

YANCEY MEMORIES

Volume 18, Issue 2

April 2014



Coordinator's Message

The 2014 USS Yancey Reunion will be a joint reunion with the USS Rankin in Newport, Rhode Island. The host hotel is the Crown Plaza Providence/Warwick from October 2nd through October 5th. The rest of the itinerary has not been finalized, however there is a lot to see and do in Newport from mansions to Battleship Cove. Unfortunately we are unable to use Premier Reunion Services this year, so

if you have questions or need additional information you can contact me. I will also keep the website www.ussyancey.com updated with any new information. Premier/MLRS has been running our reunions since 1995, so using someone else this year will certainly seem strange to us and hopefully things will go well. However since this is a joint reunion it isn't possible to use two different reunion services. I feel

this is an important year for the future of the USS Yancey Reunion and hope we have a large attendance. Mark the dates on your calendar, enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you in Newport.

George Clifton
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Remembering Chief Way



Chief Way at 2009 USS Yancey Reunion

I was sad to learn last month that Chief Jim Way passed away last June. I didn't really know the Chief on the Yancey in 1967 as he came aboard shortly before I was dis-

ate at the same table and hung together on tours. He entertained us with many stories of his time in the Navy having served aboard a submarine and heavy cruiser as well as the Yancey and shore duty. He missed the last several reunions due to conflicts with other reunions but we talked on the phone at least once a year. He used to take notes at our business meetings and if my wife or daughter answered the phone he told them to tell me my secretary is on the phone. I was very surprised to hear of his death because he always seemed in good health. I know he went to the gym regularly and golfed weekly. He was a good shipmate and friend and I will truly miss him.

By George Clifton

charged. However since meeting him again at the first reunion in Norfolk in 1995 we became friends immediately. Chief was one of us 60's guys who

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"Our Reunions Work So You don't Have To"

OPERATION HIGHJUMP

Memories from LINDY LEO, USN RM3 USS YANCEY AKA 93
As told to Ed McLaughlin USN RM3 USS YANCEY 93

In the October 2013 YANCEY Newsletter I introduced us to Lindy Leo who was aboard the "Mighty YA" for the Navy South Pole Expedition that took place in late 1946 and early 1947. The research expedition was given the name "Operation Highjump". In the January 2014 YANCEY Newsletter I continued Lindy's saga, by having him tell us "in his own words" what it was like for a young sailor at the bottom of the earth.

I left off with the statement that life was not all work aboard the Yancey, but things were about to turn worse for one shipmate.

To continue our story in Lindy's words:

Sadly, during work, an event occurred when a shipmate was killed in a Sno-cat accident. The Sno-cat was a vehicle used for transportation over the ice and for ferrying supplies back and forth from our ship to the work sites. As you can see in the picture it was also used to ferry the work parties. The Sno-cat had tank like treads for easier maneuvering in the snow. Lindy cautioned that the following is hear-say as he was not personally present at the time of the accident.... Apparently a shipmate, (name withheld), was riding on a rear or side fender, when the vehicle suddenly lurched and he instinctively reached out and grabbed anything to maintain his balance. Whatever part of the Sno-cat he grabbed was a moving part and the mechanism carried his hand, then arm and finally his whole person into the wheel housing, crushing him to death. Reportedly his last words were "Stop this damn thing!"

The powers to-be at that time opted to name the completed makeshift air strip in his name to honor him.



Finally the YANCEY's task was completed and all supplies offloaded and all Sea Bees' personnel and gear and ship's crew were aboard and ready for the journey home.

I have included a picture of "Little America", the base camp that was erected for the expedition, and supplied in part by the YANCEY.

There is also a picture of an amphibious landing craft heading for the "ice beach" after leaving the YANCEY. This

picture shows that truly "The World is our Beachhead".

Lindy now gave me this personal anecdote: "At that time my tenure in the deck force ended as my selection from the crew for radioman/striker/watchstander became official. Before departure CTF 68 asked for volunteers and recruited aggressively, all excess Operations Division personnel (Quartermasters, Signalmen, Radarmen, ET's, and Radiomen), to complement their command post aboard the USS Mount Olympus. Although bare bones, the YANCEY "O" Division personnel maintained 24-hour watches. This was to be the normal situation throughout my tenure on the ship as all excess crew were eventually transitioned/transferred off and replacements were scarce. This was due to the ending of WWII when enlistments were down and Navy personnel dwindling. Lindy said it was thanks to his high school activities in the radio communications club that he learned the Morse Code. At that time, voice communications were scarce, but Morse Code sending and receiving was the vogue. His high school club experience gave him the skill needed for the "radio shack" job.

Their last duty fulfilled, the YANCEY headed back to the U.S.A.

I have included a picture of the YANCEY flying the flags that spell out NHKD which was the call sign of the USS YANCEY.

With the next newsletter, we will cruise along with Lindy as the USS YANCEY heads for warmer waters and home.

What exciting ports of call await! See you next Newsletter.

