



the Quarterdeck Log

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

Volume 11

Summer

Number 3

Mt. Tom Monument Dedicated

Memorial Service Remembers Servicemen Killed 50 Years Before

It was a half century coming, but on 9 July 1996, 25 U.S. servicemen who died when their B-17 bomber crashed into the hillside in Western Massachusetts in the aftermath of World War II were remembered with the unveiling of a monument at the site of the crash.

Army, Navy and Coast Guard personnel died in flames on 9 July 1946 when the plane slammed into Mount Tom in Holyoke on their way home from the war in Europe, many of them to be discharged.

The flight left Goose Bay, Labrador, en route to Westover Air Force Base where many of the victims had families excitedly waiting. No one really knows what happened on that fateful evening, when a sudden rain squall blew up while the plane was circling in preparation to land.

The crash site itself went unmarked until 1994, when someone piled some rocks there as a memorial. Norman Cote, who hikes the area, noticed the marker and set about to raise \$10,000 for a permanent marker. Cote contacted Northampton Veterans Agent Robert Cahillane, a committee was organized, the monies raised and relatives of the men killed in the crash

contacted.

It all came together on the 50th anniversary of the tragedy. Amid television cameras, journalists, politicians, family members and local residents, the coal black granite monument was

unveiled to the strains of "Amazing Grace." On it, etched in white, are the names of the victims, along with the insignias of their military branches and a sketch of the "Flying Fortress" that bore them to their deaths. Just below their names was the simple but eloquent inscription composed by Norman Cote: "They were on their way home. For

they who did their very best are now



Drawing of the Mount Tom B-17 Memorial in Holyoke, Mass., which remembers the 25 U.S. servicemen killed there on 9 July, 1946. Fifteen were Coast Guardsmen.

with God...at peace."

In addition to the granite marker at the crash site there is a grove of 25 birch trees, one for each of the men who died in the crash.

One of the visitors at the ceremony was Mr. Fran Heywood, a Holyoke native who vividly recalled hiking up the mountain after learning of the crash and being warned off by military personnel searching for bodies. He also remembered his horror at finding part of a leg still attached to a boot half buried in the dirt. Since that visit at the age of 16, the memory had never left him.

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**COAST GUARD COMBAT VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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THE QUARTERDECK LOG

LCDR. Ed Swift, Editor

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:

We're getting very close to "Fiesta San Diego" and I look forward to seeing many of you again. We will have a busy slate of activities, both business and fun (see Reunion Program Schedule on page 3 for details).



A.D. "AL" GRANTHAM

If you haven't already done it, please register with Secretary Ed Burke and indicate what Convention events you will be participating in. I highly encourage all members and CGCVA Auxiliary to attend their respective business or friendship luncheons on Saturday, Nov. 2nd. Ed also needs an accurate head count for the Friday, Nov. 1st tour at USCG Air Station San Diego so please let him know as soon as possible if you'll be attending that event. As far as the other tours go, be sure to make your reservations through San Diego Inbound Tours, using the form in the middle of the magazine.

I am delighted that there has been so much interest lately in existing Coast Guard monuments around the country and for the involvement by our members in memorial services and commemorations. We should all strive to take an active role in support of our association and the Coast Guard in general whenever opportunities arise. I was honored to provide a number of CGCVA Certificates of Appreciation in regard to Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day and other national holidays to persons providing that extra effort for these worthwhile patriotic activities.

I applaud the members of the CGC Ingham Association for their efforts in proclaiming the USCGC Ingham as the National Memorial to Coast Guardsmen killed in World War II and Vietnam. The actual ceremony should take place during their reunion at Patriots Point, S.C. Oct. 7-10, 1996. If you've never been to Patriots Point, it's certainly worth a trip. Besides, the Coast Guard has recently relocated the two 378-foot cutters' Dallas and Gallatin in Charleston, S.C.

See you all in San Diego! Semper paratus! **Al**

From the Vice President

On June 20th, I attended the decommissioning of the *CGC Sorrel* at Governors Island, N.Y. It was nice to see many local CGCVA members in attendance. The affair was a sad but honorable affair...a final salute and farewell to an aging and faithful vessel dear to her crew.

The *Sorrel* was commissioned in 1943 and homeported in Boston, Mass. During WWII, the *Sorrel* patrolled the extreme North Atlantic, replenishing bases throughout Newfoundland, Labrador and Greenland.

According to our association records, we have six CGCVA members who were *Sorrel* crew members, including: W. Figone; Arvard Kindrick; Robert McMichael, Jr.; Stephen Petersen; Gerald Rubino; and Harlan Spaulding.

The highlight of the ceremony were the emotional remarks made by *CGC Sorrel* commanding officer CDR T.J. Leahy. He spoke of the genuine bond of crew and ship, sailing in harms way through dangerous seas, and their reliance on the *Sorrel* to bring them home to their families.

Following CDR Leahy's remarks, the decom-

missioning orders were read, there was a final striking of the bells and the colors were struck. As each crew member departed, their name was announced, along with

home town and next duty station.

Sorrel's final destination is the CG Yard at Curtis Bay, Md., and eventual disposal. Everyone who attended this ceremony could not help but feel the attachment of the crew to

this grand old vessel which served our country for 53 years.

In other news, the October issue of *Naval History Magazine* published an interesting article about Coast Guard aviators in Vietnam. If you'd like a copy, drop me a line.

Looking forward to meeting all of you at our October Reunion in San Diego.

Joe Kleinpeter



JOE KLEINPETER



USCGC Sorrel

From the Editor

Wow! What a response to last issue's "A Monumental Task" feature. Thanks to all the members who indicated they enjoyed the article and to PA1 Ed Kruska, USCGR, who allowed me to use the material for the *Quarterdeck Log*. I've received several additional photos and information on more CG monuments from the *QD Log* readers and you'll see them in upcoming issues. I'm also passing them along to Ed Kruska for use in *The Reservist* magazine.

I am appreciative to the many members who contributed newspaper clippings, photographs and first-hand reports of two important events —



ED SWIFT

memorial services at the Douglas Munro monument in Crystal River, Fla., and the Mt. Tom B-17 monument in Holyoke, Mass. I tried to use as much as possible without duplication. Thank you all for the support!

I for one am really looking forward to "Fiesta San Diego" and again meeting many of you. This issue includes a complete schedule of events for our upcoming Convention

as well as the registration information and forms.

If things go as planned, the next issue will include complete coverage of the convention and reunion plus another installment of "A Monumental Task." Thanks again!

Swift

From the Secretary

Reunion Information

First, let me apologize for not including the agenda for our upcoming Reunion/Convention in the last issue. I know this has created some confusion as regards to the luncheons on Saturday, November 2nd, so let me explain.

The Business Luncheon is for the members, starting at 1130 and running until 1430. The Auxiliary Friendship Luncheon starts at the same time and is designed for spouses' and guests. The timing of the luncheons will allow enough time for those going on the Tijuana Tour to get ready. That tour leaves the hotel at 1500. We will try to keep the business meeting as short as possible yet still accomplish the necessary association business.

With that done, I am hopeful that more of you

will get signed up for the Business Luncheon as this is the time that we transact the Association business. The Officers need your approval on some items to provide the guidance needed to continue to keep our organization on course. So please attend this important part of the reunion/convention and do your part.

For those who wish to take the CG Air Station tour, please let me know. The folks there would like a head count to properly plan the tour for us!



E.P. "ED" BURKE

'96 Fiesta San Diego Reunion Program Schedule

Thursday, October 31, 1996

- 0900—1500 Arrival; Registration; Hospitality Room
- 0930—1100 Executive Session for Officers & Board Members
- 1600—1700 Opening Ceremony (Hospitality Room closed)
- 1800—? Hospitality Room; Entertainment

Friday, November 1, 1996

- 0900—1600 Arrival; Registration; Hospitality Room
- Scheduled Events: (USCG Air Station) (Harbor Dinner Cruise); Free Time

Saturday, November 2, 1996

- 0900—1000 Arrival; Registration; Hospitality Room
- 1130—1430 No-Host Luncheon and Biennial Business Meeting (Hospitality Room closed)
- 1130—1430 Auxiliary Friendship Luncheon
- 1500—? Scheduled Event: (Tijuana Tour); Hospitality Room; Free Time

Sunday, November 3, 1996

- 0900—1600 Registration; Hospitality Room; Scheduled Event: (San Diego Zoo)
- 1800—1900 Cash Bar; Pre-Banquet Cocktails
- 1900—? Awards Banquet (Hospitality Room closed)
- 2100—? Hospitality Room

Monday, November 4, 1996

- Checkout and Departure as scheduled
- 0830—? Post Convention Meeting for Officers & Board Members
- Reunion Committee, Treasurer & Secretary meet with Hotel manager to settle Reunion costs



From the Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

CGCVA ACCOUNTS: As of 9/1/96 our cash in the bank and C/D balance is \$35,944.82 which breaks down as follows: General (Checking) — \$6,834.32; General (C/D 2/1/96 12 mo.) — \$6,000.00; C/D 7/22/96 (interest earned but not collected) — \$163.55; Life Membership (Savings) — \$6,110.50; Life Membership (C/D 7/5/95) — \$5,000.00; Life Membership (C/D 11/1/94) — \$12,000.00 (roll over); C/D 4/5/96 (interest earned but not collected) — \$158.66; C/D 5/2/96 (interest earned but not collected) — \$1,093.66. A detailed report will be presented at Fiesta San Diego together with our clothing on hand and our computers, printers, etc.

