



Hello shipmates,

Another reunion has come and gone. In spite of bad weather, not entirely unexpected in the Northwest, we think most had a good time. It certainly was nice to see so many Washington and Oregon shipmates at the reunion, many for the first time. We look forward to seeing them at future reunions.

The folks at the Holiday Inn did a fine job for us. The sales manager, Lilly Hart and two of her co-workers decorated our hospitality room in red, white and blue. It was patriotic and very beautiful. Lilly went out of her way to make sure we had everything we needed. Marc Caprio, the catering manager did a wonderful job with breakfast every day and the banquet. He was our bartender at the banquet and was very friendly. We enjoyed working with them.

Our hosts, Morgan (RDM3, 45-46) and Kathie Barokas did an excellent job. The band at the banquet was very good. The singer was Morgan's cousin. She and Kathie sang a song together. Kathie is a very good singer!

Our people made good use of the hotel's shuttle service. The shuttle was complimentary, to and from the airport and within a five mile radius of the hotel. I know quite a few people went to the local mall. Fourteen of us from the 60s took their mini-bus to the Cheesecake Factory for dinner one night. Gene Gau (MM2, 62-64) entertained us on the way over with jokes. I think the driver was having as much fun as we were. Gene also told the waiter that it was Bill's birthday (it wasn't!). So when they brought dessert (with Happy Birthday written in chocolate on it) all the waitstaff sang Happy Birthday to him. Gene was in our wedding party 45 years ago.

On Thursday, we went on a tour of the Museum of Flight. We've been to several flight museums all over the US, and we thought the Seattle one was the best we'd seen.

On Friday, in rain, we went to Bremerton. The buses took us around the sound and across a bridge on the way there. We went aboard the USS Turner Joy where we had our memorial service. Due to the rain, it was held on the messdecks. Bob Miller, MM3, 62-65, hosted the service. Dave Harrington, ETR2, 67-72, began the service by playing Amazing Grace on his bagpipes. Then the names of the people who've been added to our memorial list since the last reunion, the Commanding Officers who have passed away and the shipmates whose widows were there were read. It ended with taps and a gun salute. We then decided to take the next ferry (3:00 pm) back to Seattle, rather than have lunch nearby and take the 5:30 pm ferry. While waiting for the ferry, Dave Harrington played a Scottish tune on the bagpipes. Even in the rain, the ferry ride gave us some beautiful views. At one point the ferry stopped to let two Navy tugs pushing a nuclear submarine pass. The only glitch came when we got to the ferry terminal in Seattle. Before we could be sure we had everyone on the buses, the drivers were instructed to drive off the ferry. One bus was going back to the hotel and the other was going to drop some of us off at a shopping/restaurant area on the waterfront. My (Pat) cell phone rang and it was Bill. He and six others, had missed the buses! By the time Bill had rounded up stragglers and got them down to the deck where the buses were, the door was locked. They went back up on deck and asked an employee how to get to the buses. He directed them through the terminal where there was no access to the buses. They ended up on the sidewalk in the rain. Our bus driver was good enough to go back for them. They were wet, but no worse for the wear. Bill will never live it down. You'd have thought he was the only one stranded.

On Saturday morning, we had our business meeting. The minutes of the business meeting are included in this newsletter. After the meeting we had our usual raffle, which was fun. Susan Reno, daughter of Melvin Stephenson (RD3, 45-46) made another fleece throw to be auctioned. Bill Edstrom (FC2, 48-51) got it for \$150.00.

The banquet Saturday night was excellent. The food and company was wonderful and was followed by music and dancing. Chuck Ruth (MM2, 63-65) was the emcee for the evening. He presented a plaque to Bob Miller (MM3, 62-65) for his work as "Crew Locator". Bob gave an acceptance speech worthy of the Oscars! Chuck tried to get him to keep it short, but he kept saying, "Chuck, go sit down, I'm not done yet!" There was talk of hooks and cattle prods..... All in good fun. Seriously, Bob has done an amazing job of increasing our database. Without his hard work, we'd have a much smaller group today.

There are many people who helped out at the reunion. Many thanks to Lena Robinson, Judy Wood and Joyce Quebedeaux for helping check people in. Wes (BMSN, 62-64) & Donna Sutherland took Bill and a couple of other guys to Sam's Club, Wal Mart and the liquor store for supplies. There are many more who were there to help with anything and you all know who you are, even if we can't remember all of your names...

