



1943



1972



THE BANG GANG NEWSLETTER

Published to perpetuate the memory of USS BANG (SS-385) and her Crew

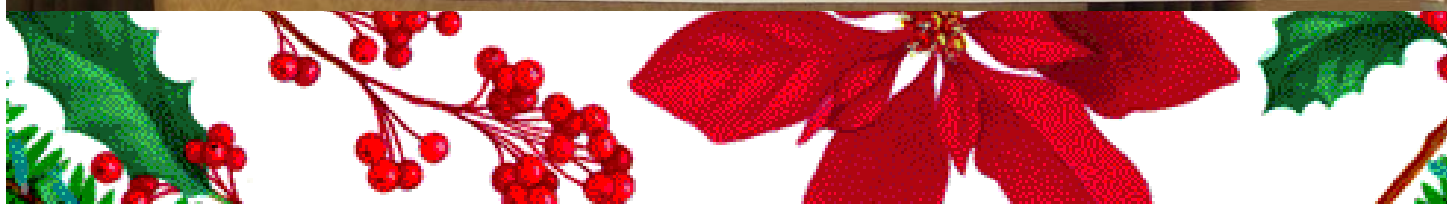
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FALL/WINTER 2007

WWW.USSBANG.COM

ISSUE-46

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!





LOST AND FOUND



This column is dedicated to informing you of any additions, deletions, or corrections to our active roster.

It has been brought to our attention that the following shipmates have passed away and will be placed on Eternal Patrol.



PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS!

The following shipmates have changed their mailing address.

Please let us know when your address has changed or you may not receive the next Newsletter.

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIPCODE	PHONE	Y-O-B
Barbieri	Richard C	2376 W State Rd	Ashby	MA	01431-1757	(978) 386-1056	61-64
Bartoline	Richard	4310 SW 10th Ave	Cape Coral	FL	33914-5755		53-58
Bunch	James L	PO Box 444	Welda	KS	66091-0444	(785) 448-6818	55-61
Floyd	Donovan R	5506 Braxtonshire Ct	Houston	TX	77069-1906	(281) 893-2233	55
Hipp	William J	1600 NW Crista Shores Ln	Silverdale	WA	98383-9101		53-56
Wilson	Martin B	100 Delair Rd	North Cape May	NJ	08204-		69-71

The following shipmates are new (found) additions to our roster. Your committee is thankful for all your help in locating them and we will continue our search until we have attempted to locate everyone.

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIPCODE	PHONE	Y-O-B
Black	Lee	1055 Lockhaven Dr N #72	Keizer	OR	97303-6157	(503) 580-3888	66
Caldwell	John R	214 Caribbean Dr	Corpus Christi	TX	78418-2823	(361) 937-4304	43-44
Hill, Jr	Harold Thomas	7537 Laural Springs Dr	Winter Park	FL	32792-8710	(407) 678-4632	68-69
Volonino	Dominick F	9059 E Weyburn Dr	Tucson	AZ	85730-4861	(520) 886-8512	52-53



THANK YOU!

Since our last publication, the following shipmates have generously donated to our slush fund.



**Charles Archer
Ron Athey
Lee Black
Jim Bunch**

**Eloise Clarke(Perren)
Bob Conolly
Billy Cromie
Joe Cwiklinski**

**Ed DeLong
Ed Elliott
Karl Evans
Bert Findly
Charlie Heater**

**Charlie Kimball
Jim Klein
Gene Lockwood
Al Mace
Kenn McDermott**

**Jack Myers
Jimmie Richey
Lamarr Seader
Paul Skahan
Norman Wood**



THE INTERNET CONNECTION CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION

Bud Alexander	budalex@tampabay.rr.com	Lee Black	lee@agakitty.com
Lou Arellano	reliance.3@verizon.net	Don Craig	buckskin@sopris.net
George Bard	bard385@hotmail.com	Byron Murray.....	Bcam4404@aol.com
Rich Bartoline	burrfish@embarqmail.com	Dominick Volonino ...	dfvolon@yahoo.com
		Ed White.....	cedwhite777@sbcglobal.net
		Ray Wilgroth	rwilgrothsr@aol.com



This column is dedicated to all the letters we receive from you. Any info about yourself or others you want to share with your shipmates will be published here. Think of this as a combination of the bulletin board in the Crew's Mess and the IMC.

Editor's Notes and Ramble: Hi Shipmates!

Many of you send me e-mails and I am happy to receive all of them but recently I received one that really excited me as it was from a shipmate who was on Eternal Patrol.

At least, that is how we had him listed on our Internet Roster. When he looked up his name on our Web Site, he sent me the following e-mail.

