



1943



1972



THE BANG GANG NEWSLETTER

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

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WINTER/SPRING 2009

WWW.USSBANG.COM

ISSUE-51

WAR PATROL II

Sunk - 24,000 tons
Damaged - 7,500 tons
Awarded -
Combat Insignia Pin
Navy Cross

WAR PATROL I

Sunk - 20,200 tons
Damaged - 15,000 tons
Awarded - Combat Insignia Pin
Navy Cross

WAR PATROL III

Sunk - 31,400 tons
Damaged - 9,800 tons
Awarded -
Combat Insignia Pin
Navy Cross



WAR PATROL IV

Sunk - 18,400 tons
Damaged - 4,050 tons
Awarded -
Combat Insignia Pin
Navy Cross

WAR PATROL VI

Sunk - 0
Damaged - 0
Rescued 1 downed pilot
Awarded -
Combat Insignia Pin

WAR PATROL V

Sunk - 0
Damaged - 0
No awards

TOTALS: 94,000 tons of shipping (16) sunk - 36,350 tons of shipping (5) damaged.
Five Combat Insignia Pins awarded to the Crew.
Four Navy Cross' awarded to Captain Gallaher.



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.



None To Report — AMEN!



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
Brown	Robert E	1225 Quail Valley Cir	Lebanon	MO	65536-4458		64-66
Colby	Kenneth C	14 Fruit St	Byfield	MA	01922-1415		52-54
Drozdz	James	3411 Green St	Steger	IL	60475-1647	(708) 755-7517	63
Fox	Adm Earl R	501 V E S Rd	Lynchburg	VA	24503		46
O'Brien	Denis J	3288 Johnson Ave	Manchester	NJ	08759-5905		67-68
Olszewski	Raymond V	3190 Hwy 95 Lot 706	Bullhead City	AZ	86442-4314		65-66

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
Johnston	Richard C	1720 Avenida Del Mundo 101	Coronado	CA	92118-3030	(619) 522-0997	60-62



THANK YOU!

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



**Conyal Cody
Ike Cohen**

**Dick Flanagan
Jim Hampton
Mona Knight**

**Bruce Pierson
Tom Prendergast
Jerry Price**

**Tom Robustelli
Alvia Smith
Ed Schovajsa**

**Richard Taylor
Carl Weber
Gil Wuebker**



13-36



THE INTERNET CONNECTION CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION

Robert Brown subsailor@embarqmail.com
Ken Colby dlckcc@comcast.net
Jim Maney jlm589@verizon.net
Bob Miller usna51@gmail.com
Ed Moran edwardalan385@gmail.com
Willard Paul bill@willardpaul.com
Richard Wolfe rswmtview@yahoo.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!

By the time you read this my JUNO email account should have gone the way of the Diesel Boat in the US Navy - obsolete. I say "should" because even though I cancelled my account some ISP's (Internet Service Providers) tend to leave the account open for a while - hoping you'll change your mind, I guess. For all of you with Email accounts, please update your address book with my new address: **pebeals385@verizon.net**. Note that the only change is after the @ - from juno.com to verizon.net. If you continue to send to my JUNO mailbox I'm sure that eventually you will receive the mail back stamped "User Unknown".

Mona Knight, widow of plankowner **Ralph Knight**, a MotorMachinistMate (43-46, WP1,3,4,5,6), sent a nice letter thanking us for the wonderful job we're doing with the Newsletter. She said that the story in the last issue about **Frank Walker** salvaging the "385" parade float would have really thrilled Ralph. Between her bout with Shingles and recent Pneumonia she hasn't been out much but still remembers some of the couples she met at past Reunions she attended with Ralph. She sends her best to '**Rosie**' and **Goldie Rosenfeld**, **Ed and June Kracker**, and **Bob and Betty Gunny**.

Mona also included some clippings from a Portsmouth newspaper announcing the commissioning ceremonies of the new Virginia-class SSN, USS New Hampshire 778. Besides all the usual 'Pomp and Circumstance' one article of interest caught my eye. The Portsmouth Brewery plans to create a commemorative brew for the occasion. It will come in a 22-ounce bottle and have a special label with the submarine's logo on it. The name of the brew is "Grey Ghost Ale". Recalling my days aboard BANG, we had a 'beverage' also - it came in a 5-gallon can and was named Gilly aka "Torpedo Juice".

The Post Office machine tore off a mailing label from one of the December Newsletters I sent out and then returned it to me as having "Insufficient Address" to deliver.

Also, I was notified that one of the e-mail Newsletters I sent was not deliverable because of an "Invalid Address". The address they said was

invalid is not listed in my address book. So, again, I have no idea who the unlucky person is.

Anyone who did not receive a copy of the last Newsletter mailed out before Christmas let me know and I will get one to you ASAP.

In closing, it pleases me that I do not have any obituaries to publish about our Shipmates but, as you read on, you'll see that the Spouses didn't fare as well.

The Post Office has informed me that **Palma Bolinsky**, widow of **Ed Bolinsky**, RadioMan, 44-46 (WP5,6) recently passed away. After Ed's death, Palma requested that I continue to send her the Newsletter because reading about his BANG Shipmates helped keep the memories of Ed alive.

I guess Ed will have to transfer from that "Eternal Patrol" he is currently on to shore duty so that he and Palma can be together again.



