

The 820 Newsletter



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Lots To See And Do in Pennsylvania!

Side Trips Planned To Interesting Locals

2007 Reunion Host Don Hake isn't letting any grass grow under his feet. He's lined up a few trips to add a bit of interest to the 14th annual event.



You'll recall that the Hampton Inn York is our host hotel. Details about the Hampton are on our website and in the previous issue of the 820 Newsletter (Aug 2006). The room rate is \$95/night. Use Group Code **USS** when making your reservation. You may remember that we sold out of blocked rooms in Nashville. You can avoid that problem by making your reservation early.

The area is not particularly good for those of us who are *trying* to watch our weight. The Amish people are noted for their cooking and baking skills. Their specialties are what would be considered basic "meat and potatoes" style meals but they know how to prepare each meat and vegetable to near perfection.

Planned Trips are contingent upon filling buses. If participation is insufficient, the transportation may be cancelled. As with last year, the *Window Of Opportunity* will be small. We will publish the registration forms on the website as early as January 15th which will provide an approximate 60 day window. This all is, of course, subject to change. Registration forms will be included in the February 2007 edition of the 820 Newsletter.

Currently Planned Trips



Thursday April 26, 2007 **Washington D.C.**

Bus departs 7:00 a.m. and returns at 7:00 p.m. Visit the White House, Arlington National Cemetery and other memorials.

Cost \$17.00 per person.

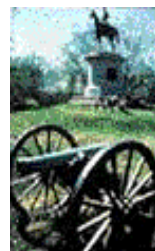
Date of Birth and Social Security Number is required with registration form.



Intercourse, Pa.

Bus departs 9:00 a.m. and returns at 5:00 p.m.

Cost \$14.00 per person.



Friday April 27, 2007

Gettysburg Battle Field

Bus departs 9:00 a.m. and returns at 5:00 p.m. Guided Tour of battlefield upon arrival.

Cost \$14.00 per person



"Deja Vu All Over Again" Revisited

Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum in Mount Pleasant [Charleston], SC was the site for the Second Annual USS Laffey Field Day and it was an unequivocal success. Much of the activities were similar to last year except this year we had more men step up and accept the challenge of helping to maintain this floating museum. It's a privilege to help our brother destroyermen care for a great ship whose crew demonstrated skill and courage in the Atlantic and Pacific in World War II. Because of them and others like them, we are speaking English rather than German or Japanese.






USS Rich shipmate E. R. "Hoot" Gibson, a Patriots Point permanent volunteer, once again meated out the work assignments. Everyone had tasks consistent with their talent and capability. It's clear that Hoot has a passion to make the Laffey the best looking ship in the [floating museum] fleet. His mission provides little time for lollygagging and the results show exceptional pride and quality of the men and the work they turned out. While not everyone shares that passion, each man

arrived onboard with the knowledge there was work to be done. Each man readily 'turned to' on their job and the sight and sounds of paint chipping, cutting torches, welding, paint rollers and paint brushes filled the air.

Many of the visitors touring the ship were surprised to learn our crew were not paid professionals but rather volunteers doing a professional job.

Those who did volunteer did so at their own time and expense. Consider the gasoline expense alone as the group traveled near 22,000 miles roundtrip to attend the Field Day.

The 820 Newsletter



The 820 Newsletter is the official publication of the USS Rich Association. It is published quarterly in the first week of February, May, August and November.

The newsletter is included in the membership dues and is sent to members home via First Class mail. Non-member subscriptions are available.

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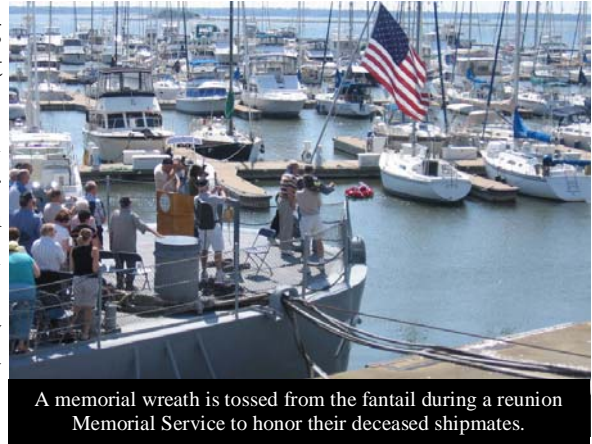




Sam Compher rolls out an O1 Level deck

Eleven states were represented with shipmate Skip Lohse driving the farthest at 1550 miles one-way from Fergus Falls, MN. Second was Don Hogg driving 1015 miles one-way from DeQueen, AR. Now that's commitment. In addition to travel expense, each volunteer was charged \$9.00 per diem for food and beverage. These guys put away some chow: 28 pounds of fruit, 63 pounds of vegetables, 43 pounds of meat; 120 cans of Pepsi and 248 pints of bottled water. You can view the full food list on the USS RICH website.