*"My name is **John Robert Caldwell** and your list of crew members shows that I am deceased. I would really like to have the newsletter delivered to my home in Texas so please update your records to show that I am alive."*



John Caldwell

John Caldwell SC2 is an original Plank Owner who was aboard BANG from her commissioning in 1943 thru her first War Patrol. During that time he shared the galley with **Roger Carlson** and **Harold Fisk**, whom are also listed on our Roster as being on Eternal Patrol. Now I know there are some Plank Owners still getting this Newsletter and I am sure that you are as elated as I am to know that John is still alive.

So, while writing your Christmas cards this year, be sure to send him one and welcome him back aboard BANG. Or, if your not up to writing, give him a call. His address and phone number are on the opposite page under the 'found shipmate' column.

At our annual Business Meeting this year our Treasurer reported that our Slush Fund ran a deficit since our last meeting. This is the first time that this has happened since our organization became a reality back in 1995. Normally the generous donations you mail to us more than cover the expenses we amass over the course of the year. Those expenses, mostly this Newsletter and, secondly, our Web Site are what your donations cover. (Our Small Stores and our Reunions are self-supporting.)

Over the years the cost to produce and maintain these lines of communication have increased (no

surprise) but, without them I do not see how we can continue to exist.

After an open discussion, we agreed on two ways that might keep our Slush Fund solvent.

First, we would like to see more of you with Internet access get the Newsletter e-mailed to you. This would cut down on printing and postage costs. (About \$2.00 per issue) We currently have about 70 shipmates receiving their Newsletter by e-mail and would like to see that number increase to at least 100. Thirty more people on the e-mail list would save our Slush Fund about \$250.00 per year.

We encourage everyone to at least try the e-mail version. If for any reason you are dissatisfied with it, we will change you back.

All you need is a computer to receive e-mail and a printer. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer you can download it for free by going to our Web Site (**www.USSBANG.com**) and clicking on (**Newsletters**) and then clicking on (**Adobe Downloads**).

When you are ready, e-mail me, Phil Beals, at **pebeals385@juno.com** and I will send you a back issue for you to try out. Then e-mail me back with your decision. I will not add you to the e-mail list until you tell him to do so.

Second, there are still many shipmates out there who don't even know we exist. By locating them and getting them on our mailing list, they may start donating to are Slush Fund.

During the next year your Committee will make an attempt to locate these shipmates. We have all their names on microfilm. We will rely on the Internet for addresses and phone numbers. This is how many of you were first contacted.

If you are still in contact with shipmates who were aboard with you, you can help us by asking them if they are getting our Newsletter. If they say 'NO', ask them to send their mailing address to me so I can add them to our mailing list. My mailing address and e-mail address are on the front page of this Newsletter.

For those of you who have contributed to our Slush Fund in the past, we thank you for your generosity and hope you will continue to do so. The Bang Gang was able to stay afloat these past 12 years because of your monetary and moral support.

We also elected a new slate of Committee Officers at our Business Meeting this year. **Henry Kozloski** and **Bob Swank** declined running for re-election so, we asked for volunteers from the floor to fill the positions. After a much heated debate, the body finally narrowed down the playing field to four candidates who were agreed upon and elected into office for the next two years. The results are as follows:

President - **Bill Fenton**
Vice President - **John Kraft**
Secretary - **Harry Ross**
Treasurer - **Gene Lockwood**

I know all of you join me in wishing them the best of luck during their term of service. Cheer up guys! Think of yourselves as reservists. It's only a two year hitch.....

I also want to thank Henry and Bob for their years of dedicated Committee service in helping make our Reunions what they are. Especially Bob who has been our only Secretary since day one.

Our Reunion Banner has finally become a reality as it is displayed on our front cover. Its unveiling at our Reunion in Branson drew great reviews from those in attendance and now it will become a permanent fixture at all future Reunions. Make an attempt to attend one of our future Reunions so that you too can see the true magnitude of it. And, as an extra bonus, we will let you sign your name on it.

I was able to attend the Memorial Service at Kings Bay, GA this year. First time in a couple of years. The service was 'first class' as always but I couldn't help notice how the attendance has dwindled.



When the WWII vets posed for a group shot there were less than 75. In past years the count for that photo was 5 or 6 times that. The Final Patrol orders are being cut way too fast for my Heroes. Isn't it ironic that just when the U S Government says it is ok for these warriors to narrate their heroic deeds, along comes a higher authority to silence them forever. Soon all of them will be just a memory—and, sadly, only in the hearts of those who knew them. I couldn't be more honored to have been included in the same organization as these men and

to have had the opportunity to serve side-by-side with them as my mentors and shipmates. I will miss all of them dearly. Fair winds and following seas, Shipmates.



Daniel "Rosie" Rosenfeld and wife, **Goldie** were present at the Memorial Service too. In the short time he was there, he was able to locate two BANG shipmates that weren't receiving our Newsletter. **Tom Hill** and **Dominick Volonino** are now on our mailing list thanks to the fine recruiting work that was done by Rosie.