I just received a call from **Byron Murray**, Engineman, 58-60, letting me know that his wife, **Carol** passed away on March 15th. She had been having heart problems over the years and it finally gave out. Byron and Carol have attended some of our Reunions. The last one being in Branson—2007.

Anyone wishing to send condolences to Byron may do so at the following address:

**640 Grove Ave SW #357
Cleveland, TN 37311-5759
Bcam4404@aol.com**

Has anyone seen or heard from Al Cadenhead lately???

I have tried both e-mail and snail mail but, so far, no replies.

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

Tom Prendergast, a CommiSsaryman (67-69), "I have been receiving the Newsletter for a couple of years now and always mean to write and tell you how much I enjoy reading about my old friends and shipmates.

I just finished reading the latest edition and I see that my old friend **George Fedyna** has surfaced. I had a lot of good times with George and a lot of laughs.

As you know, any new non-striker that came aboard was destined for a stint at mess cooking. My stint lasted about six months. George taught me a lot and near the end I was standing my own watches. I got out as a CS3, and that was with a short stay at SR for a misunderstanding in Rota, Spain.

When I first came aboard I was getting the tour from **Dave Ireland** when I grumbled about something. He said I sounded like 'Lurch' from the Addams Family and the nickname stuck for my time aboard.

Enclosed is a check to help support the good work you do."....*Thank you for the support Tom. I think it is time for you and George to get together at a Reunion and relive some of those good times. I don't think you'll regret it. I had the opportunity 2 years ago in Branson to get together with one of my mentors, **Jim Bunch**. I hadn't seen him since I left the Boat. I hope our next meeting is a lot sooner.*

Dick Flanagan, a RadioMan (56-58), "I'm only 4 years late with this - thank you to **Al Cadenhead** for being a great host for the 2004 reunion at Fall River, MA. I had a great time again seeing my "young" shipmates.

I've had quite an eventful 4 years since then. It started Oct '04, thallium stress test (supposedly OK). In hospital for sinus operation (my fifth). Stopped procedure as I was in atrial fibrillation, stayed for a few days. Thanksgiving morning '04 - had heart attack. The stress test really sucked. Had quad bypass, blockage 100-95-95-85. I made it as you can see. Sept '05, finally had the sinus operation. Dec '05 flew to Cincinnati from N.Y. for another heart operation. This one took 5 hours to correct A-Fib. Mar '06 had a hip replaced. About 15 epidural steroid shots over the past 4 years for four ruptured discs. I don't think there are too many parts left to work on. (I am now the bionic man).

Now for some good news. After a few years of rehab I finally got back to golf. I'll never be a 4 handicap again but I shot a 69 last May 23, 2008 - five days before my 71st birthday. However 2 days later I shot an 83. That's golf!

My wife, 6 kids and spouses, 14 grand kids have been great during my recovery and thank God I have a good staff working for me. Please keep one of my grandsons in your prayers, he is in Iraq. He is a Sgt. - front line Medic - in the MP's.

It's great reading the stories in the newsletter and seeing some of the familiar names and pictures. Speaking of stories, one more from the Bang Locker. We were on liberty in Bermuda, **Marv Christenson** and I got separated from the rest of the guys. After having 2 or 20 beers we had to return on a liberty launch. Marv and I got in the stern and about 20 tin can sailors got in after us. As I said we had a beer or two and Marv kept saying (out loud) that we were going to kick their butts. When we got off Marv said stand 'back to back'. So we did and were surrounded by 20 apes. Thank God one of them said "hey, Dick Flanagan". It happened to be a friend from home. It sure saved those guys from getting their butts kicked.

I hope to get to either the next reunion or the one after that. Keep up the great work Phil and enclosed is a check for the slush fund."....*So, Dick, anything exciting happen in your life lately? Sorry to hear that all the medical stuff has effected your golf game. And, if it is any consolation to you, I'll never be a 4 handicap either. As for your scores, they're not that bad considering your age. And, if you continue the rehab, I'm sure the doctor will start letting you play 18 holes before too long. Instead of trying to decide on which Reunion to attend why not come to both? In the mean time, we will keep your grandson in our prayers and - thank you for the donation .*

Earl Fox an Officer (46), "I received the Fall/Winter Newsletter today and enjoyed it as usual. Please change my VA address at this time.

Reba and I have been in VA for quite a while due to health issues (both of us). We had hopes of getting back to FL this winter but doubt it." ...*Earl, I am sorry to hear that you and Reba are currently not as mobile as you would like to be. I will put your FL address on hold and continue mailing the Newsletter to your VA address until you tell me otherwise. Get well soon!*

Bruce Pierson an Officer (61-63), "I am sorry to say that Marilyn & I are getting to old to do much traveling so we will miss the next reunion. We have just finished reading the last newsletter. Like every one else we think that the Bang's newsletter is the most interesting of all ones we receive from other Boats.

There are two items I would like to discuss. The first one does not concern any sub but is of an event that brought great joy to our family. Our grandson, now just 19 received a new heart September-5-2007 (which we thank the lord), after being on the heart transfer list for a couple of years. He graduated from high school with his original class with honors and is now going to the University of Michigan.

