

YANCEY MEMORIES

Volume 16, Issue 4

October 2012



2012 USS YANCEY REUNION RECAP

San Diego, California was the location of the 2012 USS Yancey (AKA-93) reunion. Sixteen former shipmates and 10 guests enjoyed the four day/three night event on October 4-7 at the Handlery Hotel. After registering most went to the hospitality room to relax and catch up before the welcome reception. At 5:00 the welcome reception began with light hors d'oeuvres and since not everyone was present for the reception the formal introductions were deferred until the Friday night dinner.

Friday morning provided great San Diego weather for our first tour of the weekend. After everyone enjoyed breakfast we boarded the bus to begin a full day of activities starting with a narrated San Diego city tour including a visit to Coronado Island. The bus stopped at the beach on Coronado Island and unloaded to give everyone a chance to take pictures, walk on the sand and some even dipped their toes in the Pacific. Next stop was a 2 hour visit to the mu-

seum ship USS Midway. You can spend the day exploring more than 60 exhibits with a collection of 25 restored aircraft. The self-guided audio tour, narrated by Midway sailors, brings the carrier's history to life. Since we only had 2 hours the group spread out and visited the area of the ship they found most interesting. (I found the tour of the bridge and flight operations very interesting.) Retired sailors were available as guides and provided much information about the ships history and operations. Upon departing the USS Midway we made our way to the next pier for a two hour harbor cruise where we ate a boxed lunch while enjoying the narrated tour of both the north and south harbor. First we toured the north harbor and saw the Naval Air Station on Coronado Island and two submarines returning to the submarine base. We then

headed south sailing under to Coronado Bridge and past the San Diego Naval Base. We viewed various types of US Navy ships including the USS Boxer LHD-4 and the USS Essex LHD-2. While heading back to the pier we saw the USS Higgins DDG-76 returning to port, the ship we would visit on our Saturday tour. After disembarking, we headed to the San Diego Maritime Museum. The Maritime Museum of San Diego enjoys a worldwide reputation for excellence in restoring, maintaining and operating historic vessels. The museum has one of the world's finest collections of historic ships, including the world's oldest active ship *Star of India* as well as both a US and Russian submarine. They also have a replica British sailing ship the USS Surprise, which has been in several movies including "Masters and Commanders" with Russell Crowe

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

(Continued from page 1)

and "Pirates of the Caribbean, with Johnny Depp. Since we only had one hour the group again split up and visited the ships most interesting to them before boarding the bus for the return trip to the hotel.

After a full day of tours it was time for the Friday evening dinner. After dinner George Clifton officially welcomed everyone to the reunion. Since we had several new people in attendance, it was a perfect time to have everyone stand and introduce themselves. Because of the long day many returned to their rooms after the introductions while some went back to the hospital-ity room.

Saturday morning at 9:00 we boarded the bus for a trip to the 32nd Street Navy Base and a visit on the active duty ship USS Higgins DDG-76. We broke up in groups of 8 and were given a guided tour of the ship. Being aboard an active US ship was a highlight of the weekend. Unfortunately, picture taking was not allowed, however we were able to visit the bridge, the control centers and even the mess decks. The sailors we met on board were very knowledgeable and answered all questions about the ship's mission and operations. After leaving the ship we returned to the hotel to relax until the business meeting at 3:30.

George Clifton called the business meeting to order at 3:30 in the hospital-ity room with the first order of business being a vote for the location of the 2013 reunion. The choice was between Norfolk, VA and Washington, DC with Washington, DC winning overwhelmingly with 14 votes. Next we discussed the selection of two cities for our 2014 reunion. The five cities nominated were Charleston, South Carolina; Savannah, Georgia; Branson, Missouri; San Antonio, Texas and Mayport, Florida. Several votes were taken for a process of elimination and the two cities selected to vote on next year are Charleston and San Antonio. The final order of business was a lengthy discussion regarding future reunions and the possibility of partnering with another ship or ships. We discussed the declining number of attendees and the resulting consequences. We are a small group which is only

