



1943



1972



# THE BANG GANG NEWSLETTER

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

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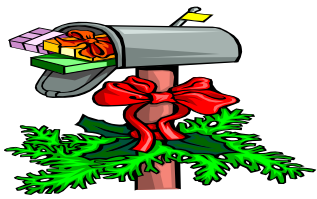
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**REAR ADMIRAL GEORGE F ELLIS  
COMMANDING OFFICER USS BANG SS 385  
JANUARY 1955-JANUARY 1957  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**



# FPO



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.

Hello Again Shipmates and Friends,

Well it's that time again, and usually I'd be writing about the reunion we all just attended. Well that didn't happen and since we don't have all the pictures that our resident duty photog Doc would have taken, plus some interesting quotes from our attendees and the year end business report, this issue will be a little thin. I waited as long as I could just in case more material came in, but finally I had to get it to the printers. While I'm on the subject, a little bit of how this whole thing is put together. When material comes in from the shipmates I print it and store it in a folder to be used later in the newsletter. Some material is used every quarter such as the FPO, Lost and Found, Eternal Patrol and the cover and last page. Then material that is used specifically at certain times, such as reunions and such are next in line to be included. But here's the trick. The printer can only print in four page increments. So if I have material for say ten pages, then I only put in eight pages or pay for two pages that will be blank. This is the case for this issue. But fear not, I have a feeling that our end of year "Holiday" issue will be once again a double issue. And speaking of issues, how did everyone who receives the "snail mail" AKA hard copy version like the living color! Staples, for some reason printed the Spring Summer issue in color, when we ordered black and white. I did not complain as we paid the black and white price. But once again, I wouldn't get used to it. Well that's enough for the boring nuts and bolts stuff, let's turn to other more interesting things.

I have some great news and some not so great about the slush fund. The great news? The checks are flying in and many shipmates and friends have contributed again and again. Thank you all! And how do I know this, well that's the not so great news, because I'm still getting the checks sent to me. Remember to send all your checks to our Treasurer Ike Cohen. If I get the checks, I'll pass them on to Ike but it is another step and with the Post Office in somewhat of a turmoil, it may take much longer than usual. Also remember not to send cash, the last thing you want is to have a deck ape get an envelope of green stuff just before it's happy hour at Ernie's. Again, thanks so much for your generosity, and Bravo Zulu to Ike for all his hard work as Treasurer and Storekeeper. Speaking of Storekeeper Ike, be sure to see his new and improved line of Bang Gang stuff later in this issue, he and President Fenton worked hard on a new small stores page, and it looks great. All the stuff you need to look squared away, high and tight, and "salty."

Some letters came in from the Shipmates:

**William Kielbasa** writes, "thanks for the newsletters Eric, I look forward to getting them, I recently moved and when I get settled I'll send in some sea stories."

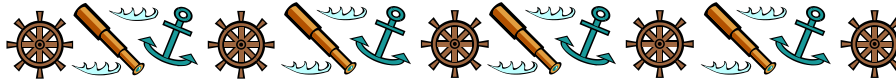
*Thanks for your email Bill, your new address is in the Lost and Found section, and please do send in as many sea stories as you like, I'm sure every one would like to read them. I see you moved to Gloucester from Danvers, from one high school arch rival to the other. Enjoy your new home!*

**Willie Creel** called me the other day, he spoke of his time on the BANG, in the '50's and how they were deployed around the Suez Canal keeping tabs on everyone during the '56 Suez Canal war between Egypt, Britain, France, and Israel. He said the temperature rose to 135 degrees during the day and they would lie on the bottom and surface during the night, and recharge the batteries. Sometimes they stay submerged recharge on the snorkel. Yikes!

*It was great talking to you Willie, I could listen to those stories all day, I think you may have been on board when RADM Ellis was the Commanding Officer. Again thanks for your call and stay safe!*



# LOST AND FOUND



This page 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.