The second, it was with pleasure reading two of my

ex shipmate's letters. **Larry Harjehausen** and I both qualified as officers on the Bang after both of us served on the original crew of the Nautilus. Larry was able to get a boat right after he was commissioned. I had to wait while I was on loan to the AEC for over 3 years and then a year on Squadron 14 staff. I was a full LT when I reported. **Dick Barbieri** served on Bang at the same time. I remember all the ports we hit on that cruise. I do not remember any fog at Holy Lock either. As you know Dick authored a book about coming of age on Bang." *Bruce, sorry to hear that you and Marilyn will miss the next Reunion. Hopefully in the near future we can secure a site closer so that travel won't be a problem for you. The news about your grandson is great. I know you and Marilyn must be so relieved now that the waiting is over. Our wish for him is to have the same longevity that you and I have had on this planet, God willing.*

Carl Weber a RadioMan Chief (62-63, COB), "Not much going on here except for the snow. I find it hard to get to the BANG Reunions with Bergall and SubVets WWII Conventions all going on about the same time. Best wishes to all." *Nice to hear from you again Carl. Hope scheduling will work out soon so that you can attend another BANG Reunion. I haven't been to check on our tree in Albacore Park in a couple of years. Will have to make plans to do that this summer.*

John Andersen, a QuarterMaster (66-68), "Thanks for the Bang Newsletter. I don't get to attend reunions much due to both my business and the need for me to attend the annual USSVI conventions as the Charitable Foundation Treasurer. But, I noted that next year the timing and location may be right for my attendance. I do look forward to receiving the newsletter and thank you much for keeping so many of us in contact.".... *John, the Newsletter will always be there for those shipmates who can't make the Reunions. Hope you can make it to Virginia Beach. It would be nice to see you again.*

Maureen O'Brien, wife of **Denis O'Brien**, a TorpedoMan (67-68), "My husband Denis served on the Bang from 67 to 68 and is very proud of this. I just wanted to give you a little update on him. He retired after serving 20 years as a New York City Policeman. He continued serving in the Naval Reserves. Eventually he transferred to the Army Reserve where he attained the rank of E-7. He retired after 29 years of service. Denis has three beautiful daughters, one of which is an attorney. He also has two great step-sons, one of which is in the Marines, currently serving in Iraq. His other step-son is in the Army National Guard and is scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in

September so, as you can see, he has set a great example.

Denis now drives a school bus in New York and resides in Manchester, NJ.

I may be a little biased, but I think he's a great guy." ...*Yes, Maureen, Denis is a great guy as there is no other way to describe a BANG shipmate. Thank you so much for taking the time to send us an update on him. Our prayers go out to your sons for their safe keeping and return. Hope you can make a Reunion someday. It would be a pleasure to meet the both of you.*

Jim (Sudsy) Hudson, an ENgineman (70-72), "I've never told you what a great job you do on this news letter. Great!... And fun to read about what the gang is up to the last few years. I'm writing to request that you suspend delivery of the newsletter for the next few months because I'm taking my travel trailer and looking around the country to see if I missed anything the first time around. If I find a better place to live I will change addresses too. I retired five months ago and have everything ready to go. After all the rain of the last two months I'm really ready to go. I'll send a note when I'm situated again. I promise to have fun for you too!" ...*Glad to hear that you are enjoying the Newsletter Jim. I will hold off on sending any more until I hear from you. Good luck with your house hunting. Hope you find the place your looking for. Who knows, it may be right in your own back yard.*

Ken Colby, a Seaman (52-54), "My wife and I have moved from Rochester, NH to live with our daughter in Byfield, MA. Please feel free to send future editions of The Bang Gang Newsletter to our new email address.

Thanks for continuing to handle all of the Bang Gang things. I still feel that the Newsletter is one of the very best! Have a Happy New Year in 2009!".... *Ken, hope the move is a good one for you and Dorothy. Thanks for getting the Newsletter by e-mail and saving us the cost of printing and mailing.*

Tom Regester, an IC Electrician (61-63), "Just got around to doing this. I wanted to let you know that I have one of the Bang Plaques that is pictured in the last Newsletter. I got it when we were tied up along side of the sub tender at New London down at State Pier. Have it hanging up on my wall along side of the one I got from when I was on the USS Sailfish back in '63-64'. I also have a small set of dolphins about 8" long made of cast aluminum above my work bench. I am retired from the US Air Force but I have lots of great memories of my three years on The USS Bang.".... *Tom, thanks for letting us know that more than one of Larry Harjehausen's original SOS creations is still around. Hope you and Peggy can make it to Virginia Beach this year.*

Gil Wuebker, an ElectronicsTech (45-46), "I really appreciate the work you are doing and I enjoy receiving the Newsletter. I have enclosed a Small Stores order and Slush Fund donation." *Gil, it's a pleasure to hear from you again. Its been a while. Thanks for your donation to the Slush Fund.*

Jerry Price, an ElectriciansMate (61-63), "Thanks for the job you are doing, keeping the memories and history of BANG alive.

