

# The 820 Newsletter



The Official Publication of the USS Rich Association  
Volume 13, Number 2

On the Internet: [www.ussrich.org](http://www.ussrich.org)  
May 2006

## Yee-Haw! Nashville Is *The* Place! (Only If You Want A Great Reunion Venue)

Let's see if I can tell you about this without gushing like a schoolgirl. The second date was even better than the first. Hands down.

Gary and Cathy Wilson left no detail unattended in planning, arranging and conducting our 13th Annual Ship's Company Reunion. They utilized every resource at their disposal knowing all along that Nashville is *the* place to hold a reunion. Smart.

We've been to the best of them and Nashville stacks right up there with the likes of such people pleasers as DisneyWorld, Disneyland, Six Flags or Universal Studios. They know how to entertain people and they know how to treat people with that famous southern charm.

While we refer Nashville as a whole, each and every entity we encountered played an important role in the overwhelming success of our reunion. There were only one or two "speedbumps" during the week that otherwise went flawlessly.

The Radisson/Opryland is the largest facility (in terms of sleeping rooms) we've ever used. Our Hospitality Suite was the largest we've had and accommodated all of our record-setting 160 shipmates, spouses and guests attending. The Radisson staff went all out to meet our every requirement.

The folks at Grand Ole Opry Tours and the expert leadership of Senior Tour Coordinator Brenda Photivihok made sure that each event was on time and on target. Brenda was able to assist most stragglers with tickets to events.



### The Week In Brief...

**Wednesday** there were a lot of arrivals and the discovery of quite a few already there. A group of about 40 went across the street to the fish restaurant to enjoy some southern spicy entrees along with an equally spicy wait-staff. Great food and great fun.

**Thursday** we were aboard the General Jackson for a sumptuous luncheon buffet and fantastic show by Tim Watson. We occupied the entire balcony of the cavernous boat where Tim did an extended show for us due to some showery weather. Thursday evening we found ourselves at the KOA Music Barn for a fabulous show by the Jeffers. Did you know "Daddy" Calloway sang bass and "Momma" Joan sang tenor?

**Friday** evening we were off the the world-famous *Grand Ole Opry* where we were entertained by Porter Wagoner, Little Jimmie Dickens, Roy Clark and Marty Stuart along with other country and gospel artists.

**Saturday** following our Business Meeting there was a Nashville Tour to the delight of a number of shipmates and guests. The evening brought us to our annual banquet which included our Memorial Service which remembers our shipmates no longer with us. This year we viewed "Before You Go", a emotional tribute to all World War II veterans.



April 30, 2006

Well, the second Nashville reunion is over and now history.

Cathy and I really enjoyed and had fun hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> annual reunion in "Music City USA". What took one and a half years of planning and preparation to host this reunion was over in four short days. Unfortunately, it could not be the other way around. If so, it would have allowed us to spend more time with our USS Rich family. But the four days are now an enjoyable memory as was the first one we hosted in 1997.

This was one of the largest reunions yet, with 157 people in attendance, including 84 shipmates. We keep growing year after year as we welcomed many first time attendees.

Many compliments have been received for our planning & hosting this year's reunion. We both really appreciate all of the kind words. Although things do not always go according to plan, we believe that most things went right.

In order for any reunion to be successful, there are many people that support the plans and preparations. We would like to acknowledge a few:

The Radisson Opryland Hotel staff who took excellent care of us.

The people at the Grand Ole Opry Tours that coordinated the General Jackson cruise, Grand Ole Opry and the Sightseeing Tours.

The KOA Kampground for the Thursday evening music and entertainment at the Music Barn.

The Vanderbilt University NROTC Color Guard and our Saturday evening singer added to the event.

Hoot Gibson, Don Hogg & Jerry Dunnigan for making the Memorial Service so touching and meaningful.

Joe Saunders and friends for handling the raffle and auction so successfully.

All of the other shipmates and guests who pitched in where and when necessary are too numerous to list.

