

Sea Poacher Association



*Dedicated to the men who served
on this great fighting ship!*



Volume 5, Issue 2

April 2007

Florida Picnic a Success!

Seventy-six members of the Sea Poacher family gathered in Bartow, Florida for the First Florida Sea Poacher Picnic on February 24, 2007.

Although this picnic originally began as an event for Florida Sea Poacher shipmates it turned out that many of our shipmates wanted to get away from the frigid, snowy condition of places like Oklahoma, Minnesota, Massachusetts and from other states like Texas, South Carolina and Georgia.

Those in attendance were: Bob & Carolyn Acor, Charles & Mary Ahler, Ted & Fay Anthony, Doug and Joan Bishop, Bill Brinkman, Bill & Mary Kate Buckley, Richard & Nancy Clubb, Cal Cochrane, Bill & Janice Cook, Bob & Carolyn Cooley, Ray & Kathy Dicare, Jack & Lori Ensminger, Ron Godwin, Billy



Photo by April Adams

Poised in front of the beautiful lake at Mary Holland Park in Bartow, Florida are the participants in the Florida Sea Poacher Picnic that took place on February, 24., 2007.

& Barbara Gorsuch, Dave & Kay Harms, Hubert Jackson, Ivan & Marjorie Joslin, Mike & Marjorie Kassinger, James Keir, Carroll & Jan Lawson, Ted & Kiki Lee, JJ & Sonja Lynch, Ken & Gerry McNabb,

Jim & Mary McSorley, Jack & Sandra Merrill and Granddaughter April Adams, Ty & Pat Merritt, Jack Nims, Julius O'Bannon, John & Jeanne Rabuse, Larry & Gloria Rieche, John & Audry

Sohl, John & Annette Snook, Joe Storz, Ed Thompson & Mary Lorenz, Fred & Margaret Vavra, Bob Adler & Janet DeRoy, Tommy & Roberta Thompson and Jim Weston.



On Friday night before the Sea Poacher Picnic several shipmates gathered at the Cherry Pocket Kountry Klub for supper and beverages. A wonderful time was had by all. From left to right: Dave & Kay Harms, Sandra & Jack Merrill, Mary Lorentz, Hubert Jackson, Bill Brinkman, Ted & Kiki Lee, Jan & Carroll Lawson, JJ & Sonja Lynch, Jack Ensminger and Bill Brinkman, again.



From the President:

Bill Brinkman

seapoacher@austin.rr.com

USS Sea Poacher Book

Lanny Yeske, Ltjg 61-63 is putting together a book about us and our experiences on board SS406 from 1944 to 1969. Believe me, but the stories from 40 contributors so far are very interesting and exciting.

Who knew that we were such colorful characters and had such interesting events to report?

Those of you with e-mail are all ready (painfully) aware of the "Book" as both Lanny and I have been bugging you to submit these articles.

So, this message is primarily aimed at you members that don't have e-mail.

Please write up your stories and send them to Lanny at:

Lanny Yeske

1063 MacArthur Place

Forest, VA 24551

(Tel. 434-385-7117), doctoryeske@yahoo.com

Right now, Lanny reports that he has 150 pages submitted, but he says we need at least 400 to make the book.

So (this is an order!) get cracking and submit your stories to Lanny.

USS Sea Poacher Cruise November 3-8, 2007

The crews of the USS Sea Owl SS 405, USS Medregal SS 480, and USS Sea Poacher SS406 are getting together for a 5 night cruise from Jacksonville to Key West and Nassau, Bahamas. Other sub sailors are invited also as the USS Sea Owl is heading up this event and wants to book enough cabins to insure the lowest rates.

One can attend the WWII SubVets Reunion and events in King's Bay, GA on November 1-2 before this cruise begins at Jacksonville at 4 PM Nov 3.

The prices are \$355 per person for an inside cabin and \$405 per person for an Ocean view cabin.

Book through Karla Davidson at Cruises Only (1-800-244-7447 EXT 38225). Tell her you're with the USS Sea Owl Code 15722117.

Go to the USS Sea Owl website www.ussseaowl.com/ for the Cruise booking form and also the details of the Cruise <http://www.carnival.com/itinerary.aspx?embkCode=JAX&itinCode=KWC&durDays=5&sailDate=11/3/2007&shipCode=CE&sailingID=33455&subRegionCode=BH>

We believe that passports will be required to take this cruise

Right now, we have 6 Sea Poacher shipmates and wives who have booked this cruise (Jack Merrill, Bill Brinkman, Bob Acor, Ed Thompson, Richard Clubb and Ted Anthony.)

Also note that this fun cruise is for us Sea Poacher shipmates to have a good time together. That is, it's not a Reunion and no business will be conducted.



From the Treasurer:

Ken LeBlanc

kengall@hotmail.com

While our Treasurer Ken LeBlanc is receiving cancer treatments, Bill Brinkman will be acting Treasurer. Ken will resume his duties as soon as he is able.

General Fund	\$ 20,384.84
Memorial Fund	\$ 949.38
Humanitarian fund	\$ 1,125
Total	\$ 22,459.22



Second Lieutenant Joseph Lynch, son of J. J. & Sonja Lynch, CS 59-62. is currently stationed in Alaska.

If you are having any kind of get together with your Sea Poacher shipmates and would like to share it, please forward the information and any pictures to Jack Merrill, 916 W. Pearl St., Bartow, FL 33830 or email to: sebagojack@hotmail.com

Memorial Fund

When a shipmate passes on the USS Sea Poacher Association presents, to their next of kin, a Memorial Plaque to commemorate their service to Sea Poacher. The plaque is a framed and matted picture taken from the bridge of Sea Poacher during the Cuban Crisis and superimposed over it is the Final Prayer as it appears on Page 7. It also indicates the years the individual served aboard. We decided that funding for this project should stand alone, so we are accepting contributions which may be made out to Sea Poacher Association and mailed to Association President, Bill Brinkman. Indicate "Memorial Fund".



Lanny Yeske

doctoryeske@yahoo.com

A Proposed New Book:

We Remember Submarine Sea Poacher

Blame me for this idea, but there is now consensus from the entire Sea Poacher Board and others that we should do this. Not a ship's history, which is being assembled, but remembrances of our boat as per the following subtitle on the cover: BY HER CREW1944-1969

The title is subject to change if someone comes up with something better. In any case, I envision at least 80, perhaps 100, chapters all by different authors and each telling one or hopefully several more short or long stories of their experiences on SEA POACHER, but no other submarines unless there is some major direct connection.