DUES: Again, I can't thank those members enough who send in their dues from the expiration date on their *Quarterdeck Log* label. Just send in \$25 for two years membership, checks payable to CGCVA and mailed either to the Secretary or myself. Life members have (exp) after their name on the *QD Log* labels, but that's a computer requirement. Remember, life members never have to pay dues and there is no cost for the *Quarterdeck Log*. What a bargain!

CLOTHING: We are prohibited from advertising, even for ourselves, since we are non-profit. If you would like to know what items I have on hand, please drop me a line at P.O. Box 544, Westfield Center, OH 44251-0544 and I will reply by mail. You can also call me at (330)887-5539 or FAX (330)887-5639. Our Sales Officer LM Herb Weinstein, will be in San Diego for small stores.



BAKER HERBERT

FOR'N AFT CAPS: No supplier at this time but am working on it. All members desiring a cap of this type, please send me your name and hat size. Don't send any money, we'll let you know the cost. First, I must receive the small logos from our supplier and then I will get better organized on this item.

CGCVA LAPEL PIN: Let me know if you'd like a small CGCVA lapel pin (about 1/2 the size of our current pin). If we have enough interest, we will order same. See you in San Diego! **Baker**

Welcome New Members

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

MAY 1996

George A. Siegrist (John Stamford); **Matthew G. Murphy, Jr.** (John Weddel); **Richard C. Trein** (Mike Huntzberry); **Charles Feryok** (Lee Threinen); **Seymour Greenberg** (Chuck Ulrich); **John W. Nesmith** (John Stamford); **Joseph E. Becton, Jr.**, **Hugh D. McCrummen III** (Bill Wells); **Alfred W. Nelson, Jr.** (George Osterberg); **Roger L. Kehm** (Morris E. Lewis); **Merlyn F. Ankrum** (Chuck Ulrich); **Raymond Strizek** (Byke Byczynski); **Charles J. Thiessen** (Louis W. Haas); and **Steven R. Corporon**.

JUNE 1996

Philip A. Steinberg (Lee Bergfield); **George A. Hunt**; **Michael R. Davidek** (Lee Bergfield); **Chester C. Sutor** (William L. Smith); **Maurice T. Hedgecock** (W. Becker); **Thomas N. Sheeran** (James Sheeran); **Dick J. Armstrong** (Baker Herbert); **G.A. Barnum** (Al Grantham); **William P. Broderick** (William L. Smith); **Adam J. Gagat** (Pat Spero); **Peter Peigowski** (Rod Whalen); **George F. Schorden** (John Stamford); **Lloyd J. Christman** (Al Grantham); **Joesph P. McGuire** (John Stamford); **Robert W. Moffett**; **Richard R. Kelly** (LCDR Ed Swift); and **James A. Hartley**.

JULY 1996

Charles R. Kearn (Rod Whalen); **Irving J. Conkling**; **Albert P. Colalillo** (Peter Mattogno); **George C. Lamphiear** (Paul Wheeler); **Gerald Knight** (Al Courter); **Anthony C. Traina** (Bill Figone); and **Clarence M. Green** (Ed Burke).

Reunions — Notices — Membership News

USS/USCGC Lansing

The 7th annual reunion of the *USS/USCGC Lansing (DE/DER-388/WDE-488)* will be held Oct. 17-20, 1996, in San Antonio, Texas. For more information, contact: Terry A. Moberg at 902 Cindy St., Brainerd, MN 56401. Ph: (218) 829-3288; FAX (218) 828-0592; or use my E-mail address: terrym4305@aol.com.

AGC Flagship Alliance

The AGC Flagship Alliance is made up of persons who served or are serving aboard three classes of Navy and Coast Guard amphibious flagships, including *USCGC's Bibb (WAGC-31); Campbell (WAGC-32); Ingham (WAGC-35); Spencer (WAGC-36); and Taney (WAGC-37)*. A reunion for all these cutters will be held Oct. 23-27, 1996, at Daytona Beach Shores, Fla. Contact: Jack Thompson at 505 E. Henry Clay St., Milwaukee, WI 53217 or (414) 332-2065.

Looking For Shipmates

I would very much like to hear from crew members of the U.S. Army *FS-173* with whom I served in the Southwest Pacific as an EM2/c. Please write to Jeff Anderson at 128 Masters Drive, Conroe, TX 77304.

CGC Duane Association

Our next reunion will be held Oct. 18-20, 1996, at the Heritage House Hotel, 259 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601. For more information, contact: Ronald Golec at Tory Hill Rd., Alstead, NH 03602, or call (603) 835-6009.

LST-886 Reunion

Coast Guard-manned *LST-886* will hold a reunion in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Oct. 21-24, 1996. Home base will be the Patricia Grand Hotel. Direct inquiries to Mr. & Mrs. James Van Lieshout

at 1118 Margie Street, Rothchild, WI 54474. Ph: (715) 359-3670. It will be another grand reunion for the crew and their wives.

USS Aquarius

Former crew members from the *USS Aquarius (AKA-16)* will be holding their reunion Oct. 17-21, 1996, in San Antonio, Texas. At this reunion, a bronze plaque honoring the *USS Aquarius* and the men who served aboard her will be dedicated at the Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas. For more information, contact Dale Shankster at 615 E. Bank, Centerville, IA 52544.

LST-23

The 8th Reunion for crew members of *LST-23* will be held Oct. 20-23, 1996, in San Antonio, Texas. Contact: Ed Harding at 216 Sunway, San Antonio, TX 78232 or call (210) 494-5488.

USS Falgout

A reunion for crew members of the *USS Falgout* will be held Nov. 6-10, 1996, at the Lodge of the Ozarks Entertainment Complex at 3431 W. Highway 76, in Branson, Missouri.

For more information, call the Lodge's Group Sales Dept. at (417) 334-7535 or fax them at (417) 334-6861.

U.S.S. Theenim (AKA-63)

The 4th Reunion of crew members from the *USS Theenim (AKA-63)* will take place Oct. 14-17, 1996, at the Cherokee Motor Inn, 2207 South Ocean Blvd., Myrtle Beach, S.C. The Motor Inn's phone is (803)448-4316. Cost is \$167 per person and payments should be sent to Ray Marsh at RD3, Box 28A, Hudson, NY 12534-9508. If you have any questions, call Ray at (518)828-5505 or Ken Black at (207)236-3206.



Reunions — Notices — Membership News

Coast Guard Flag Officer Assignments

(after Summer 1996)

Commandant: ADM Robert E. Kramek
Vice Commandant: VADM Richard D. Herr

ATLANTIC AREA

Area Commander: VADM Kent H. Williams

D1: RADM John L. Linnon, Jr.

D7: RADM John W. Lockwood

D8: RADM Timothy W. Josiah

D9: RADM Gerald F. Woolever

MLC Atlantic: RADM Douglas H. Teeson

JIATF East: RADM John E. Shkor

Sr. Reserve Officer: RADM Richard W. Schneider

PACIFIC AREA

Area Commander: VADM (sel) Roger T. Rufe

D13: RADM J. David Spade

D14: RADM Thomas H. Collins

D17: RADM Ernest R. Riutta

MLC Pacific: RADM Fred L. Ames

JIATF West: RADM (sel) Joseph J. McClelland, Jr.

Sr. Reserve Officer: RADM (sel) Jan T. Riker

USCG HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Chief of Staff: VADM James M. Loy

G-A: RADM Robert C. North

G-CRC: RADM (sel) Thad W. Allen

G-HK: RADM Alan M. Steinman

G-HP: RADM Gordon G. Piche

G-HR: RADM William C. Donnell

G-HT: RADM Richard M. Larrabee III

G-L: RADM Paul M. Blaney

G-M: RADM James C. Card

G-O: RADM Norman T. Saunders

G-OP: RADM Paul E. Busick

G-S: RADM Edward J. Barrett

G-SI: RADM John T. Tozzi

CG Academy: RADM Paul E. Versaw

CNO Liaison: RADM (sel) John L. Parker

DOT Liaison: RADM (sel) Paul J. Piuta

Coast Guard Flag Officers retiring during Summer 1996 include: VADM Arthur E. Henn, RADM William J. Ecker, RADM Rudy K. Peschel, RADM Richard A. Appelbaum, RADM David E. Ciancaglini, and RADM Howard B. Gehring.