marginally attractive to hotels. Therefore we are not able to get a separate room for our breakfast (many hotels have a minimum number 50 or so). Most tours have a minimum number 20 to 30, so that we are usually very close to not being able to go on tours which are a major event of the reunion. Banquets have the same issue, so we do not have a bar inside the room, etc. While we usually have a few new attendees each year, we also have some that cannot make it. The demographics of our group (ship decommissioned in the early 1970s with obviously no new shipmates) point to continued low attendance. One major advantage of a joint reunion would be the increased number of attendees. The Yancey can no longer be confident that a large enough number will sign up thus putting each reunion in doubt until the final hour. A joint reunion will provide that stability. Additionally a larger number of attendees assures better service at the reunion hotel including buffet meals which we have been missing at our more recent reunions. Of course, everything also has a down side and one of the disadvantages of a joint reunion is not having total control over everything including reunion location and dates. George Clifton explained that he has been in communication with the USS Rankin AKA-103 regarding a joint reunion. The Rankin is a good fit as it was an AKA based in Norfolk. They have their reunion in the fall, September or October, and are looking at the East Coast for their 2013 reunion. The Rankin has a yearly reunion with an attendance of between 80 and 100. Understandably if we partner with the Rankin they would have more influence on location and date. Since the Yancey only meets once a year at the reunion, a motion was made and seconded to allow George Clifton the authority to make changes regarding the 2013 reunion including the dates and/or location. This was voted on and passed unanimously. An attempt will be made to conclude any discussions with the USS Rankin as soon as possible so any changes made can be communicated to all crew members as soon as possible.

At 6:00 everyone began gathering for the Reunion Banquet and photo session. Duane Malme provided pre-dinner entertainment by playing his guitar and singing, which we all appreciated and enjoyed. Once all the photos were taken, we sat down for a Prime Rib dinner. Following the dinner we held the memorial service to pay tribute to the deceased shipmates. Ed MacLaughlin, Paul Smith, John Karlis and Bill Welfare were kind enough to conduct the service. As the names of from the Honor Roll were read, a bell tolled in their memory followed by Taps (played by Bill Welfare on his bugle) and a hand salute. Those remembered at the service are as follows: Samuel Acona, Ralph Boyd, Marshall Burnside, W. J. Chittender, Frank "Gordon" Craig, Richard Cheaney, Kenneth Chester, Walden Danielson, Gayle Ellis, Ulysis (Sid) Harmon, John Kerr, J. W. Lynn, Thomas Nau and Ernest Todd. George Clifton concluded the evening by thanking everyone for attending and encouraging all to attend the next reunion in Washington DC.

2012 REUNION ATTENDEES

Jeffrey & Isabelle Amundsen
 Edwin Booth & Kay Syrett
 Norman & Connie Boyd
 George Clifton
 Paul Dunn
 Walter & Toby Gillespie
 Kenneth Groom & Colleen Cristel
 John Karlis
 Duane & Betty Malme
 Edmund McLaughlin
 Rufus & Lydia Meadows
 Phillip & Charlotte Messer
 Paul Smith, Jr.
 William & Nancy Suchy
 Kay Syrett
 William Welfare
 James & Eleanor Young

Total Members:	16
Guests:	11
GRAND TOTAL:	27

A Word from Your Coordinator

I just returned from another great reunion and only wish we had more people in attendance. Some of you guys are missing a good time and can hopefully make it next year. We voted to have the 2013 reunion in Washington DC, however be sure to read the business meeting section of the reunion recap in this newsletter for some important information. We collected \$246 for the newsletter at the reunion but we still need donations mailed or called in to provide continued support.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

George Clifton



WELCOME MAT

The following shipmates have 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.

Frederick Nicastro
 (1966-67) QMSA Navigation
 1034 Spruce Grove Ave
 San Diego, CA 92131
 858-695-8343
 ric@iawards.com

John Cox (1964-65)
 627 Watson Rd
 Fairport, NY 14450
 585-377-1894
 John.cox@rit.edu



TAPS

The Yancey Memories was notified of the following shipmates' deaths. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the deceased. Anyone who knows of a deceased shipmate, or learns of one, please notify ML & RS, Inc so their names can be included in TAPS and be added to the Honor Roll.

Walden Danielson
 (Commissioning —1945)
 Died March 3, 2012

E. Sherwood Koebneck
 Date of death not reported

Roger Crub
 Died 2002

J.W. Lynn
 (1953-55) SK
 Died July 21, 2012

Delbert Perry
 (1944-46) LTJG Boat
 Died March 31, 2012

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance after 07/12	-\$150.35
Funds received since 07/12	\$125.00
Received from reunion	\$246.00
Funds available for 10/12	\$220.65
Funds expended for 10/12	\$177.72
Balance for 01/13	\$42.93

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.

Funds will needed for the next newsletter. Send your contributions to Premier Reunion Services at our address on the cover of the newsletter. Make checks to Premier Reunion Services and be sure to note that is for Yancey Memories.

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.

ML&RS, Inc. 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.

WASHINGTON, DC FOR 2013

Your choice of Washington, DC is a great decision for your 2013 reunion. Below are just a few of the wonderful attractions in our capital city for you to choose from for the reunion tours.

ATTRACTIONS

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the Armed Forces of the U.S., the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people.

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL

The new Korean War Memorial lies in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial, near the Vietnam War Veterans' Memorial on the west end of the Mall. It consists of 19 larger-than-life U.S. ground troopers equipped for battle moving toward an American flag. Etched into the granite are photographs of hundreds of faces taken from military archives.

