



Hello shipmates,

Winter has finally come to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. There's about four inches of snow on the ground and freezing rain predicted. Snow is fine, we don't like the freezing rain. We had to make a trip to Massachusetts on December 31. Pat's mother was failing so we drove up. We arrived at the nursing home at 6:15 pm and her mother passed away at 6:30. Family members said she was waiting for Pat and they were right. The visitation was on Thursday, January 3 and was more a celebration of her life than a sad time. Family and friends gathered to share memories and stories. The funeral was on Friday morning and was beautiful. We arrived home on Sunday evening (January 6) and are getting back to normal.

Plans for the reunion well underway. Below is the information on the hotel. As we get information on tours, we will put them in newsletters and on the website. There is a reunion page on the website with the hotel information. Additions to that page will be made as information becomes available.

Holiday Inn Seattle-Renton
October 1-5, 2008
 One South Grady Way
 Renton, WA 98057
 425-226-7700
www.holidayinn.com/rentonwa

Reservation Method:

Reservations MUST be made by phone directly to the Hotel at (425) 226-7700 x 7225. Reservations must be made by **August 15, 2008**. In order to receive the negotiated rate, you must indicate the group name: **USS HENRY TUCKER REUNION**. Should you use any other phone numbers and/or book via online internet search engine you may not receive the negotiated rate listed above and the guest room block will not be credited. All reservation requests must be accompanied with a first night room deposit, or be guaranteed with a major credit card. Please note that Room Types and Special Request cannot be guaranteed as they are based upon availability. We will have information on RV parks in the next newsletter.

Transportation Services:

Airport: The Holiday Inn Seattle-Renton offers complimentary 24-hour Airport shuttle service to and from SeaTac Airport (Seattle/Tacoma International Airport). We recommend that you make advance arrangement by calling the hotel directly at (425) 226-7700 for pick-up. OR as you arrive at the baggage claim area, look for Hotel's courtesy phone and dial #18 and then proceed to the 3rd level of the parking garage. Shuttle will pick you up at the designated "island."

Mail: Also the hotel's local shuttle provides daily schedule services within a five-mile radius including Westfield Shopping town (over 200 retailers including Nordstrom, Macy's, and numerous restaurants), local parks, and more.

The room rate is \$119.00 per night. This is higher than the rate for other reunions, but the price includes a welcome buffet on the first night and a full breakfast buffet (varied each morning) each morning in our hospitality room for attendees staying at the hotel. We feel that the price is quite reasonable. For those not staying at the hotel, a charge of \$15.00 per person will be charged for the welcome buffet and each day's breakfast if you plan to attend.

Reservations can be made at any time and we suggest you reserve early. If your plans change and you cannot attend, you can always cancel. We also suggest looking into airline reservations early because the prices will be lower if you book early.

Tentative plans are for a tour to a flight museum as well as a visit to the USS Turner Joy. We would like to have the memorial service on or near the Turner Joy. Information and pricing will be in the next newsletter. Of course there will be a banquet and business meeting with a raffle.

We're also looking ahead to 2010. That reunion will be on the East Coast and we're looking at either Wilmington, North Carolina or Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Both are in areas with interesting sights to see and things to do. We'd like to plan it for September so the weather would be warm.

We received an email message from Jim Poole (ENS/LTJG, 59-61) on December 25 informing us that Mrs. Ann Hanson (widow of CDR Ralph M. "Swede" Hanson) entered hospice care in her home in November for leukemia. Her daughter Karen shares her residence so she is well cared for. If you would like to send Mrs. Hanson a card, here is her address: Mrs. Ann Hardy Hanson, 754 Neptune Court, Chula Vista, CA 91910-6322. As of this writing (January 19), we have no further word on her condition. Please keep her in your prayers. Mrs. Hanson and family members attended the banquet at San Diego in 2002.

Website News

The website is always a work in progress. If you haven't visited the site recently, please do. On the main page is a prominent link to the reunion page. Visit often for updates. Be sure to also visit the history page and the veterans' information page. There is a wealth of information on the veterans' information page.