Gary O'Neil (ETR3, 63-66) has worked tirelessly on the history project and he spent most of the reunion talking with shipmates and getting more information to add to the history. He had Edition #1 of the history available on CD for sale. If you haven't seen it on the Website, you must. It's an amazing project. If you have anything you'd like to add or would like to purchase a CD, please let us know and we'll put you in touch with Gary.

For those of you who are retired and have Exchange privileges, we received information from Mark Delagasse (ET2, 65-67) about the Military Star Card, a credit card for use at military exchanges. You can use it at any military exchange and also get a discount at base gas stations. If you don't live near enough to a base to shop at an exchange, you can shop online. The web address is <http://www.milexch.com>. They have excellent sales, free shipping and no sales tax. The interest rate on the card is just 9.9%, which is much lower than any other credit card. You will need to create a userid and password on the website before being able to apply for the card online, but it's a simple process. You can also apply at any military exchange.

Bob Miller sent us two websites related to Asbestos exposure and Mesothelioma. Both mention the Tucker as a known exposure site. They contain a lot of excellent information on Asbestos related illnesses and treatments, as well as medical and legal resources. We've also included another Asbestos related website. We know that many of our shipmates are dealing with Asbestos related illnesses.

The John McNamara Foundation: www.thejohnmcnamarafoundation.org
The Mesothelioma-Navy website: www.mesothelioma-navy.com
Another site: www.asbestos.com

We've learned that you can order business cards with the Navy logo through Military.com. They are from Vistaprint and are free, you just pay shipping. We ordered some for Bill and they are very nice. They come in handy if you run into a shipmate who doesn't know about the reunion association. We included one in each attendee's packet. You should include the ship's website address if you decide to order cards.

If your address, phone number or email address has changed, please contact us immediately so we can update your information. If you don't, you may stop receiving newsletters. If you are currently receiving newsletters via US Mail and you have an email address (except WEBTV or Mailstation), please send us your email address. The more we can send via email, the lower the price for printing & postage. Currently, we send over 800 via email and about 600 via US Mail. Each time, we receive several email bounces as well as returns from the Post Office due to incorrect addresses. We then have to remove incorrect email addresses from our distribution list, the website and our database. Some of the returns from the Post Office have forwarding addresses. We then send the newsletter to the new address (meaning additional postage). Others have no forwarding address, so we're unable to send to those people. So please send us new addresses, etc. as soon as possible. For those who have sent us updated information, thank you! We also encourage you to see Bob Miller at reunions to check your information on our database and make any changes. Very few do this, but it is really important to do so.

Fair winds and smooth sailing!
Bill & Pat Siler

Below is the Income/Expense Report from October 31, 2006 to October 21, 2008. The checkbook balance as of October 21, 2008 is \$5,500.84.

| Income | |
|---|------------------|
| Baseball Cap Orders | 587.69 |
| Donations | 573.00 |
| Other Income: | |
| Reunion Registration (paid at reunion) | 805.00 |
| Baseball Caps (sold at reunion) | 330.00 |
| Raffle Tickets | 200.00 |
| Proceeds from Auction of Fleece Throw | 150.00 |
| History CD Sales (after G. O'Neil's expenses) | 70.00 |
| Miscellaneous Donation (at reunion) | 20.00 |
| Miscellaneous Donation (not at reunion) | 24.00 |
| Total Other Income | 1599.00 |
| Reunion 2008 – Registrations | 15,235.00 |
| Total Income | 17,994.69 |
| Expenses | |
| Preprinted Stamped Envelopes * | 1,152.60 |
| Office Supplies (paper, boxes, toner, etc.) | 428.58 |
| Postage and Delivery | 188.95 |
| Printing (newsletters) | 781.73 |
| Reunion 2008 – Expenses | 12,730.54 |
| Reunion 2008 – Refunds | 1,450.00 |
| Total Expenses | 16,732.40 |

* Due to increasing postage each year, we have discontinued using stamped envelopes. We will use "Forever Stamps" which will save the association postage costs. Our printer can supply us with preprinted envelopes at a lower cost as well.