VIETNAM WAR VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

Inscribed on black granite walls are names of the 58,209 Americans missing or killed in the Vietnam conflict. The innovative, V-shaped memorial designed by Maya Lin is breathtaking and sobering, drawing crowds who look for the names of relatives or who simply take in the enormity of the war and its aftermath. Also see Frederick Hart's "Three Soldiers," a life-sized bronze sculpture of three young servicemen.

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

The memorial traces twelve years of American history through a sequence of four outdoor rooms—each one devoted to one of FDR's terms of office. Sculptures include: A 10-foot statue of Roosevelt seated in a wheelchair and a bas-relief of him riding in a car during his first inaugural.

IWO JIMA MEMORIAL

The statue depicts one of the most famous incidents in World War II, the raising of

the flag on Iwo Jima on Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima. The figures of the five men who raised the flag are 32-foot high and are shown erecting a 60-foot high bronze flagpole from which a cloth flag flies 24 hours a day. The base of the memorial has the names and dates of every principal Marine Corps engagement since the founding of the Corps.

WHITE HOUSE TOUR

It may be possible to visit the White House public areas upon approval of a request to do so. ML&RS, Inc will not know until 30 days before the date of the visit whether or not our request has been granted. Therefore, if we do plan to visit and the request is not approved, we will have to rearrange our tours accordingly. No change would be made in the price of the tour package.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Arlington Mansion and 200 acres of ground immediately surrounding it were designated officially as a military cemetery June 15, 1864, by Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton. More than 260,000 people are buried at Arlington Cemetery. Veteran's from all the nation's wars are buried in the cemetery, from the American Revolution through the Persian Gulf War and Somalia. Take a narrated tram ride through the grounds, with a stop at the JFK gravesite and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to view the "Changing of the Guard."

NAVY MEMORIAL

Located in downtown Washington, D.C., the Navy Memorial houses an IMAX theater featuring a moving presentation, a computer center where you can search for your records and a museum of artifacts and exhibits showcasing the Navy and thousands of former sailors. Many groups choose to conduct their memorial service on the front plaza area of the Navy Memorial Building.

RIDING TOUR OF THE CAPITAL CITY

Enjoy a fully narrated driving tour of Washington, passing by the White House, Capitol, Supreme Court Building, the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument and other famous sites.

2013 USS YANCEY SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to look over, complete and return this survey to Premier Reunion Services, right away. The reunion agenda will be created from the responses and the Chairman's input. Let your voice be heard. Mail surveys to:

Premier Reunion Services
P.O. Box 11438
Hickory, NC 28603-6402

OR FAX:
828-256-6559

Reunion format:

Do you prefer breakfast all three mornings as a group? _____
or just a farewell breakfast on Sunday? _____

Do you want entertainment after the Saturday night banquet?
Yes _____ No _____

Please indicate which activities you would like to see on your reunion agenda:

World War II Memorial _____

Korean War Memorial _____

Vietnam Memorial _____

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial _____

Iwo Jima Memorial _____

White House Tour _____

Arlington Cemetery _____

Navy Memorial _____

Riding Tour of Washington _____

PLEASE RETURN SURVEYS BY
December 3, 2012

REGISTRATION PACKETS WILL
BE MAILED OUT APPROXIMATELY 90
DAYS PRIOR TO THE REUNION.

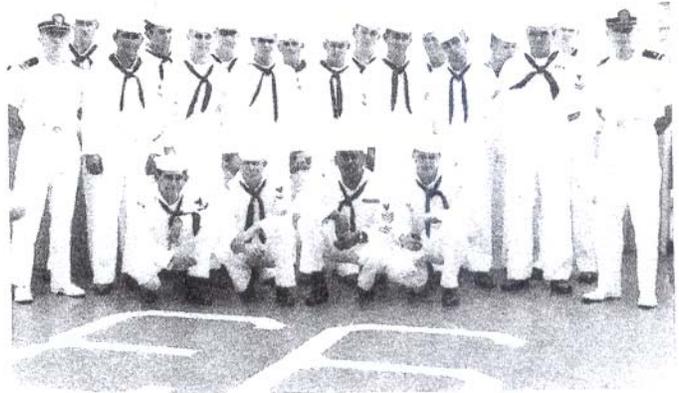
FROM THE USS YANCEY AKA 93 MED CRUISE 1962