The USS Laffey Association's annual reunion was being held at the Mount Pleasant Quality Inn at Patriots Point concurrently with our Work Party. During the week, shipmates from the Laffey were touring the ship with family, friends and guests. It seemed at every opportunity, a Laffey sailor was thanking us for our help on their ship. They're a very gracious bunch of guys. On Tuesday afternoon we were guests at the Laffey Association's Memorial Service on the fantail. It was a very moving service. Following remarks by President Sonny Walker (which included two acknowledgments of the USS Rich Work Party), the survivors of the Pacific battle of 16 Apr 1945 were brought forward, and the names of those killed in the battle were read followed by a wreath of flowers dropped from the fantail. The role call of other deceased members was read and the service concluded with all singing the Navy Hymn.



A memorial wreath is tossed from the fantail during a reunion Memorial Service to honor their deceased shipmates.



Bob Baldwin "recharges" a Depth Charge (This time it's with Budweiser)

We were invited and attended a evening social hour with the Laffey Association in their Hospitality Room. The relationship of the Rich and the Laffey only serves to prove that the brotherhood of destroyermen is alive, well and living in the hearts of tincan sailors across the nation.

As the week ended, each of our crew headed for home knowing their efforts made a difference. We all knew it. We could feel it in our bones and muscles. (Wink, wink.)

There's quite a few photos that the guys took during the field day. You'll find them waiting for you on the RICH website, www.ussrich.org. Just click on the Field Day Report link.



What The Heck Happened To My Rate?

A Listing Of Enlisted Job Rates And Their Current Status.

Primary Source: Compilation of Enlisted Ratings and Apprenticeships, U.S. Navy, 1775 to 1969
Prepared by Charles A. Malin, Recorder, Permanent Board for Review of the Enlisted Rating Structure, Bureau of Naval Personnel, Revised - December 1969 [Edited for brevity]

BM Boatswain's Mate - In use in 1775; established 1797. Changed from Coxswain 1948.

BT Boiler Technician - Established 1869. **Merged with MM in 1996.**

CS Commissaryman - Established 1948. **Changed to Culinary Specialist**

DC Damage Controlman - Established 1948.

DK Disbursing Clerk - Established 1948 from the rating of Storekeeper (D) (Disbursing Storekeepers). **Merged with PS in 2005.**

EM Electrician's Mate - Changed from Electrician 1921.

ET Electronics Technician - Changed from Electronics Technician's Mate 1948.

EN Engineman - Pay grade 1c and 2c established 1917; disestablished 1931. Re-established at all pay grades

FT Fire Control Technician - Established 1948.

GM Gunner's Mate - Established 1797; pay grade C Established 1864; pay grades 1c, 2c, and 3c established 1893.

HM Hospital Corpsman - Changed from Pharmacist's Mate 1948.

IC Interior Communications - Established 1948.

MM Machinist's Mate— Remains in use.

PN Personnelman - Established 1948. **Merge into PS in 2005**

PC Postal Clerk - Established 1959.

QM Quartermaster - Fully established 1893.

RD Radarman - Established 1943. **Changed to OS**

RM Radioman - Established 1921. **Changed to IT in 1999**

SF Shipfitter - 1c and 2c established 1902; 3c established 1921; changed to Metalsmith and Pipefitter 1948. Re-established 1958.

SH Ship's Serviceman - Established 1943.

SM Signalman - Established 1921; included in Quartermaster 1948. Re-established 1956. **Disestablished in 2003**

SO Sonarman - Established 1943; **Changed to Sonar Technician July 1964.**

TS Steward - Established 1797; changed to Ship's Steward 1838. Re-established from Officer's Steward 1c, 2c, and 3c 1943.

SK Storekeeper - Established 1916.

TM Torpedoman - Established 1921; changed to Torpedoman's Mate 1942.

YN Yeoman - Established 1835; disestablished 1884. Re-established from Ship's Yeoman 1893

[Note: This listing is comprised of only the rates you would find on a destroyer. Ed.]



Howdy Neighbor!

While reviewing our shipmate database, it was interesting to notice how many of our shipmates live in the same town. Some even have the same Zip Code. It doesn't matter if they served at a different time than you. Email or call them and get together for a cup of coffee or a beer and share your experience aboard the RICH. Then, tell us about your meeting and we'll feature you and your story in an upcoming issue of the 820 Newsletter.