I see this as a large hard cover book (probably 10 inches by 14 inches which will look fantastic on your coffee table), with a section or two of photos in the middle of perhaps at least 15-20 pages, mostly of the boat and its 25 year activities but not the crew in detail. This could be a major money making event for Sea Poacher and its charities, and to get one we would all have to buy a copy and with the size and quality I have in mind it would likely cost \$50, maybe more. If we were not interested in a profit, we could cut the cost in half, but that will be something for our Association to agree on.

Remember also that the book would go out to Barnes and Noble, BooksAMillion, Amazon.com, and there would definitely be some outside sales for a profit. As for me, I would buy one for myself and one each for my sons as a Christmas gift, and many of us would do something similar. All the profits would go to the Sea Poacher charitable funds.

I would volunteer to be the Editor/Coordinator. I published two books in 2006, am experienced with the procedure, and could track this thru from start to finish. You would all be co-authors of this so your name would be in print and you could cite this as a publication. My roll as Editor would not be to change what you have written, but to put it all in a common format so that is looks professionally done. All would be done in close collaboration with the Sea Poacher Association. While I don't think they are needed, four letter words in the text are not a problem if you considered them necessary, but I would do some bleeping, for example "This is a No S*****!" but the meaning would be clear to most of us. In the prologue to the book I see a short history of Sea Poacher from 1944 to 1969 followed by our remembrances. There would also be an epilogue where I would discuss Sea Poacher going to Peru as La Pedrera (S-49) and a brief history of her service with Peru as told by some of its sailors, and its final disposition.

Contributions from each author can be of any size like one paragraph to eight pages or more. Where a page needs to be filled in I have collected a ton of really good submarine quotations,

jokes, or anecdotes. So far in just three months we already have 40 contributors with 15 more promises. The stories include WAR PATROLS, BABY ALLIGATORS IN THE BILGES, GUYS LEFT TOPSIDE WHEN DIVING, CREW POLICE TAXI'S, CHIEF HATUEY KEMP, ENGINEMAN DEATH AT SEA, POINT - SHOOT DECK GUNS, HOW TO SALUTE A COMMODORE, A HARROWING DIVE, KEY WEST, SHARKS, CUBANS AND THE MISSILE CRISIS, GITMO LIBERTY, FILMING THE FROGMEN MOVIE, BEER WITH A BIGWIG, RESCUING THE BLIMP, ASSAULT OF THE FROZEN CHICKEN, RIG FOR DIVE PROBLEMS-AFTER BATTERY FLOODING, LOST ENROUTE TO NEW ORLEANS, MEDITERRANEAN RUN, SNORKEL HEAD VALVE, GITMO 1959, NORTHERN RUN 1960, A MONSTER STORM, REPORTING ABOARD, DIVE PLANESMAN AND LOOKOUT WATCH, SEAMAN GANG, ESCAPE TANK TRAINING, SEAL OPERATIONS, PERRY COMO ON BOARD, MAINE'S SENATOR MARGARET CHASE SMITH'S VISIT, MARDI GRAS, WEST PALM BEACH FOR JOHN HARVEY'S MOM, ASSISTANCE FROM THE RUSSIANS, KEY WEST TRAILER PARK, THE CAPTAIN AND STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE, MOONSHINE AND MATTRESS-ES, INPORT HAVANA CUBA WITH ERNEST HEMINGWAY, DEGAUSSING, JAMAICA, MEDALS, CHRISTMAS, BEING HIT BY OUR OWN TORPEDO, HIT WITH BRITISH ASW WEAPONS, FLOODING DRILLS, MODERN WARFARE, THE GREEN WEE-NIE, LIFE AS AN OILER IN ENGINES FORWARD, DIVE! DIVE!, SURFACE! SURFACE! SURFACE!, TAKING A BATH ON SEA POACHER, VISITING CAP HAITIAN HAITI, CLAUSTROPHOBIC CONDITIONS MARRIED PUKE AND SINGLE GUY DISCRIMINATION, THE RACE TO THE BARN, A CHARLESTON REPORTER TAKES A DIVE, A BUSY SCHEDULE, OPERATION STRIKE-BACK IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, MEDITERRANEAN AND THE CORINTH CANAL, SEA POACHER SOFTBALL, VOLUNTEERING FOR SUBMARINE SERVICE, THE M.A. ON SEA POACHER, SHOTS FROM THE DOC, SCRAPING FUEL OIL TANKS, HURRICANE ANTICS, TWO ENSIGNS ALREADY ON BOARD, DIVING FULL ON FOUR - STERN PLANES LOCKED ON FULL DIVE, COLLAPSE OF THE MAIN INDUCTION PIPING, TONGUE OF THE OCEAN MONSTER, DEPENDENTS CRUISE, STAR WARS OFF CUBA, PORK ADOBO, NAVY SOS, AND MARILYN MONROE

And that is only half of what we already have. The above list is included to help jog your memory. You can write about the same thing or anything else that comes to mind. While I am delighted with the input so far, it is not enough for a full book yet. We need at least 80 contributors to make a go for it, if approved by our Association for publishing. It could be ready for the 2008 reunion but that might be pushing it. It is not reunion dependent and it needs to be as complete as possible. Once I have the major input and have formatted a first draft, all authors will have a chance to edit their input. Once that is completed, it could be published in probably 4 months. Remember your input does not need to be elaborate, and if you want me to edit it I will, but I will work closely with each and every one of you. I prefer written input by email at doctoryeske@yahoo.com but have no problem with taking typed or hand written input via the postal service at Lanny Yeske, 1063 MacArthur Place, Forest, VA 24551 or phone 434-385-7117. Before you send any photographs, let me know what you have. Happy writing shipmates. We need your input!



The Hunt for Sea Poacher is Over!