GEORGE ELLIS RADM 55-57  
JOHN LEE "JACK" JONES IC 57  
DONOVAN RAY FLOYD YN 55

GEORGE THOMAS SCHNEIDER LT(JG) 61  
LINN RODGERS ENC 66-67  
MILTON BRILL ST 54



## SHIPMATES, REST YOUR OARS

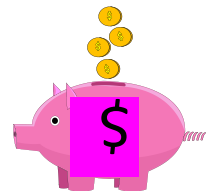
The following shipmates are new (found) additions to our roster. Your committee is thankful for all who helped in locating them and we will continue our search until we have attempted to locate everyone.

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	ADDRESS	CITY ST	ZIP CODE	PHONE	YOB
NONE TO REPORT						



## THANK YOU!

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



BILL ANDERSON	CHUCK SHELLY PHD	IKE COHEN	MIKE HUBJOI	RITA DIXON
WILLIAM & KATHLEEN POWELL		JOSEPH & DONETTE FITZPATRICK		

### THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATES HAVE CHANGED THEIR ADDRESS

WILLIAM KIELBASA 7 PRENTISS ROAD, GLOUCESTER, MA. 01930

JOHN ANDERSEN 1100 SAN PABLO AVE. # 317 ALBANY, CA. 947 06



**Rear Admiral George F. Ellis**-Admiral Ellis departed on Eternal patrol on 24 September at his home in Annapolis, Maryland. Admiral Ellis graduated from the Naval Academy in 1944 as a member of the class of '45. Admiral Ellis had a long and distinguished career beginning with six submarines. He commanded the USS BANG (SS 385) from January 1955 to January 1957. He also commanded USS Simon Lake, Submarine Division 41, and Submarine Flotilla 7. He was the military advisor to two US Ambassadors to NATO and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. He ended his naval career commanding the South Atlantic Force of the US Atlantic Fleet.



**John Lee (Jack) Jones**-passed away peacefully surrounded by family on 4 August, 2020. Born on 13 February 1930, Jack was

a graduate of Charleroi High School and the Massanutten Military Academy in Woodstock VA. He served as an IC man aboard the USS TUSK and USS BANG during the Korean war. After the war he worked for Bell Telephone and AT&T for 41 years as a Systems Technician.



**Linn Rogers**-Linn Rogers of Goose Creek, SC entered unto Eternal Patrol on 15 September. Born 12 February, 1930 in Kannapolis, NC Linn served in the US Navy for 22 years on submarines. He served on the BANG from 1966 to 1967 as a Chief Engineman. After the Navy Linn worked at the Charleston Navy yard. Linn was a member of the Submarine Veterans of America.



**George Thomas Schneider**-Deployed on Eternal Patrol on 15 December 2019. He was born on 4 March 1937 in Amsterdam, New York. He Graduated from Cornell University, (where he met his wife) and went straight into the Navy onto submarines. He was assigned to the USS BANG in 1961 as a Lieutenant Junior Grade. It is said that George's stories at Thanksgiving were the most interesting and fun. Upon leaving the Navy, George went into business that led him to Glens Falls, NY, Westford, Ma. And finally back to the Ithaca area. He was named the founding President of Cornell's Business Innovation Center. He taught a course in entrepreneurship for fifteen years at Cornell's S.C. Johnson School of Business. He excelled at all sports, although it was said he was a great skier, but unfortunate golfer.



**Donovan Ray Floyd**-Donovan Ray Floyd embarked on Eternal Patrol on 9 April 2020. He was Born on 20 December 1934 in Choctaw, OK. He graduated from Jeff Davis High School in Houston and went on to serve honorably

in the Navy on Submarines until his discharge in 1957. "Ray" served as a Yeoman on the BANG in 1955. The first of his family to attend college Ray achieved several post-graduate degrees and served his career as an educator in the Klein and Houston school districts



**Milton H Brill**-Departed on Eternal patrol on 2 May, 2020. Milton served on the BANG in 1954 as a Sonarman during the Korean War. Milton owned and operated a Mister Softee Ice Cream franchise and also owned North County Firewood. Milton was a member of the American Legion, Elks Club, and was founder of the Cicero Pop Warner football program.