The following was sent by Don Hall, a good friend of **Alex Sinclair**, CO (62-64):

"Just a note of "THANKS" for the posting in the recent Bang Newsletter concerning RADM Alex Sinclair. Alex has received some warm letters from his former crewmen, and needless to say, he his extremely pleased. The time he served as CO of the Bang is a high point in his Navy career.

This is one of the photos we sent to Alex..... a great



big "THANKS AGAIN" for the hats. That's me on the left, RMSN NAVRADSTA Wahiawa, HI and Ken Moulton, USS SPOT (SS-413)."

I didn't know BANG had a second Reunion this year. Sorry to have missed it. Hope you are feeling better, Alex and that the upcoming Season is a happy time for you.

I received the following note from **Mildred Champ**, widow of **Joe Champ**, QuarterMaster (43-45, Plank Owner, WP1,2,3,4,5,6):

*"I was pleased to receive the Summer/Fall 2007 Bang Gang Newsletter. I enjoyed seeing the pictures of **Goldie and Rosie** since Rosie is one of the original shipmates of Joe. Also I am glad to receive **Bob Cellupica's** latest address at the Assisted Living Facility.*

However, even with all of this - since I know so few of the remaining crew - I'm suggesting that you remove my name from your mailing list.

Thank you kindly for your devoted work and the

many fond memories of the Bang Gang!"

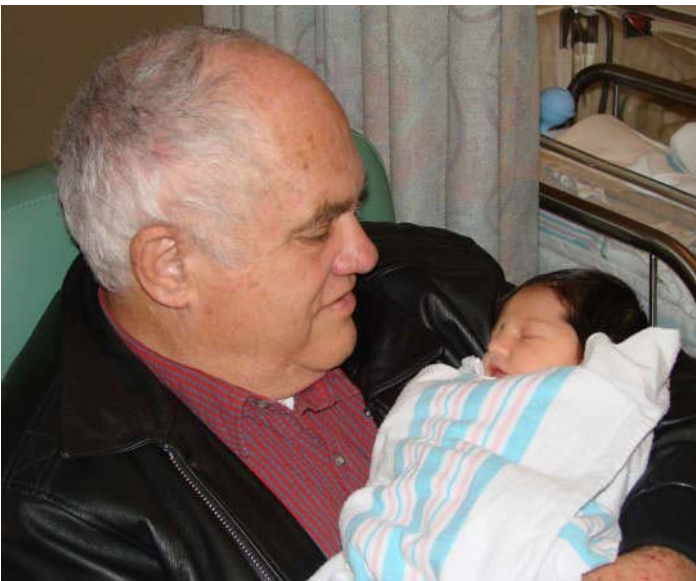
I have respected Mildred's wishes and have removed her from the Mailing List.

It just occurred to me while proofreading this column that it doesn't contain an obituary. What a great Christmas present. This is the season for the celebration of life and we are all here to enjoy it. Lets all pray that we continue this course for sometime to come.

Dot and I wish you and your families good health and happiness during the upcoming Season and into the future. And, no matter how you celebrate it, enjoy yourselves.

Speaking of celebrating life - this just in!

Gary Dannenbaum and wife Karen, our hosts in Albuquerque, are celebrating a new addition to their family (granddaughter). CONGRATULATIONS!!!



The writings and material within this Newsletter are the sole responsibility of its Editor and in no way reflect the opinion of its readers, the Bang Gang.Phil Beals

Joe Cwiklinski, a RadioMan (65-67), "Thanks for your effort in the Newsletter. Find enclosed a check for postage. I just looked on the map and found Niverville, NY. About 7 hours from me here in the woods. I wish I could see the pictures of the guys I served with at their age then. So sad not to remember the face to the name.".... *Joe, thanks for the check.. If you are able to travel, try coming to one of our Reunions. Our memorabilia books have plenty of old pictures in them.*

Billy Cromie, an ElectriciansMate (64-71), "It's time for me to send something to the Slush Fund

and, as you know, I usually send a Historical BANG Fact with it. Here it is—I was first class (E-6) when this happen.

One evening after holding an inspection of a few bars on Bank Street I thought I would go back to the Boat and get a good nights sleep as the next day was Monday, a work day. After returning with some of my shipmates, we headed below decks and noticed the COB's Khakis hanging from the Goat Locker curtain rod fresh from the cleaners. It took no urging at all for me to see how I would look as an E-8. The COB was roughly my size so, other than my heels walking on the bottom of the pants legs, it fit me quite well. Someone then suggested that I go ashore in the COB's uniform and it did sound like a good idea at the time. So, my shipmates and I reconvened our presence on Bank Street.