**Lanny
Yeske**

doctoryeske@yahoo.com

By The 2007 Search Committee

The January 2007 Newsletter contains Part 1 of this article. After it was published, I had offers to assist with the search from Bill Dukacz, Robert Sumner, and Bob Henry, so they became my Ad Hoc Committee. All contributed significantly. Not being able to find any submarine hulls South of Lima, my Wife and I went in the other direction from the Jorge Chavez Airport Runway (330 degrees True) and found the beach three miles away and two piers. I already had a lump in my throat. Moving 2.2 miles South we were on a Naval Base, found a submarine pier, and then the scrapping site with at least 4 submarine hulls one with a sail still attached.

Robert, simultaneously with us, found the same submarine graveyard. The three of them then found a mystery submarine at the head of the Callao Submarine Pier which was of Sea Poacher size. Also on the pier were six other submarines of about 200 feet in length. We carefully analyzed this 2006 satellite image Bill found a Peruvian Naval Historian in Panama, Juan del Campo, who was absolutely certain he knew the answer. I sat back silent for a while until Bob Henry revolted and finally charged me with bringing Sea Poacher back to the U.S., sailing it up the James River, and parking it secretly at a pier in my back yard in Virginia.

Bill had us in Trench Coats solving the Da Vinci Code regards the mystery submarine, and Robert and Bob fully responded. Peru in 2006 had six German made Type 209 - 200 foot submarines at the Callao Base Submarine Pier. A seventh larger Sea Poacher size submarine (Abtao, 1954 U.S. made Shark Class and formerly Tiburon) was moored at a marina just off the Base and today serves as a memorial and museum. All were clearly seen in the satellite imagery where we had good 1.5 inch equaling 200 foot resolution. However it was this eighth submarine of 300 foot length that had our interest. Bill had better resolution on his computer and could make out deck hatches and was certain there was an after deck gun on it. I supposed it could have been added. There was an outside chance that the mystery submarine was also Atule. Granted, it sank in 1988 in a collision with a Japanese trawler, but was re-floated 11 months later, and cannibalized for parts. However, nothing was said of the disposition of the hull. But I had seen photos of it after raised and it was a mess, so we ruled it out.

The Committee was reaching a conclusion that the mystery submarine was Sea Poacher, as it was in a perfect spot to be the cadet training ship which had been its assignment in 1995. Of interest in the search was that Bill found a factual account in Spanish where during the Peru-Ecuador conflict in 1981 our Boat, now aged 37 years, and called La Pedrera (S-49) (The Stone Quarry) was called to alert. The article was posted on www.elsnorkel.com on 16 October 2005. It was written by an Officer on board at the time and now

Commander Juan Arrisueno Gomez de la Torre and was titled 120 TORPEDOES IN 48 HOURS. Bill did an entire translation of the article, a summary of which had them going through overhaul. New batteries had been installed, and she had gone through sea trials. They were certified for depths of 200 feet but some other modifications were needed to go to test depth. Then the Peru-Ecuador War began. They were ordered to take on supplies



and 24 torpedoes ranging from Mk-14 and Mk-37-2, which took most of a day. The following day they were to go on patrol when the bow of BAP Pacocha (ex USS Atule), maneuvering to get out of her way, hit the stern and damaged the propeller. This required dry docking and offload of the 24 torpedoes. However, after the fact it was found that no dry dock was available.

Accordingly, it was decided to change the propeller afloat, which was done, and the 24 torpedoes reloaded. Preparing to depart the next morning, unbelievably another submarine was returning from operations and accidentally hit the starboard propeller which had just been replaced.

So the torpedoes were again unloaded to dry dock. However a spare propeller was located and installed without dry docking. The 24 torpedoes were again reloaded, and our boat finally sailed on its delayed mission. So, in less than 48 hours they loaded and unloaded 120 torpedoes. Despite the depth limitation, that crew, like ours, served with the greatest of enthusiasm and dedication.

From Commander Juan Arrisueno Gomez, the La Pedrera crew has a reunion every July 1. They have as many good memories of La Pedrera as we have of Sea Poacher. Their motto is "ONCE A SUBMARINER! ALWAYS A SUBMARINER." We left Sea Poacher in good hands.

Then Bob Henry comes up with an entire set of shore photographs taken in 2003 with particular interest at the head of the submarine pier. There, and a total surprise to us, was the old Peruvian Submarine Dos de Mayo (S-41), of nearly Sea Poacher length, with another Abtao Class submarine outboard. One could not tell if there was an after deck gun on it from the photograph. In any case, it was not Sea Poacher and needless to say, our disappointment began.

Bill had continued his correspondence with the Peruvian Naval Historian, Juan del Campo, who was also the Peruvian Consul in Panama. We were told regretfully that La Pedrera/Sea Poacher no longer existed. It had been sold to a private smelting company in 1996 and in Ventanilla, Peru it was cut into pieces and used as scrap iron. This also pertained to the Atule. He had confirmed his findings with the Peruvian Naval Attaché in Panama, who is also a submarine officer. Both confirmed that the submarine we were seeing in the 2006 imagery was the Dos de Mayo (S-41), which will be decommissioned in 2007.

I went back to the Peruvian Consul to see if anything had been salvaged. His response was that no MAJOR equipment or instruments were recovered. The main reason for this was that such procedures are only done where the spare parts can be used for other units. La Pedrera was already an old submarine. There were no more Abtao type submarines in use and since its parts were not compatible with the German made submarines, the obsolete equipment was not needed and was destroyed along with the ship. However, he

(Continued on Page Nine)

Membership Roll

The following is a list of paid-up members. Are you on this list? If not, why not?