Additions to the Crew List

Barnes, Wallace P. "Wally", SN2/c, 46
 Collins, Joseph A., SN, 68-70
 Doll, Robert J., SMSN, 71
 Henderson, David C., BT2, 68-70

Himsl, Joseph B., BT3, 55-58
 Miller, Donald A., SO2, 55-57
 Perez, Michael C., BM3, 68-70
 Rutledge, Dwayne C. "Rusty", CSSN, 55-58

Additions to the Memorial List

Callantine, Wallace R., SN, 58-60
 Copenhaver, Arnold E., SFP2, 61-63
 Crowson, Cecil R., EN3, 53-56
 Doyen, John R., SN2/c, 45-46
 Gianfalla, John J., RM3/c, 45-46
 Johnson, James E., HMSN, 48-50
 Katinsky, Michael A., SN2/c, 45

Petersen, Steven H., EN2, 67-69
 Ross, Robert M., CDR, 54-65 (Commanding Officer)
 Shedd, Hugh P., RT3/c
 Shoemaker, William R. "Shoe", FCSN, 49
 Sitton, Earl, SN, 50-54
 Thompson, Bruce, MM3, 66-67
 White, James H., EM3, 45

Sick Bay

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Bruce Cardin, FN, 52-55
 Florence Dickey, wife of Holland, FN, 52-55
 Robert Fender, MM2, 63-66
 Robert Griffin, GMG3, 66-68

Ronald Holt, BT1, 63-65
 Jim Julius, MMFN, 63-65
 Judy Smith, wife of Monty, LTJG, 61-62
 Tommy Willson, FN, 52-55

If you know of any shipmate or wife of a shipmate who is ill, please let us know.

Obituary for Ann H. Hanson, widow of CDR Ralph "Swede" Hanson (January 19, 1925 – December 18, 2007)

Ann H. Hanson, 82, of Chula Vista died Tuesday. She was born in Severna Park, MD, and was a homemaker. Survivors include her daughter, Karen Yarger of Chula Vista; sons, Thomas Hanson of Clearwater, FL, and David Hanson of La Mesa; brother, Harry Hardy of Severna Park, MD; one grandchild and one great-grandchild. Services: 2 pm, January 8, Little Chapel of the Roses, Glen Abbey Mortuary, 3838 Bonita Road, Bonita. Inurnment after services, Glen Abbey Memorial Park.

Published in the San Diego Union-Tribune on 12/22/2007

Reunion 2008 Attendees

The following shipmates attended the reunion as well as many wives and family members. We had some incorrect information on rate and years on some name badges. We think we now have all the correct information for the next reunion. We apologize for any errors. There will be space on the sign-up sheets for the next reunion to put your rate and years. That way, we'll be sure to have correct information on the name badges. It was a pleasure to see all of you and to meet all the "first timers".

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Carlos Aldunate, LTJG, 65-67 | Ed McKenna, BT2, 51-54 |
| John Anderson, SN, 62-64 | Bill Miller, RM2, 60 |
| John Asmundson, BT2, 57-59 | Bob Miller, MM3, 62-65 |
| Morgan Barokas, RDM3, 45-46 | Don Moore, BTFN, 52-56 |
| Richard Beers, RM3, 51-55 | Terry Morrison, RM2, 65-68 |
| Bill Bragg, TM3, 65-67 | Richard Mount, IC3, 48-52 |
| Joe Brubaker, GM2, 45-46 | Chris Murphy, EM2, 72-73 |
| Art Calvert, MM3, 55-56 | Edward Napier, MM3, 49-51 |
| Edward Cowan, SO3, 45-46 | Bill Newell, SN1/c, 45-46 |
| Mark Delagasse, ET2, 65-67 | Gary O'Neil, ETR3, 63-66 |
| Jerry Derryberry, MMFN, 62 | George Parkhurst, BM3, 55-58 |
| Joe Deutsch, FTG2, 66-69 | Mike Perez, BM3, 68-70 |
| Bill Edstrom, FC2, 48-51 | Richard Pollard, TE3, 56-57 |
| Steve Fabry, LTJG, 66-68 | James Poole, LTJG, 59-61 |
| Larry Fahey, ETSN, 71 | Aubrey Quebedeaux, BT3, 55-58 |
| Robert Fender, MM2, 63-66 | C.W. Robinson, BT3, 52-54 |
| Betty Fowlkes (Bob, MM3, 50-54) | Dave Runkle, EM2, 63-66 |
| Robert Funseth, BTFN, 68-69 | Chuck Ruth, MM2, 63-65 |
| James Gable, GM3, 55-57 | Bill Siler, BT3, 62-64 |
| Gene Gau, MM2, 62-64 | Monty Smith, LTJG, 61-62 |
| David Harrington, ETR2, 67-72 | Melvin Stephenson, RD3, 45-46 |
| Eugene Harris, MM2, 47-51 | Robert Strom, ETN3, 59-61 |
| Dave Henderson, BT2, 68-70 | Wes Sutherland, BMSN, 62-64 |
| Fred Hoepfner, CDR, 53-54 | Gary Thistlethwaite, RD3, 65-67 |
| Robert Hover, PN3, 68-70 | Barry Ullman, ENS, 61-62 |
| Marc Johnson, ET3, 61-63 | Bob VanDyken, EM2, 68-73 |
| Phyllis Jordan (Bob, BT2, 53-55) | Mike Volentine, EM2, 61-64 |
| John Kray, GMM3, 63-66 | Skip Welch, ET2, 45-47 |
| Jack London, LT, 51-53 | Tommy Willson, FN, 52-55 |
| Paul Machart, YN3, 62-65 | Leroy Wood, BT2, 60-64 |