Although my time on BANG was short, it was filled with a lot of special times. There was a group of us that lived at the "Snake Ranch" that I would like to send a special "Hello" to - **Mother Holly, Snake, Ginny, Greek, Kraut, and Billy**. Also to a non-rancher, **Leroy Horton**. You have a close tie to anyone who lived off tuna, peanut butter, and gilly for 3 months due to a cancelled Northern Cruise. I also remember the good times at Mago Point with Mac and Iris. And, of course, the trips to Ernies. Maybe I'll see you guys in VA Beach." *Jerry, glad to hear from you again. Its been a while. Nothing like a good PB and tuna sandwich to bond shipmates together. Thanks for your donation to the Slush Fund and see you in VA Beach.*

STIMULUS PLAN

The new economic stimulus plan includes one-time cash payments and/or tax-credits for millions of Americans whether they are working or retired. Here is the latest on how the one-time cash payments and/or tax-credits will apply to you:

Wage-earners: will be provided a refundable tax credit of up to \$400 for working individuals and \$800 for married taxpayers filing joint returns in both 2009 and 2010. This tax credit is not available to all as it phases out for individuals with adjusted gross income (AGI) in excess of \$75,000, or \$150,000 for married couples filing jointly). Anyone with additional questions should contact the IRS.

Retirees: who receive Social Security, Veterans' or Railroad Retirement benefits - will receive a one-time \$250 payment (not once in 2009 and once in 2010). You do not need to apply for this payment and there is no income limits. It will be sent automatically and, as of now, SSA is saying all payments will be distributed by May.

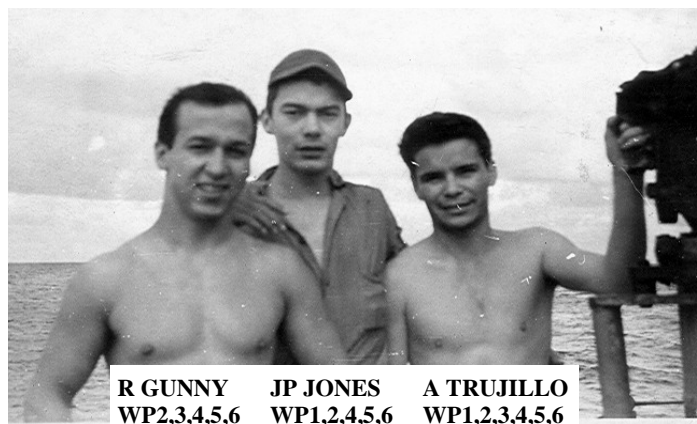
Non-Social Security Retirees: including federal, state and local government retirees who worked outside of Social Security. The Senate Finance Committee, included a refundable \$250 tax credit for these individuals. This tax credit is to be referred to as the "Refundable Tax Credit for Certain Federal and State Pensioners, and is for tax year 2009. At this time, we are waiting for further guidance from the IRS on how it is to be implemented.

[Source: NARFE Legislative Department Jill Crissman comments 2 Mar 09 ++]

CALL FOR PHOTOS

After reading about how we were able to bring joy to Jesse Bass' family by sending them a few photos, **Bob Gunny**, a TorpedoMan (44-46, WP2,3,4,5,6), dug into his BANG archives and sent me the following photos of shipmates he served with. After 65 years I am amazed at their quality. For some of you I hope they ignite fond memories and, for the rest of us, we now have a face to go with our heroes name. Thanks for sharing, Bob.

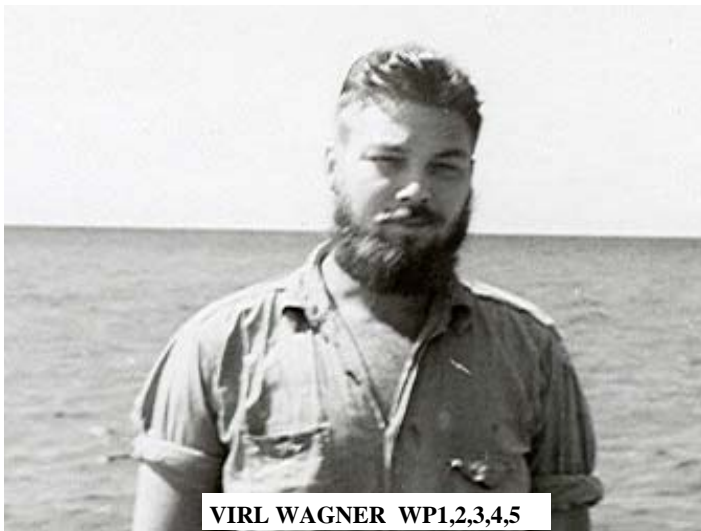
Anyone else who has BANG photos they would like to share with their shipmates on these pages, send them to me, Phil Beals, and I will make sure that they are returned to you, if you so wish, or I will enter them in our Scrap Books. Lets hope we can bring as much joy to the next shipmate's family when they request a photo of their grandfather.