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Robert Abbott	Jack Easley	Frank Lederer	John Savory
Bob Acor	Daniel Eberhardt	Ted Lee	Herman Scallan
Charles Ahler	Leon Eggleston	Jim Lemerman	Bob Schindhelm
Paul Allers	Jack Enslinger	John Love	Karl Schipper
Peter Amunrud	Garl Eubank	Nathan Lundy	Russell Schondorf
Dave Andres	Frank Evans	Bill Luttrell	Ron Schnars
Ted Anthony	Buster Flaskas	J.J. Lynch	Donald Schwartz
Charles Auclair	Dante Fortini	John Mach	William Sharp
Vernon Barnett	Richard Fox	John Majzun	Harry Sherman
Robert Beers	Ron Fraley	Ken Manion	Rick Smock
Harvey Benson	Harold Gall	Mark Markham	John Snook
Truman Bernhard	Larry Garrett	Robert Matheny	Fred Socha
Doug Bishop	Arthur Geddes	Jim McClanahan	Richard Stickney
Kenneth Bonnell	Ron Godwin	David McCollum	Marty Stokes
Bob Bradley	Billy Gorsuch	Tilden McCommas	Chuck Strand
Bill Brinkman	Dave Green	Carl McCutcheon	David Strunk
Jim Burgett	Eugene Guibault	Jack Merrill	Tom Sugden
Russ Burrows	Paul Gusler	Ty Merritt	Robert Sumner
Frank Calderone	Carl Hale	Eddie Montz	Chester Taylor
Bobbie Calvert	Dave Harms	Joe Murdoch	Ed Thompson
Dick Carney	Ray Heckroth	William Murphy	Ron Thompson
Leo Carr	Bill Hellmer	Lester Murray	Tommy Thompson
Kent Carroll	Robert Henry	Gary Nagle	James Tryon
John Chaich	Darrell Hickman	Jon Nagle	John Tulodeski
Richard Clubb	Dick Holtz	Dick Nicholoy	Al Turbeville
Ralph Cobb	Robert Horne	Jack Nims	Tony Tuttobene
Cal Cochrane	Harry Huggins	Charles O'Baker	Ed Urban
Lawrence Colwell	Carol Humphries	Paul Ogg	Don Waldrop
Bill Cook	Hubert Jackson	Ron Patterson	Arne Weinfurter
Robert Cooley	Richard Jennison	Tom Polen	Larry Weingrzn
James Cooney	Gerald Joseph	Jim Powers	Ray Wengrzn
Gerry Coutou	Ivan Joslin	John Rabuse	James Weston
Bill Crismon	Mike Kassinger	Charles Rager	Olin Williams
Alfred Dickey	Allen Katen	Dewey Reed	George Wyse
William Dietrich	David Keffeler	Larry Reiche	Lanny Yeske
William Donnelan	Ken Kile	David Richter	Bruce Young
Merlyn Dorrheim	Richard Laake	Luke Riley	Jerome Young
Bill Dukacz	Troy Law	David Ringland	
Daniel Dybala	Carroll Lawson	Robert Ritz	
Richard Earl	Ken LeBlanc	Salvatore Rosina	



MEMBERS

Dewey Akins	John Dubbs	Dale Peterson
Russell Bauer	Richard Ferris	Roy Randall
Rodney Benefield	Ralph French	Mark Richwine
Richard Bernotiet	James Gentry	Robert Roth
Ray Binns	Lyle Gillette	John Saeli
Stanley Bissen	Max Harrell	Bennie Sheldon
Donald Blomquist	Mike Heberling	Delvin Smith
Fredrick Brattain	Jimmie E. Hickman	John Sohl Jr.
William Buckley	Wayne Holmgren	Ron Spooner
Warren Burkett	Jerry Houchens	Harold Stanley
Neil Cabe	Gerald Keffer	Gary Stark
Rick Carlson	Phillip Kinney	Glen Suttle
Frank Caulfield	Ray Krivacy	Harold Swan
George Childs	George Lockwood	Terry Tague
Don Cipra	Jerry Loveless	James Thompson
Dennison Compton	Peter McCormack	Fred Vavra
Harold Cook	Daniel McLaren	Andrew Viers
James Deming	Mark Mordecai	Ed Voloka
Ray Dicaire	Joe Musgrave	Don Wilkinson
William Docekal	Thomas Nein	Billy Williams
Charles Donnelly	Charles Owen	Lee Yonts
William Dougherty	Roy Palmer	
William Douthit	William Parhamenko	

If your name does not appear here . . . Why not??? Please help support your association!!!! Dues are \$10 per year or \$100 for a life membership. Please make check payable to "Sea Poacher Association" and Mail to: Bill Brinkman, 4500 Tiffany Nicole St., Round Rock, TX 78664-9466



Mark Markham, TM 48-50 presents the Sea Poacher Memorial Plaque to Molly Chubb the widow of Ed Chubb, YN 49-51. Ed embarked on his Final Patrol in July of 2006.



Bill Buckley TM 50-56 present the Sea Poacher Memorial Plaque to Barbara Poole, the widow of Marshall Poole, EM 60-61. Marshall embarked on his Final Patrol in September 2006.

FINAL PATROL

Edwardo Abans, SD 68-69
 Samuel W. Acree, ET 57 – October 2003
 Bruce M. Adams, MoMM 44
 Horace Adams, EN 63-64 – November 1987
 Raymond E. Adcock, SN 47 – December 1974
 John Austin, EN 60 – 1970's
 Willie Austin, EM, 49-56
 Robert P. Ayer, EN 60 – 1978
 Don Barnes, EM 44-49
 Wayne Elton Barton, TM 47-48 – 1997
 Raymond Bassett, FT 64 – July 2000
 Irwin Battle, MoMM 45-46 – July 2000
 Ray Bayans, EN 49 – November 1983
 Richard Baybutt, FN 44-46 – December 2002
 Joseph Beuchler, TM 59-61 – September 1975
 Reynold A. Binder, MoMM 46-47 – June 1993
 Powell Blair, Pritc, 45 – April 1992
 Salvatore Blangiardi, EN 61 – June 2002
 LuVern Blankenhagan, EM 59-60
 Federick Boczon, EN 48-50 – May 1993
 Joseph Bole, ET 50-51 – 1995
 John Bornowski, TM 54-57 – December 1991
 W. D. Boulton, 44
 George Bracey, TN 58-59 – USS Thresher
 Norris Bradley, SN 44-45
 Norman Breeden, TM 49-50 – November 1993
 Charles Breyman, HM 55-58 – November 1993
 James Bridewell, ET, 63-67 – 1993
 Jim Brink, Ens 44 – September 2003
 Josephino Bugarin TN 50-54
 Everett N. Burbes, IC 51-52
 James Burke, EN 44-46
 George Butkis, EN 62-63 – October 2003
 Richard Byom, QM 51 – April 1976
 Louis Cafone SN 44-45 – June 1981
 Olie L. Carden, EN 50-57
 J.B. Carson, TM 53, 56-59
 Clarence Carter, EM 45 – September 2003
 Vinton Carver, QM 55-56 – December 1990
 Murry Cherry, TM 48-49 – April 1984
 Robert Chestnut, EN 59-62
 Edwin Chubb, YN 49-51 – July 2006
 Howard A. Coffman, HM 59-56 – 2004
 Raymond Conahan, SA 49 – 20 October 2001
 Quebert Cormier, EM 69
 Arthur Cornish, MoMM 45-48 – 2001
 Timothy Cotter, EM, 44-46 – July 2005
 Richard H. Coupe, XO 61-63 – May 2003
 Raymond J. Cremin, EM 60 – January 2005
 Richard Crittenden, EM 58 – January 2004