CT	Manchester	Chuck Barrera Jr	QM3	65-66	860-649-2452	NY	Rochester	Stephen R Sconfitto	BM3	76-77	ssconfitto@rochester.rr.com
CT	Manchester	Jerry Seabaugh	SK1	68-69	jseabaugh@scrantonmotors.com	NY	Rochester	Robert Zeh	SN	70-71	rzeh@rochester.rr.com
CT	Meriden	John H Burbidge Jr	BT3	52-53	203-235-8452	NY	Rochester	George C Supple	Ltjg	53-55	gcsup@aol.com
CT	Meriden	Noel H Aube	GMG2	72-75	nhapjm@aol.com	NY	Rochester	Bernard (Jake) Whitmore	RD3	64-65	jakeimu@frontiernet.net
CT	Meriden	Robert Smith	GMG3	70-73	robert.smith@snet.net	NY	Rochester	James A Kemp	CS3	54-55	jkemp@frontiernet.net
CT	Norwalk	Sanders Davies	FTG2	69-72	akdavies@earthlink.net	NY	Rochester	Fenton Lyle Weaver	BM3	63-65	jdpenlon@aol.com
CT	Norwalk	Walter Whetstone	Ltjg	51-54	203-866-6343	NY	Schenectady	Bill Steffes	FTG2	61-64	steffesb6@netscape.net
FL	Gulf Breeze	Dan Bouthilet	GMG2	67-69	panhandlesupply@yahoo.com	NY	Schenectady	John J Claughey	GMG3	63-65	jclaughs@nycap.rr.com
FL	Gulf Breeze	Ed Roggenbuck	FM2	46-48	850-932-2787	NY	Syracuse	Fredrick J Blanchard	SFM2	62-64	fjblanch@usadatanel.net
FL	Jacksonville	Thomas Partridge	MM2	74-76	tdabdc@comcast.net	NY	Syracuse	Francis Berda	SN	69-73	fberda@yahoo.com
FL	Jacksonville	David W Patterson	MR3	68-71	patt.fields@comcast.net	OH	Canton	James H Steen	RD1	50-52	Phone: 216-477-4050
FL	New Port Richey	Angelo Morelli	SN	69-70	angelo5165@yahoo.com	OH	Canton	Ron Sturdivant	SM3	65-69	popaye322@aol.com
FL	New Port Richey	Sidney Higley	SK3	62-64	shigley@tampabay.rr.com	OH	Cleveland	Ron Orlovski	EM3	59-61	mistersecurity@earthlink.net
FL	Ocala	Joe M Potoma	GM3	50-54	joeleepotoma67@msn.com	OH	Cleveland	James Wyatt	-	-	Phone: 216-661-8934
FL	Ocala	Francis H Hutchins	BT1	48-55	franchutchi@cs.com	OH	Dayton	Jim Wheeler	SH3	50-53	jwheeler58@aol.com
FL	Ocala	Charles J Wentway	FP2	54-57	wentway@peoplepc.com	OH	Dayton	James F Chester	Ltjg	66-69	jimandhelenc@aol.com
FL	Ocala	HR (Hank) Davis	Ltjg	59-61	atteanlake@earthlink.net	OH	Dayton	Jim McKinley	BT2	-	Phone: 937-291-3414
FL	Port Charlotte	Brad Scott	MMFN	70-71	bradsbunch@hotmail.com	OH	Findlay	Steve Parish	MM3	73-74	swip6@aol.com
FL	Port Charlotte	Paul Carlson	STG2	69-73	pleac@juno.com	OH	Findlay	Dwayne Hineland	IC3	56-58	dhinelands@aol.com
FL	Port Charlotte	James Carroll	MM3	65-67	littlereado@netzero.net	PA	Irwin	Paul W Angelicchio	EM3	76-77	pangelicchio@verizon.net
FL	Port Charlotte	Stephen Stryjewski	F1	46-48	stryki1128@earthlink.net	PA	Irwin	Donne G Barner	GMG3	60-63	barneybarner@aol.com
FL	Venice	Bruce Harpster	MM2	54-57	joanwelsh@aol.com	PA	Philadelphia	Ray Suarez	PC2	75-77	Phone: 267-872-2960
FL	Venice	John Harrison Jr	YN2	75-77	jdharrisonjr@verizon.net	PA	Philadelphia	Rod Hughson	BT3	72-75	roddy96@yahoo.com
IN	Columbia City	Edward J Moore	MM2	62-64	biged522@myvine.com	PA	Philadelphia	William T Stroud	ET1	73-75	paysay@comcast.net
IN	Columbia City	Gerald E Ramsey	RD3	56-59	Phone: 260-799-5519	PA	Philadelphia	Howard Serlick	Lt	76-77	serlick@comcast.net
MA	Beverly	Robert C Eriksen	SFM3	65-67	eriksenrc@aol.com	PA	Philadelphia	Lloyd M Nash	SN	46-48	Phone: 610-969-9904
MA	Beverly	James S Gillis	CSSN	50-51	Phone: 508-922-9011	PA	Philadelphia	Patrick J Michener	BM2	76-77	bosen6888@comcast.net