Gary O'Neil continues to expand on the Tucker history for the website. We've lost track of everyone who has contributed to this project, but it is wonderful that so many have come together to work on it. If you have any information that you can add to the history, please contact Gary directly (email: goneil@new.rr.com, phone: 920-738-0634). The next time we post the history to the website (hopefully around the time this newsletter goes out), it will be separated into sections. The original file was getting so large we were concerned that people with older, slower computers might have problems downloading it, so it will be available in smaller files. Please see page 5 of this newsletter for information from Gary on the history.

We have been adding obituaries to the Memorial List on the website and would like to post as many as we can. If you have a copy of an obituary (or death announcement, or funeral home announcement) for a shipmate, we would love to post it. If you can scan it and email it to Pat that would be good. If you don't have a computer, you can send the original. Pat will scan it and return the original to you. See the last page for address info.

It's been awhile since any photos have been posted on the website. Tom Byrne, who has done an excellent job with that project, has had to take some time off to go to Vermont so he and Julie can care for his daughter Laura who is seriously ill. Please keep them in your prayers.

As always, if you move or change your email address, please let us know as soon as possible. We need up-to-date information to be sure we can get your newsletters to you. This newsletter will not go to a handful of shipmates because we don't have current addresses or email addresses and haven't been able to find them. Also, we want to be sure your email address is current on the website so your shipmates will be able to find you.

On page 4 of this newsletter is a letter from Bob Miller with information on his ongoing project of having cruise books put on CD.

Fair winds and smooth sailing!
Bill Siler

Additions to the Crew List

Anderson, Norman L. "Andy"
CS3, 59-62 (brother of Thomas)

Anderson, Thomas E.
BT2, 59-61 (brother of Norman)

Cole, Gary J.
CSSN, 62-64

Dearborn, Robert J. "Bob"
YN3, 64-66

Ferm, Gerald "Jerry"
FN1/c, 45-46

Hayes, Robert W. "Bob"
ENS, 46-48

Hight, Weldon D.
SN, 63-66

Hill, George O.
SN, 68-69

Ottino, William T.
FN, 67-69

Putnam, Keith A. "Putt"
BT3, 56-57

White, James H.
EM3, 45

Van Eps, Richard N. "Van"
SN, 64-65

Additions to the Memorial List

Anderson, Dale J.
FTG3, 62-64

Ashby, Claude P.
FN1/c, 51-52

Bifulco, Frank F.
SK2, 46-49

Bowler, Jr., James R.
LT, 50-53

Davis, James E.
CS3, 48-50

Ihrke, Warren C.
FTC, 49-52

Joanis, William L. "Piss Ant"
CS3, 61-63

Juengling, Jr., Karl F.
LTJG, 45-46

Keith, Willie J. "Bill"
BT3, 50-53

Magnano, Ignatius J. "Iggy"
FN1/c, 48-50

Mauck, Kenneth C.
ME2, 50-53

McCaulley, Ben
MM2, 49-52

Nail, Curtis F.
FN, 64-65

Orlauski, Robert W. "Bob"
SM3, 72-73

Planz, Vernon L.
MMC, 56-58

Poe, Sam G.
SN1/c, 50-51

Ragon, Donald E.
GM1/c, 45-46

Reed, Robert A.
MMC, 52-53

Rida, John W.
SN1/c, 45-46

Roepke, John R.
LTJG, 55-57

Ten Eyck, Winfield C. "Win"
FC3, 45-47

Yager, Joe
45

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Ruth Willson, wife of Tommy Willson (FN, 52-55), passed away on January 18, 2007.
Bruce Cardin (FN, 52-55) has been ill.
Dayton Powell, (BT2, 51-55) has had eye surgery recently.

Cruise Book Information

Hello Shipmates,

Requests for USS Henry W. Tucker Cruise Books have picked up slightly. Since the last newsletter I've received enough requests for the, 1955, 1956 -'57, 1959, 1968 -'69 1969 -'70 and the 1971 Cruise Books to have them professionally scanned.