Stephen P. Cyganik, FT 45 – February 2002
 Jerome A. Davi, XO 60-61 – February 2003
 Carl Davis, CO 57-59
 Fred Davis, TM 49-53
 William Davis, MoMM 44-48
 Floyd Day Jr., EN 60 – April 2003
 Maurice Demers, HM 48-50 – October 1995
 Robert Demonge, TM 55-57 – August, 1996
 Kenneth Deramus, TM 57-63
 Alfred Despang, EM 59, 61-63
 John Dittmer, MoMM 47-48
 Jere W. Driver, RM 63 – March 1998
 Francis Droesch, EN 59 – 1978
 William G. Eason, TM 63
 John H. Epps, Ltjg 47
 Morris E. Ezell Jr., QM 46 – June 2004
 Dale Fate, CS 54-59 – January 1999
 Jess Favors, EM 59-60 – February, 2003
 George Fender, EN 52-July 2003
 Elwood H. Forni, SO 58 – USS Thresher
 James N. Forrester, EN 50-54
 Taylor Fox, TM 46 – November 1999
 Charles H. Foy, GM 45-46 – May 22, 1974
 Roy Holland Gallemore, Lt 44-47 – February 2005
 Frank Michael Gambacorta, CO 44 – December 2000
 Warden Gaskins, XO 45
 Robert C. Gaunt, TM 44 – 1953
 John Gerenser, SN 46-49 – 2000
 Raymond Jerome Gillin, ET 58-59 – March 2005
 William Goold, EN 57-60 – June 2002
 John A. Goordman, ET 54-55 – January 1990
 John H. Goss, MM 46-49 – 1954
 Rober Gouge, EN 57-60
 Henry Guthrie, EN 63-65 – 2001
 Bobbie Joe Hammac, FA 58-62 – May 1995
 John E. Harvey, CS 59-63 – November 2004
 Michael Hehmann ET 68-69 – 1993
 Joe Hemphill, EM 44-45
 William Henry, LTjg 58-59
 Jere W. Hensel, TM 58
 James High, Lt, 57-60 – December 2003
 William F. Higley, SO 60-61 – October 2005
 Dale D. Holtzclaw, EN 60-61 – 1994
 Scott E. Horton Jr., QM 44-47
 Ira R. Houston, RM 48-49
 Jerry Hucks, Ltjg 63-66 – June 2001
 William Hurt, MM 44-45
 Jack Johns, QM 49-50
 Alfred Jonas, EN 57 – February 2003
 Douglas S. Jordan, Lt, 59-61 – February 2005

Matthew H. Jordan, EM 69
 Jerry Jorn, IC 51-54 – November 2002
 John Juricek, QM 63 – March 2000
 Donald J. Kamuf, EN 60-61 – June 2006
 Zigmund Kanaszka, EM 52-55 – 1975
 Arthur Keevil, Ltjg, 47 – August 1993
 Carlos Killgore, EM 63-65 – February 2003
 Edward Kilosky, EM 63 – 1997
 Robert A. H. King, LTjg 53-55 – September 2003
 Gary G. Kirkpatrick, EN 50-52
 Geroge Klarmann, IC 54 – May 2003
 Leonard R. Kojm, CO 61-63 – September 2004
 Leonard Kroll, TM 52-55
 Harry Kumanski, TM 45 – July 1993
 Stephen Kurkjian, EN 51 – November 1977
 Paul Lacouture, Lt 44
 Thomas L. Lampley, SN, 45-46 – March 2005
 Clayton, LaPlante, EN 56-58 – 2000
 Johnny Lazo, SO 61-63 – December 2002
 Robert LeBel, FN 44-46
 Neal Ledford, EN 49-50 – April 1993
 Charles F. Leigh, CO, 45-46
 Andrew Leslie, RM 55 – January 2000
 Herman LeVaur, MM 61 – 1994
 Jim Lofland, CS 58-61 – January 2004
 John Lorrey, MoMM 47 – December 1997
 John P. Macuszonok, EN 49-52
 Robert Madill, EM 49-50 – Jan. 1998
 David B. Maher, CO 55 – February 1992
 Stanley C. Martell, FT 69 – March 2006
 Gerald Matern, YN 46 – 1998
 Nelson "Sam" Mattingly, EM 52-56 – October 2006
 Clemens F. Maue Jr., SN 46-48 – October 2005
 James L. McCombs, TM 49-50 – April 2002
 William McNeil, SN 47-48 – December 1999
 Alfred W. Miller, SC 47-48 – October 2006
 Calvin Miller, Ltjg 63-67 – September 2005
 Morgan J. Minchey, TM 61-63 – May 2004
 John Minett, YN 45 – June 1989
 Frank Murphy, EN 62-65
 Rudolph Myers, QM 58-60 – 1993
 Charles Napier, QM 50-53
 William Nelson, EM 52-54 – January 2002
 Bobbie Newell, GM 44-46
 Edgar Nies, RM 49 – Sept. 2002
 Bliss Nisonger, TM 44 – 2000
 Constantine Pappas, SC 44-45
 John Park, CS 63-65
 Nando Passerine, TM 53-54 – July 1980
 Robert Pearce, LTjg 62-63 – May 2005

Sailors Rest Your Oars . . .