CROSSED THE BAR



Alfred Tennyson

*Sunset and evening star
and one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
when I put out to sea.*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out
the boundless deep turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,
and after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness or farewell,
when I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
the flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face
when I have crossed the bar.*

Calvin E. Snelgrove

Joined: April 1992

Passed: May 5, 1995

Ken Weeda

Joined: May 1991

Passed: July 29, 1996

John G. Orewiler

Joined: December 1988

Died: July 28, 1996

Franklin G. Reinhold

Joined: July 1989

Died: June 3, 1996

CDR Leonard L. Nicholson, III, USCG (Ret.)

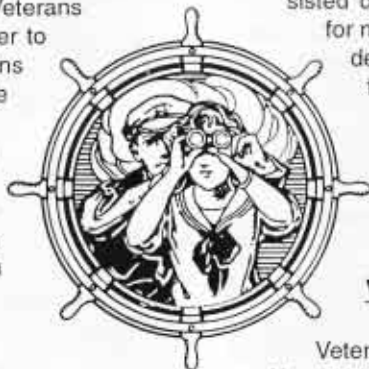
Joined: July 1993

Passed: July 25, 1995

Agent Orange Exposure Update

According to the Pasco County, Fla., Veterans Service Office, the Dept. of Veterans Affairs has added prostate cancer to the list of presumptive conditions directly related to Agent Orange Exposure.

Veterans who served in Vietnam and who suffer from prostate cancer should contact their nearest Veterans Service Office to begin processing a claim for VA benefits.



Correcting the Record

In the Spring '96 issue of the *Quarterdeck Log*, a story on the *CGC Mohawk* listed that vessel as the primary rescue vessel in the case of the *HMS Strathella* during February 1944. In actuality it was the *CGC Modoc* and several CGCVA members were quick to point out the error.

Former *Modoc* crew member Bill McCurdy not only caught the error but sent in copies of the original newspaper accounts from the *Boston Post* and *Boston American*. Bill, who was an RM2/c at the time, was off duty and saw most of the rescue from the main deck. He said they located the *Strathella* about 100 miles south of Greenland at about 0300. GM1/c Bob Woodbury shot a line to the trawler and the *Modoc* took them in tow.

The little British trawler had been adrift for five weeks in the North Atlantic. Their crew had subsisted on single daily meals of cold rice for much of the time and they had ridden out several gales. No doubt the arrival of the *CGC Modoc* was a welcome sight. Thanks to all who helped get this important story corrected and to Bill McCurdy who provided the newspaper clippings.

Veterans' Day Parade

The 11th annual New York City Veterans' Day Parade will step off on Nov. 11th, 1996 at 40th Street south on Fifth Avenue to Madison Square Park, culminating with an 11a.m. memorial service at the Eternal Light Monument on 24th Street. The event is sponsored by the United War Veterans,

(continued on next page)



"Heroes of the Atlantic Saga" was how this 1944 photo reprint from the *Boston American* read. It featured the officers from the *CGC Modoc*, including (left to right) CDR R.I. Horne; LCDR Randolph Ridgely; and LTJG Stanley G. Walker.

Association News — Mail Buoy

Veterans' Day Parade (continued)

Council of New York County, who also sponsored last year's "Nation's Parade," which honored WWII veterans and culminated the nation's WWII 50th anniversary commemorations.

This year, special tribute will be paid to all veteran's organizations, national and local, emphasizing their history and contributions to veterans and service to their communities and our Nation.

If you are interested in marching in the Nov. 11, 1996, parade in New York City, send a note to Joe Kleinpeter. He will keep you updated as more information is received. It would be rewarding to see many CGCVA members marching with our organizational banner like we did last year.

Seeking Shipmates

Don Larson of the WWII-era *USS Eridanus (AK-92)*, is seeking shipmates for purposes of

holding a reunion. For more information, contact Don at 8701 Nantucket Way, Garden Grove, CA 92841 or call him at (714)539-8874.

CGCVA "CG Person of the Year"

Chief Aviation Survivalman Donald K. Murray of USCG Air Station Cape Cod, Mass., has been selected as our association's "Coast Guard Person of the Year for 1996. Chief Murray will be honored at our Convention in San Diego.

On the evening of 16 April 1996, then Petty Officer First Class Murray was serving as rescue swimmer aboard a Cape Cod HH-60J helicopter. Responding to an urgent call for assistance, the helo flew through a raging storm to reach the sinking fishing vessel *Pauline And Pearl*, 90 miles east of Provincetown, Mass.

Forty-five minutes after the aircraft arrived on

(continued on next page)

Let Your Name Live On

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

— (Whatever is left after other bequests have been granted.) "All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, including real and personal property, I give, devise and bequest 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 bequest 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 bequest 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.

"CG Person of the Year" (continued)

scene, the vessel capsized, tossing its three fishermen into the frigid water in complete darkness. Despite the perilous conditions, ASM1 Murray entered the water and was able to rescue two of the victims. When the aircraft's rescue hoist failed, Murray was stranded along with the third fisherman. The two braved towering swells and hurricane-force winds for over 30 minutes. During this difficult period, Murray bolstered the survivor's spirits by informing him, "Nobody dies on my watch!". Completely exhausted, Murray then towed the survivor to the fishing vessel *Maru* which subsequently hoisted them aboard.

For his skill, valor and personal sacrifice, ASM1 Murray was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. His actions certainly exemplified the Aviation Survivalman's motto, "So others may live."

Salvage of the *Normandie*

Mr. James A. Love is trying to find Coast Guardsmen who participated in the salvage efforts of the passenger liner *Normandie*.

On 9 February 1942, at 1435, a spark from an acetylene torch ignited a bale of canvas-covered kapok-filled life preservers, one of 1,140 such bales stored in the Grand Salon of the 1,029-foot ocean liner *Normandie*, moored at Pier 88 in New York Harbor.

On 10 February at 0245, the massive vessel capsized on its port side. After laying on her side for a year and a half, she was raised at a cost of nearly \$5-million, then later sold for scrap for only \$161,000.00.

Mr. Love hopes to talk with persons who participated in the salvage, and believes the senior Coast Guard officer there was CAPT Troll. If you can assist Mr. Love, contact him at 36 Abelia Court, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 or call him at (609)896-9762.



CGCVA member Charles R. Ward, Jr., sent in this photo of the *CGC Laurel* taken in Greenland in 1943. Charles boarded the *Laurel* in Boston in Dec. '42 for her maiden voyage to Greenland via Portland, Maine, Argentina and Labrador. An Army photographer onboard was lowered over the side to get the photo, then the cutter continued to break ice in the Greenland fjord.

San Diego — World's Largest Military Complex

Our upcoming reunion city certainly is familiar with the military. It is homeport for two aircraft carriers, 60 surface attack ships and 11 attack submarines.

Military installations include: two naval air stations; a naval amphibious base; Naval Command, Control & Ocean Surveillance Center; Marine Corps Recruit Depot; Camp Pendleton Marine Base; a naval medical center; naval station; naval submarine base; and the Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Center.

It is home for 22% of the U.S. Navy; 24% of the U.S. Marine Corps; 57,000 military retirees; and 165,000 active duty and civil service personnel.

U-Boat Reunion Reunites Friends/Foes

This past May, crew members from the German submarine *U-371* held their 52nd year reunion in Baunatal, Germany and among the attendees was CGCVA member Art Green.

A former UPI photographer prior to the war, Art was serving as a Coast Guard combat photographer aboard the destroyer escort *Menges* when it was torpedoed by the *U-371* in the Mediterranean on 4 May 1944. He was invited to attend the reunion by Werner Schneider, who was the *U-371* radioman at the time of the attack.

Once foes but now friends, the two recalled the final moments of the submarine after it had put an acoustic torpedo into the *Menges'* screws.

According to Schneider, German sailors silently and urgently clutched at pipes and handrails as the submarine dove steeply into the dark seas. While the *Menges* drifted helplessly above, the Coast Guard-manned escort *Pride* steamed angrily above, ready to throw lethal depth charges onto the U-boat's back.

Seconds ticked by as the Germans waited silently, then, with a deafening roar, the depth charges rocked the U-boat. Plunged into darkness, *U-371* slipped to the Mediterranean's sandy floor where it withstood 27 exhausting hours and hundreds of depth charges. Finally, the battered *U-371* wrenched itself off the bottom and made a desperate dash for freedom, only to be surrounded by Allied warships. A hail of fire signalled the end of the submarine but not before most of its crew were able to abandon ship.

Schneider ended up in a POW camp in Mississippi, then emigrated to Canada when the war ended.

The reunion in Baunatal was the first time Art Green had met his former adversaries. Over three days, the WWII veterans shared meals, swapped stories and became friends.