# TARGET FOR TODAY



NOVEMBER



ZULU



XRAY



BRAVO

RADIO CALL SIGN ALCOA



Ahoy Shipmates! Today's target is the USS LONG BEACH CGN 9. Once the "Home and Feeder" of our shipmate and Vice President Paul Schramm. The Long Beach was the first nuclear cruiser and built at the Fore River Yard in Quincy Mass. Paul was stationed on her in 67-68 while the Long Beach was off the coast of North Vietnam on air rescue missions. It was during one of these missions that the Long Beach rescued the crew of a SH-3 Sea King Helicopter (see below). Her escort the carrier the USS Hornet CVS-12 hoisted the copter off of the Long Beach's fantail onto the flight deck. Not something you see every day! Vital statistics for the Long Beach are:

LOA 721' 3"- powered by 2 Westinghouse C1W reactors supplying 80, 000 std hsp, a displacement of 14, 200 tons. Her armament included 2 Talos missile launchers, 2 Terrier missile launchers with a total of 120 missiles, 2 5" guns, and 20 ASROC missiles. Quite formidable! The Long Beach was launched 14JUL59, Commissioned 9SEP61 and Decommissioned and stricken 1MAY95.



UNDERWAY PORT VIEW



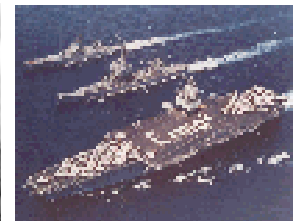
HIGH SPEED TURN



WHERE'S PAUL?



IN SINGAPORE



TASK FORCE ONE





# THE LUCKY BAG

Well Shipmates and Friends,

I hope you enjoyed the addition to the Bang Gang Newsletter—**TARGET FOR TODAY!** I am very grateful to our Vice-President Paul Schramm for allowing me to use the *USS LONG BEACH CGN 9* as my first foray into this new venture and truly uncharted territory. It was a little hairy at the start but I think it turned out okay for a rookie!

Please give me your thoughts and comments, and if you have any suggestions as to how I make this better please don't be shy!

This new segment does need at least one important ingredient...YOU! I need those shipmates who have served in the surface fleet to get in touch with me and allow me to spotlight your former "home and a feeder."

All you have to do to get your ship in the newsletter is: ONE— Tell me the class (ex. DD, CVN, etc.) and the name and hull number. TWO— years spent on board and finally THREE— any anecdotes or sea stories you'd like to share with our readers. Keep in mind that we are a family publication, Ha Ha. I will take care of the rest. So brush off those undress blues, dig out your liberty card, spit shine those boon-dockers and let everyone see what you did in the Black Shoe Navy. For our Officers out there this is open to you too! I bet there are some really good stuff that came out of those wardrooms!

I'd like to say thanks again to all the contributors to the slush fund. You are the gas that powers this engine we couldn't do it with out you! Thanks as always to Ike Cohen and Bill Fenton for the hard work they did getting the new small stores page up and running, Bravo Zulu gentlemen!



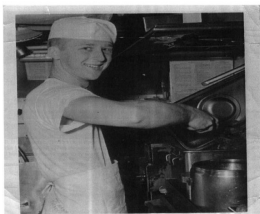
I received an email from the current Commander of my SUBVETS base in Marblehead, Ma. It seems a WWII veteran of the *USS PILOTFISH (SS386)* is turning 100 years old on November 4th. And his family would like it if as many people could send him a birthday card. The *Pilotfish* and *Bang* were constructed and launched together in Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, so I feel it would kind of nice if we had a few of the *Bang Gang*, send a card to him. I know I am. His name and address is;

BANG (L) AND PILOT FISH

Mr. John Simons  
1010 Waltham St.  
Suite 604  
Lexington, Ma. 02421

Finally, for your enjoyment:

Speaking of the old days, here are pictures of Phil Beal, preparing Eggs Benedict for 80 and yours truly, trying to find the head in TM "A" School Key West.