MA	Shrewsbury	Joe Lemay	BT2	74-75	ac495@aol.com	TN	Gallatin	James D Woodruff	GMCS	46	Phone: 615-230-8214
MA	Shrewsbury	Joe Boylan	RD2	67-70	joeboylan@msn.com	TN	Gallatin	William Trammel	RM2	57-60	Phone: 615-452-7669
MD	Baltimore	Frank Monaldi	SM3	73-75	Phone: 410-426-6720	VA	Alexandria	Jim Lafferty	SN	70-71	jameslafferty@usa.net
MD	Baltimore	Mike Eder	RMSN	76	mike_eder@excite.com	VA	Alexandria	Burnham C McCaffree Jr	LCdr	64-66	bmccaffree@comcast.net
MD	Baltimore	William T Rich	-	-	wtr7@aol.com	VA	Chesapeake	Martin A Warren	RM1	66-67	martin139@cox.net
MD	Baltimore	Frank Szymanowski	EM1	48-53	Phone: 410-866-4089	VA	Chesapeake	Jerry Davenport	RM3	71-73	davenport42000@yahoo.com
MD	Elkton	Toni Hartman	MM3	76-77	Thartman@adv-power.com	VA	Norfolk	Larry Turner	BTC	65-69	turnerlarry@aol.com
MD	Elkton	Dwight A Sr Smith	EM2	74-77	dwsmith15@comcast.net	VA	Norfolk	Jerry W Skaggs	RD1	61-65	jrrskggs@aol.com
MO	St Louis	Gary W Jones	DK3	55-57	Phone: 800-743-1759	VA	Norfolk	Paul Carr	LT	75-77	harparr@msn.com
MO	St Louis	Frank Reid	AN	66-67	Phone: 314-355-9405	VA	Norfolk	Wm L (Bill) Wilson	FTG3	69-74	pappybull@hotmail.com
NC	Cary	Robert W Basnight	STG3	68-71	rbsnight@basnightinc.biz	VA	Vienna	Dave M Redman	ETR2	61-65	redmand@erols.com
NC	Cary	Thomas R Hegele	Ltjg	64-65	thegele@ipass.net	VA	Vienna	Timothy H. Kerwin	Ltjg	69-71	kerwin4@erols.com
NC	Durham	Charley Bumpass	EMP3	52-53	Phone: 919-383-7162	VA	Virginia Beach	Don Burke	ENS	71-72	donfranklinfarms@aol.com
NC	Durham	Ron Bobbitt	SK2	60-62	rwbobbitt@verizon.net	VA	Virginia Beach	Curtis R Bailey	MM1	72-73	bailey38@cox.net
NC	New Bern	Richard Dilworth	RM1	67-68	Phone: 252-633-9902	VA	Virginia Beach	Richard John	HMC	70-71	Phone: 757-486-7044
NC	New Bern	Thomas W Arthur	GMT1	70-74	tarthur1@cox.net	VA	Virginia Beach	Arnold W Allison	LT	58-60	Phone: 757-486-5738
NJ	Hammonton	Daniel Turygan	SM2	77	turygan@dandy.net	VA	Virginia Beach	Ron F Bishop	Ens	65-67	vabishop@cox.net
NJ	Hammonton	Fred Long	SK3	46-47	Phone: 609-561-9959	VA	Virginia Beach	Fred Logue	FT2	59-61	flogue@verizon.net
NJ	Little Egg Harbor Twp	Denis Farrelly	BT3	72-73	denis1171@aol.com	VA	Virginia Beach	Charles Davidson	RM2	56-60	subvet20@cox.net
NJ	Little Egg Harbor Twp	Michael Neuroth	EM3	68-70	neuroth@hotmail.com	VA	Virginia Beach	Gray Clarke	EM2	69-72	grayclarke@cox.net
NJ	Vineland	Joseph P Franchetta	FN	55-57	bella_italiana.1@netzero.net	VA	Virginia Beach	Andrew J Fosina	Ltjg	65-67	Phone: 757-460-3871
NJ	Vineland	Robert W Fields	RDSN	61-63	bowfi@comcast.net	VA	Virginia Beach	Francis J Sheppard	SH1	74-76	sheptoni2@cox.net
NY	Rochester	Stephen R Sconfitto	BM3	76-77	ssconfitto@rochester.rr.com	VA	Virginia Beach	Raymond R Hedin Jr	BM2	76-77	rcougar90@cox.net
NY	Rochester	Robert Zeh	SN	70-71	rzeh@rochester.rr.com	VA	Virginia Beach	Hollis Robertson	CDR	73-74	Phone: 757-495-0532
NY	Rochester	George C Supple	Ltjg	53-55	gcsup@aol.com	WV	Hurricane	Steven D Henry	Ltjg	67-70	zap2000@charter.net
NY	Rochester	Bernard (Jake) Whitmore	RD3	64-65	jakeimu@frontiernet.net	WV	Hurricane	Rick Lovejoy	RM2	71-74	Phone: 304-562-8216
NY	Rochester	James A Kemp	CS3	54-55	jkemp@frontiernet.net						
NY	Rochester	Fenton Lyle Weaver	BM3	63-65	jdpenlon@aol.com						