A Unique Memorial

I really enjoyed the "Monumental Task" feature in the last *Quarterdeck Log* and would like to mention another monumental task that took

place here in Lake Havasu City, Arizona (home of the London Bridge).

A few years ago, our community wanted to erect a memorial to honor the armed forces and the project was spearheaded by the local VFW post.

Also assisting with the project were volunteers from the American Legion Post, DAV, Elks and the Knights of Columbus. The completed monument is truly unique — a one of a kind — built from pieces of the original London Bridge, which now spans the river



CGCVA member Peter Mattoigno at the Lake Havasu City, Arizona Veterans Memorial



The Lake Havasu City Veterans Monument, built from pieces of the original London Bridge.

in Lake Havasu City. There is a plaque for each of the five armed forces and I am very proud of the monument, partially for assisting with building it but primarily for arranging for the inclusion of the Coast Guard plaque. Hope some CGCVA members will stop by and see it.

Peter Mattoigno

CG Day In Crystal City, Fla.

On 3 August 1996, a celebration of the Coast Guard's 206th birthday was held at the Douglas A. Munro Memorial in Crystal City, Fla. I was able to arrange for color guard squads from Coast Guard Station Yankeetown and the Marine unit in Ocala. The city was represented by the mayor and I, of course, represented the CGCVA.

During the ceremonies at the Memorial, I presented certificates of appreciation from the CGCVA and our organization provided a wreath.

The next day the wreath was taken to Sta. Yankeetown where there was a birthday party and cookout. There was a large turnout of Coast Guard families and CG Auxiliaries. I even met a gentleman who said he was one of the Marines that Douglas Munro saved at Guadalcanal. He was quite familiar with and



The CGCVA wreath presented at the Douglas A. Munro monument in Crystal City, Fla., on 3 August 1996 (above).



At left, CGCVA member Bob Stoneham (center) presents certificates of appreciation. CG Station Yankeetown officer in charge, BMC T.R. Cavanaugh is on right.

Guard and Marine Corps were on hand to place the wreath in front of the monument. The crew at CG Station Yankeetown is keeping the memory of the U.S. Coast Guard alive and living in the hearts of all Americans. Thank you for your help and support in this matter.

BMC T.R. Cavanaugh, Officer in Charge

proud of our Service, having also been landed at Iwo Jima by CG landing craft. All in all, it was a terrific couple of days for the Coast Guard.

Bob Stoneham

Crystal City — Part II

I wish to thank the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association for providing the wreath that was placed at the Douglas A. Munro Memorial in Crystal City, Fla., on 3 August 1996. It was a fitting tribute to all those who have gone before us. Active duty members of the Coast

Special Notice

Recently, I have been receiving applications for membership in the CGCVA on old forms that indicate \$20 as the dues for two years. The dues changed to \$25 for two years at our last biennial business meeting in Norfolk. If you're still using the old forms, please make sure you notify the applicant of the correct dues amount (\$25). It looks bad when I have to go back and ask them for the additional \$5.

Ed Burke, Secretary

Douglas Munro Grave

This past Memorial Day, CGCVA President Al Grantham, along with members Vince Stauffer and Pat Denny, helped represent our association at ceremonies near Douglas Munro's grave in Cle Elum, Wash.

A crowd of about 200 people, along with the mayors of Cle Elum and Roslyn, were on hand with commanders from the VFW and American Legion from those communities for the annual event. Members of the Seattle Chapter, CPOA provided the color guard squad following the playing of the national anthem by the Cle Elum SHS Band. Members of Cle Elum's Douglas A. Munro VFW Post #1373 provided a rifle squad followed by "Taps."

Al Grantham & Vince Stauffer



Attending the 27 May 1996 Memorial Day services at Douglas Munro's grave were (l to r) CGCVA President Al Grantham, and members Vince Stauffer and Pat Denny.

Reunion For CGC Bibb

Members of the CGC Bibb Association will hold their 7th Reunion 24-27 October 1996 at the Newport Crowne Plaza Resort, 16701 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach,

Fla. Contact is Richard Olson at 574 Wyoming Avenue, Maywood, NJ 07607. For reservations, call (305)949-1300.

Past President Keeping Busy

Immediate Past CGCVA President Dick Stent still spends a lot of time on the road supporting our association and promoting the Coast Guard.

After writing the Governor of Ohio to proclaim 4 August 1996 as "Coast Guard Day" in the State of Ohio, he was asked to serve as Grand Marshall for a Veteran's parade at the Ohio State Fairgrounds that day. He of course accepted and Dick and his wife, Evelyn rode down the midway in a Mustang convertible.

The following day, Dick was the emcee for Coast Guard Day at the Defense Supply Center in Columbus, Ohio. He followed that Stent stint with a visit to the *USS Callaway (APA-35)* reunion, also in Columbus, on 8 August.

At his 55th high school class reunion in August he was recognized for having represented the CGCVA at the Queen's State Dinner in Portsmouth, England on 4 June 1994.

Finally, on 17 August, he attended a parade in Wooster, Ohio, as Wayne County celebrated its bicentennial. "Camping out" on the parade route, Dick found a spot to place a large Coast Guard flag and several CGCVA signs. These got a lot of attention since the parade went for four hours and several marching units and floats had to stop right in front of his spot. Nice going Dick!



Memorial Day 1996 in Cle Elum, Wash. Members of the Seattle Chapter, Chief Petty Officers Association fold the national ensign they had just hauled down from the flagpole near the site of Douglas Munro's grave. It was presented to the Cle Elum VFW Post.

CG Recognized in Wenatchee Valley

As a CGCVA member for several years and a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, I wanted to make the membership aware of a small victory I achieved for the remembrance of all Coast Guard veterans.

About a year and a half ago, I moved to the Wenatchee Valley in Washington state. While I was walking with my wife in downtown

Wenatchee, we noticed a veteran's memorial displaying the insignias of all the armed services, all but the Coast Guard that is. This omission did not sit well with me so I set out to rectify the problem.

I contacted my local representatives who sent me letters of support but did little in the way of real action. Finally, I contacted Ed Hoover, the post commander of the Wenatchee VFW. I addressed the post with my concerns. The members were very supportive and within no time, Mr. Hoover had hired a memorial engraver to add the Coast Guard emblem to the memorial. The added emblem, while of a different design than the original four from the other armed services, is still a handsome tribute to the members of our Service.

Harvey Gjesdal



Police officer and CGCVA member Harvey Gjesdal at the Wenatchee Veteran's Memorial. Harvey was instrumental in getting the Coast Guard emblem added to the memorial.

Never Too Late

A couple of years ago, while visiting CG Headquarters and researching some old cutters for a book I am writing, I stumbled across something that may of interest to some CGCVA members.

Having served on *USCGC Gresham (WHEC-387)* while it was flagship of the original COGARD Squadron Three in Vietnam from May 1967

through Jan. 1968, we picked up the usual collection of ribbons for that deployment, including: Navy Unit Commendation; Vietnam Service Medal (with two campaign stars); RVN Meritorious Unit Commendation (Gallantry Cross color with palm and frame); and RVN Meritorious Unit Commendation (Police Action color with palm and frame).

According to the CG Medals & Awards Manual, the *Gresham* and members of the crew that served with her in Vietnam are also eligible to wear the Combat Action Ribbon.

To validate whether or not you are eligible for this award, I suggest you contact Commandant (G-

WPM-3), USCG Headquarters Medals & Awards Division. I further suggest you don't write to the National Records Center in St. Louis as they cannot verify whether or not you are eligible. As they say, it's never too late!

D.R. Peterson

Beware Of A Scam

If you've ever been requested to provide a roster of your organization's members, take heed. It has been reported that one or more inmates of the Nebraska State Penitentiary in Lincoln, Nebr., have been soliciting funds by mail from veterans for plaques, etc., to be presented at upcoming reunions. Of course the promised merchandise never materializes. Membership rosters are solicited from reunion contacts, then individual letters requesting funds go out to those on the roster. Letters from these inmates have the return address of P.O. Box 2500 (usually followed by a five-digit inmate number), Lincoln, NE 68542.

Prison authorities there are aware of the scam and are trying to clamp down, however, they are not allowed to open and/or read inmates' mail. I could have been a victim myself but officials saw my name and address on the return sticker and called to let me know of the situation. I was lucky, so fellow CGCVA members beware of this scam!

Jack A. Pfeifer

Pasek Honored by U.K.

CGCVA member Raymond J. Pasek recently received a medal from the United Kingdom for participating in the Normandy Invasion. The commemorative medal was struck as a tribute to those veterans and recognizes, with pride and thanks, the support and gratitude of veterans and their families. Ray saw action in two other invasions of southern France and Okinawa on the *USS Joseph T. Dickman (APA-13)*.



Ray Pasek proudly displays his Normandy commemorative medal.