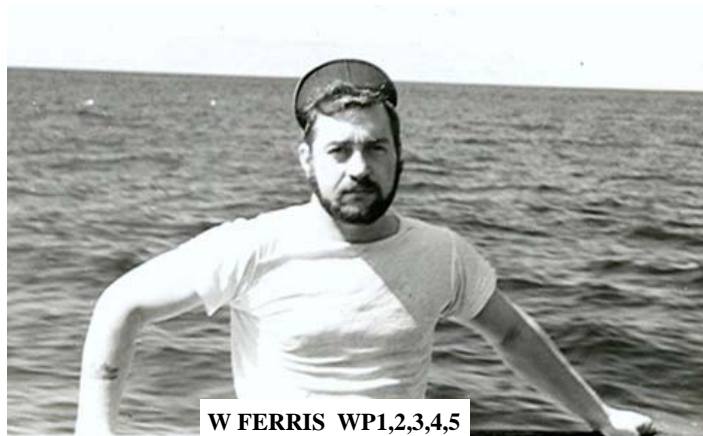
R GUNNY	JP JONES	A TRUJILLO
WP2,3,4,5,6	WP1,2,4,5,6	WP1,2,3,4,5,6



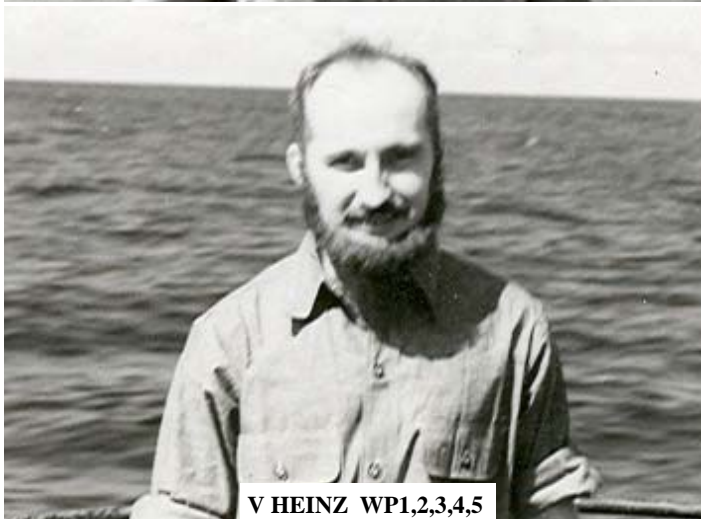
J MINIOR	JP JONES	G SCHAEFER	C KIRK
WP3,4,5,6	WP1,2,4,5,6	WP1,3,4,5,6	WP1,2,3,4,5
	R GUNNY	A DIBELLA	
	WP2,3,4,5,6	WP1,2,3,4,5,6	