Lindy & Ed

Editor's Note: If you were part of Operation Highjump, we would love to hear from you about your experiences. **Please** send you story to us at
Premier Reunion Services
PO Box 11438
Hickory, NC 28603 or
karen@mlrsinc.com



THE WORLD IS OUR BEACHHEAD



YANCEY FLYING FLAP

FINANCIAL STATEMENT



Balance after 01/14	\$116.05
Funds received since 01/14	\$95.00
Funds available for 04/14	\$211.05
Funds expended for 04/14	\$176.05
Balance for 07/14	\$35.00*

***Funds will be needed for the next**

issue.

The newsletter is mailed only to those who returned the coupon for USPS service . All others can access the newsletter on line at www.mlrsinc.com/yancey. Contributions may be sent to Premier Reunion Services at our address on the cover. Make checks to Premier Reunion Services and be sure to note that is for Yancey Memories.



WELCOME MAT

The following shipmate has been located since the last newsletter. Welcome Aboard! We hope to see you at the next reunion. You are invited to become an active member of the association.

John Dunn
(1946-47) RD OR Div
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Jacksonville, FL 32222
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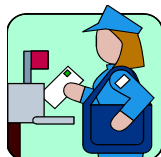
TAPS

The Yancey Memories was notified of the following shipmate's death. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of the deceased. Anyone who knows of a deceased shipmate, or learns of one, please notify Premier Reunion Services so their names can be included in TAPS and be added to the Honor Roll.

John Desmond
(1952-56) IC2
Died March 3, 2014

Chief James Way
(1967-69) SKCS (SS) S Div
Died June 23, 2013

Thomas Wilson
(1970-71) SK
Died February 13, 2014



MAIL CALL

Hi,

I received my Yancey Memory Book yesterday and I want to thank you very much for it.

That was the best Reunion Memory Book that I ever received or saw. Thank you very much.

I'm happy about all your work and hope reunions will continue. I understand we will have to join with other ships. Hope to see you again.

Dick Balt
Yancey 1962-1963

P.S. All those pictures were great and my time there was great also.

Editor's Note: We contacted some of you by email and asked you to tell about a tattoo you may have gotten in the Navy. Here are your responses:

Dina,
I do not have a tattoo, nor did I

ever want one. However, when people ask, I tell them I wanted to have a ship tattoo on my chest, and they told me there was only room for a row boat, so I said never mind.

George Clifton

No tattoo for me. I considered it; went to several parlors, (by definition of several there were about 3) and they all stunk and were too low life for me. Since I planned on entering the business world after my Navy days, I certainly didn't want a tattoo hindering my success. So, no tattoo for me—good decision on my part.

Jerry Nicholas

Yes, I did get a tattoo in the Navy. I was young and had too much to drink and like a lot of my friends, decided to get a tattoo. Don't remember much, but I still have it and still proud to wear it. It is an eagle with USN across it.

Grant Laiblin

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

The YANCEY MEMORIES is the official publication of the USS YANCEY AKA-93 Association. From now on it will be published quarterly in January, April, July, and October, *subject to receiving sufficient funding*. The Newsletter is funded by voluntary contributions from the membership. All members are encouraged to support the voice of the YANCEY. A financial statement appears in each issue of the newsletter.

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially share experiences.

Unless otherwise stated, the views and opinions printed in the newsletter are those of the article's writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Association leadership or the Editor of the Newsletter.

All letters and stories submitted will be considered for publication, except unsigned letters will not be published. Letters requesting the writer's name be withheld will be honored, but published on a space available basis. Signed letters with no restrictions will be given priority.

Letters demeaning to another shipmate will not be printed; letters espousing a political position will not be printed.

Premier Reunion Services is not responsible for the accuracy of article submitted for publication. It would be a monumental task to check each story. Therefore, we rely on the submitter to research each article.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters to conform to space and grammar limitations.

You are encouraged to actively participate in the newsletter family, by submitting your stories and suggestions.