USS Howard D. Crow

Last call for shipmates from the *USS Howard D. Crow (DE-252)* to sign up for their Reunion on

27-30 October 1996, at the Ramada Inn, Williamsburg, Va. Call Becky Griggs there at (800)962-4743 for reservations. For more information, contact George P. Marble at 45 Middleton Place, Southern Pines, NC 28387 or call him at (910)692-7323.

Showing His Pride

CGCVA member Tom Taylor (right) of New Concord, Ohio is obviously proud of his time aboard the



Camp (DE-251), a CG-manned WWII vessel. In fact, he lets everyone know it everytime he takes his car out for a spin.

He's Proud Too!

CGCVA member George Poulos, Jr., of Saint Charles, Illinois, sends an open letter to all the 16,000 or so Coast Guardsmen who were lend lease to run Army Transport Service (ATS) ships during World War II.

George would like the ATS veterans to join together and send in more stories about the exploits of these vessels in the Pacific theater. According to George, "We may not have

been front line, but we were hanging around, doing our best."

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association

Pre-Registration

\$8.00 Per Person

\$14.00 Per Couple

(Please Type or Print Clearly)

Registration

"Win Dinner Cruise For Two"

10/1/96 is cutoff for Pre-Registration

Late Registration

\$10.00 Per Person

\$18.00 Per Couple

(For Name Tag)

Spouse
or Guest's
Name:

Name: _____
Last First MI

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Tel.#: _____ No. in your group: _____ No. Room(s) Req'd. _____

Date of Arrival: _____ Date of Departure: _____ Total Days: _____

I require the following Tickets: _____ **Business Luncheon** _____ **Aux. Friendship Lunch**
\$14.50 Each \$11.00 Each

_____ **Awards Banquet**

\$22.50 Each

Chicken

London Broil

(Please indicate for each Banquet Ticket)

IF YOU HAVE A SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENT, PLEASE ADVISE UPON ARRIVAL

We have an agreement for a charge of \$56.00 + tax per night single/double occupancy. There are only Three (3) things that you must do to complete your early registration:

1. **Call Radisson Hotel and make your reservations: 1-800-333-3333 will get you into their reservation desk. Make your reservation for the Radisson Hotel San Diego on Rte 8 in Mission Valley. Those of you that want to talk directly to the Hotel can call: (619)260-0111.**

Be sure you mention CGCVA.

2. **Complete San Diego Inbound Tours Form for your tours. It's on another page in this issue. For any Questions you may have. Tel: 1-800-226-7477**

3. **Complete this Form and send it with Check/M.O. (Please, NO CASH) for your Registration, Awards Banquet Ticket(s) and Luncheon Ticket(s) made out to: CGCOMVETS.**

TO: E.P. Burke, LM

17728 Striley Drive

Ashton, MD 20861-9763

If you have questions, Call

(301) 570-5664 Leave Msg.

I will get back to you.

PLEASE, DO NOT SEND HOTEL OR TOUR PAYMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS.

When you arrive at the Radisson Hotel in San Diego, you can check in and come to the Hospitality Room just off the Lobby, pickup your envelope, sign in and you are ready for ~

'FIESTA SAN DIEGO'

If for whatever reason you are not taking advantage of the above prices, staying with friends or relatives or wherever, Please complete the following:

Staying with: Family Friends

Motel Hotel

Motel/Hotel Name & Address

(You can continue & attach another sheet)

Thank You

San Diego Inbound Tours

"Fiesta San Diego" 1996 Reunion/Convention

The following tours have been set up for your 1996 Fiesta San Diego Reunion. Please send this form back with your requested reservation and payment in full. **The deadline for registering for these tours is October 1st 1996.**

Friday, November 1st 1996: Bus will depart the hotel at a yet to be determined time, for a visit to the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station. The round trip transportation is \$11.00 per person. Lunch at the Air Station will be \$7.25 per person, paid only if you eat.

Number in party: _____ X's \$11.00 per person = 's \$ _____

Friday Evening Event: The group will depart the hotel at 1830 (6:30 p.m.) The group will enjoy a 2-1/2 hour Harbor Dinner Cruise. Dinner is served at your table. The entree is a double one of beef and chicken, potato, vegetable, salad, rolls, dessert and coffee. Live music will round out the cruise with dancing and listening enjoyment. Or stroll the top deck under the stars. The price per person, all inclusive, is \$45.00.

Number in party: _____ X's \$45.00 per person = 's \$ _____

Saturday, November 2nd 1996: Tijuana Tour with Sightseeing and Luncheon. The group will depart the hotel at 1500 (3:00 p.m.) We will travel south of the border via the scenic route through Coronado, then down along the Silver Strand with the Pacific Coast to our right. In Mexico there will be time to shop and browse for bargains. We will also enjoy an early dinner. It will be an authentic Mexican combination plate with a complimentary margarita, or a beer or soft drink. Dessert and coffee are included. We will return back to the hotel by 2000 (8:00 p.m.) The price per person, all inclusive is \$30.00.

Number in party: _____ X's \$30.00 per person = 's \$ _____

Sunday, November 3rd 1996: Zoo Tour and City Tour Combination. This fun trip will depart at 0900 (9:00 a.m.) and go directly to the worlds largest zoo. Inside you will enjoy a narrated bus tour or an aerial view from the skytram. Later visit your favorite exhibits on foot. There are many places inside to enjoy a snack or meal. At 1300 (1:00 p.m.) we will board our bus for a narrated tour of San Diego, returning back to the hotel by 1600 (4:00 p.m.) The price per person, all inclusive is \$35.00.

Number in party: _____ X's \$35.00 per person = 's \$ _____

Grand Total: \$ _____

Please send check or money order, DO NOT SEND CASH, by October 1st 1996.

Payable to: SAN DIEGO INBOUND TOURS
Mail to: PO Box 371182, San Diego, CA 92137
Tel: (619)226-5237 & (800) 226-7477

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

New Coast Guard Exhibit Opens

On 14 May, 1996, an exhibit entitled, "*Semper Paratus: The United States Coast Guard in World War II*" opened at the George C. Marshall Museum in Lexington, Va., thanks to the concerted efforts of Bob Sams. After brief remarks by the Marshall Foundation president, Bob and two fellow *USS Cambria* shipmates did the official ribbon-cutting.

Using color and b&w photographs, sketches and artifacts, the exhibit narrates the Coast Guard's involvement in WWII, with particular emphasis on the Pacific Theater of Operations.

Along with the story of Douglas Munro's heroic rescue of U.S. Marines from Guadalcanal, the exhibit boasts a complete enlisted man's uniform, pea coat, USCG officer's coat, medals, insignia, and items recovered from dead Japanese soldiers on Saipan.

The items pay tribute to the brave sailors who answered their country's call more than 50 years ago. Bob has received many complimentary calls from active duty and retired Coast Guardsmen and the Museum is already planning to expand the exhibit. Nice going Bob!

Editor



(Above) Bob Sams exchanges remarks with the president of the Marshall Foundation prior to the official ribbon-cutting ceremony, opening the "*Semper Paratus: The United States Coast Guard in World War II*" exhibit.

(Left) Bob Sams as he looked in his WWII Coast Guard uniform a "few" years ago.

(Below left) Bob lets a mannequin wear his WWII uniform nowadays, just a part of the many Coast Guard displays at the Gen. George C. Marshall Museum in Lexington, Va.



Dear Mr. Sams:

It is obvious that you've spent a great deal of time on bringing this (Coast Guard in WWII) project to fruition. On behalf of the CGCVA I want to thank you for your efforts. It is obvious also that this was a labor of love on your part. Through our organization, I've had the opportunity to meet hundreds of former Coast Guardsmen whose service in the Coast Guard, like yours, was one of the defining parts of their lives. Thank you again and *Semper Paratus!*

Al Grantham, CGCVA President



CGC Alexander Hamilton Ceremony

On 3 June 1996, I attended a memorial service on board the *USCGC Taney* at Baltimore's Inner Harbor to honor the crew of the *USCGC Alexander Hamilton*.

During active convoy escort duty against German U-boats in the North Atlantic, the *Hamilton* was detailed to assist the disabled supply ship *Yukon* some 600 miles south of Iceland. On 29 January 1942, while towing the stricken ship for six days to Iceland, the *Hamilton* was torpedoed amidships by the *U-132*, killing all hands on watch in the engine room and causing the ship to lose power. Survivors were rescued by the destroyer *Gwin* along with a number of Icelandic fishing boats. Unsuccessful attempts were made to tow the *Hamilton* into port so a scuttling fire was administered by an attending destroyer. Twenty-six men were either killed outright or died of wounds. The sinking of the *Alexander Hamilton* was the first major loss suffered by the Coast Guard during WWII.

It was a tribute to the crew of the *Alexander Hamilton* to hold the memorial service aboard the *Taney* since it was a sister ship of the *Hamilton* and one of seven cutters in the "Secretary" class.

The program began after a performance by the Coast Guard Ceremonial Honor Guard Precision Drill Team, followed by several musical selections by Piper David Phillips in full kilt uniform.