I was getting a lot of free drinks from the bartenders and waitresses for achieving my higher rank. After the bars closed we all retired to "Little Kathy's" apartment for more socializing and adult beverages. At some point we realized that we had better leave if we were going to make quarters. By this time, I had been an E-8 for about 11 hours and was into it big time.

While crossing the Tender I found it necessary to use my new found rank and square away a few skimmers. In doing so, I failed to notice that the Commodore was standing right behind me. When he started roaring, I turned around and he read me the riot act.

When he finished berating me I straightened up to all of my 5 feet 5 inches and proceeded to tell him what I thought of his over priced gangplank and also add a few choice words about the Greek college he attended, Anna-Populis.

I then made a hasty exit for the gangway and the Commodore went to the rail and yelled down to our topside watch to call our Captain topside immediately. The Captain arrived topside about the same time I did and the Commodore pointed down at me and said, "Captain, make that man an E-7!"

I wish all my promotions were obtained that easy."*Billy, as editor of this Newsletter it is my job to scrutinize everything that is mailed to me for publication. I have to sort out the fiction because this tabloid isn't a paperback novel. After perusing your Historical BANG Fact, I found it to be bordering on prevarication. Though I can believe the full content of your story, there is no way in Hades that you ever were 5 foot 5. Why I heard at the Reunion that you won a limbo contest in San Juan without even bending over. Sorry you weren't there to defend yourself. Chief Richey was telling all of us some Historical BANG Facts about you and Ron Gecks. By the way, is it true that Ron was a better electrician than you? Hope to see you in Green Bay this Summer!*

Bert Findly, XO (52-54, 3rd Commissioning Crew), "Here's something for the Slush Fund like I promised. We're finally moved in and settled - still some pictures to hang.

We had a very pleasant tour of China and Tibet - really worth while. There were only 14 in our group and all were nice and got along well. Having the Ellis' with us was a real plus too.

Incidentally, I've included a picture of the Admiral and



former BANG Skipper on a sampan wearing the boatman's raincoat and hat and saluting a passing sampan. At the time we were on a side tour on a tributary to the Three Gorges.

Also we had in our group what I call a real 'safety net' - 3 nurses, a doctor, and a dentist.

Please keep up the good work. I really look forward to receiving the Newsletter." Thanks Bert for the donation and the info about your trip.

The picture of George is a keeper. He still has that snap in his salute.

Lee Black, a SonarMan (66), "I was awaiting a new construction billet on USS Greenling, SSN 614, in the Fore River Shipyard (Electric Boat had acquired the yard a few years before) in Quincy, MA. I had just completed Sub School (last class teaching diesel boats) in Groton and was sent to Bang early in 1966 to keep me out of trouble.

Although I was on the boat for only a short time, I participated in a few daily and weekly ops as a target boat in the Narragansett Bay op areas and then did the Operation Springboard run that year. We hit Ft Lauderdale, San Juan, Roosevelt Rhodes and the Virgin Islands and spent very little time underway, which was fine with me because I would become very seasick when things got rough. Running submerged was OK, but it seemed we were most often snorkeling or on the surface. Shortly after returning to Groton, I was transferred to Greenling.

By the way, I was a Sonarman 3C at the time and, if my memory serves me right, I stood most of my watches in the sonar room or on the ECM right next to the negative tank vent (a very wet and noisy place right after submerging) or in the Conn on the SS2 radar. I also stood a bunch of helm, planes and

lookout watches. My bunk was in Hogan's alley most of the time, then I lucked out and moved back to the after room which was probably the quietest and coolest place on the boat.

The air conditioning broke as soon as we got underway from Groton and the still wasn't any more reliable. I learned about what hot really meant and got used to sponge baths in the after battery. I began to understand what the boat sailors went through during the war.

After serving on a diesel boat, a nuc was a palace. I never did qualify on Bang, but did spend a lot of time crawling around various bilges tracing different piping systems. Because of my short stay, I don't remember many of the crew.

Have a Merry Christmas and I appreciate you keeping me up-to-date on any Bang activities." *And a Merry Christmas to you too, Lee. Thanks for your recollection of BANG and welcome aboard again.*

Ed Cirucci, an ENgineman (71-72), "I always enjoy your great Bang Newsletter and I request an electronic copy be emailed to the below AOL address. You may stop mailing the paper newsletter to my home." *Ed, thanks for changing to electronic delivery and saving the Slush Fund a buck or two.*

George Bard, an ENgineman (53-56), "Sorry I have been out of touch so long. I am still getting the newsletter which I enjoy very much. I was sorry to read about **Al Arnold**. He was my mentor when I first reported on board and he was my rate in the forward engine room for quite a while until I got my own rate and my own fireman to boss around. That was **Guy Medaglia**, nice guy.

I learned a lot from Al. He called me from Goose Bay a few years ago after he saw my name in the newsletter. I recall we broke up the bar on the base one night, pitchers and glass flying all over. We caught hell and spent the next day sweeping up broken glass. Ah, the good times.