My friend Mike Zuby with help from Jimmy Carroll for managing the bar.

A big "special thanks" goes to Marshall DuBois. He is the creative, behind the scenes support that any reunion host needs and relies upon. BRAVO ZULU Marshall!

So, as Cathy and I wind down and transition back to retirement, we will have many fond memories of this year's reunion. On the one hand, we would like to say, "Y'all come back and see us" but we are afraid that you might take us up on it. Seriously, we would love to have any of you visit with us again in Nashville.

We look forward to being with each of you next year in York, PA.

God Bless you and smooth sailing until then.

Gary & Cathy Wilson



# Reunion Photo Highlights: Wednesday



All We Seem  
To Do  
Is...



Eat!



# Reunion Photo Highlights: Thursday



Above:  
The 300' riverboat the "General Jackson"

Right:  
Tim Watson and his band put on a fantastic show for us which lasted nearly 90 minutes. In addition to a talented singer (who does great impressions) he is a very accomplished fiddle player.



Below:  
A rather historic occasion took place when we were paid a social visit by veteran's of the US Army's 5th Infantry Regiment who were also holding a reunion at the Radisson. Consistent with naval tradition, the Ships Company was assembled in Side Boy formation to salute our comrade in arms. The 5th Infantry's history goes back 190 years of service to our country and remains active even today. You may visit them on the web at [www.bobcat.ws/history.htm](http://www.bobcat.ws/history.htm)



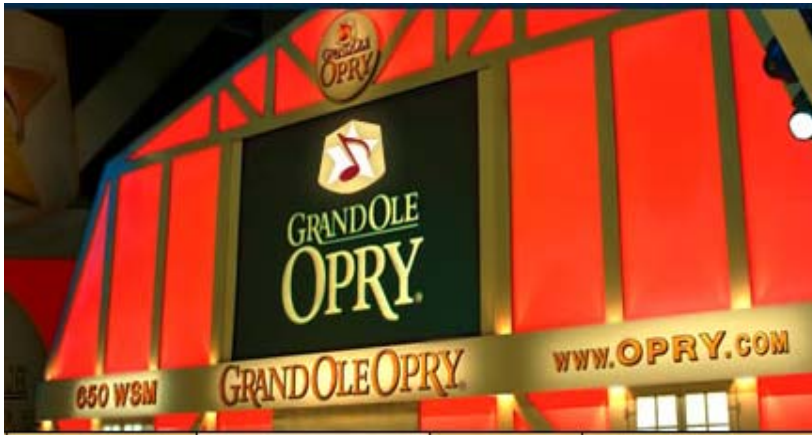
5th Infantry CO describes flag and service ribbons.



Right:  
We have talent! At our Thursday night buffet at the KOA Music Barn "Daddy" Calloway sings bass and "Momma" Joan sings tenor with the country group "The Jeffers"



# Reunion Photo Highlights: Friday



Four 30-minute segments gave us performances of such legends as Porter Wagoner, Little Jimmie Dickens, Roy Clark and Marty Stuart along with other country and gospel artists. Great show!

Meanwhile, back at the ranch...



This years Hat Club



# Reunion Photo Highlights: Saturday



Business Meeting underway



Raffle Tickets! Get 'em while they're cheap! Joe Saunders and Hutch Huchins do what they do best!



Ship's Company,  
This is the Captain  
Speaking...

Former CO (63) Hugh  
Mason, CDR, USN  
(Ret) shares a few  
words with the crew.