Three *Hamilton*

survivors, Thomas Mullings, Larry Bradley and William Ogletree related stories of the sinking and rescue and much tribute was given to the Icelandic fishermen. Mullings then presented a painting of the *Hamilton* to Alan Walden, chairman of the Baltimore Maritime Museum.

The guest speaker was RADM John Lockwood, commander, Seventh Coast Guard District in Miami, and a previous CO of the *Taney*. The ceremonies were concluded with the dropping of a wreath from a Coast Guard helicopter, followed by ringing the ship's bell for each man lost on the *Hamilton*, "Taps," and then David Phillips' bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace."

Mary Ellebracht

Hank Rogers Honored by USCG Yard

During retirement and awards ceremonies at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Md., on 26 April 1996, CGCVA member Hank Rogers was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his years of service there as a "goodwill ambassador." A World War II veteran, Hank is also the president of the CGC Spencer Association and a member with the CGC Eastwind Association.

Hank was cited for his selfless drive to further the aims of the USCG Public Affairs program by informing Baltimore communities about Coast Guard history, and heralding the people, missions and goals of the CG Yard.

Joining Hank was his wife, Thelma and daughter, Donna.

Mary Ellebracht



CGCVA member Hank Rogers displays his Certificate of Appreciation, presented to him 26 April 1996 at the Coast Guard Yard for the countless hours he has devoted to serving as a "goodwill ambassador" for the Coast Guard. With him are Dorothy Mitchell (left), the Yard's public affairs officer, and Hank's wife, Thelma.

The "Mighty A"

It was a hot day in Boston in early July 1942. I had just returned from a 30-day survivors leave, having been a crew member aboard the *CGC Hibicus (WLB-190)* when it burned and sank at the entrance to the Naval Base in Argentina, Newfoundland.

Where was I to go next? What cutter would I be assigned to? Those thoughts clouded my mind when a YN2 approached and handed me my orders, "Report to CO, *CGC Aklak (WYP-168)*, South Boston Navy Yard."



QM1/c Vincent Anthony in August 1946.

A small panel truck carried three crew members and myself to Pier 11. The tide was out, so we peered over the edge and discovered a 116-foot steel fishing boat disguised as a CG cutter. It was painted white inside and battleship gray outside. We learned it had been built in 1941, had a maximum speed of 10 knots, had no gyro-compass, radar or sonar equipment, and carried only two 20mm guns and a small stern rack for depth charges. Between the racks was a .30 caliber machine gun.

Our duties were varied — weather patrols, air guard and SAR in the Denmark and Davis Straits. We escorted as many as five ships at a time as the only escort; we even transported coal and sled dogs for the U.S. Army. Once, we stayed on patrol for 16 days without water after the evaporators broke down, but we did have some

canned juice.

After 10 months of patrols, we returned to Boston and the *Aklak* — or the "Mighty A" as we called it — was outfitted as a real fighting vessel. A 3-inch gun was added forward along with two more 20mm guns. The bridge windows were removed and replaced with steel ports, sonar gear was added, and the ship was painted Arctic camouflage — white and light blue.

When we returned to the North Atlantic, the German submarine menace had begun to subside, but was not over. When the U.S. Army transport *Dorchester* was torpedoed and sank on 3 February 1943, we were ordered to the scene to assist. The *Aklak* was heavily iced up and upon approaching the scene we were challenged by the crew of the rescue tug *USS Sandpiper*. We tried to activate our colored identification signals but they were frozen and not operating. I got on our blinker and signaled our call letters. The *Sandpiper* stood down. Later, a *Sandpiper* crew member said they were about to fire on our ship.

Finally, after many patrols, the "Mighty A" returned to Boston in January 1944 where it was decommissioned and returned to the fishing fleet.

Vincent Anthony



The CGCVA booth at the USCG Headquarters CG Day Picnic. Manned by Ed & Mary Swift, the booth features CG combat art and the CGCVA banner.

Association News — Mail Buoy

Mount Tom Monument (from page 1)

Another visitor was Mary Worth McFadden, the daughter of the late Hugh J. Worth, a Coast Guard lieutenant who died in the disaster. Now 53, McFadden was four years old when her father left their South Boston home to fight in WWII. Prior to his Coast Guard service, her father had been a firefighter in Tom's River, N.J., and had been called upon to recover bodies from the German zeppelin *Hindenburg* after it burst into flames at Lakehurst, N.J., in 1935. In 1942, while in the Coast Guard, Worth was summoned to recover bodies from the Coconut Grove nightclub fire in Boston that killed nearly 500 people.

"He always said he didn't want to burn to death, and that's exactly how he went," said McFadden.

Worth was on his way back to Boston for a

knee operation when the B-17 crashed. His wife later remarried but McFadden was forbidden to ask her father's parents or siblings about him because the subject was too painful.

ADC Pete Cuipenski, USCGR (Ret.), arrived at Mount Tom, Holyoke, Mass., on 9 July 1996, just one hour before



the dedication ceremonies were to begin. He was shuttled by bus, along with members of the working press, from the base of Mt. Tom to the crash and dedication site. A tent was set up at the site of the crash for VIP's, guests of honor and family members so Cuipenski waited nearby as bus after bus offloaded passengers. He indicated going up Mt. Tom was a treacherous and steep climb, difficult for most vehicles.

While he waited, Cuipenski overheard a gentleman describing the crash in detail since he had witnessed it. The man was Frank Sokolowski. He was 24 at the time of the crash and he had been doing some "illegal" night fishing in a reservoir directly below the crash site when the B-17 came down.

According to Sokolowski, the time was approximately 9:55 p.m. and the bright lights of Mountain Park Amusement Park were illuminating the immediate area and creating a glow in the cloudy sky above. He feels that the B-17 was far from its final approach to Westover AFB, and may have taken this path of flight as a down leg and final approach, or the pilot may have been attracted by the bright lights of Mountain Park and its' amusement ride attractions.

(continued on next page)



A flag for his brother. Philip Archilles of St. Petersburg, Fla., accepts an American flag from CAPT Gregg Ketchen, USCG, on behalf of his brother David Archilles, one of 16 Coast Guardsmen killed in the 9 July 1945 crash at Mount Tom, Mass.

Association News — Mail Buoy

Mount Tom Monument (continued)

Sokolowski heard the B-17 approach directly over the park at low level and over his head at the reservoir where he was fishing. "No way!" he thought, could this plane clear the mountain (Mt. Tom). He heard the four engines 'power-up' and then witnessed the fiery crash just above him. He was one of the first on scene and said nothing could be done — no survivors.

Among the 25 servicemen killed were 15 Coast Guardsmen. They included: S2c David F. Archilles; EM3/c George R. Benfield; S1/c Gregory Davenport; ETM3/c George E. Fleming;



Norman Cote, who spearheaded the B-17 memorial effort, reads the tag on the American flag which initially marked the crash site on Mt. Tom.



Pieces of the B-17 bomber that were recovered during the excavation of the site on Mt. Tom where the memorial was recently dedicated, honoring the 25 U.S. servicemen killed there on 9 July 1946.

RM3/c Ernest R. Gillis; LT Wilfred U. Johnson; LT Frank G. Meriam; S1/c Arthur C. Miller; LTJG George E. Orford; BM2/c Russell S. Scott; RM3/c Arnold J. Simons; RM3/c Alfred L. Warm; S1/c Stanley P. Warshaw; RM2/c Lee Winnard; and YNC Hugh J. Worth.

PEACE

*The young soldiers do not speak.
Nevertheless they are heard in the still houses — who
has not heard them?
They have a silence that speaks for them at night and
when the clock counts.
They say: We are young. We have died. Remember us.
They say: We have done what we could but, until it is finished,
it is not done.
They say: We have given our lives but, until it is finished,
no one can know what our lives gave.
They say: Our deaths are not ours; they are yours; they
will mean what you make them.
They say: Whether our lives and our deaths are for
peace and a new hope,
We cannot say; it is you who must say this.
They say: We leave you our deaths. Give them
meaning.
We were young, they say. We have died. Remember us.*

CGCVA Form 04/76 Rev. 2/95

Amount of Membership Dues enclosed: \$ _____ Dues: \$10.00 Every 2 Years.
 Make Checks Payable To: CGCVA AUX
 Jane Maxwell, Secretary/Treasurer
 PO Drawer 2790
 Burney, CA 96013

Eligibility: _____
 Wife, Husband, Daughter, Son, Other-Explain

Address: _____
 Street or Box Number City State Zipcode

Name: _____
 Last First Int. Spouse: _____
 First

Coast Guard Combat Veterans Auxiliary
 Membership Application



Members of the Coast Guard Color Guard (l to r) from Boston, petty officers' Fleury, Beverly and Teague, at the Mt. Tom Memorial.