Als gone, and **Buffington** too. They were good friends. I think Glen owed me about \$3.75 from a poker game the night before Bang left Portsmouth in '56. I stayed behind due to an infection that had me in the hospital until my discharge in early '56.

The newsletter is a lot of work, I know, but it has been good for a lot of us. Keep up the fine work, it is appreciated. You can start sending the newsletter to this email address from now on and save a bit on printing and mailing." *George, nice to hear from you again. I agree, Blackie and Buff were two good shipmates. Like two peas in a pod. Thanks for switching to e-mail delivery.*

Lenny Sciuto, a QuarterMaster (69-71), "I thought you might get a kick out of this so I am sending it along to you.

I was visiting my youngest son at McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, KS. He is a Captain (O-3) and a KC-135 Aircraft Commander flying with the 349th Squadron. They are getting ready to redeploy back to the Middle East (3rd time this year). I wanted to spend some quality time with him before he left.

While visiting him, his squadron was "required" to provide four teams for the local Chamber of Commerce golf tournament. On the day of the tournament, the temperature was a 100 degrees with a 25 to 30 mph wind. It was like playing in a microwave oven or standing watch in the engine rooms when running on the surface and charging batteries. I had the privilege of playing with my son and members of his squadron.

There were prizes at each hole (we didn't win anything). The tournament "monitor", stationed at the 13th hole, was wearing a Navy Sub vet ballcap. I asked him where he was stationed and his boat. Well, to make a short story, it turns out we attended QM "A" school together. It is a small world. We talked at dinner (after the tournament). It was good to recall old times and to talk about life's courses.

It was interesting to note that the other players (6 of them) sitting at the dinner table with us were interested in our "salty tales".

Needless to say, I made more than my share of sufficient contributions of memory lane tales. I recounted stories of and about **COB Leo Gibson, Goober Hill, Billy Bang, Jim Fricke, John Monroe, Frank Ostmann, Denny Wise and Bill Fenton**, just to name a few. The laughter covered the room.

As we were leaving, one of them commented that we, the ship's company, seemed to have been a close group and we were all part of a special unit. My comment was an emphatic "NO"! The ship's company was more than special. They were nothing less than my family through the years served aboard. How true that was and is.

Of all my 36 plus years in the military, Navy and Coast Guard alike, there have been only two units where I can honestly say that we were more than shipmates, we were family. The first was as a QM2 (SS) on the Bang and the second was as a Chemical Engineer at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC working with the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

So I say to you, no matter where you are, what you are doing or thinking, no matter what years you served aboard the BANG, we are all forever tied/linked to each other. For we are more than shipmates, we are, very much indeed, family..” *I couldn't have said it any better, Lenny. BANG shipmates are family. No matter when you served aboard her, the bonding is there. The camaraderie that goes on at our Reunions is living proof.*

Lou Arellano, a Sonar Tech (71-72), "Thanks for the sample of the electronic version of *The Bang Gang Newsletter*. It's always been great but it's a whole dimension better in color. I need no further persuasion. **Sign me up for electronic delivery** (and cite me as the Poster Child for it) now that I have an e-mail mailbox that's less prone to overflow. In the Summer/Fall 2007 edition, the deterrent patrol pin **Captain Harriss** is wearing in group photos got me wondering what other commands he was assigned. Does the Bang Gang have a repository for biographies of our shipmates? I'd wager there must be many admirable post-*Bang* careers and accomplishments that would make good press.” *Lou, thanks for switching to e-mail delivery and I may take you up on your offer to become poster child. I can't recall just what Dave Harriss did after BANG but I will ask him the next time I see him. As far as 'life after BANG' bios, I know I have printed many of them in the Newsletter over the years but as of now that is where they rest. This might be a future category for our Web Site.*

Jerry Lagastee, an ElectriciansMate (61-62), "I wanted to let you know that I am now on line and that I just finished up an extremely difficult and nasty divorce in Las Vegas.

In the state of Nevada divorce can take as little as six weeks. Mine took a year and a half all because she turned into the greediest person I have ever met. It was a long term (thirty eight years) marriage but she had turned our sons (both in their thirties) against yours truly and the whole process turned into an extremely bitter confrontation.

Suffice to say that "she got the gold mine and I got the shaft". The details would take up too much time and space and you have never met either of us in person so I will leave it at just that.