Each book consists of two CD's. The first is a pdf file while the second are jpg files. They are enclosed in a jewel case and adorned with the books cover on the front.

The following Cruise Books are now available on CD's

1953	1956	1959	1968 -'69	1971
1955	1956 -'57	1963 -'66	1969 -'70	

[These CD's are only available to former shipmates or their families]

When sufficient requests are received for the remaining books I'll have them professionally scanned and made available.

This is not a business for me. It is in fact a method of preserving some of our history while making these books available to others who for whatever reason do not enjoy a book of their own. Your donation gives me the financial ability to continue this practice.

I ask for a donation of **\$20.00** or more per book. However when I originally started this project I was unaware there were Cruise Books with far more pages. Although shipping and handling remains the same, the cost of having these book scanned were three times greater than previous books scanned. The 1968 -'69 and 1969 are two such books. Therefore I ask for a donation of **\$30.00** or more for these CD's. Similar CD's sell on E-Bay for over \$40, however, they don't have Tucker Cruise Books. Coupled with the fact that most shipmates sent me donations of \$30.00 or more for books with far fewer pages I feel this is a reasonable request.

USS Henry W. Tucker had a total of 12 Cruise Books they range from 1953 to 1973 and are as follows.

1953	1956	1958	1963 -'66	1968 -'69	1971
1955	1956 -'57	1959	1967	1969 -'70	1972 -'73

If interested

Send me : Your name and the book/s you're interested in.
[I will notify you as they become available]

Bob Miller
 3009 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
 Chicago, IL 60659-3724
 773-271-6848
millerbrothers875@hotmail.com

Bob Miller sent two websites with information on asbestos exposure and Mesothelioma for Navy vets.

Asbestosis: <http://www.waterskraus.com/index.aspx?id=asbestoslocator&s=SEA>

Mesothelioma: http://www.mesothel.com/ships/ships_guided.htm

Notes on the History Project from Gary O'Neil

Although there is MUCH more to do --

THE TUCKER HISTORY IS NOW SPLIT INTO 7 SEPARATE SECTIONS.

- The existing history has been split into 7 distinct sections based roughly on 5-year segments. The individual sections are now as follows –

1944-1949 - (Includes Commissioning in October 1944 until December 1949)

The Enewetok A-Bomb certificate has been added for 1948
Completely new info added about the evacuation of Shanghai 1949.

1950-1954 - (Includes the Korean War)

There is a complete re-write of the Tucker Korean War service.
The year 1954 has all the storm information added.

1955-1959 - (Peacetime Activities)

Information added for the Miss Universe visit 1956
More photos have been added.

1960-1964 - (First lengthy deployment, FRAM and Tonkin Gulf incident)

Near collision incident added for 1962
Russian Sub incident added for 1962.

1965-1969 - (The Vietnam War)

Many small clarifications, and also more pictures added.

1970-1973 - (End of Vietnam War until Decommissioning)

New photos added, and the "Fish" story of 1970.

1974-1994 - (History of Marcillio Dias and Sinking)

Presently unchanged.

- These following pieces of the previously posted history are no longer in the 7 sections of the body of the history, but as separate standalone information.

The "Man" - the Henry Walton Tucker part about the Battle of Coral Sea and the sinking of USS Neosho in 1942.

The Plankowner's list.

The Tucker Ribbons and medals section.

The Tucker steaming statistics page.

There will a new Acknowledgements page (soon), which will recognize the many who have contributed to this history.

Contact Information

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

Tel: 540-483-5727

Email (Bill): jwsilerbtc@earthlink.net
Email (Pat): silerpugs@yahoo.com

Websites

<http://www.hwtucker2000.com>

Yahoo Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HenryWTucker>

Baseball Caps

We have baseball caps for sale. They are Navy Blue with the ship's name and hull number in gold. Ship profile is in white.

The caps come in solid cloth or mesh back. Please specify which you prefer when ordering.

To order, send a check 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/DDR 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.