NY	Schenectady	Bill Steffes	FTG2	61-64	steffesb6@netscape.net						
NY	Schenectady	John J Claughey	GMG3	63-65	jclaughs@nycap.rr.com						
NY	Syracuse	Fredrick J Blanchard	SFM2	62-64	fjblanch@usadatanel.net						
NY	Syracuse	Francis Berda	SN	69-73	fberda@yahoo.com						
OH	Canton	James H Steen	RD1	50-52	Phone: 216-477-4050						
OH	Canton	Ron Sturdivant	SM3	65-69	popaye322@aol.com						
OH	Cleveland	Ron Orlovski	EM3	59-61	mistersecurity@earthlink.net						
OH	Cleveland	James Wyatt	-	-	Phone: 216-661-8934						
OH	Dayton	Jim Wheeler	SH3	50-53	jwheeler58@aol.com						
OH	Dayton	James F Chester	Ltjg	66-69	jimandhelenc@aol.com						
OH	Dayton	Jim McKinley	BT2	-	Phone: 937-291-3414						
OH	Findlay	Steve Parish	MM3	73-74	swip6@aol.com						
OH	Findlay	Dwayne Hineland	IC3	56-58	dhinelands@aol.com						
PA	Irwin	Paul W Angelicchio	EM3	76-77	pangelicchio@verizon.net						
PA	Irwin	Donne G Barner	GMG3	60-63	barneybarner@aol.com						
PA	Philadelphia	Ray Suarez	PC2	75-77	Phone: 267-872-2960						
PA	Philadelphia	Rod Hughson	BT3	72-75	roddy96@yahoo.com						
PA	Philadelphia	William T Stroud	ET1	73-75	paysay@comcast.net						
PA	Philadelphia	Howard Serlick	Lt	76-77	serlick@comcast.net						
PA	Philadelphia	Lloyd M Nash	SN	46-48	Phone: 610-969-9904						
PA	Philadelphia	Patrick J Michener	BM2	76-77	bosen6888@comcast.net						
TN	Gallatin	James D Woodruff	GMCS	46	Phone: 615-230-8214						
TN	Gallatin	William Trammel	RM2	57-60	Phone: 615-452-7669						
VA	Alexandria	Jim Lafferty	SN	70-71	jameslafferty@usa.net						
VA	Alexandria	Burnham C McCaffree Jr	LCdr	64-66	bmccaffree@comcast.net						
VA	Chesapeake	Martin A Warren	RM1	66-67	martin139@cox.net						
VA	Chesapeake	Jerry Davenport	RM3	71-73	davenport42000@yahoo.com						
VA	Norfolk	Larry Turner	BTC	65-69	turnerlarry@aol.com						
VA	Norfolk	Jerry W Skaggs	RD1	61-65	jrrskggs@aol.com						
VA	Norfolk	Paul Carr	LT	75-77	harparr@msn.com						
VA	Norfolk	Wm L (Bill) Wilson	FTG3	69-74	pappybull@hotmail.com						
VA	Vienna	Dave M Redman	ETR2	61-65	redmand@erols.com						
VA	Vienna	Timothy H. Kerwin	Ltjg	69-71	kerwin4@erols.com						
VA	Virginia Beach	Don Burke	ENS	71-72	donfranklinfarms@aol.com						
VA	Virginia Beach	Curtis R Bailey	MM1	72-73	bailey38@cox.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Richard John	HMC	70-71	Phone: 757-486-7044						
VA	Virginia Beach	Arnold W Allison	LT	58-60	Phone: 757-486-5738						
VA	Virginia Beach	Ron F Bishop	Ens	65-67	vabishop@cox.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Fred Logue	FT2	59-61	flogue@verizon.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Charles Davidson	RM2	56-60	subvet20@cox.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Gray Clarke	EM2	69-72	grayclarke@cox.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Andrew J Fosina	Ltjg	65-67	Phone: 757-460-3871						
VA	Virginia Beach	Francis J Sheppard	SH1	74-76	sheptoni2@cox.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Raymond R Hedin Jr	BM2	76-77	rcougar90@cox.net						
VA	Virginia Beach	Hollis Robertson	CDR	73-74	Phone: 757-495-0532						
WV	Hurricane	Steven D Henry	Ltjg	67-70	zap2000@charter.net						
WV	Hurricane	Rick Lovejoy	RM2	71-74	Phone: 304-562-8216						



