



YANCEY MEMORIES

COORDINATORS MESSAGE

I hope everyone is doing well and looking forward this holiday season. Hard to believe another year is almost over.

I attended this year's reunion last month and although much smaller and hectic than the last several reunions it was a really good time. There were 8 ships in attendance and about 65 people. Yancey shipmates present were myself, Paul Dunn, Elton Fauber, John Karlis, Paul Smith Jr., and Duane Malme. Duane was accompanied by his wife Betty and daughters Sonja and Kim. Also attending was Toby Gillispie, widow of Walter, and her daughter Terri. All regular attendees, and as always, it was good to see them again. It would be great so see more in attendance but I understand we are all getting older and traveling is not as easy as it used to be.

We are still struggling for original articles for the newsletter and although we try to have 4 issues a year, we may have to cut back next year. I know there are some story tellers out there so let's get those pens working.

I just learned that the reunion in 2024 will be a cruise out of Tampa Florida on October 6th there is a bit more information on the back page of this newsletter. For more detailed information email me.

George Clifton— clifs@ameritech.net



Paul Dunn & Paul Smith



Toby Gillespie &
Daughter Terri

The reunion began on Wednesday October 18th with registration in the hospitality room. As with all past reunions, the hospitality room was open for the entire reunion for shipmates to gather and reminisce about old times. The first official function was a buffet dinner on Thursday evening. Friday morning everyone gathered in the lobby to set out on the trip to the U.S. Air Force Museum for self-guided tours. The Museum consisted of 4 connected buildings and was huge. Each building had displays ranging from pre-World War II, Korea, and Viet Nam to NASA missiles & a Presidential Air Force One.

Saturday was an open day, we had a business meeting and Jerry Wotherspoon again agreed to organize the reunion for next year.

Saturday evening was the reunion banquet. There was an abbreviated Memorial Service each ship being named without individual names being read. Following dinner, the Wright Patterson United States Air Force Band, actually a six-piece group, entertained us with some great jazz music.

It was a nice reunion even without all the tours. In many respects it was more relaxing not having to be somewhere all the time and spending more time in conversation.



John Karlis



Betty, Duane Malme &
Daughters Sonja & Kim



Elton Fauber



George Clifton

AFTER MY TOUR OF DUTY ON THE YANCEY Ed McLaughlin RM3 11/65 –11/67

After my discharge I returned to my career as a radio announcer and newscaster in Pittsburgh, Pa. Shortly after my return the radio station was sold to a multi-station group. They brought in their own crew of DJ's and gave me the News Directors position. After a year I left radio and changed my life's direction. I went to work for a multinational manufacturing company in a sales and training position. Some of the products being made were safety products for firefighters. Having been a volunteer firefighter in my little hometown it was a perfect fit. I was trained and transferred to Los Angeles as the Sales and Training Manager. If you remember the tv show "Rescue 51", I was the trainer to the actors in the correct use of our helmets and breathing apparatus. I got my "2 minutes of fame" on camera when they shot several scenes of me teaching "Johnny and Roy" and others in a classroom setting. After 8 years in California, I was transferred to the Pacific Northwest and located out of the Seattle office. There were several fantastic and exciting places where I was sent to teach like inside a missile silo in Minot N. Dakota, Three Mile Island Nuclear Generation Plant, The USS Nimitz, U.S. Air Force Bases outside the USA, and the oil drilling project in Prudhoe Bay Alaska. I made many trips to Alaska training in fire departments and military bases throughout the state. This photo shows a large grizzly bear about to enter the fire department engine bay where I was teaching. You can see the guard frantically waving his left arm for someone to hit the button to close the bay doors while at the



same time using his right hand to reach for his hand gun. They later told me

that on more than one occasion a wild animal has wandered in the Station. This picture shows a view of a drilling operation on a [man-made] island several miles out in the Arctic Ocean. I took this picture as we were turning toward the "Ice



Runway" just before landing. The temperature was about 40 degrees below zero and the ice was very, very thick around the island. The third picture shows a year-old polar bear cub chasing one of the employees around and around his truck.



He just did not have time to get his truck door open and jump in. I took the picture from the cab of a fire rescue truck they used to scare the cub away. The final picture was taken on December 12, 2005 at noon. You can see the dot of the sun, and the bottom part of the very large moon above it. This was the shortest day of the year in 2005. You will also

note the ice ridge and the open water around the island.



This is another in a series of articles from crew members about a part of their life after the Yancey. We would like to print your stories, please send us info on your life on the Yancey and beyond to.....George at: clifs@ameritech.net or ric at: info@iawards.com

USS Yancey Reunion Group



9620 Mansfield Av • Oak Lawn, IL 60453

A Newsletter Exclusively
for Former USS Yancey
(AKA-93) Sailors & their
Families

Our Webpage:
www.USSYANCEY.com

Publisher:
Former Crew Members of
the USS Yancey AKA-93

Editor:
George Clifton
clifs@ameritech.net
708-425-8531

Staff: Ric Nicastro
info@iawards.com
858-695-8343

THE 2024 AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS REUNION

October 6, 2024 will be aboard the Royal Caribbean SERENADE OF THE SEA (pictured)

This will be a Five (5) Night Cruise leaving from and returning to Tampa, Florida



As more information becomes available it will
be posted on the Yancey website
www.yancey.com or email: clifs@ameritech.net

Day	Port Location	Arrive	Depart
SUN	TAMPA, FLORIDA		4:00 PM
MON	CRUISING		
TUE	COZUMEL, MEXICO	7:00 AM	5:00 PM
WED	PUERTO COSTA MAYA, MEXI...	8:00 AM	5:00 PM
THU	CRUISING		
FRI	TAMPA, FLORIDA	7:00 AM	