I now live in southern California and would much prefer to live farther north but finances prohibit a move for awhile. I subscribe to three Navy newsletters (The BANG GANG, SHIFT COLORS, and A-FISH-L-BLAST (for former Archerfish crewmembers).” *Glad to hear that your divorce is finalized, Jerry. It's not easy breaking up a marriage after all those years but, I imagine it must be a big weight off your shoulders. Now that it is behind you, its time to get on with your life. How about attending our Reunion?*

Norman Wood, a Firecontrol Tech (56-61), "Enclosed is a check for the Slush Fund. We enjoy the Newsletter so very much. You do a great piece of work and deserve a lot of credit. We're getting along fine at our retirement home in Richmond and are enjoying being near our daughter.”.... *Thanks for your update, Norman, and for the Slush Fund check. I'm glad to hear that your move to Richmond turned out to be to your liking.*

Owen O'Neil, an Electronics Tech (59-61), "All's well here in Florida. I'm sending along an old story that for some reason has just come to mind.

I'd been aboard the Bang for a month or so, right out of sub school and as green as an unqualified sailor could be. For a reason that escapes memory, a bunch of us ended up in Westerly, Rhode Island and a misunderstanding with the local cops resulted in us being their guest for the night.

Next morning, we were collected by **Carl White** (TM1 at the time) in full Shore Patrol gear and while we were returned to the boat, White told us that we'd have a Captain's Mast. We'd be offered a court martial but to go for the Mast. He kept stressing this all the way back.

Well, it was early afternoon when we slunk over the brow, tails between our legs. First up was an "interview" with the **XO, Mr. Gauthier**. He was very formal, told me of the charge against me (AWOL, I suppose), and he said I could have my choice of either a Captain's Mast or a court martial. Now while he was quite formal in his choice of words, he made it clear as a bell that I'd have to be totally nuts to choose a court martial so, quick as a bunny, I said "I'll take the Mast, sir."

Next day...Mast. I answered all questions "Yes Captain.", "No, Captain." and "No excuse Captain." and plead guilty as quick as I could. **Captain Brumstead** awarded me (actually all of us) a warning and that was that.

Fast forward about a week, some sort of inspection or other was on and there we all were, dress blues, lined up aft of the sail as Captain Brumstead and the Commodore of Squadron 10 walked down the line inspecting us. As the Commodore got to me, spotting my wet-behind-the-ears appearance and lack of dolphins, he said to me "How long have you been aboard, son?" I answered "Five weeks, Commodore." The Commodore then turned to Captain Brumstead and said: "Captain, what's this man's name?"

Without missing a beat, Captain Brumstead said: "His name's O'Neil, he's a ET striker currently in the seaman gang, he's qualified on the helm, bow and stern planes, and lookout and he's up-to-date on school of the boat."

The Commodore nodded and muttered something like "Very well." and on they went.

Although my eyes were fixed on the German Shed (where the horizon would have been if one could see it), I swear that Captain Brumstead glanced at me and smiled a small smile as we both well knew why he had all that information on the tip of his tongue." *Owen, that's the way life was back on the "Smoke Boats". Shipmate looking out after shipmate. Thanks for the reminder.*



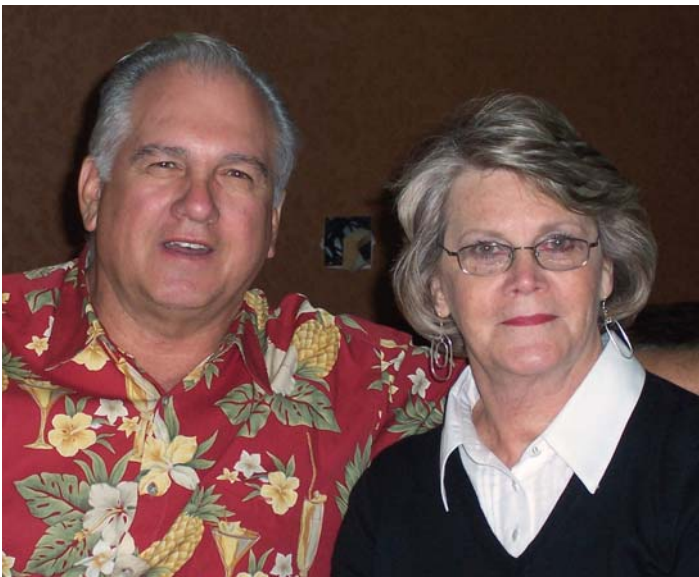
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Doris & Jim Bunch