Among the speakers at the B-17 dedication was CAPT Gregg Ketchen, USCG. The benediction was given by Cantor Ellen Strenner, niece of RM3/c Alfred E. Warm, USCG, one of the vic-tims.
 Helen Boissonneault, Rick Racione, James F. Dekas, Mary Eilebracht, and ADC Pete Culpenski, USCGR



A "Monumental" Task...Part II

Reprinted with permission from The Reservist magazine

Here's more "Coast Guard Monuments Across the USA." While Part I primarily depicted Coast Guard monuments located in the northeast and mid-Atlantic regions, Part II moves all around the nation. I realize this still doesn't cover them all so if you see more, take a picture and send it in to either LCDR Ed Swift, editor of the Quarterdeck Log, or myself. Hope you enjoy!

PAI Edward J. Kruska, USCGR
Editor, Reservist Magazine



Ancient Order of Pterodactyl Gloucester, Mass.

The Ancient Order of Pterodactyl is a group of active and retired CG aviators and air crewmen. Their plaque, overlooking Gloucester Harbor,

is attached to a large boulder and is a tribute to the first USCG air station. It reads: "In honor of the men who established Coast Guard aviation in May of 1925 on Ten Pound Island in Gloucester Harbor, home of the first continuously operating Coast Guard air station. Growth in operations and aircraft size forced a move to Salem, Mass. in 1935 and again to Cape Cod in 1970."

— CPO Tom Guthlein
Station Gloucester, Mass.

As probably everyone has heard by now, the Coast Guard is departing Governors Island as part of streamlining. To commemorate the Coast Guard's 31-year stay on the New York harbor island, the Coast Guard recently placed four monuments at each compass point on the island. The west monument, shown at right, is a tribute to area lighthouses. The east monument is a WWI and WWII remembrance of USCG

USCG Legacy Monuments Governors Island, N.Y.

involvement in the N.Y. area, while the south monument honors those from New York who fought for our nation's freedom. Finally, the north monument, facing lower Manhattan, is a tribute to the "cradle of Coast Guard history," remembering Alexander Hamilton and our nation's First Congress, then convened in N.Y. City, which passed legislation establishing the "Revenue Marine," Aug. 4, 1790.

— LT John Shallman
LANTAREA Public Affairs



This monument is located at the Wilson Historical Museum in my village of Wilson, N.Y., a harbor village of 1,200 on Lake Ontario. I drill at Coast Guard Station Niagara, Youngstown, N.Y., 12 miles away. I know this monument is not entirely a Coast Guard monument, but you very rarely see an all-CG monument in small villages. Still, I am glad the Coast Guard was not left out as it has in others I've seen.

— BMT Gary S. Pettit
USCGR, Wilson, N.Y.

Armed Forces Memorial Wilson, N.Y.



I'm one of the historians here at Camp Perry, Ohio, where the Coast Guard has done a lot of training for port security units. In October of 1995, we had an Ohio historical

marker placed here at Camp Perry, within a stone's throw of Lake Erie. That's me pointing to the part about the Coast Guard's involvement here. It reads, "Additionally, in 1990, United States Coast Guard Reservists trained here in preparation for the Persian Gulf War." The text for the marker was

written by another Camp Perry historian, Virgil Gordon, which I then typed up. It was exciting to finally see the fruits of our labor.

— Anna Bovia
Camp Perry, Ohio

Ohio Historical Marker Camp Perry, Ohio



Mike Dugas, currently in the Coast Guard, is the sailor shown saluting the mural. It



was created by Susan Renee Schott, an art teacher from nearby Burgettstown, Pa.

— Steve M. Dugas
Slovan, Pa.

Lawrenceburg, in southeastern Indiana, population 4,400, is the Dearborn County seat. Outside the courthouse are a number of monuments dedicated to our Armed Forces, including one dedicated to the Coast Guard (below). It reads: "Formed to guard the coasts against smugglers. They police shorelines and harbors, enforce navigation

regulations and conduct searches from water and air for people lost at sea. They maintain transmitting stations that send navigation signals all over the world."

— W03 Jay Enginger
MSD Cincinnati

We thought you'd like to see what a little town in Pennsylvania did for its 16 heroes who were killed during World War

Faces of Freedom Slovan, Pa.

I and II. The people of Slovan (located west of Pittsburgh) are very proud of their local heroes and monuments shown here. One of the 16 is Coast Guardsman Seaman 2nd Class Marko



Yaksic (top row, fourth from left; on right). Yaksic, 20, was killed Sept. 25, 1942, during the invasion on Vella Lavella, Solomon Islands while aboard LST 167. He is buried in Hickory Cemetery. There is also a mural of our Faces of Freedom in our local VFW, Barto Post 6553. My son,

Armed Forces Monuments Dearborn County,

On Sept. 24, 1993, the Louisville Area World War II Coast Guard Committee dedicated two bronze plaques aboard the old Coast Guard Inland Lifesaving Station (next page). The plaques commemorate both the continuous operation of the Coast Guard station from 1880 to 1972 (the last inland floating lifeboat station in the Coast Guard) and the efforts of "citizen-reservists" in Louisville during World War II. The station now serves as the offices for the Steamboat Belle of Louisville (left of station in photo below plaque).

— LCDR Chuck Polk, USCGR
CGHQ (G-WTR-2), Louisville native



Feature Article

USCG Inland Lifesaving Station Louisville, Ky.



When the Coast Guard Cutter Cuyahoga collided with the Argentine motor vessel Santa Cruz near the mouth of the Potomac River in Virginia Oct. 20, 1978, 10 Coast Guardsmen and one Indonesian naval officer died. This monument (below right) at RTC honors them. An officer candidate at RTC places a flower on the Cuyahoga memorial plaque (below left).

— *Reservist Staff*



CGC Cuyahoga Memorial Yorktown, Va.



Hall, a 100-room residence hall at RTC Yorktown, was dedicated in her memory Oct. 25, 1985. The Cain family also unveiled a bronze plaque outside the entrance to Cain Hall at the dedication (see photo



Cain Hall & Plaque RTC Yorktown, Va.

above). A plaque honoring the three Coast Guardsmen is in the Barbers Point Club in Hawaii. Another plaque honoring Cain is among those at the International Forest of Friendship, Atchison, Kan. An article on Cain appeared in the March 1996 *Reservist*.
— *Reservist Staff*

Cong. Gordon Canfield of New Jersey, considered the father of the CGR, introduced legislation to create the Coast Guard Reserve in 1941. To honor him, RTC Yorktown dedicated Canfield Hall in 1984, the first CG facility to be named after a member of Congress. The Canfield Hall plaque and a painting of Gordon Canfield (below left), were unveiled at the 1984 dedication. At left is then-RADM James C. Irwin, then-Chief, Office of Readiness & Reserve, Mrs. Dorothy Canfield, second from right, and then-CAPT John N. Faigle, right, who later served as Chief, Office of Readiness & Reserve. The Gordon Canfield Trophy (below right), is permanently displayed at the Reserve Officers Association Minuteman Building in Washington, D.C. For many years, the trophy was awarded to the nation's best reserve unit.

— *LT Dave Allen, USCG
CGHQ (G-WTR-2)
Alexandria, Va.*

Canfield Hall RTC Yorktown, Va.



LT Colleen Cain was a Coast Guard Reservist who became the CG's first female HH-52A pilot in June 1979. On Jan. 7, 1982, while stationed at AIRSTA Barbers Point, Hawaii, the helicopter she was co-piloting responded to a distress call from a fishing vessel in stormy weather. The helo crashed into the side of a mountain in the Wailua Valley of Molokai, Hawaii. Cain, along with two other crew members, CDR Buzz Johnson and ASM David Thompson were killed. Cain

At Base Charleston, we have two monuments. The top photo shows a U.S. Lighthouse Service bell from 1923 mounted on a concrete slab. Flanking the bell are the father-son Coast Guard team of BMCS Tom Gelwicks, Sr., left, and BMC Tom Gelwicks, Jr. The



other memorial is the Bernt Riise memorial headstone. Riise was a seaman aboard the Revenue Cutter Yamacraw, who drowned at sea in 1909. The memorial stone depicted at left was found in 1982, five feet underground while digging a grave in the oldest section of Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston.

Originally erected by his shipmates, the memorial was recovered and placed permanently at Base Charleston as a

**USLHS Bell Monument
Seaman Bernt Riise
Memorial
Charleston, S.C.**

final resting place for Seaman Riise.

- BMCS Thomas Gelwicks, USCG (Ret.)
- YN1 T. Roberts, USCGR

St. Augustine is considered by many to be the birthplace of the CGR. One of the first classes to graduate from Reserve officer training did so at St. Augustine in May 1941 at the converted Ponce de Leon Hotel, now Flagler College. From 1942-45, thousands of young recruits received their "boot" and advanced training at what was

**Flagler College CGR Display
St. Augustine, Fla.**



certainly one of the most unusual training stations of WWII. A visitor to Flagler College today will find a permanent display recognizing USCG WWII training activities (see photo above). The display includes plaques presented to the college by various groups. These plaques include Coast Guard Reserve 50th anniversary and CGR emblem plaques, two engravings and one 4-by-5 inch plaque mounted on the front center of the display which reads: "Site of U.S. Coast Guard Training Station and Related Activities During World War II 1942-45." Other magazine articles and photos round out the display.