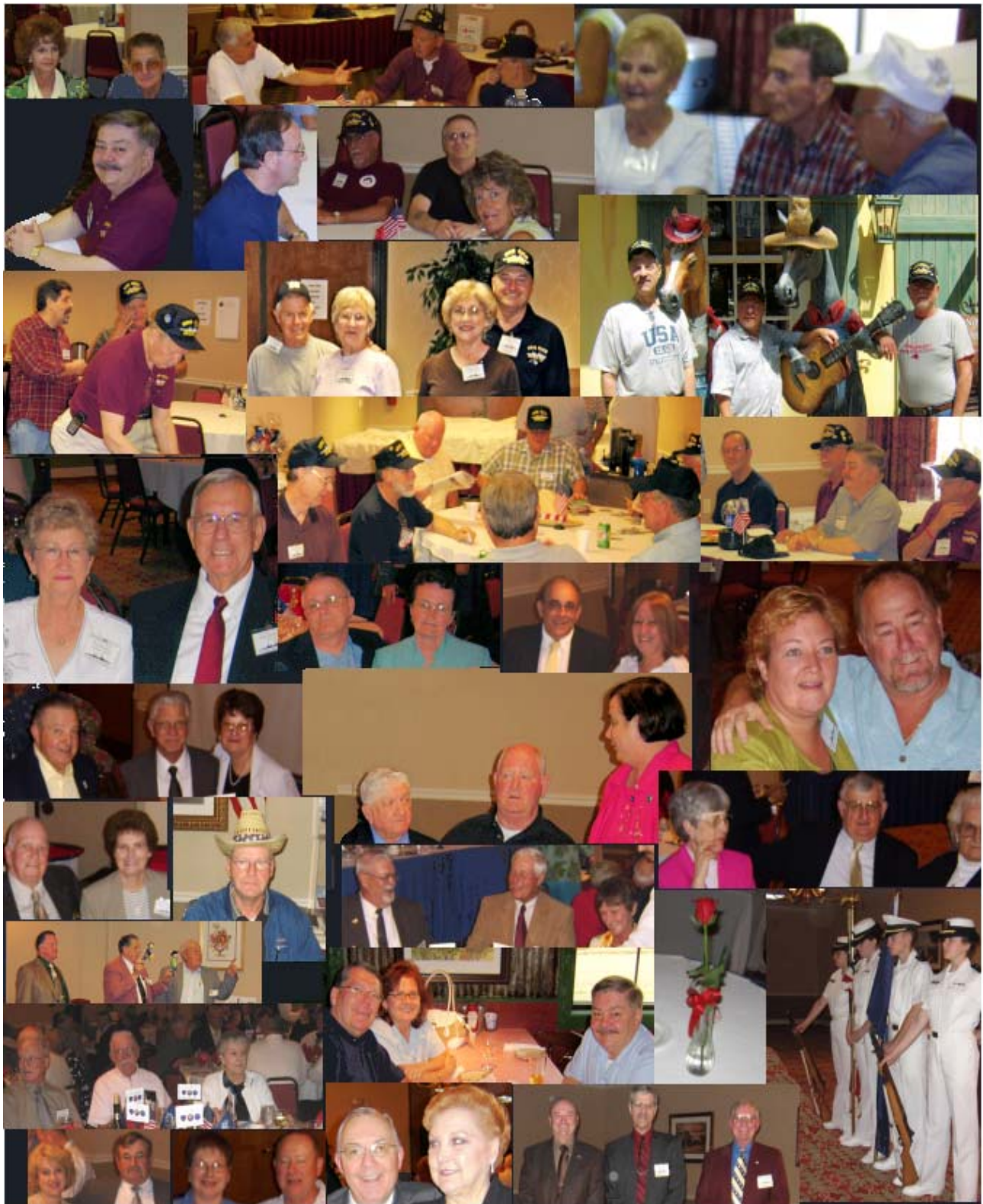


James D Woodruff,  
GMCS

The very first person to  
be assigned to the USS  
Rich as she was under  
construction in Orange,  
Texas