VIRL WAGNER WP1,2,3,4,5



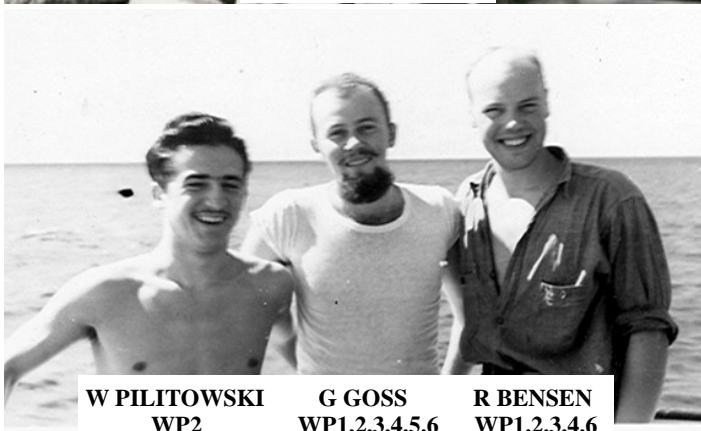
W FERRIS WP1,2,3,4,5



V HEINZ WP1,2,3,4,5



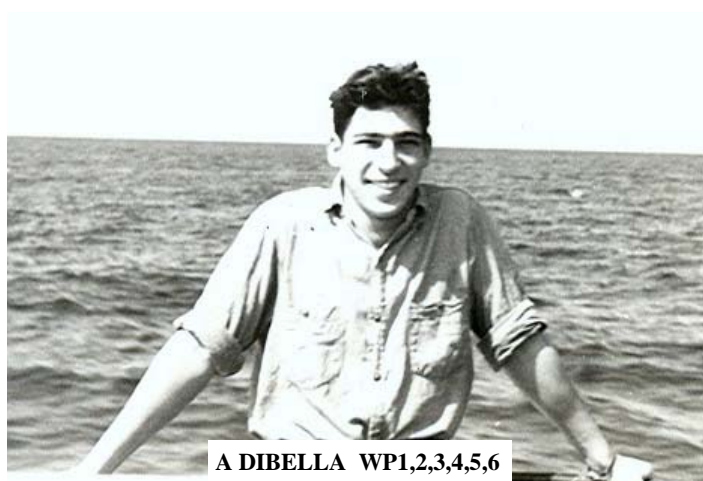
W COUSSENS WP2,3,4,5,6



**W PILITOWSKI
WP2**

**G GOSS
WP1,2,3,4,5,6**

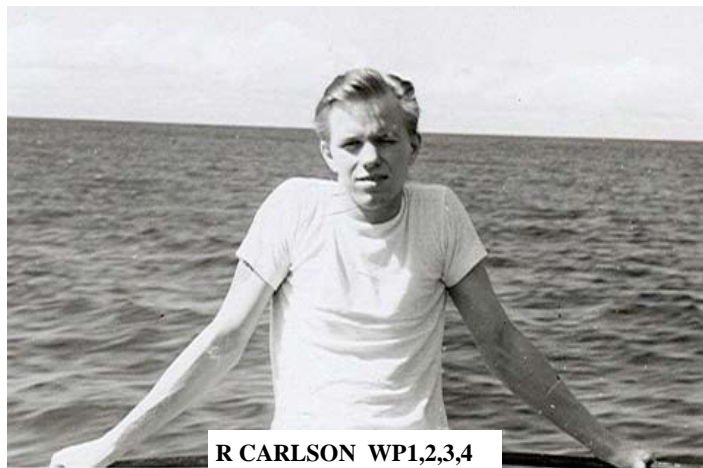
**R BENSEN
WP1,2,3,4,6**



A DIBELLA WP1,2,3,4,5,6



J BASS WP4,5,6



R CARLSON WP1,2,3,4



MIDWAY—OCTOBER 1944—AFTER 3RD WAR PATROL



D BARRELL, R DICKINSON, W SPENGLER, JF JONES, J HEG, J CLINE
I KOCI, G GOSS, C KIRK, R HERZOG, B BATES, B GUNNY, E ROBINSON, NON-BANG
CAMP DEALEY (GUAM) - MARCH 1945