*I have one consolation that lives with me today.
 That God is near to them, in his own special way.
 So, God in all Your mercy, keep near Thyself the soul,
 Of every Submariner, still on his final patrol.
 Lord, these departed shipmates, with dolphins on their chests are part of
 an outfit known as the best.
 Make them welcome and take them by the hand.
 You'll find without a doubt they were the best in all the land.
 So, heavenly Father add their names to the roll of our departed ship-
 mates still on patrol.
 Let them know that we who survive will always keep their memories
 alive.*

Thomas H. Polk, CO 55-57 – April 1996
 Marshall Poole, EM 60-61 – Sept 2006
 Rudolph Poteet, FT 53 – December 2006
 William Porter, EM 44-46
 Tracey Price, EM 44-46
 Paul Purkrabek, Ltjg 47 – November 2003
 Allen K. Rhodes, TM 49-52 – February 2004
 Burton E. Rider, EN 51-53 – March 2003
 Henry Robertson, EN 48-50
 Horace Rogers, TM 58-59 – June 1993
 James O. Rogers, LT 53-56 – 2003
 John Ross, SN 44-47
 Bruce Rounds, SN 44-46
 Charles Russell, Lt. 59-61
 Frank Rutzen, FN 55-57 – November 1999
 Ernest Sabol, Ltjg 57 – June 2003
 Richard Sanders, IC 66-68
 Louis Sardo, QM 60-61 & 64 – April 2004
 William G. Sargent, EM 63-64
 Henry Schmidt, CS 55-57
 Herman Schoenberger,, TM 57-59
 Sid Schorr, SN 45 – March 2003

Harold R. Schwartz, TM 57-59
 James W. Scott, QM 60
 WPhillip Clayton Sears, TM 57-58 – September 1982
 Walter Seifert, EN 60-62
 Vernon Seiple, SO 61-63
 Edwin W. Sharp, EN 67 – July 2002
 Edward Shook, EM 64-68
 Robert Silvis, SC 45-46 – May 1999
 Thomas Skiles, EN 63-67
 Norman Skiles, RM 58-59 – October 2003
 Frederick S. Smith CP 44-46 – 1961
 James L. Smith, TM 63-64 – 1991
 Ebrue G. Smojicie, EN 44-51
 Nolan (Dave) Spence, ET 54-56 – October 2000
 Yaber Staggs, EM 67-68 – September 1989
 Lawrence Stahl, XO 59-61 – April 2000
 Peter Stea, EN 53 – May 2002
 Ezra Swartz, MoMM 46-47, August 2001
 James Symanek, SA 68-69 – July 1970
 Melvin Syme, TM 44-45
 William N. V. Tackett, EN 54-55 – February 2005
 Frank J. Taggart, FT 56-59

Joe Tasillo, FA 52 – March 1993
 Arnett B. Taylor, XO 53-57 – October 2002
 Charlie Thieme, MM 44-47 – 2003
 Richard Todd, SN 45
 Gordon Townsend, RM 57 – June 1982
 Theodore M. Ustick, CO 49 – May 2000
 Warren Vanderwerker, EM 57-63
 Robert E. Van Meter Jr., EM 60-62 – August 2003
 Peter Wallin, QM 56-59 – March 1991
 Charlie Wentz, YN 56-58 – June 1999
 Ross Wesner, LTjg, 62-65 – August 2006
 Ellis White, Lt 44 – June 2004
 Wayne White, EN 61-62 – April 1962
 Jesse Wiles, RM 61 – November 1999
 R. K. R. Worthington, XO 44 – February 1996
 Fred Yarborough, TN 48-50 – 1990
 Lester Young, EN 60-62 – February 2000
 Melvin Zimmerman, GM 60 – September 2000
 Theodore Znuj, MM 44-46

Sea Poacher Ships' Store



SPECIAL OFFER:

\$2.00 off if you buy a shirt along with either an Afghan or coffee cup or Tankard as we use the shirt to protect the coffee cup/tankard during shipping:

- Afghan + Shirt = \$ 70.00
- Coffee cup + shirt= \$ 34.00
- Tankard + shirt = \$ 40.00

Certificate includes a picture of the boat in the configuration as you served aboard and also includes a list of all the shipmates with whom you served. Printed on high gloss photo paper. Frame subject to availability.

- Framed and matted \$35.00
 - Unframed \$10.00
- (Postage included)



ITEM	Quan.	Price	TOTAL
DBF Pin	—	\$4.00	—
Afgan	—	\$50.00	—
Ships' Patch	—	\$5.50	—
Ballcap	—	\$14.00	—
Coffee Cup	—	\$14.00	—
Golf Shirts - Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL	—	\$22.00	—
Etched Glass Tankard	—	\$20.00	—
WWII & Reunion 2003 Video	—	\$14.00	—
Framed Certificate	—	\$35.00	—
Unframed Certificate	—	\$10.00	—
Reunion 2006 Video	—	\$10.00	—
TOTAL			—

Please make check payable to Bill Brinkman and mail to: *Bill Brinkman, 4500 Tiffany Nicole St., Round Rock, TX 78664-9466.* Prices includes shipping!



(Continued from Page Four)

Hunt is over!

said some OTHER parts of it were salvaged by the submarine's officers and were inside the Pub Snorkel, with an old submarine simulator, located at the Navy Officer's Club in Callao.

And now in late January 2007, my previous contact, a high level Naval officer in Callao, who wishes to remain anonymous, informed me that La Pedrera/Sea Poacher, was actually towed by a company called Fundición Marsano in 1993 and one year later Atule/Pacocha followed her to the same destination, where they were cut up for steel. The skipper of the tug boat was a personal friend of my contact, and was absolutely certain of this. Also, there had been a visual inspection on the Base in Callao and there was no La Pedrera/Sea Poacher moored to a pier. There was also no possibility that any of the hulls lying on the beach were it either. Both the Panama and Peru contacts were 100 percent certain Sea Poacher no longer existed.

However there were still several puzzling aspects in our search. If scrapped, why the discrepancy in the years? Also scrapping in 1993 did not make sense if La Pedrera was in a 1995 cadet training ship mode. Plus there exists an account on the Internet of a sunken unidentified submarine in the Valparaiso, Chile harbor. It was 16 September 1976 and Operation UNITAS was taking place offshore. The Chilean naval vessels left the pier and encountered two submarines in the harbor which they depth charged. One was sunk and the other escaped. There is still conjecture that one was a Peruvian Guppy submarine and the other a Russian nuclear submarine. Peru has totally denied this, but the mystery has still not been solved. Could there have been a cover-up? Why is the official report from Peru on the disposition of La Pedrera taking so long? And now came even a bigger surprise. Bob Sumner at the last minute came up with a photo of La Pedrera/Sea Poacher and Pacocha/Atule with a possible date of 5 April 2003. At this stage I was not sure whether to wave or salute.