# Reunion Photo Highlights: Saturday



# Attendees Of The 2006 Ship's Company Reunion

| Shipmate             | Spouse        | Rate      | Tour  | Shipmate              | Spouse    | Rate   | Tour  |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Aeschlimann, Mike    | Peg           | MM2       | 62-66 | Mason, Hugh           | Margaret  | Cdr CO | 63    |
| Bandomir, Wally      |               | CS        | 66-70 | Mayne, Paul           |           | MM3    | 55-57 |
| Beeman, L. E.        | Lynette       | MM2       | 55-59 | McLaud, Maurice       | Katherine | TM3    | 52-56 |
| Brown, Raymond C.    | Barb          | S1        | 46-48 | Miller, John D.       | Sallie    | QM3    | 66-69 |
| Calloway, Wendall E. |               | RM1       | 61-62 | Moore, Edward J.      | Margaret  | MM2    | 62-64 |
| Campbell, Richard W  | Elsie M       | MM2       | 56-59 | Morales, Elmer J.     | Iris C.   | EM2    | 55-58 |
| Carpenter, Paul D.   | Marjorie      | DC3       | 56-58 | Moyer, Dennis H.      | Elvira    | SF2    | 63-67 |
| Carroll, James       | Karen         | MM3       | 65-67 | Orthouse, Delton      | Mary,     | GMM3   | 63-67 |
| Carson, William D.   | Eleonore A.M. | FT1       | 59-60 | Ortiz, Leonardo       | Nilda     | TM3    | 62-65 |
| Chester, James F.    | Helen         | Ltjg      | 66-69 | Parks, Whit L.        | Peggy B   | RD3    | 55-59 |
| Coale, Edward        | Linda         | BM1       | 50-54 | Paxton, Ed R.         |           | EM3    | 66-69 |
| Cochrane, Robert     | Joan          | EM3       | 54-56 | Petts, Norman         | Carol     | RD2    | 49-52 |
| Collins, Les         | Betty         | BT2       | 48-52 | Priddy, Rowland       | Jackie    | RM3    | 68    |
| Compher, Samuel      | Pamela        | PC3       | 67-68 | Ramsey, Gerald        | Arveta    | RD3    | 56-59 |
| Dabay, David H.      | M. Mae        | MM3       | 50-54 | Ray, David L.         | Louise    | BM3    | 64-66 |
| Dahl, Paul B.        |               | Lt        | 69-71 | Robbins, Dale         | Christine | SM1    | 46-47 |
| Dahlstrom, Lee       |               | MRFN      | 57-59 | Roggenbuck, Ed        | Bess      | FM2    | 46-48 |
| Dixon, Larry E.      | Fay A.        | RD3       | 65-67 | Saunders, Joe         | Jean      | TM3    | 55-59 |
| Dore, David A.       | Mary Beth     | Ltjg      | 65-67 | Schechter, Lee        | Mary Ann  | S2c    | 46-47 |
| DuBois, Marshall K   | Iris          | SH2       | 62-66 | Sciaretta, Robert J.  | Pauline   | SH3    | 63-65 |
| Dunnigan, Jerry      | Deb           | BMSN      | 65-67 | Shaw, Howard          |           | RD2    | 53-55 |
| Fledderman, Mark     | Joann         | EM2       | 62-65 | Sipos, Warren         | Carolyn   | RM3    | 67-70 |
| Franchetta, Joseph   |               | FN        | 55-59 | Skillen, Johnny       | Kay       | BMSN   | 64-66 |
| Gibson, E. R. "Hoot" |               | FTS1      | 57-60 | Smedley III, Grant W  | Mary Anne | Lcdr   | 70-71 |
| Greene, Wm (Sarge)   |               | Associate |       | Szabo, John           |           | SOSN   | 61    |
| Goff, James V.       | Patty         | SN        | 64-66 | Vaitekunas, Felix F.  | Jeanne    | Ltjg   | 65-67 |
| Gurley, Dale E.      |               | BT2       | 61-63 | Walton Sr, William G. | Mary Ann  | BT3    | 51-53 |
| Hake, Donald J.      | Maureen E.    | SH2       | 59-62 | Weber, Chuck          |           | Ltjg   | 76-77 |
| Hammes, George       |               | SH3       | 68-70 | Weir, Roger           |           | TM3    | 60-61 |
| Henry, Steve         | Barbara       | Ltjg      | 67-70 | Wentway, Charles      | Patricia  | FP2    | 54-57 |
| Himes, Carl          | Elaine        | SK3       | 60-62 | Wheeler, Jim          | Jo Ann    | SH3    | 50-53 |
| Hineland, Dwayne     | Reva          | IC3       | 55-58 | Wheelock, Al          |           | GMG3   | 65-67 |
| Hodges, Jeff W.      |               | TM2       | 55-58 | Williams, Forrest     | Lucille   | TM3    | 65-68 |
| Hogg, Donald         | Bonnie        | BM3       | 62-64 | Wilson, Gary          | Cathy     | SHSN   | 60-62 |
| Hutchins, Francis    | Marie         | BT1       | 48-55 | Wisdom, John          | Tina      | BT3    | 48-49 |
| Kamenski, Ed         | Carolyn       | RD3       | 62-65 | Woodruff, James D     | Martha E. | CGM    | 46    |
| Kemp, James A.       | Karen         | CS3       | 51-59 |                       |           |        |       |
| Kilmer, George N.    | Linda         | ET3       | 65-66 |                       |           |        |       |
| Koeniger, Richard F. |               | SN        | 59-61 |                       |           |        |       |
| Krohn, Robert A.     | Frances C.    | FN1       | 46-47 |                       |           |        |       |
| Lohse, Skip          | Raeleen       | EN2       | 65-66 |                       |           |        |       |
| Loi, Earl L.         | Mary F.       | S1c       | 46-47 |                       |           |        |       |
| Mahoney, J.Marvin    | June          | PC        | 46-47 |                       |           |        |       |
| Maniscalco, Louis F  | Jeanine       | RD3       | 64-66 |                       |           |        |       |
| Marcello, Robert     | Georgianna    | S2c       | 46-47 |                       |           |        |       |

