

Greetings Shipmates:

Another year has passed, and another reunion is history. We hope all of you had a lovely holiday season. We thank everyone who send us cards and apologize that we couldn't send cards to all of you. It was a pleasure to see so many of you in Charleston and we missed those of you who couldn't make it. We look forward to seeing you at future reunions.

Charleston South Carolina was a wonderful place to have a reunion. Chuck Kass, V.E. Graves, Frank Colvin and Sam Ellis did an outstanding job in putting together a wonderful reunion. There was so much to see and do. We had tours of two plantations, one quite different from the other, so we got a feeling about what plantation life was in the heyday of the "Antebellum South". We also visited Patriot's Point. There we toured the USS Yorktown, USS Laffey (a Sumner Class destroyer), a Coast Guard cutter and a submarine. We had lunch in the Chief's mess ("Goat Locker") aboard Yorktown and had a memorial service aboard ship.

The weather in Charleston couldn't have been better. It was quite warm and sunny. From all the shopping bags that were in evidence at the hotel, I'd say our group boosted Charleston's economy nicely. They probably missed us when we left. In addition to shopping, there are many excellent restaurants and we sampled a few. The Francis Marion Hotel was lovely and the service was excellent. The banquet at the Francis Marion was wonderful. The food was excellent and we had a guest speaker, Mr. Alphonso Brown, who talked about the Gullah (black) culture of coastal South Carolina and Georgia. He was extremely interesting. A ship's model was raffled off, as well as some other prizes at the banquet.

At the business meeting, there was discussion about incorporating as a non-profit (501(c)(3)). Chuck Kass will be spearheading that effort and will provide information as the process moves forward.

The next reunion (2006) will be somewhere on the Gulf Coast (Texas or Louisiana), but the place hasn't been determined as yet. A date hasn't been set, but watch future newsletters for information. Our hosts will be Bob Sipole (IC3, 60-64), Gene Gau (MM2, 63-64), Chuck Ruth (MM2, 63-65) and Bob LeJeune (LTjg, 63-65). If you would like to help with the reunion, contact Bob Sipole at 409-835-5408, email: BSIPOLE@wmconnect.com

Due to increasing postage costs and costs of packing boxes, we will have to raise the price of baseball caps to \$12.00. We will also need to find a new company to produce caps. It seems the company we've been using has "disappeared". Hopefully, we can find a company that will charge the same price so we won't have to increase the price again, but because the old company didn't send back our setup CD, we'll have to pay a setup charge (probably between \$125 and \$150). We have about 100 caps on hand so we're all right for now.

The association's checkbook balance is quite low at this time (approximately \$1,500). To be able to continue sending out newsletters (printing, envelopes and postage) to approximately 550 people by US Mail, we will need to increase the checkbook balance. Ordinarily we have a balance of about \$5,000 between reunions, which is a good cushion. We haven't had to ask for donations since we began in 2000, but donations of any amount would be most appreciated and will benefit everyone. Please make checks payable to **Henry W. Tucker Reunion Fund** and send to:

J.W. Siler, Jr.
835 Claybanks Drive
Callaway, VA 24067

It was brought to our attention that the banner of the newsletter (and the banner on the website's pages) reads USS Henry W. Tucker DD 875. We have contacted Kevin Skislock, who designed the website and newsletter banner. He will be changing it to read DD/R 875. Hopefully, it will be done by the time we send out the next newsletter.

We have two volunteers who will be helping Pat with the website. Tom Byrne (RM2, 60-62) will begin working on the photo gallery soon and Gary O'Neil (ETR3, 63-66) has begun scanning documents and histories for inclusion on the site. This may take some time. We have a large amount of photos and documents and it will take time to get them all up. We want to make our website the best ship's website and the addition of Tom and Gary will help make that a reality. Thanks Tom and Gary for your generous offer of assistance. Bob Miller will be consulting with all of them on the site. He has an eye for detail and will work tirelessly to make sure everything that goes on the site is accurate. If you have any documents or photos you'd like to see on the site, let us know and we'll put you in touch with Tom and/or Gary.

If you have changed your address, phone number, email address, etc., please let us know as soon as possible. Every time we send out a newsletter, we get several returns because of address changes. If there's a new address, we send a newsletter to the new address, which means additional postage. If it is returned because the person hasn't left a forwarding address or the address is incomplete (perhaps no apartment number), we have to spend time trying to find the person. Right now we have four or five returns that we haven't been able to find new addresses for. Email returns are numerous as well. So if you've moved or changed your email address, we need to know right away. You can either send the information to us or to Bob Miller (millerbrothers875@hotmail.com).