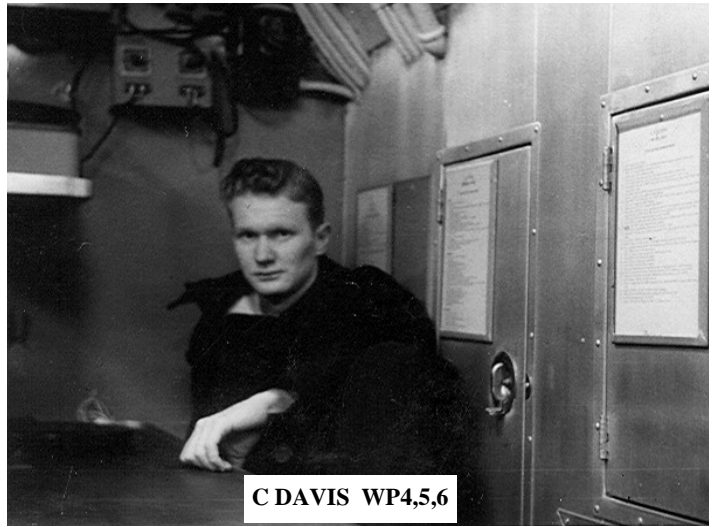
GUAM (ALONGSIDE PROTEOUS)—FEBRUARY 1945—AFTER 5TH WAR PATROL



GUAM(ALONGSIDE PROTEOUS)—MARCH 1945—PRIOR TO 6TH WAR PATROL



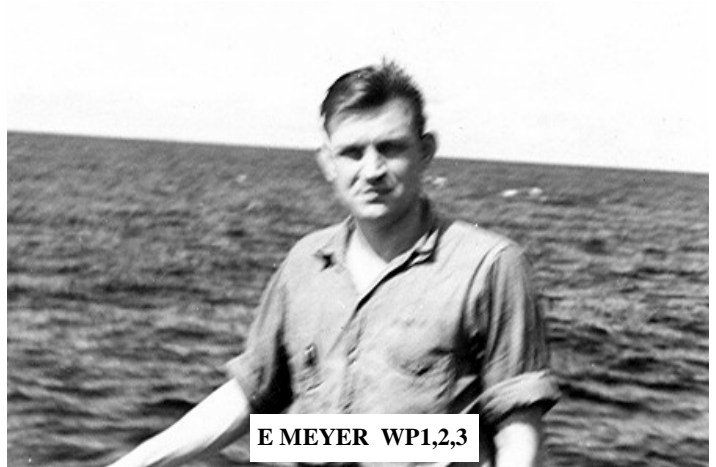
A BOYLE WP1,2



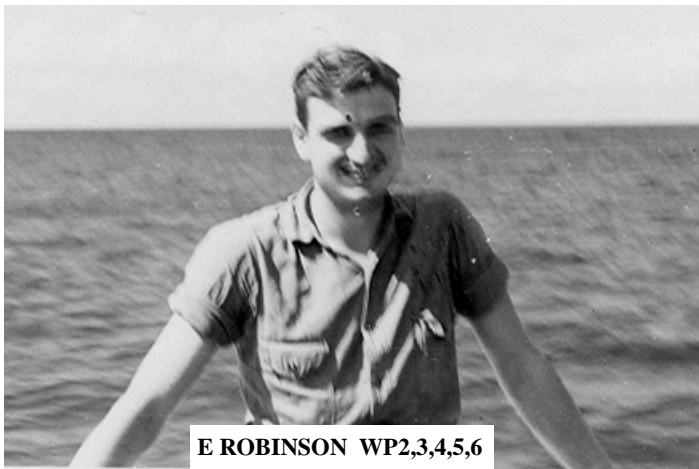
C DAVIS WP4,5,6



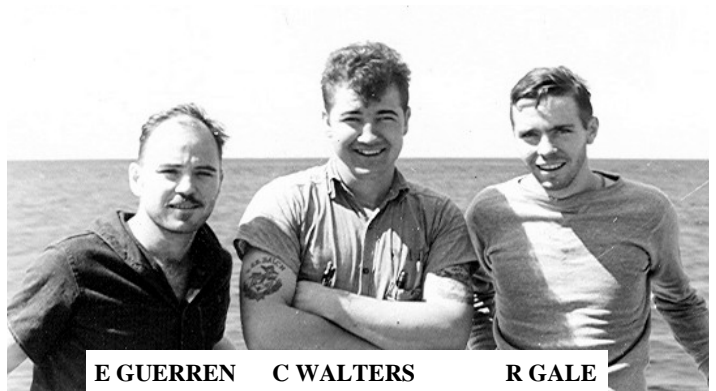
C LORENZ WP2,3,4,5,6



E MEYER WP1,2,3



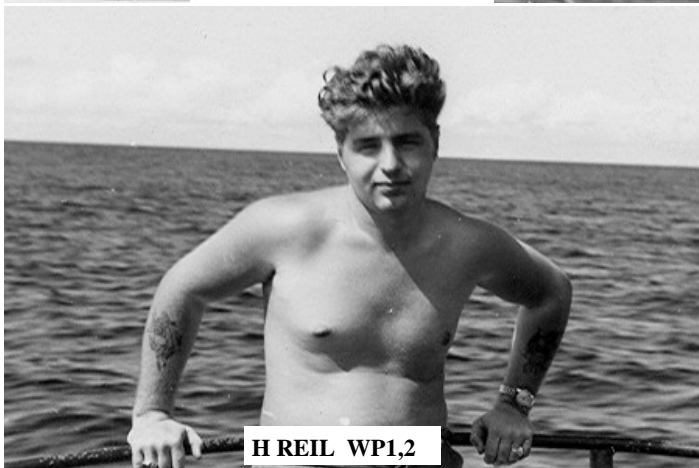
E ROBINSON WP2,3,4,5,6



**E GUERREN
WP1,2,3**

**C WALTERS
WP1,2**

**R GALE
WP1,2,3,4**



H REIL WP1,2



A MASKE WP4,5,6

BANG VIDEOS NOW ON SALE!



John Monroe is still offering these videos for sale:

- (1). 1993 Reunion in Portsmouth, NH.
- (2). 1994 Reunion in Portsmouth, VA.
- (3). A compilation of photos and 8mm film recording BANG's history throughout her Commissioned years and featured highlights of a 1970-1971 Med Cruise.

Though the source documents are vintage, the quality of the reproduction media is very good.

John is offering these videos for \$20.00 each in either VHS tape or CD/DVD format. And, he will send a portion of the proceeds to our Slush Fund.

John also states that if you have difficulty playing the DVD recording on your player, call him and he will rectify the problem.

Anyone interested in purchasing any or all of these videos contact John by phone or mail at the following:

**1029 Bush St. Apt. B
Red Wing, MN 55066-3470
(651) 380-5358**

DOWNSIZING

It's a word often linked now a days to private industry. They announce staff reduction and, in some cases, site closings in order to streamline costs. What they don't tell the consumer is that they are downsizing the amount of food in your pantry as well. According to the Nielsen Co, approximately one-third of items at the grocery store have lost content since 2007. Companies argue that "in order to keep prices down we have to reduce the weight of the package." But, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that last year food prices rose some 7 percent.

Content downsizing cuts across the grocery spectrum for all major brands. Canned goods, Dairy, Frozen, Packaged Meats, Juices, Condiments, Cereal, Cookies, Pet and Cleaning products. Anywhere from one ounce on tuna to 16 ounces on ice cream. And, where the product is sold by count, the count may still be the same but the size is smaller. One longtime consumer advocate suggests checking the other competing brands - even store brands. Ultimately, though, once the top brands resize their packaging or contents, the other brands—even the private-label store brands—likely will change as well. What's next? The 10 egg carton? [Source: AARP Geoff Williams article 17 Feb 09 ++]

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

New Mexico Vets Memorial - Albuquerque, NM

Engraved Walkway Brick

Nimitz WWII Museum-Fredericksburg, TX

Brass Plaque on Memorial Courtyard Wall



STIMULUS CHECK SALE NOW GOING ON!!!

Still waiting for our share of the Buy Out Money. Meanwhile, all Stimulus Checks are welcome here. All items will be sold by mail or at our Reunions. Send mail orders 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.

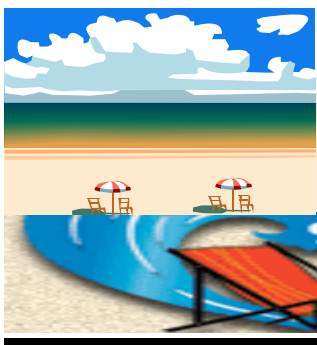
Please state your choice.....\$3.00

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

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

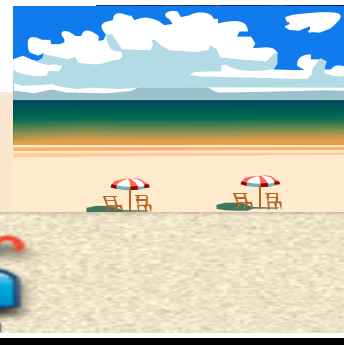
WWII Battle Flag Patch - 3x5 inch full color.....\$5.00

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



REUNION UPDATE

2009



Greetings everyone! The time has come to start making your plans for attending the 2009 BANG Reunion which we will be hosting in Virginia Beach, VA, October 19th thru October 22nd. All early indicators tell us that we will have at least as many attendees this year as we had in 2002—if not more.

Those of you that were here in 2002 know how much fun there was for all and you can expect more of the same this year. For the rest of you, Ronnie and I will do our best to make sure that this is the best Reunion you ever attended. We hope the organized trips we planned for you will delight you as much as what the local area has to offer.