Marvin & JoAnn Christenson



Marlene & Fritz Carlson



Marion & Wade Eichhorn



Ray & Sue Floyd



Deane & Connie Hadfield



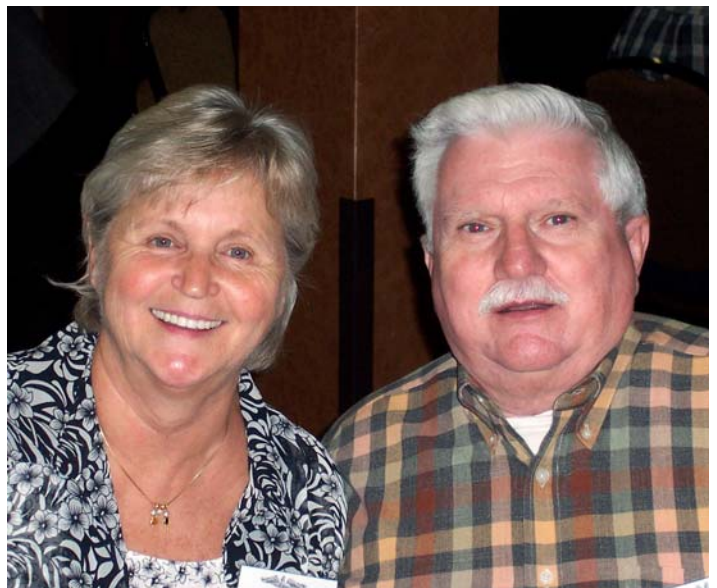
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Marjorie & Charlie Heater



Betty & Bob Gunny



Clara & Dennis Kelly



Ed & June Kracker



Bill & Barbera Mancuso



John & Darlene Kraft



Rosie & Dale Larson



Jim Maney & Gary Dannenbaum



Della & Kenn McDermott



Jean & Andy McKaye



Judy & Jack Myers



Carol & Byron Murray



Jimmy & Memory Richey



Phil & Dot Beals



Alida & Lee Sivil

USS BANG (SS385) MEMORIAL SITES

"Keeping The Memory Alive"

Albacore Park - Portsmouth, NH

Tree and Engraved Ground Marker

Battleship Park - Mobile, AL

Engraved Walkway Brick

Mathis Plaza Waterfront Park - S. Toms River, NJ

Engraved Walkway Brick

Deterrent Park - Silverdale, WA

Engraved Walkway Brick

Veterans Memorial Park - Pensacola, FL

Submarine Lifeguard League Memorial Stone

Idaho Science Center - Arco, ID

Engraved Bronze Plaque @ Hawkbill Memorial

Veterans Freedom Memorial – Tampa, FL

Engraved Walkway Brick

USS Lapon Memorial Sail – Springfield, MO

Engraved Walkway Brick

Clarion Hotel – Charleston, SC

Framed Trilogy Drawing on Lobby Wall.



Lamarr & Kathy Seader



Sydney & Stu Savage and Bob Morrison



JoAnn & Harry Ross



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SHOPPING GOT YOU STALLED? Try one of these gifts. Guaranteed to start something.

These items may be purchased by mail or at our Reunions. Mail your order to **Phil Beals**.

Make your check payable to **USS BANG** and be sure to add a few bucks extra to cover the postage. All proceeds from these sales are deposited directly into our Slush Fund.

Navy Blue Ballcap - USS BANG SS385 embroidered in gold with silver dolphins and solid or mesh top.

Please state your choice.....\$8.00

BANG Photos - 40's, 50's, 60's 8x10 black & white as shown on back page.

Please state your choice.....\$3.00

Jacket Patches - 40's, 50's, 60's 5 inch in full color as shown on back page.

Please state your choice.....\$5.00

WWII Battle Flag Patch - 3x5 inch full color.....\$5.00

1" Lapel/Hat pins - depicting above jacket patches & battle flag. **Please state your choice**.....\$4.00



REUNION UPDATE

Branson 2007



This is the final sailing list of those attending the Reunion in Branson:

Charles and Patricia Archer (62-65)
Ron and Penny Athey (61-63)
Phil and Dot Beals (56-59)
Robert and Janice Brown (64-66)
Jim and Doris Bunch (55-61)
Fritz and Marlene Carlson (62-63)
Marvin and JoAnn Christenson (56-58)
Garry Dannenbaum (58-59)
Edward and Jane DeLong (63-66)
Wade and Marion Eichhorn (44)
with daughters Leslie and Vicki
and grand-daughter
Ed Elliott (55-58)
Len Fagotti and Marilyn Barratt (63-66)
Bill and Joan Fenton (68-71)
Ray and Sue Floyd (55)
Dick Gahan (58-62)
Bob and Betty Gunny (44-45)
Deane and Connie Hadfield (57-60)
Charles and Marjorie Heater (52-55)
Dennis and Klara Kelly (63-64)
Charles Kimball (53-55)
James and Yolanda Klein (64-66)
Henry Kozlowski (54-57)
Ed and June Kracker (43-45)
John and Darlene Kraft (68-70)
Ben LaPorte (57-60)
Dale and Rosie Larson (55-57)
Albert Mace (63-66)
Bill and Barbera Mancuso (55-58)
Jim Maney (57-59)
Kenn and Della McDermott (61-62)
Andy and Jean McKaye (54-57)
Robert Morrison (59-60)
Byron and Carol Murray (58-60)
Jack and Judy Myers (55-56)
Jimmy and Memory Richey (63-68)
Harry and JoAnn Ross (64-66)
Stu and Sydney Savage (56-59)
Lamar and Kathy Seader (62-65)
Lee and Alida Sivil (55-58)
Paul and Gerry Skahan (58-60)

Penny and I want to thank all the Shipmates and their ladies in attendance for making this Reunion

the great time that it was. It was our great joy to see everyone enjoying themselves, renewing old friendships and making new ones. I have let your Committee know that we are available to host again in the future and feel free to "put us in the rotation".