## Welcomed Guests

Jon & Ginger Dayton (Franchetta)  
 Don Hake Jr, Michelle Kinnerd, Gladys Main (Hake)  
 Jim & Evelyn Dunn (Schechter)  
 Mike Zuby [Ships Bartender] 🍹 (Wilson)





# Personnel Changes

## Mar 2006 - Reported Aboard

|            |           |      |       |           |    |
|------------|-----------|------|-------|-----------|----|
| Livingston | Johnny    | SN   | 57-58 | Decatur   | AL |
| Campbell   | Richard W | MM2  | 56-59 | Mahomet   | IL |
| Givens     | Donald    | RM2  | 69-73 | Bastrop   | LA |
| Kulawczyk  | David     | STG3 | 75-76 | Rosemount | MN |
| Sanders    | Randall   | FGT2 | 75-77 | Deer Park | TX |
| Sucharski  | John      | MM2  | 71-74 | Waupaca   | WI |



### **Piped Ashore - Deceased**

## Feb 2006 - Reported Aboard

|          |      |      |       |         |    |
|----------|------|------|-------|---------|----|
| Jackson  | Bill | RMSN | 63-65 | Ashland | KY |
| Hayes    | Jim  | RD   | 65-66 | Livonia | MI |
| Marks Jr | Wm J | S1C  | 46-47 | Aiken   | SC |
| Arnold   | Alan | TM3  | 67-68 | Dresden | ME |



### **Piped Ashore - Deceased**

|             |         |     |       |         |    |
|-------------|---------|-----|-------|---------|----|
| Schoenfeldt | Louis F | RD3 | 55-57 | Chicago | IL |
|-------------|---------|-----|-------|---------|----|

## Jan 2006 - Reported Aboard

|          |           |      |       |              |    |
|----------|-----------|------|-------|--------------|----|
| Bandomir | Wally     | CS   | 66-70 | Waukesha     | WI |
| Shea     | Timothy A | GMG3 | 68-69 | Fitchburg    | MA |
| Weiss    | Howard    | Ens  | 47-48 | Reno         | NV |
| Farley   | John W    | RD2  | 67-70 | Dallas       | TX |
| Junk     | Keith N   | Ltjg | 67-69 | Pinehurst    | NC |
| O'Neil   | Jim       | ICFN | 71-73 | Las Animas   | CO |
| Hodges   | Jeff W    | TM2  | 55-58 | Elkton       | FL |
| Rogers   | Paul D    | EM3  | 54-57 | Ocean Shores | WA |