Phil Beal, CM3, mixes his soup for an afternoon soup-down on USS Bang (SS-388) during the 1970's.

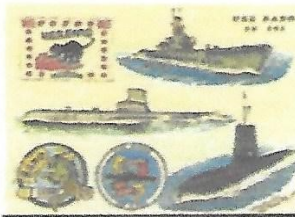
Thanks to Scott "Doc" Rogers PHD for the picture of Phil. No one wants to take credit for mine. Stay safe and I'll catch you this Fall!







Navy Blue Ballcap - \$8.00 ea.  
Solid or Mesh top State Your Choice



6" Window Trilogy Decal  
\$5.00 ea.

All orders are normally sold at our Reunions or shipped via USPS Priority Mail. Send mail orders to Isaac Cohen with your check payable to USS Bang and be sure to include a few extra bucks to cover the postage.

**Please include your phone number in case of discrepancies. Mail to: Isaac (Ike) Cohen 26 Rossetti Ct. Brick, NJ 08724-2426**

**Note: License Plates are no longer available.**

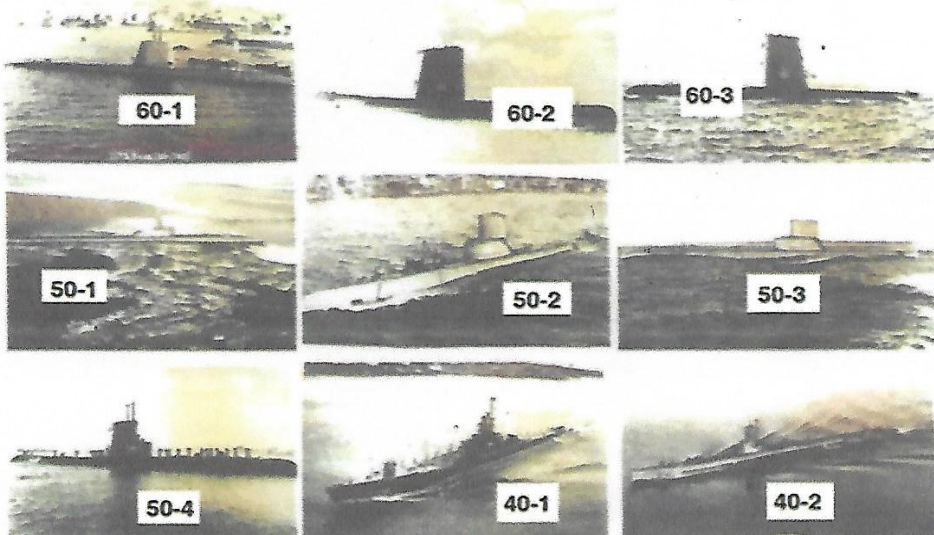


5" Jacket Patch - \$5.00 ea.  
State Your Choice



1" Lapel/Hat pins - \$5.00 ea.  
State Your Choice

11x14 BANG Photos - 40's, 50's, 60's - \$3.00 ea. State Your Choice



**ORDER COINS BY NUMBER**



Original Challenge Coins  
(Pre 75th Anniversary - Different Backs)

\$15.00



#3 40's



#4 40's



#5

75th Anniversary  
Challenge Coins

\$15.00



75th  
Anniversary  
Hat/Lapel Pin  
\$5.00



Bang Trilogy  
Mouse Pad

\$12.00



Eric H. Ericson, III-Editor  
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FIRST – CLASS MAIL  
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PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