— Tom King, Archivist, Flagler College
St. Augustine, Fla.

This monument is located at Dutch Harbor in Alaska's Aleutian Islands. It was

**USCG Bering Sea
Patrol Monument
Dutch Harbor, Unalaska,
Alaska**



dedicated by the Coast Guard and people of Alaska on our service's bicentennial, Aug. 4, 1990. It is a tribute to the Bering Sea Patrol — those United States Revenue Cutter Service sailors who sacrificed much for Alaska and their nation.

— M. L. Rinchart, Baltimore, Md.

On the evening of Jan. 28, 1980, CGC Blackthorn (WLB-391) collided with the tanker Caprieon in Tampa Bay, Fla., near the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Homeported in Galveston,

Feature Article

extensive yard period in the Tampa area and had many crew members who had never sailed aboard the vessel.

The incident claimed the lives of 23 Coast Guardsmen. A 6,000-pound monument commemorating the sinking is located at the Sunshine Skyway



CGC Blackthorn Monuments (WLB-391)

St. Petersburg, Fla.
and Galveston,
Texas

bridge north base rest area (above left). The monument points out the location where Blackthorn and Capricorn collided. All 23 Coast Guardsmen are listed on the 5-foot wide by 8-foot tall monument, dedicated in 1981. It was con-

structed of gray granite with polished face, chipped sides and back to provide the desired degree of maintenance-free permanence. The monument cost about \$7,000 in privately-raised funds. The Florida Legislature named the wayside parks at each end of the Skyway Bridge "Blackthorn Memorial Park." At Base Galveston, a buoy contains a commemorative plaque and is lit permanently. It looks out over Galveston Bay (above and right).

— MK1 Donald Kessel, Bradenton, Fla.
— BM1 David Devine, ANT Galveston

I had only been in the Coast Guard Reserve 16 months when I performed my first ADT at Base New Orleans. These photos, taken in December 1970 of the White Alder Memorial,



White Alder Memorial Park New Orleans, La.

are located on the base. CGC White Alder collided with the Formosan freighter Helena Dec 7, 1968. The memorial is dedicated to 17 Coast Guardsmen who were killed in the collision.

— LCDR Chuck Polk, USCGR
Commandant (G-WTR-2)



During WWII, Anthony Oneto served as a CG Reserve officer aboard USS Cavalier. On March 11, 1947, while serving with the U.S. Border Patrol, Oneto was shot

Anthony L. Oneto Memorial Room El Paso, Texas

in the head four times at Indio, Calif. by a man attempting to smuggle four illegal aliens. Oneto, 30, died of the gunshots instantly. He is honored at the U.S. Border Patrol Museum & Library in El Paso with a room named after him. American Legion Post 812 in Los Angeles is also named in his honor.

— CWO4 T. Golda
Grand Island, N.Y.



When I read that The Reservist was looking for CG monuments, I strolled through the cemetery here in Snowflake. Headstone by headstone, row by row, I checked all the headstones and did see

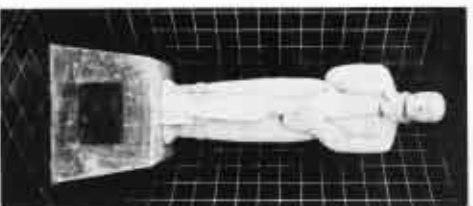
Earnest Lynn Campbell Headstone Snowflake, Ariz.

many military ones, but I only came across one that was Coast Guard (left). When I pass on, I will be added as one more Coast Guardsman buried here. Of interest, Snowflake derived its name from two early pioneers, Mr. Snow and Mr. Flake, and is located in eastern-central Arizona with a population of 3,500.



—YNM Donald T. Blair, USCG(Ret.)
Snowflake, Ariz.

Const Guard Air Station San Diego pays tribute to the USCG's first aviator, CDR Elmer Stone, with this statue (left). He also was one of the crew of



**CDR Elmer F. Stone
Statue**
San Diego, Calif.

the Navy NC-4 that made the first transatlantic flight May 31, 1919. A plaque and montage of photos of him and fellow aviators hangs next to the plaque.

—CAPT William N. Taylor, USCGR (Ret.)
San Diego

In April 1979, then-PA1 Chester L. "Chet" Spaulding thought CG Island needed some dimensional art (sculpture). So, Spaulding, now a reserve chief and self-taught sculptor, drew a sketch of what became the "Humanitarian Mission," a bronze sculpture that rests in Building 14's main entrance foyer (right). His command and CGHQ commissioned Spaulding to sculpt it slightly less than half-life-size for casting in bronze. The statue's basic features were modeled from photos of Spaulding's shipmates: SK1 Grace

Parmelee, CWO4 Andrew Gregorich and LTJG Kenneth Thyself. The final bronze was made at Nordhammer Art Foundry in Oakland.

**Humanitarian
Mission Sculpture**
Coast Guard Island,
Alameda, Calif.



After only ten months of work, the sculpture was unveiled Jan. 25, 1980.

—PA2 Darrell Wilson & PA2 David Angle, USCG
III^d CG District Public Affairs (North Region)

As a member of the Patrol Frigate Reunion Association (PPRA) and a plank owner of USS Albuquerque PF-7, I was one of the speakers at the Aug. 10, 1994 dedication ceremonies of the Patrol Frigate Monument located on Munro Circle at CG Island. The 75 Coast Guard-manned frigates of WWII are listed on the monument and are accompanied by the newly-completed flagstone and ship's bell

—David Hendrickson, Presno, Calif.



**World War II Patrol Frigate
Monument**
Coast Guard Island, Alameda, Calif.

Feature Article

On July 17, 1944, in one of the worst stateside disasters of WWII, 320 Navy, Coast Guard, Marine and civilian dock workers died when the SS E.A. Bryan and S.S. Quinault Victory exploded at Port Chicago. Almost all of the men killed were African-Americans. Five Coast Guardsmen were manning a fire barge nearby and perished in the blast. Fifty years later, July 17, 1994, the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial was dedicated and the five Coast Guardsmen's names are listed (above):

MM1 W. Degryce, BM1 P. Broda, MM3 E. Portz, SN C.

Riley and SA J. Sullivan. Behind the monument is LCDR S. Danschuk, USCG, and PS2 Scott Kendrick, USCGR. Port Chicago was torn down in 1968, but to this day, the cause of the disaster remains a mystery.

—PAC R. Cabral, USCGR, San Francisco

Port Chicago National Memorial Concord, Calif.



ring of copper plates listing the names of over 900 sailors killed in action. Inside the circle are two pedestals and a large brass bell. The pedestals contain plaques which list all

USCG ships lost in action and explain the memorial's symbolism. The bell was rung



during the dedication, attended by ADM Robert E. Kramek, Commandant, and MCPO-CG Rick Trent, to honor those Coast Guardsmen who perished in WWII. In addition, the foundation of the bell contains a time capsule which will be opened in 50 years.

—LCDR R.M. Dielh and MST1 R.U. Klarmann
Base Honolulu, Sand Island, Honolulu, Hawaii

Anchor Memorial Base Honolulu, Hawaii

This plaque is mounted on a boulder at Station Cape D. and says: "A memorial to all those Coast Guardsmen who made the supreme sacrifice that others might live, 1961-1982."

Eight Coast Guardsmen are listed on this plaque provided by the Ilwaco-Long Beach Kiwanis Club in 1983.

—LT Mihe White
Station Cape Disappointment, Wash.



Cape Disappointment Plaque Station Cape Disappointment, Wash.

The "Hula Dancer" and "Bathing Beauty" statues were constructed by Italian POW Alfredo Giusti during WWII to honor the women back home, waiting for the prisoners' return. Giusti was interned at a camp located on Sand Island, now the site of CG Base Honolulu. Nearly 5,000 POW's were interned between 1944-46 on Sand Island and other camps on Oahu. Today, the statues grace the entrance to the Florence Ebersole Smith Administration Building at Base Honolulu (right).

—LCDR
R.M. Dielh
and MST1 R.U.
Klarmann,
Base
Honolulu,
Sand Island,
Honolulu,
Hawaii



Hula Dancer — Bathing Beauty Base Sand Island, Honolulu, Hawaii

Base Honolulu's anchor memorial is the USCG's first monument to recognize all sailors and ships lost in operations during World War II. It was dedicated Sept. 2, 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of V-J Day and the end of the war. The memorial consists of a 15-foot white anchor circumscribed by a



Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association

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