We have several new members, several additions to the Memorial List and a few on the Sick Call List. If you know of anyone who is ill or who has passed away, please send the information to us. Also if you have copies of obituaries, we'd like to have them. We have several now and plan to link them to the person's name on the website. Also, if you "run into" a shipmate, please put him in touch with us. We recently had someone tell us he ran into someone who had been aboard the Tucker when he was out shopping, evidently the fellow spotted his HWT baseball cap.

For those of you who are in parts of the country that are being battered by winter storms (snow, ice and flooding over much of the country this month), we wish you well. Amazingly, we in the mid-Atlantic are enjoying balmy weather. Temperatures are hovering near 70 during the day and around 50 at night. When we finally do get into the deep freeze, we'll definitely feel it in our bones. December was fairly cold, but this month has been about 20 degrees above normal.

We wish each and every one of you and your families a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Fair winds and smooth sailing.
Bill Siler

Additions to the Crew List

Avendano, Carlos
TN, 64-68

Bradley, Gregory J.
SM2, 68-71

Bryant, Jarrell M. "Jerry"
FTGSN, 69-73

Callantine, Wallace R.
SN, 58-59

Conn, Emery D.
SM1, 68-70

Dean, Kenneth W.
GMG2, 68-69

Deshong, David A.
SM2, 68-69

Duncan, David T.
GM3, 49-52

Gibson, Richard M. "Dick"
LTJG, 66-68

Gladu, Donald
RD2, 65-66

Haley, James R. "Jim"
LT, 68-70

Havekost, Franklin R. "Havey"
SN, 64-66

Hinnard, Richard
Decommissioning Crew

Jarvinen, Einar F. "Butch"
SM2, 63-66

Koenig, James A.
SK2, 68-69

Kreinberg, Leo E.
MMCS, 60-61

Larson, Lyle C.
GM3, 67-70

Londrigan, Ralph F.
SN, 72-73

Muedeking, Michael
RD2, 66-68

Nicholas, Wayne
SM3, 68-69

O'Brien, George E.
LCDR, 66-68

Parsons, Charles
BT1, 59-62

Pieh, Alan
ATN2, 68-69

Reynolds, Barnard H. "Butch"
EM3, 57-60

Scott, Jack
ETN2, 69

Shepard, Donald L.
MM2, 71-73

Sta Maria, Ernesto D.
BT3, 62-66

Stark, Joe
SN, 58-59

Sweet, Richard
BT3, 59-61

Weeks, Jack E.
BT3, 66-69

Williams, Robert L. "Willy"
MM2, 69-73

Additions to the Memorial List

Anderson, Arthur E.
BMC, 68-70

Banks, Delbert E.
GMG1, 58-59

Bednarz, Donald F. "Deputy Dog"
ETCM, 65-57

Berrey, Calvin C.
BM3, 51

Blankenship, Carl E.
SH1, 59-62

Brinnen, James E.
FT1, 56-59

Brown, Harry E. "Charlie"
BT3, 60-63

Butler, Alfred W.
CS1, 58-59

Costas, Nicholas D. "Nick"
ET1, 58-60

Crawley, Clair C.
BT2, 55-57

Curtis, Edward M.
ETC, 71

Emmons, Clarence
MMCS, 68-70

Forque, Asa L.
SN1/c, 50-52

Fugate, Joseph K. "Joe"
BT2, 52-54

Graham, Luther M.
SN1/c, 48-53

Grant, Otis D.
Rate & years unknown

Hann, Jr., Robert
GM1, 55-57

Hopewell, Wallace B.
BMG3, 50-52

Huntington, Frederick H.
BMC, 55-57

Jamison, Duane L.
GM3, 53-54

Jolicoeur, Edward G.
BTFN, 72-73

La Hue, Jr., Franklin "Frank"
FN, 57-58

Lannen, Richard F.
BMSN, 45-46

Lassen, Jay E.
SMSN, 68-70

Lovett, Earl V.
GM1, 45

Matis, Jack
SN2/c, 45-46

Meyer, Bernard "Barney"
CDR, 45-46

Moncure, Billy
MM1, 57-58

Moore, Sam
LCDR, 54-55

Mundell, Henry J.
GMC, 49-51

Pee, Frank
SN1/c, 45-46

Price, John
SN, 46-48

Additions to Memorial List (cont'd)

Raney, Paul J.
MM2, 57-62

Strong, Harold E.
EN1, 63-65

Reynolds, Robin L.
FN, 60-61

Wells, Clifton D.
SKC, 68-70

Rice, Gerald E.
CS3, 50-52

Wheeler, Robert W.
GMC, 52-54

Smith, Alonzo V. "Lonnie"
GMG3, 63-65

Winstead, John R.
BTFN, 51-53

Southworth, William L.
ENS, 45-46

We received word on January 14 from Jack London (LT, 51-53) that his wife Sylvia had passed away. Those of you who know Jack know of the special relationship between him and Sylvia. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jack. If you would like to send him a card, his address is: 1770 Arroyo Dr., Auburn, CA 95603-9431.