So, I decided verification was needed from the company that supposedly cut up and melted down both Sea Poacher and Atule. I sent an email to Fundición Marsano in late January 2007. A reply was immediately received asking why we wanted the information. A detailed response was provided and the answer on January 26, 2007 from the Fundición Marsano Callao Export Manager stated: "We are sorry to inform you that the submarine was scrapped and unfortunately there are no souvenirs left."

I told Fundición Marsano that I was presuming it was scrapped in 1996, but heard nothing more in return. We subsequently received confirmation from our former submarine officer on La Pedrera, that the Boat had been scrapped. He said he would search for any possible equipment that might remain and would keep in contact. Bob Sumner's contact regards the possible 2003 photo of La Pedrera never resurfaced.

So what do we have?

Any official report from the Government of Peru as to her disposition? No. Five email reports from high level officials in Peru saying she was scrapped! Yes. Any reason to doubt their authenticity? No! It is the best information we have and we believe it certain, despite no official reports, which at some time could be forthcoming. The Sea Poacher hull/major equipments no longer exist.

However, Sea Poacher lives. What was destroyed after 52 years of service was a machine; a mass of nuts and bolts and other materials. But that was not the Sea Poacher or La Pedrera. OUR BOAT was and will always be a crew, and the crew lives on. And we see this at every reunion and get together. We took a hull and good equipment, gave it wonderful life and service for 25 years, and we cared for it well. Damn well! It served Peru admirably for 27 years after we let go of it, and it even went to war again at the age of 37 and perhaps later in other skirmishes with Ecuador. There are very few ships that can make that statement. The Sea Poacher lives! My Committee certainly thinks so. Bill just sent me a tape of the Sea Poacher engines starting up, running, and purring quieter than I had ever heard before. Robert Sumner and Bob Henry were shipmates on the 1960 Sea Poacher Northern Run and even got their dolphins on the same day on that trip. They had forgotten all about that, and, as a result of this Committee, are finally getting together after 47 years and Robert never even knew that he had relatives living in Bob's home town. The Sea Poacher lives not only in this Committee, but with all of you!

Now, what do you suppose that Peruvian crew saved and put on display at the Pub Snorkel in Callao? Someone should go down there and check it out as well as the beer.

THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Lanny Yeske, Chairman


William Dukacz

Bob Henry

Robert Sumner



Reunion '08 is Shaping Up



**From the
2008
Reunion Host:
JJ Lynch
j2bubba2@earthlink.net**

P25HEY! Or is it—Now hear this!

Reunion plans are being etched in concrete. The first day at 0800 Thursday 23 May 2008 we will depart for Kings Bay, GA. The Submarine Base with a base and Trident Training Facility Tour. We will be touring a FBM that is if missals are not being loaded. We will have lunch at the base and return to the Hotel around 1630.

You will have enough time to clean up and take your "lovely" to civilian chow. There is a great steak house and several other fine establishments with in 1000 yards of the hotel. I took my wife out once this year so I will be camped at our Hospitality room (5th FLOOR) over looking the city of Jacksonville.

Friday at 1030 we will migrate to the dock just a few hundred yards from the front door with an underway time of 1100. Yes I said underway for a luncheon cruise tour of Jacksonville from the water and memorial ceremony to honor our shipmates departed.

1530 will be our Business meeting on the first floor in the meeting room. There are water taxis at the dock to take you over

to the river walk and other exciting places that is called LIBERTY. Saturday morning the busses will depart for St. Augustine at 0830 now this is a tour you don't want to miss. You will eat lunch in St. Augustine and return about 1600.

The Banquet will be Saturday evening with the guest speaker Ms. Sherry Sontag one of the the authors of **Blinds Man Bluff**.

The Hospitality room will be open whenever there is someone with a sea story to tell.

There is a security form that is required by the SubBase for all that will be touring the base and boat. You will have to have it in to me no later that 60 days before the reunion but I am requesting that you don't put it off. Should your memory be as short as mine by the time you finish this article you will have forgotten what you where suppose to do. Our President has the forms and there is one in this new letter so get on with it. Mail it to me, at Reunion Headquarters Dept. Jacksonville, 13137 Harborton Dr., Jacksonville, Fl., 32224. I have several forms, received at the picnic, so if you gave them to me don't send them again. The dollar required for the reunion are being shaved to the lowest we can get them and will be published in the next news letter.

The Hotel is standing by for reservations and we need you help with making them. I have reserved many rooms and had to sign a contract for them so I requested a low number. They will increase that number as reservations come in. Help me by making your reservations now, at 1-866-845-8862 worldwide reservations or directly with Wyndham Riverwalk at 904-396-5100 make sure you say USS Sea Poacher Reunion. The hotel has extended the room price for us both early arrival and late stay should you request it.

Please enlarge to 8.5x11, fill out and return to JJ ASAP if you desire to tour a Nuclear Submarine while at the 08' reunion in Jacksonville

Security Department
United States Naval Submarine Base
Kings Bay, Georgia 31547

Consent Form

I hereby authorize ~~SMASR~~ Security Department to receive any criminal history record information pertaining to me, which may be in the files of any federal, state or local criminal justice agencies. **PRINT CLEARLY OR WILL NOT BE PROCESSED IN A TERRY MANNOR**

Full Name: (Print) _____
Last First Middle Name

SSN: _____ RACE: _____ DOB: _____ SEX: _____

Place of Birth, city: _____ STATE: _____

Contractor Name, FIRM AND (M): Bus Tour - USS Sea Poacher (SS406) - Reunion

Work location on base: Bus Tour - Road to Kings Bay 2008

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Witness John Lynch 845-535-3661

NOTE: In the event that an adverse decision is made adverse to a person whose record was obtained pursuant to code section, 135J-4) the person will be informed by the business, agency, or person making the adverse access decision of all information that a record was obtained from the Navy Security Department Kings Bay, Georgia, the specific contents of the record, and the effect the record had upon the decision. Failure to provide all such information to the person subject to the adverse decision shall be a misdemeanor.

*****REQUESTING DEPARTMENT: _____

FIRST ENDORSEMENT

From: Terminal Agency Coordinator, Naval Submarine Base

To: _____

1. _____ Crime Information Center checks were performed on the above named individual. Federal/State Criminal History Repositories (SCRM) results have been reviewed and did/did not reveal any adverse or derogatory information.