Your Navy Peacoat

[Re-printed verbatim from the source.]

You remember them... Those ton and a half monsters that took the annual production of thirty-five sheep to make. Those thick black rascals with black plastic buttons the size of poker chips. The issue coats that drove shore duty chief petty officers stark raving nuts if they caught you with the collar turned up or your gahdam hands in your pockets.

"Hey, you rubber sock, get those gahdam hands outta them damn pockets! Didn't they issue you black leather gloves?"

So, you took your hands out of your pockets and risked digital frostbite rather than face whatever the Navy had in store for violators of the 'No Gahdam Hands In Pea coat Pockets' policy. There's probably a special barracks in Hell full of old E-3s caught hitchhiking in sub-zero weather with hands in pea coat pockets. As for those leather gloves, one glove always went missing. "Son, where in th' hell are the gloves we issued you?" We??? I don't remember this nasty, ugly bastard being at Great Lakes when the 'jocks and socks' petty officers were throwing my initial issue sea bag at me and yelling, "Move it!!" As for the gloves, once you inadvertently leave one glove on a whorehouse night table or on the seat of a Greyhound bus, the remaining glove is only useful if a tank rolls over the hand that fit the lost glove.

In the days long ago, a navy spec. pea coat weighed about the same as a flat car load of cinder blocks. When it rained, it absorbed water until your spine warped, your shins cracked and your ankles split. Five minutes standing in the rain waiting on a bus and you felt like you were piggy-backing the Statue of Liberty.

When a pea coat got wet, it smelled a lot like sheep dip. It had that wet wool smell, times three. It weighed three and a half tons and smelled like 'Mary had a little lamb's gym shorts. You know how damn



heavy a late '50s pea coat was? Well, they had little metal chains sewn in the back of the collar to hang them up by. Like diluted navy coffee, sexual sensitivity instruction, comfortable air-conditioned top-side security bungalows, patent leather plastic-looking shoes and wearing white hats configured to look like bidet bowls, the pea coat spec. has been watered down to the point you could hang them up with dental floss. In the old days, pea coat buttons and grocery cart wheels were interchangeable parts. The gear issued by the U.S. Navy was tough as hell, bluejacket-tested clothing with the durability of rhino hide and construction equipment tires.

Pea coats came with wide, heavy collars. In a cold, hard wind, you could turn that wide collar up to cover your neck and it was like poking your head in a tank turret. The things were warm, but I never thought they were long enough. Standing out in the wind in those 'big-legged britches' (bell bottoms), the wind whistled up your cuffs and took away body warmth like a thief. But, they were perfect to pull over you for a blanket when sleeping on a bus or a bus terminal bench.

Every sailor remembers stretching out on one of those oak bus station pews with his white hat over his face, his head up against his AWOL bag and covered with his pea coat. There was always some 'SP' who had not fully evolved from apehood, who poked you with his billy bat and said, "Hey, YOU! Get up! Waddya think yer doin? You wanna sleep, get a gahdam room!"

(Continued —>)



Peacoats (continued)

Pea coats were lined with quilted satin or rayon. I never realized it at the time, but sleeping on bus seats and station benches would be the closest I would ever get to sleeping on satin sheets.

Early in my naval career, a career-hardened (lifer) first class gunner's mate told me to put my ID and liberty card in the inside pocket of my pea coat. "Put the sonuvabitches in that gahdam inside pocket and pin the damn thing closed with a diaper pin. Then, take your heavy folding money and put it in your sock. If you do that, learn to never take your socks off in a cathouse. Them damn dockside pickpockets pat 'cha down for a lumpy wallet and they can relieve you of said wallet so fast you'll never know you've been snookered. Only a dumb-ass idiot will clam-fold his wallet and tuck it in his thirteen button bellbottoms. Every kid above the age of six in Italy knows how to lift a wallet an idiot pokes in his pants. Those little bastards learned to pick sailor's pockets in kindergarten. Rolling Blue-jackets is the national sport in Italy."

In Washington D C, they have a wonderful marble and granite plaza honoring the United States Navy. Every man or woman who served this nation in a naval uniform, owes it to himself or herself to visit this memorial and take their families. It honors all naval service and any red-blooded American bluejacket or officer will feel the gentle warmth of pride his or her service is honored within this truly magical place. The focal point of this memorial is a bronze statue of a lone American sailor. No crow on his sleeve tells you that he is non-rated. And, there are further indications that suggest maybe, once upon a time, the sculptor himself may have once been an E-3 white hat. The lad has his collar turned up and his hands in his pockets. I'm sure the Goddess of the Main Induction nearly wets her panties laughing at the old, crusty chiefs standing there with veins popping out on their old, wrinkled necks, muttering, "Look at that idiot sonuvabitch standing there with his collar up and his gahdam hands in his pockets. In my day, I would have ripped that jerk a new one!" Ah, the satisfied glow of E-3 revenge.....Pea coats... One of God's better inventions.

Multiple Authors Claimed

Old Sailors

Author Unknown

Old Sailors Sit And Chew The Fat
About Things That Used To Be,
Of The Things They've Seen,
The Places They've Been,
When They Ventured Out To Sea.

They Remembered Friends From Long Ago,
The Times They Had Back Then.
The Money They Spent,
The Beer They Drank,
In Their Days As Sailing Men.

Their Lives Are Lived In Days Gone By,
With Thoughts That Forever Last.
Of Bell Bottom Blues,
Winged White Hats,
And Good Times In Their Past.

They Recall Long Nights With A Moon So Bright
Far Out On A Lonely Sea.
The Thoughts They Had
As Youthful Lads,
When Their Lives Were Wild And Free.

They Knew So Well How Their Hearts Would Swell
When Old Glory Fluttered Proud And Free.
The Underway Pennant
Such A Beautiful Sight
As They Plowed Through An Angry Sea.

They Talked Of The Chow Ol' Cookie Would Make
And The ShriII Of The Bosun's Pipe.
How Salt Spray Would Fall
Like Sparks From Hell
When A Storm Struck In The Night.

They Remember Old Shipmates Already Gone
Who Forever Hold A Spot In Their Heart,
When Sailors Were Bold,
And Friendships Would Hold,
Until Death Ripped Them Apart.

