoming reunions of WWII military groups.

The reunion sections began to grow, threatening to overwhelm the magazines, until some had to place restrictions by requiring that only members could place the reunion notices or restricting the listings to once a year. The era of military veteran reunions was about to burst on the American scene.

Another phenomenon of this period was the banding together of men who shared a common heritage during the war. For example, in 1975 the Destroyer

John "Jack" Harvey had been one of the most popular men aboard the *Merrill*. Jack, a gunners mate, moved to New England after the war. He was found in the search for former crew members but had mixed emotions about the reunion. His reservation was one of the last to come in and he was the last to arrive at the first reunion in Florida.

Jack entered the hospitality room, looked around and broke into tears. Believe it or not, Jack recognized almost half of the men there and remembered their names. It was unbelievable to see the reactions. Memories over 40 years old came flooding forth.

Jack has not missed a reunion since then. In 1986 his wife was dying. Jack obtained a nurse to take care of his wife while he drove all night from New England to Philadelphia, stayed with us all day and drove all night back to his wife. That's the kind of deep feelings reunions can invoke.

Many other things have come out of these reunions. Twelve men from the *Merrill* live in Chicago, two of them within two blocks of each other. Old friendships have been renewed among men who had shared a unique experience, and now twice a year these old shipmates get together for fun and fellowship.

Even the wives have become quite close, joining their husbands at the get-togethers. Another group of nine live in the Milwaukee area and stay in close touch.

How do I find out if my old group is having a reunion? you may ask. The best way is to join a local veteran organization. As part of your membership benefits you will receive a magazine, usually monthly, that carries listings of upcoming reunions.

Early next year a new book will hit the book stores entitled *The Veteran's Survival Manual* by Ralph Roberts (now available, Signet Books, ISBN 0-451-16017-7, \$5.99). This book contains a listing of many of the specialized veteran organizations such as PT Boats, Inc., the Destroyer Escort Sailors Association, Bombardiers, Inc. plus the many Army and Marine Corps Divisions that have organizations.

For those computerphiles who have a modem, you can contact the Armed Forces Reunion Electronic Bulletin Board System (BBS). The BBS is on line 24 hours a day with over 2,000 permanent reunion organizations listed. The BBS can be reached by calling (704)667-8021. The BBS supports 300/1200 and 2400 baud operation.

Happy Reunion, everyone. ☐

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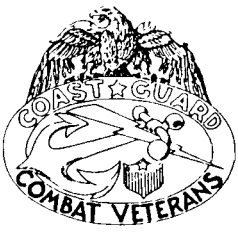
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NEW CALIFORNIA VA HOSPITAL SITE SELECTED

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) has announced the selection of Travis AFB, near Fairfield, as their preferred location for a new 243-bed VA hospital in Northern California. The DVA site selection is subject to completion of an environmental impact assessment.

The DVA is also constructing a free-standing 120-bed nursing home care unit, and a new (replacement) outpatient clinic in Sacramento.

Construction of the nursing home and outpatient clinic could be completed as early as July 1995, and the hospital at Travis AFB as early as November 1997.

AUTHOR SEEKING WORLD WAR II PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

An author, and CGCVA member, is seeking personal experience stories of WWII Coast Guardsmen who manned the APAs, APs, AKs, AKAs, AOGs, LCIs, LSTs, DEs, PFs, PCs, PGs, SCs and UPs. Anyone desiring to share some of their experiences during invasions, landings, convoys, beachmaster landings or whatever, please contact:

QMC William E. KNIGHT, USCG (Ret)
4755 East Hansen Drive
Clinton, WA 98236

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