### **Piped Ashore - Deceased**

|            |         |     |       |  |  |
|------------|---------|-----|-------|--|--|
| Mazzarella | Ralph J | RM3 | 53-56 |  |  |
|------------|---------|-----|-------|--|--|

We appreciate All Hands passing the word to the editor regarding the illness or passing of a shipmate. We pay respects to each and every one of these men at a memorial service conducted at our annual Ship's Company Reunion.

At the annual reunion we have started a new tradition of thanking and paying respects to our World War II Veterans. We now include the playing of the music video "Before You Go" following the memorial service. The video is an emotional reminder of the sacrifices of our vets.

USS Rich Plank Owners as well as all shipmates who are World War II veterans are entitled to life membership in the USS Rich Association. Such memberships were awarded by a unanimous approval at the 2005 association business meeting in Pensacola.

If you are entitled and have not received your Lifetime Membership card, please contact our association Treasurer, Don Hogg at 1801 N 9th Street, De Queen, AR 71832. Please, no phone calls.

## No Longer Traveling

Some of our shipmates no longer travel away from home due to health and/or other reasons. These men still want to maintain contact with shipmates. Their email address is posted on the USS Rich web site or you may obtain their postal address from the Ships Office.

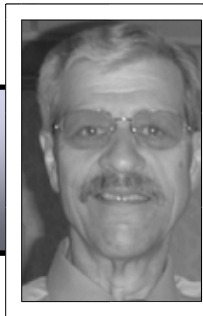
|         |           |      |       |              |    |
|---------|-----------|------|-------|--------------|----|
| Hill    | Robert E  | Ltjg | 50-51 | Sun City Ctr | FL |
| Parsons | Raymond L | RMC  | 68-69 | Wellington   | FL |
| Potoma  | Joe M     | GM3  | 50-54 | Northport    | FL |

Are there more of you out there? Contact the Ships Office and get your name on the list.



# Dunnigan's Corner

"Where the old sailors come for a good laugh"



An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation. As he was about to get the anesthesia he asked to speak to his son. "Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son; do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me... your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife."



A man and his wife were dining at a table in a plush restaurant, and the husband kept staring at a very drunk lady swigging her gin, with a smile on her face, as she sat alone at a nearby table. Finally the wife asked, "Do you know her?" "Yes," sighed the husband, "She's my ex-wife. She took to drink right after we divorced seven years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since!" "My Goodness!" said the wife, "Who would think a person could celebrate that long?"



Hillary Clinton gets elected President in January 2008, and is spending her first night in the White House. She has waited so long.

The ghost of George Washington appears, and Hillary says, "How can I best serve my country?" Washington says, "Never tell a lie." "Ouch!" Says Hillary, "I don't know about that."

On the second night, the ghost of Thomas Jefferson appears. Hillary says, "How can I best serve my country?" Jefferson says, "Listen to the people." "Ohhh! I really don't want to do that."

On the third night, the ghost of Abe Lincoln appears. Hillary says, "How can I best serve my country?" Lincoln says, "Go to the theater."



"Suppose you were an idiot... And suppose you were a member of Congress... But I repeat myself."  
--Mark Twain

A guy goes skydiving for the first time. After he jumps out of the plane, he counts to ten, pulls the ripcord, and nothing happens. Only a little worried, he pulls the cord for the auxiliary parachute, but unfortunately, the chute still does not appear.

As he is plummeting toward the Earth, he sees a woman coming up the other way. He shouts to her, "Do you know anything about parachutes?"

"No," she says, "do you know anything about gas stoves?"



OLD IS WHEN...

Your sweetie says, "Let's go upstairs and make love" and you answer, "Honey, I can't do both!"

Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

A sexy babe catches your fancy and your pacemaker opens the garage door.