There were more, but several had to cancel for various reasons. We wish them all well and hope to see them all in Wilmington, NC in 2010.

There were some excellent suggestions for future reunions, many from Carlos Aldunate (LTJG, 65-67). In the future we'll make name badges in different colors. The majority will be white, but "staff" will be one color and "first timers" will be another color. We found a website where we can get lanyards, larger name badge holders and inserts (in white and colors) at a fraction of what we pay for the ones we've been using. With larger badges, we can make everyone's name larger and easier to read. We also will post a list of attendees on the wall by years, so people will know at a glance who's there.

We had signs posted prominently at the reunion with each day's events and will have them in Wilmington. Please check the signs for any changes. The business meeting time had to be changed after the program booklets were printed and a few people missed it. We hope to keep everyone informed of changes throughout the reunions.

We'll have sent program booklets and memorial booklets to "regulars" who were unable to attend this year. We thought they might like to see what we did.

Minutes for the Business Meeting Held October 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Jack London (LT, 51-53).

Old Business – None

New Business

- To add one day to the reunion
 - No scheduled events so everyone can spend the day visiting
 - Motion to add one day to future reunions: seconded and carried
- Chuck Hughes (SH2, 48-52) volunteered to host the 2010 reunion in Wilmington, NC
 - Dave Harrington (ETR2, 67-72) will co-host with Chuck
 - Motion for Chuck Hughes and Dave Harrington to co-host 2020 reunion: seconded and carried
- C.W. Robinson (BT3, 52-54) talked about the Texas people who weren't able to attend (Holland Dickey [FN, 52-55] and Dayton Powell [BT2, 51-55]). Holland, Florence, Dayton and Lavelle sent greetings to those at the reunion.
- Bob Miller (MM3, 62-65) talked about data updates, the importance of keeping your address, phone number and email address information up-to-date.
- Bob talked about cruise book CDs which he has for sale.
- Jack London (LT, 51-53) talked about a project to gather personal memories from shipmates as a supplement to the history. Would be adventures and stories by period. Information can be sent to us and we will forward to Jack or whoever takes on the project. We will also include the current "Sea Stories" that are on the website.
- Gary O'Neil (ETR3, 63-66) talked about the history project.
 - Edition 1 is available on the website and on CD
 - Edition 2 is in the works
 - Asked people to contact him about ordering CDs
 - Talked about the fact that the photo section of the website is in "limbo". Tom Byrne (RM2, 60-62) is temporarily unable to work on this project.
 - If you have expertise in this area and are interested in working on this project, please let us know.
 - Jim Poole (LTJG, 59-61) asked people to send in copies of ship newsletters, which were sent home to families.
- Jack London suggested people consider donating memorabilia to the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress. (Jack will be asked for contact information.)
- Jim Poole had asked if there was any word on Anne Hanson (widow of CDR Swede Hanson). She passed away in December 2007. Please see obituary on page 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am and the raffle followed.

Contact Information

J.W. "Bill" Siler, BTC USN Retired
Pat Siler
835 Claybanks Drive
Callaway, VA 24067-4524
Tel/Fax: 540-483-5727
Cell (Bill): 540-420-5809
Cell (Pat): 540-420-5808
Email (Bill): jwsilerbtc@earthlink.net
Email (Pat): silerpugs@yahoo.com

Baseball Caps

We have baseball caps for sale. They are Navy Blue with the ship's name and hull number in gold. The ship profile is in grey. We have solid cloth and mesh back available. Please specify which you prefer when ordering.

The price is \$12.00, which includes postage. Make check payable to **Henry W. Tucker Reunion Fund** and mail to the address above.

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.

Our mission also is to keep alive the memory of this fine ship and the brave men who served aboard her. This includes Henry Warren Tucker, the World War II hero for whom she was named.

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.

Our mission is also to honor those who have gone before, our departed shipmates.