Our Headquarters will again be the **Surfside Oceanfront Inn and Suites**. All of the rooms have been newly renovated since our last stay in 2002 and each comes with a balcony and ocean view.



The total cost per room for the BANG GANG (including taxes) will be **\$56.37** per night for the duration of your stay. And, that includes a **free** Deluxe Continental

Breakfast, **free** Internet access, **free** parking, **free** newspaper, enclosed heated swimming pool, and each room has its own refrigerator, microwave, and DVD player. Call now (1-800-437-2497) to reserve your room and don't forget to mention "**BANG GANG**" to get our fantastic room rate.

We have left **Monday, October 19, 2009** open for late arrivals to check in and for all to congregate in our Hospitality Room to renew old friendships and make new ones.

Tuesday morning we will start boarding our bus at 9:15 for a ride to the 70 year old **Mariner's Museum**. Besides being one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world, housing a treasure trove of more than 35,000 items, it is home to the world class and one of the country's premier Civil War attractions — the 63,500 square foot USS Monitor exhibit.

Allotted time will be given for lunch on your own at the Museum café and then we head for the

Casemate Museum, home of the Army's Coast Artillery collection and the focal point of historic Fort Monroe. Discover how the armament at the fort has improved through time taking advantage of new technologies that emerged from the Civil War thru WW II before returning to the hotel.

Wednesday morning we, again, will start boarding our bus at 9:15 for a narrated riding tour of **Olde Towne Portsmouth** on our way to visit the **MacArthur Memorial**, located in Norfolk's historic city hall, which traces the life and times of five-star General Douglas MacArthur. It will then be lunch on your own at MacArthur mall and a short visit to **Doumar's** Ice-cream parlor for a free cone of ice cream. Doumar's is home to the first ice cream cone machine which was introduced at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. Then, back to the hotel to prepare for the **Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise**. Our bus will start boarding at 5:45.

The Spirit of Norfolk is an exciting way to tour the Elizabeth River and see the ships of the Atlantic fleet up close at the Norfolk Naval Base. The 3 hour sail includes a top-of-the-line buffet with several hot entrees and after dinner be entertained by live performers with Broadway quality singing and dancing and dance to some of the hottest DJ tune mixes. Things to note: **Dress code is casual. Ship is handicap accessible. Smoking on outdoor decks only.**

Thursday, After a morning Business Meeting you will have the rest of the day for yourself.

Our **Banquet** Thursday night will feature your choice of: 8 oz Broiled Chicken Breast, 10 oz Broiled Fresh Catch of the Day, or 10 oz Delmonico steak. All are served with a fresh Garden Salad, Red Potatoes, Grilled Vegetable Medley, Dessert, Coffee/tea. Beer and wine are included and entertainment will be provided throughout the evening.

In the mean time, call and make your room reservations NOW! You can always cancel out without penalty.

Gene & Ronnie Lockwood

512 Windsor Gate Cir.

Virginia Beach, VA 23452-2129

(757) 340-8488

gvlockwood@cox.net

U. S. S. BANG (SS - 385)

66th Anniversary Reunion

Virginia Beach, VA

Monday - October 19th 2009

through

Thursday - October 22nd 2009



Your Hosts

Gene & Ronnie Lockwood

HEADQUARTERS



**Surfside Oceanfront
Inn and Suites**

13th St & Atlantic Ave

Virginia Beach, VA 23451

\$56.37/night Reservations 1-(800) 437-2497

Website—www.virginiabeachsurfside.com



MONDAY **OCTOBER 19th** - Check In - Hospitality Room opens at 12:00 noon.



TUESDAY **OCTOBER 20th** - 9:15 a.m. - Mariner's Museum & Fort Monroe.



WEDNESDAY **OCTOBER 21st** - 9:15 a.m. - MacArthur Memorial & Doumar's
5:45 p.m. - Dinner Cruise - Casual Dress



THURSDAY **OCTOBER 22nd** - 8:30 a.m. - Business Meeting — Election of Officers
5:30 p.m. - Banquet – Beer & Wine Included – Entertainment



Clip & Mail to



Gene Lockwood—512 Windsor Gate Cir—Virginia Beach, VA 23452-2129

Yes, I/we plan to attend the reunion.

RATE/RANK: _____

NAME: _____ **YEARS ABOARD BANG:** _____ **to** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **PHONE NO:** (____) _____ - _____

CITY: _____ **ST:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

SPOUSE'S / GUEST'S NAME(S): _____

ARRIVAL DATE: ____/____/____ **DEPART DATE:** ____/____/____ **E-ADDR:** _____

NUMBER TAKING MARINERS MUSEUM TOUR: _____ @ \$44.00 per person. = _____

NUMBER TAKING MACARTHUR TOUR: _____ @ \$36.00 per person. = _____

NUMBER TAKING DINNER CRUISE TOUR: _____ @ \$64.00 per person. = _____

NUMBER ATTENDING BANQUET: _____ @ \$50.00 per person. = _____

Please specify entrée choice(s): _____ - Chicken _____ - Steak _____ - Fish
(Indicate how many)

HOSPITALITY ROOM STIPEND PER SHIPMATE **+ 10.00**

Make check payable to **USS BANG**

TOTAL _____

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HOLIDAY, FL 34691-3625



**GOD Bless America!
For In GOD We Trust.**

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PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