For those of you who may not want to wait for our next reunion to come to Branson, Cherie Chitwood at the "Settle-Inn" will be happy to offer you a special rate. Just give her a call at 1-417-335-4700 and mention that you are part of the USS BANG crew. If any of you who served on another boat are interested in a Branson reunion, I'll be happy to help your reunion planners.

Thanks guys and hope to see you this Summer in Green Bay.

Ron Athey TM (61-63)



*EDITORS NOTE: We thank **Ron and Penny Athey** for the great job they did hosting the Branson Reunion. Their untiring effort to overcome diversity in planning it and then making sure that everything ran smoothly after we arrived reflected in the happy faces of those enjoying the fruits of their labors. My only concern is that they may have overtaxed their minds in the process as you would have to like diving with the main induction open to volunteer to host our Reunion more than once.*

*Branson was chosen as a Reunion site by your Reunion Committee because it met most of the responses to **Bill Fenton's** Reunion Survey that you deemed "Most Important in attending a reunion". It was centrally located, it was held in the Fall, its cost was reasonable, and it was family oriented. Branson is founded on family values and the shows that Ron and Penny chose for us were definitely entertainment for adult and child alike.*

*In choosing this year's Reunion site your committee again used your replies as guidelines. GREEN BAY is centrally located. Its room costs, though slightly higher than Branson, are still in the reasonable range. And, the tour activity that **John Kraft** is planning for us is geared toward both adults and children. The only change your Committee made is Time of Year. Summer was your second choice so I hope to see all of you whose schedules agree with this time frame at the Reunion.*



GREEN BAY

REUNION UPDATE

Green Bay 2008



WISCONSIN

Darlene and I are pleased that the Reunion Committee selected Green Bay as our site to hold the 2008 Reunion. As your host, we will do our utmost to make this reunion as pleasurable as those in the past have been.

First of all, I want to emphasize that the dates for this reunion are **Tuesday, July 29th through Saturday, August 2nd.**

I have chosen Days Inn City Centre as our headquarters. All guest rooms and public space were completely renovated in 2005 and a new indoor pool and whirlpool area was added. It is located in Downtown Green Bay only 3 miles from Packer Stadium, 6 miles from Oneida Bingo & Casino, and adjacent to the Washington Commons Mall. A continental breakfast is included in the main floor restaurant. Complimentary airport and casino transportation is also available.

Room rates: Single (one queen bed) - \$79.00/night; Double (2 double beds) \$89.00. These rates are guaranteed for people within our group staying 4 or more nights. If a member of our party only comes in for 3 nights or less, the rate is the same, EXCEPT for Saturday night when for that night the rate will be \$129.00 Single and \$139.00 Double. This is due to the influx of 60,000+ cheese heads descending upon the city to attend "Packer Family Night", an intra-squad scrimmage on Saturday.

The hotel has given me a block on 40 rooms until June 15th, at which time they will release all remaining rooms to the public. So please do not wait until the last minute to make your reservations.

As for trips, I am contemplating three of them. The first is the main attraction - the 30th Experimental Aircraft Assoc. Airshow/museum (AirVenture) at Oshkosh. Typically about 2,500 show aircraft participate, including homebuilts, antiques, classics, warbirds, ultralights and rotorcraft. Inspect them on the ground in the morning and then watch them fly in the afternoon. Forums, Exhibits, hands-on, aviation-based demonstrations and presentations - something for young and old alike. No wonder it is called the World's Greatest Aviation Celebration.

The second trip will be to discover the exquisite beauty of Door County Peninsula on Lake Michigan

and tour Bay Lighthouse in Peninsula Park. A stop for a traditional fish boil for lunch and some shopping will complete the day.

The third trip will be to the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc where USS Cobia resides as testament of our heritage. On the way back, a stop in Two Rivers, Home of the Ice Cream Sundae, for lunch and - ice cream.

For short distant trips close by, There will be lots to see/do in terms of football at Lambeau Field with the Packers in town - not to mention the National RR Museum will be open also.

Modifications to the trips may be made as they become finalized after the first of the year. The complete agenda, including banquet, will be published in the next Newsletter.

Please contact me to answer any questions you may have about this Reunion. Thank you.

John Kraft RM (68-70)
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June & Ed Kracker

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PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