Sick Call

Jordan, Robert H.
BT2, 53-55

Bob was hospitalized in December, but is now home and doing well.

Napier, Ed
MM3, 48-51

Ed was hospitalized in November and doing well at that time.

Dickey, Florence, wife of Holland
FN, 52-55

Florence was ill at the reunion and they had to leave early so she could see her doctor. We hear she is doing better.

London, Sylvia, wife of Jack
LT, 51-53

Sylvia was ill at the time of the reunion and Jack had to cancel.

We wish Bob, Ed and any other ill shipmates or ill family members a speedy recovery! Please keep them in your prayers.

Below is the Income and Expense report for the period January 1, 2004 to July 31, 2004 (when the account was closed due to our move to Virginia).

INCOME

Deposit - Misc	310.00
Reunion Registration	<u>10,005.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	10,315.00

EXPENSES

Boxes	20.27
Envelopes	23.09
Photocopies	292.95
Postage Baseball Caps	72.06
Printing Newsletter	665.72
Reunion Expenses	3,250.00
Ship Model (to be raffled at reunion)	850.00
Stamps (for Newsletters)	<u>757.91</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>5,932.00</u>

OVERALL TOTAL **4,383.00**

Below is the Income and Expense Report covering July 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004. The account was opened in July 2004 (after our move to Virginia).

INCOME

Other Income *	9,526.66
Reunion 2004 – Registration **	<u>23,619.11</u>
TOTAL INCOME	33,145.77

EXPENSES

Uncategorized	19.11
Baseball Caps (purchase of 150 caps)	784.78
Cash	50.00
Miscellaneous, Bus	5.01
Office Supplies (envelopes, labels, etc.)	177.99
Postage and Delivery (newsletters and caps)	592.59
Printing and Reproduction (newsletters) ***	283.23
Reunion 2004 - Expenses	27,601.27
Reunion 2004 - Refunds	2,110.00
Void	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	31,623.98

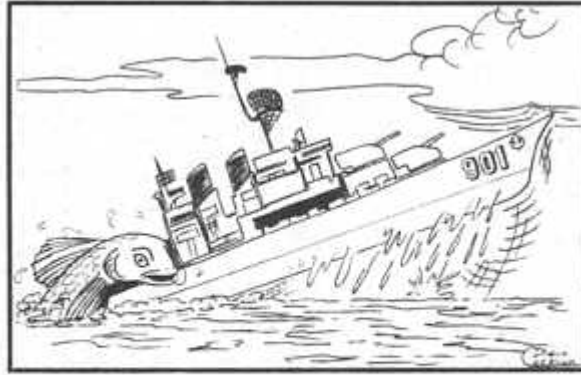
OVERALL TOTAL **1,521.79**

* Includes beginning balance (cash deposited from closure of account in Massachusetts bank and income from sale of baseball caps) as well as proceeds from raffle of ship's model at reunion.

** Includes some baseball cap income (orders included with registrations).

*** Includes reimbursement to Bob Miller for printing Memorial Service booklets for reunion.

Found this cartoon on The Gamewardens of Vietnam Association website. Thought it was interesting.



"This is the Captain speaking . . . There will be no more fishing from the fantail until further notice!"

All-Navy Cartoon Contest
David E. Cockrum, YN3 USN

Having passed the enlistment physical, Jon was asked by the doctor, "Why do you want to join the Navy, son?"

"My father said it'd be a good idea, sir."

"Oh? And what does your father do?"

"He's in the Army, sir."

If you have any information that would be useful to veterans or any humorous pieces or poetry that are Navy related, we'd love to have them so we can include them in the newsletter. We usually leave a page free for such things.

Contact Information

J.W. "Bill" Siler, Jr. BTC USNR Ret
835 Claybanks Drive
Callaway, VA 24067-4524

Tel: 540-483-5727

Email (Bill): jwsilerbtc@earthlink.net

Email (Pat): patspugs@earthlink.net

Website

<http://www.hwtucker2000.com>

Baseball Caps

Baseball caps are available. They are US made, Navy Blue with the ship's name and hull number in gold. Ship profile is in white.

To order, send a check or money order for \$12.00 (covers postage) payable to:

Henry W. Tucker Reunion Fund

Send the check to the address at the left.

USS Henry W. Tucker DD/R 875

Reunion Association

Mission

The mission of the USS Henry W. Tucker Reunion Association is to bring together shipmates from the entire time the ship was in commission, 1945-1973 as the USS Henry W. Tucker (DD and DDR 875) USN and 1973-1993 as the Marcilio Dias (D25) of the Brazilian Navy.

All shipmates of all rates and ranks and their families are considered to be part of the Tucker Family and all are welcome at reunions. This includes widows and children of our departed shipmates.

The mission is also to honor those who have gone before, our deceased shipmates.