FROM THE USS YANCEY AKA 93 MED CRUISE 1963

Submitted by Joseph MacIntyre

H Division



Lt. D. Philbin
FORMER H DIVISION OFFICER

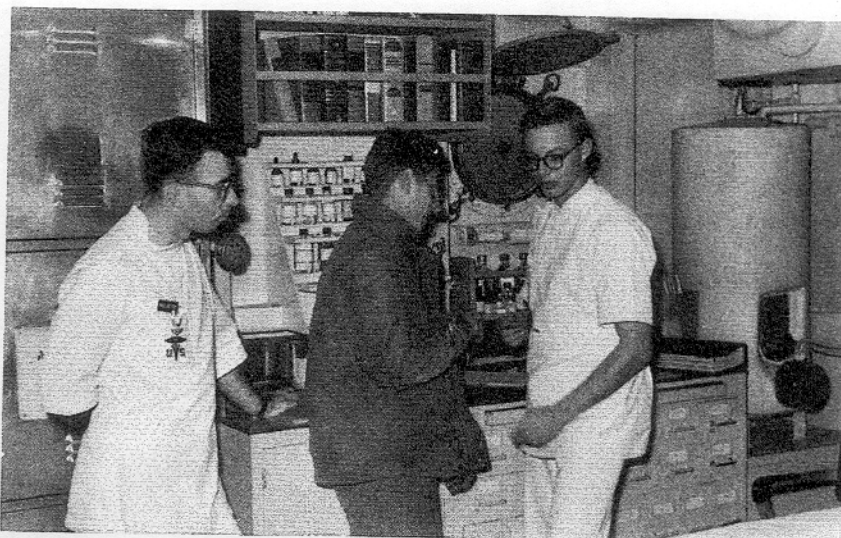


Lt. W. Banks
PRESENT H DIVISION OFFICER

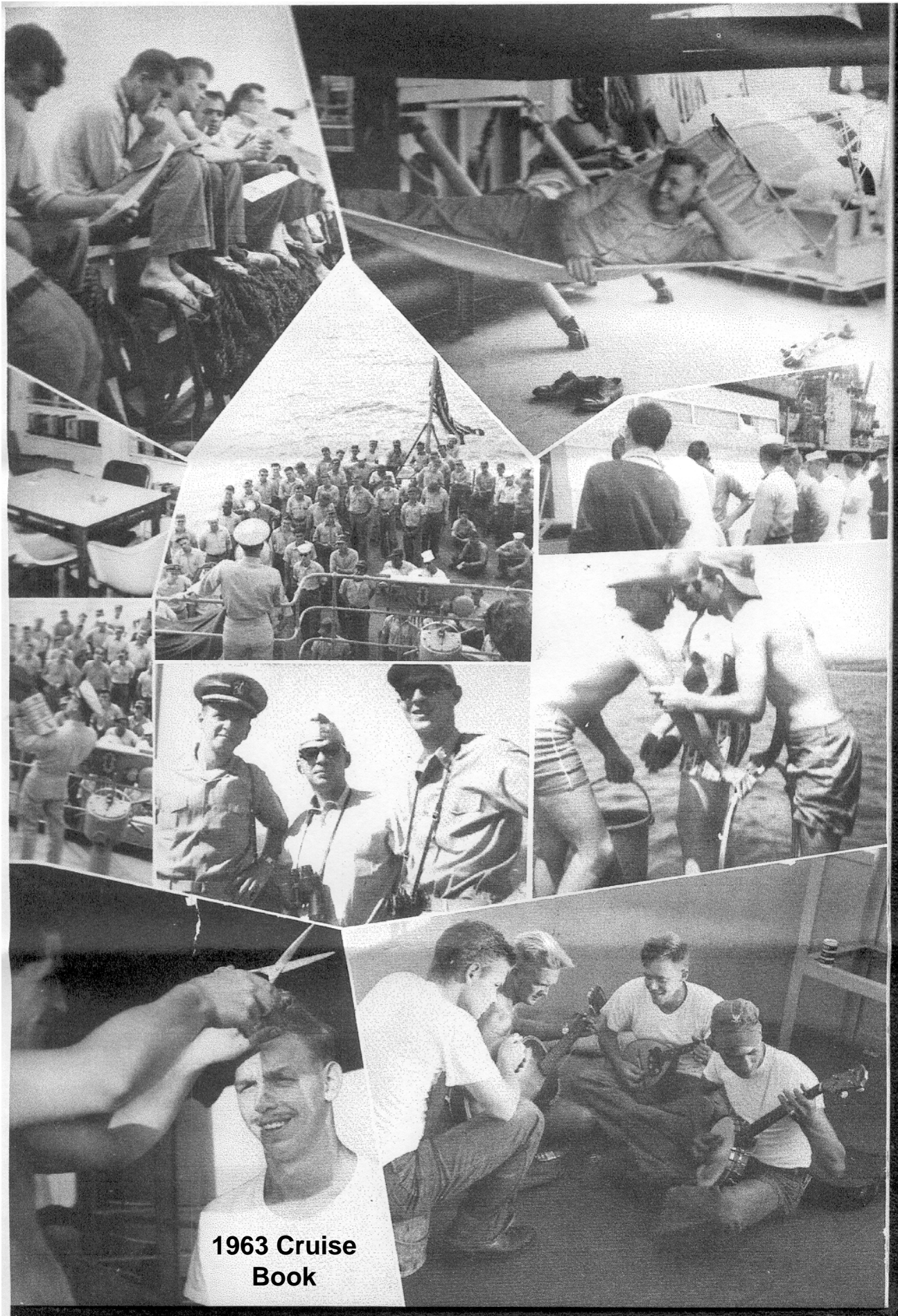


H. McClinte, HMC F. McCoy, HM3 W. Roberts, HM3

The Medical Officer is the ship's doctor. He and his division are responsible for the treatment of the crew, routine medical care and the sanitation of the ship.



Well, what do you think, Doc? Do I get some bed rest?



1963 Cruise Book