Signature _____ Date _____



A Subsailor's Life

Bob "Dex" Armstrong

Boatsailors and Peacoats

You remember them... Those ton and a half monsters that took the annual production of thirty-five sheep to make. Those thick black rascals with black plastic buttons the size of poker chips. The issue coats that drove shore duty chief petty officers stark raving nuts if they caught you with the collar turned up or your gahdam hands in your pockets.

"Hey, you rubber sock, get those gahdam hands outta them damn pockets! Didn't they issue you black leather gloves?"

So, you took your hands out of your pockets and risked digital frostbite rather than face whatever the Navy had in store for violators of the 'No Gahdam Hands In Peacoat Pockets' policy. There's probably a special barracks in Hell full of old E-3s caught hitchhiking in sub-zero weather with hands in peacoat pockets.

As for those leather gloves, one glove always went missing.

"Son, where in th' hell are the gloves we issued you?"

We??? I don't remember this nasty, ugly bastard being at Great Lakes when the 'jocks and socks' petty officers were throwing my initial issue seabag at me and yelling, "Move it!!"

As for the gloves, once you inadvertently leave one glove on a whorehouse night table or on the seat of a Grayhound bus, the remaining glove is only useful if a tank rolls over the hand that fit the lost glove.

In the days long ago, a navy spec. peacoat weighed about the same as a flat car load of cinder blocks. When it rained, it absorbed water until your spine warped, your shins cracked and your ankles split. Five minutes standing in the rain waiting on a bus and you felt like you were piggy-backing the statue of liberty.

When a peacoat got wet, it smelled a lot like sheep dip. It had that wet wool smell, times three. It weighed three and a half tons and smelled like 'Mary had a little lamb's' gym shorts.

You know how damn heavy a late '50s peacoat was? Well, they had little metal chains sewn in the back of the collar to hang them up by. Like diluted navy coffee, sexual sensitivity instruction, comfortable air-conditioned topside security bungalows, patent leather plastic-looking shoes and wearing raghats configured to look like bidet bowls, the pea-

**Lone Sailor Statue
sits on the River
Walk at Jacksonville,
Florida.**



Photo courtesy of Jack Merrill TM 61-63

A properly dressed unidentified Sea Poacher topside watch stander in New London in January or February 1962. Perhaps, building a snowman was not part of the job, though.

coat spec. has been watered down to the point you could hang them up with dental floss. In the old days, peacoat buttons and grocery cart wheels were interchangeable parts. The gear issued by the U.S. Navy was tough as hell, bluejacket-tested clothing with the durability of rino hide and construction equipment tires.

Peacoats came with wide, heavy collars. In a cold, hard wind, you could turn that wide collar up to cover your neck and it was like poking your head in a tank turret.

The things were warm, but I never thought they were long enough. Standing out in the wind in those 'big-legged britches' (bell bottoms), the wind whistled up your cuffs and took away body warmth like a thief. But, they were perfect to pull over you for a blanket when sleeping on a bus or a bus terminal bench.

Every sailor remembers stretching out on one of those oak bus station pews with his raghat over his face, his head up against his AWOL bag and covered with his peacoat. There was always some 'SP' who had not fully evolved from apehood, who poked you with his billy bat and said,

"Hey, YOU!! Get up! Waddya think yer doin? You wanna sleep, get a gahdam room!"

Peacoats were lined with quilted satin or rayon. I never realized it at the time, but sleeping on bus seats and station benches would be the closest I would ever get to sleeping on satin sheets.

Early in my naval career, a career-hardened (lifer) first class gunner's mate told me to put my ID and liberty card in the inside pocket of my peacoat.

"Put the sonuvabitches in that gahdam inside pocket and pin the damn thing closed with a diaper pin. Then, take your heavy folding money and put it in your sock. If you do that, learn to never take your socks off in a cathroom. Them damn dockside pickpockets pat 'cha down for a lumpy wallet and they can relieve you of said wallet so fast you'll never know you've been snookered.

Only a dumbass idiot will clam-fold his wallet and tuck it in his thirteen button bellbottoms. Every kid above the age of six in Italy knows how to lift a wallet an idiot pokes in his pants. Those little bastards leard to pick sailor's pockets in kindergarten.

Rolling bluejackets is the national sport in Italy."

In Washington DC, they have a wonderful marble and granite plaza honor-

(Continued on Page Twelve)



USS Sea Poacher (SS406)

Association

Bill Brinkman, President
4500 Tiffany Nicole St.
Round Rock, TX 78664-9466
seapoacher@austin.rr.com

Sea Poacher web site: <http://seapoacher.com>



(Continued from Page Eleven)

Pea Coats



ing the United States Navy. Every man or woman who served this nation in a naval uniform, owes it to himself or herself to visit this memorial and take their families.

It honors all naval service and any red-blooded American bluejacket or officer will feel the gentle warmth of pride his or her service is honored within this truly magical place.

The focal point of this memorial is a bronze statue of a lone American sailor. No crow on his sleeve tells you that he is non-rated. And, there are further indications that suggest maybe,

once upon a time, the sculpturer himself may have once been an E-3 raghat.

The lad has his collar turned up and his hands in his pockets.

I'm sure the Goddess of the Main Induction nearly wets her panties laughing at the old, crusty chiefs standing there with veins popping out on their old, wrinkled necks, muttering,

"Look at that idiot sonuvabitch standing there with his collar up and his gah-dam hands in his pockets. In my day, I would have ripped that jerk a new one!"

Ah, the satisfied glow of E-3 revenge.

Peacoats... One of God's better inventions.



From the Web Guru:

Jon K. Nagle

jondryvac@aol.com

Ex-Sub Sailor Bites Dog!

If you haven't seen the web page yet you are missing exciting stories like this. And, if you haven't sent me anything for the web page we will be missing your exciting stories. Thanks to Jack Merrill we have a new Memoriam page and we have more new stories from the ward room (juicy gossip). So this is what you old EM's, EN's, MM's, ENS's, IC's, TM's, SO's, LT's, COB's and Captains need to do.

Everything you want your great grandchildren to read sometime in the future about you and your adventures as a young kid.

Change of Address

Please let us know of any change of status – address, phone or email. Either call Jack Merrill at 863-393-2138 or Bill Brinkman at 512-255-0285