Submitted by Phil Messer EN2 Then, Retired 1979 as ENCM

THIRD DIVISION



ENSIGN D. SABATH
THIRD DIVISION OFFICER

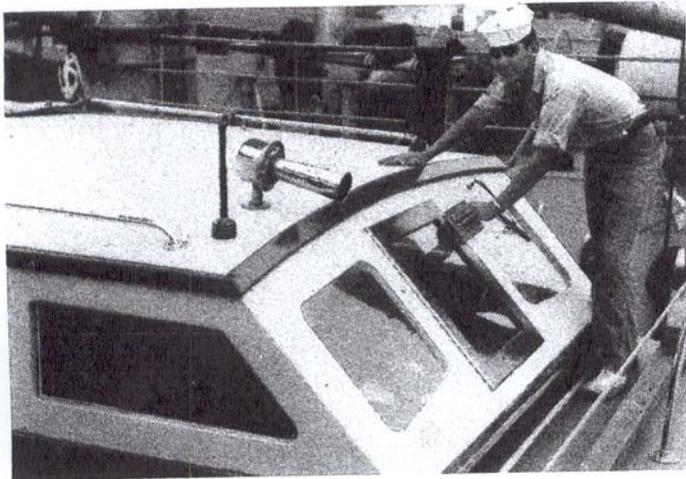


L. Cruz, BM1

J. Smith, BM1

J. Broyles, BM2

E. Roe, BM2



W. Smith, BM2

W. Sweetin, BM2

R. Auld, BM3

W. Edens, BM3

R. Edwards, BM3

P. Escolona, BM3

J. Bissett, BMSN



A. Aguinaga, SN

R. Abernathy SN

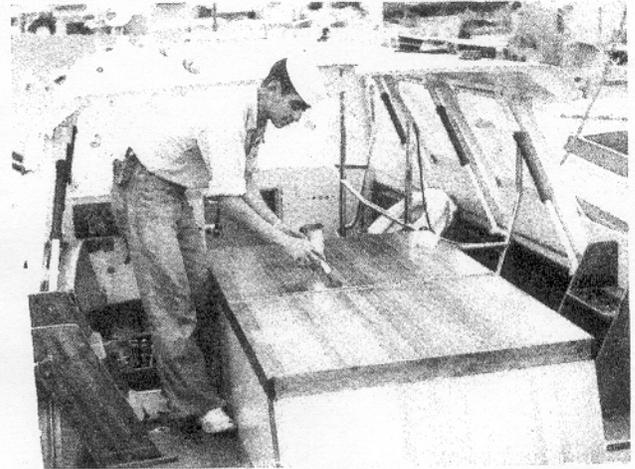
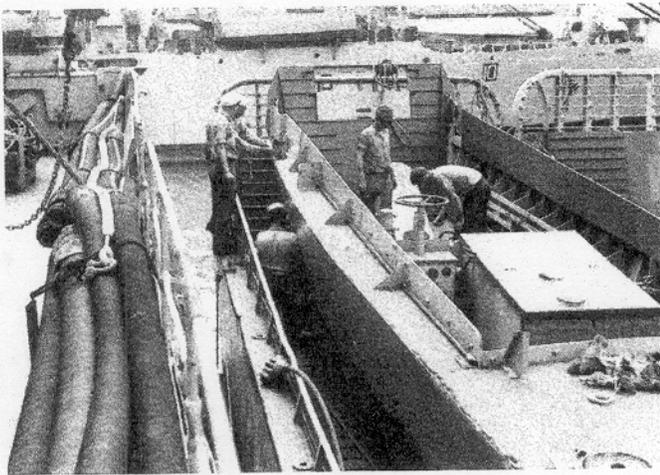
J. Alden, SN

L. Bennett SN

A. Bertholf, SN

J. Brown, SN

J. Carey, SN



H. Erickson, SN

S. Fera, SN

J. Hughes, SN

C. Kay SN

C. Martin SN



R. Roth, SN

D. Russell, SN

R. Stimler, SN

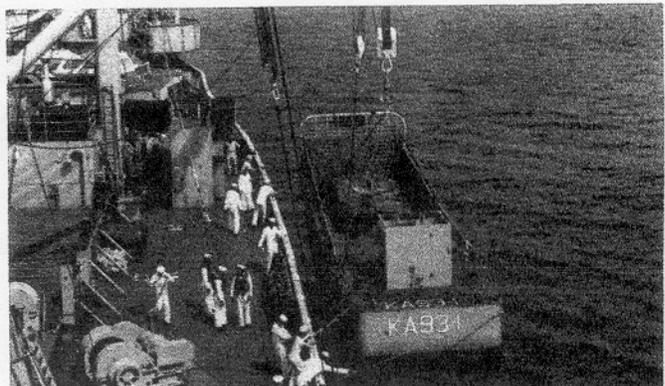
J. Waddell, SN



R. Wise, SN

J. Zapp, SN

K. Riggs, SA



More in the next issue. Later, photos from 1963 Med Cruise.