Their Sailing Days Are Gone Away,
Never Again Will They Cross The Brow.
They Have No Regrets,
They Know They Are Blessed,
For Honoring A Sacred Vow.

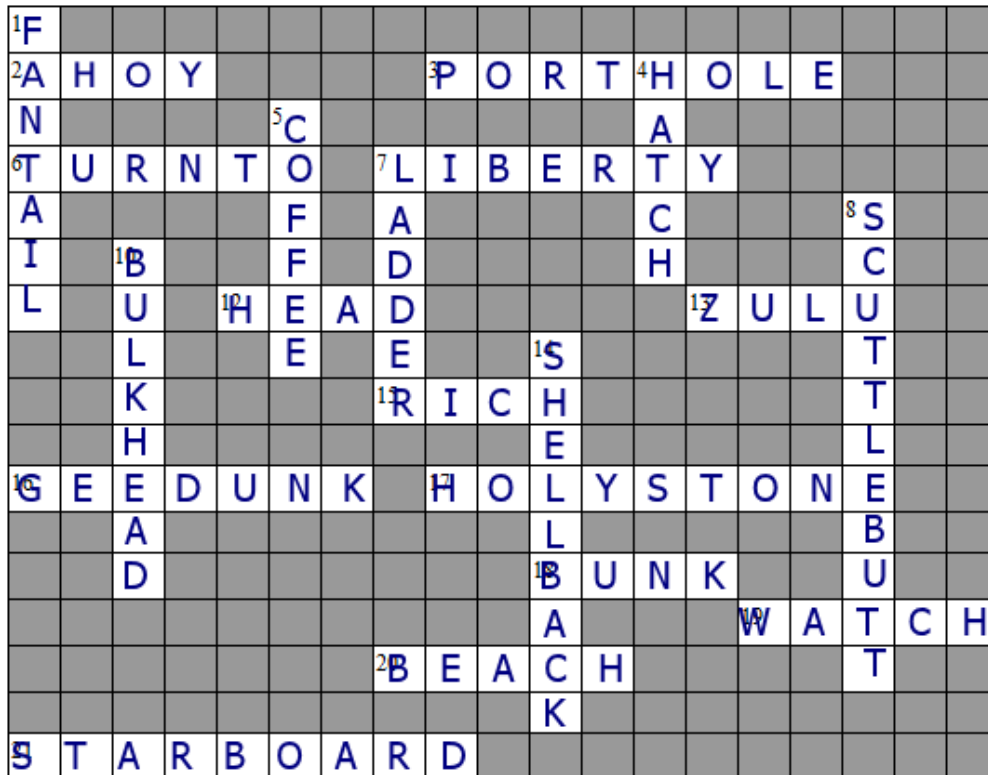
Their Numbers Grow Less With Each Passing Day
As The Final Muster Begins,
There's Nothing To Lose,
All Have Paid Dues,
And They'll Sail With Shipmates Again.

I've Heard Them Say Before Getting Underway
That There's Still Some Sailing To Do,
They'll Say With A Grin
That Their Ship Has Come In
And The Lord Is Commanding The Crew



Know Your Navy Jargon?

In the last issue of the 820 Newsletter we published the below crossword puzzle sans answers. As promised, the answers are revealed. How many did you get correct? As you know, everyone who 'aced' the puzzle is entitled to a free drink at the 2007 reunion in York, Pennsylvania. Cheers!



ACROSS

2. Traditional greeting (AHOY)
3. Through which you can see (PORTHOLE)
6. Begin work (TURNT)
7. Best are 96 hours (LIBERTY)
12. Opposite of tail (HEAD)
13. End of alphabet (ZULU)
15. Ralph's sir (RICH)
16. Not necessarily healthy (GEEDUNK)
17. Religious rock (HOLYSTONE)
18. Sleeping device (BUNK)
19. This one doesn't tell time (WATCH)
20. Covered with sand (BEACH)
21. Not a port (STARBOARD)

DOWN

1. Absolute end (FANTAIL)
4. Result of sitting on eggs (HATCH)
5. Thank Joe (COFFEE)
7. Means of up or down (LADDER)
8. Drink or gossip (SCUTTLEBUT)
10. Navy wall (BULKHEAD)
14. Grown up polywog (SHELLBACK)



Personnel Changes

Sep 2006 - Reported Aboard						
Handley	Donald L	PC3	66-67	Milford	OH	donaldl@safeharborcinci.com
Cooper	Larry			Boston	MA	eo_cooper1360@hondo-corp.com
Mannix	Joseph GW	SN	53-54	New Braunfels	TX	encantad@gvtc.com
Piped Ashore - Deceased						
Walter	Robert C	SN	48-52	Hammond	IN	22Aug06
Aug 2006 - Reported Aboard						
Steele	Leon (Tim)	MM3	63-67	Fenton	MO	lts2446@sbcglobal.net
Rosser	Larry	SN	63-64	Highland Springs	VA	rosserlarryi@aol.com
Piped Ashore - Deceased						
Spencer	John W	BTC	53-55	Norfolk	VA	
Jul 2006 - Reported Aboard						
Koski	Joseph H	SN	58-59	Saginaw	MI	mnjkoski@aol.com
Piped Ashore - Deceased						
Rega	Arthur J	SO3	49-53	Gouldsboro	PA	30Sep05

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

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.