When your wife goes bra-less and it pulls all the wrinkles out of her face.

You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

When you are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police.

"Getting a little action" means you don't need to take any fiber today.

"Getting lucky" means you found your car in the parking lot.

An "all-nighter" means not getting up to pee



# Ship's Store

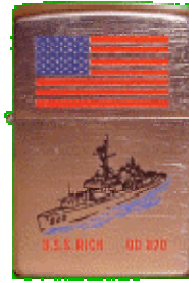
## Genuine Simulated US Navy Ball Cap



### 2 Styles 2 Colors

- #BSB Blue Solid Back
- #BMB Blue Mesh Back
- #WSB White Solid Back
- #WMB White Mesh Back

**\$15<sup>00</sup>/ea** includes shipping



## Embossed Zippo USS RICH

**Brushed Finish**

**\$18<sup>95</sup>** includes shipping

## USS Rich Reunion Coffee Mug (includes shipping)

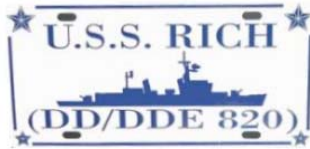


- 2006 Reunion Mug **\$10<sup>00</sup>**
- 2005 Reunion Mug **\$ 8<sup>00</sup>**
- 2004 Reunion Mug **\$ 7<sup>00</sup>**
- 2003 Reunion Mug **\$ 6<sup>00</sup>**
- 2002 Reunion Mug **\$ 5<sup>00</sup>**
- 2001 Reunion Mug **\$ 4<sup>00</sup>**

## USS Rich Lapel Pin



**\$7<sup>95</sup>** includes shipping



**Official USS Rich Auto Tag**  
**\$9<sup>00</sup>** includes shipping



## Embroidered Shirt

**S-M-L-XL**      **2-3-4 XL**

**\$29<sup>95</sup>**      **\$31<sup>95</sup>**

includes shipping

White  
Forest Green  
Burgundy  
Navy



**3" DD820 Patch**  
**\$7<sup>95</sup>** includes shipping



**3" DDE820 Patch**  
**\$7<sup>95</sup>** includes shipping



**4" DesRon 36 Patch**  
**\$7<sup>95</sup>** includes shipping



**4" Tonkin Gulf YC Patch**  
**\$7<sup>95</sup>** includes shipping

**ORDER HERE**

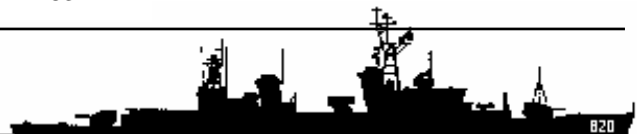
| Item     | Qty | Item    | Qty | Item      | Qty | Item      | Qty |
|----------|-----|---------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| 2006 Mug |     | BSB Cap |     | Zippo     |     | DD Patch  |     |
| 2005 Mug |     | BMB Cap |     | Auto Tag  |     | DDE Patch |     |
| 2004 Mug |     | WSM Cap |     | Lapel Pin |     | DesRon    |     |
| 2003 Mug |     | WMB Cap |     |           |     | Tonkin    |     |
| 2002 Mug |     |         |     |           |     |           |     |
| 2001 Mug |     |         |     |           |     |           |     |

| Shirts | White | Green | Burg | Navy |
|--------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Sm     |       |       |      |      |
| Med    |       |       |      |      |
| Lge    |       |       |      |      |
| Xlge   |       |       |      |      |
| 2XLge  |       |       |      |      |
| 3XLge  |       |       |      |      |

Check or money order only!  
Sorry... no COD's  
PLEASE! NO TELEPHONE CALLS!  
Allow 3 weeks for delivery

Don Hogg  
USS Rich Ship's Store  
1801 N 9th St  
DeQueen AR 71832

**TOTAL AMOUNT**





# The Fantail



<http://www.mikuljoanz.com/rickystour.htm>



8926 Phylliss Ave—Sarasota FL 34231