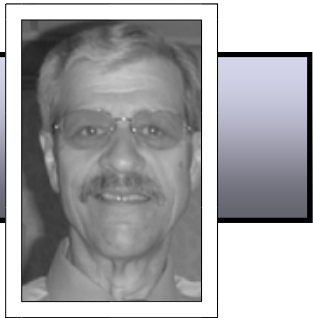
Duclos	Armand E	ET1	56-59	Nashua	NH
Hill	Robert E	Ltjg	50-51	Sun City Ctr	FL
Parsons	Raymond L	RMC	68-69	Wellington	FL
Potoma	Joe M	GM3	50-54	Northport	FL

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 couple were lying in bed one night. The husband was falling asleep but the wife was in a romantic mood and wanted to talk.

She said: "You used to hold my hand when we were courting." Warily he reached across, held her hand for a second and tried to get back to sleep.

A few moments later she said: "Then you used to kiss me. "Mildly irritated, he reached across, gave her a peck on the cheek and settled down to sleep.

Thirty seconds later she said: "Then you used to bite my neck."

Angrily, he threw back the bed clothes and got out of bed.

"Where are you going?" she asked.

To get my damn teeth...!!



"THIS COMPUTER IS EQUIPPED WITH AN AIRBAG IN CASE YOU FALL ASLEEP!"

A fleeing Al Qaeda Guerilla, desperate for water, is plodding along, through the Iraqi desert, when he sees something far off in the distance.

Hoping to find water, he walks toward the object, only to find a little old Jewish man, at a small stand, selling neckties.

The Arab asks, "Do you have any water?"

The Jewish man replies, "I have no water. Would you like to buy a tie? They are only \$5.00.

The Arab shouts, "Idiot Jew! Israel should not exist! I do not need an overpriced tie. I need water! I should kill you, but I must find water first.

"OK", says the old Jew, "it does not matter that you do not want to buy a tie and that you hate me. I will show you that I am bigger than that. If you continue over that hill, to the east, for about two miles, you will find a lovely restaurant. It has all the water you need. Shalom."

Muttering, the Arab staggers off, over the hill.

Several hours later he staggers back, near collapse, from exhaustion. With deep animosity he says, "Your brother won't let me in without a tie."



Two guys are chatting in a bar. One says "Did you know that lions have sex 10 to 15 times a night?"

"Crap!," says his friend, "And I just joined the Elks!"



Ship's Store

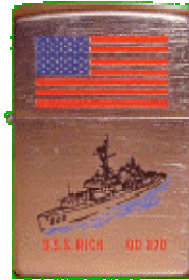
Genuine Simulated US Navy Ball Cap



2 Styles 2 Colors

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

\$15⁰⁰/ea includes shipping



Embossed Zippo USS RICH

Brushed Finish

\$18⁹⁵ includes shipping

USS Rich Reunion Coffee Mug (includes shipping)

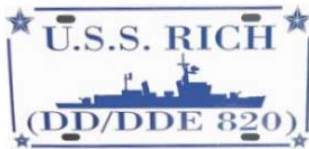


- 2006 Reunion Mug \$10⁰⁰
- 2005 Reunion Mug \$8⁰⁰
- 2004 Reunion Mug \$7⁰⁰
- 2003 Reunion Mug \$6⁰⁰
- 2002 Reunion Mug \$5⁰⁰
- 2001 Reunion Mug \$4⁰⁰
- 6 pcs Collection 2001-06 \$25⁰⁰

USS Rich Lapel Pin



\$7⁹⁵ includes shipping



Official USS Rich Auto Tag
\$9⁰⁰ includes shipping



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S-M-L-XL **2-3-4 XL**

\$29⁹⁵ **\$31⁹⁵**

includes shipping

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Forest Green
Burgundy
Navy



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\$7⁹⁵ includes shipping



3" DDE820 Patch
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4" DesRon 36 Patch
\$7⁹⁵ includes shipping



4" Tonkin Gulf YC Patch
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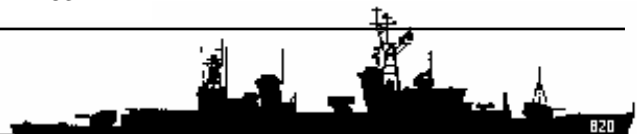
Item	Qty	Item	Qty	Item	Qty	Item	Qty
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2005 Mug		BMB Cap		Auto Tag		DDE Patch	
2004 Mug		WSM Cap		Lapel Pin		DesRon	
2003 Mug		WMB Cap				Tonkin	
2002 Mug							
2001 Mug							

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2XLge				
3XLge				

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USS Rich Ship's Store
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TOTAL AMOUNT





Broadside Cartoons by Jeff Bacon

"Attention to Detail"



8926 Phylliss Ave—Sarasota FL 34231

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