

Sea Poacher Association



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



Volume 4, Issue 2

July, 2006

Virginia Beach, May 06': Another Successful Reunion



Photo by: Bill Dukacz

The lovely Sea Poacher ladies. Thank you for being so supportive!



**From the
President:**

Bill Brinkman

seapoacher@austin.rr.com

Our third reunion from May 18 to May 21, 2006 in Virginia Beach was a great success. We had 130 attendees.

We owe thanks to all those who helped make this reunion a great success:

1. Our Reunion Chairman, Ivan Joslin LT 60-63, and wife, Marjorie.

Ivan and Marjorie spent a lot of time and effort to set up the bus tours of Norfolk Navy Base, The Nauticus Museum, our Breezy Point lunch, BBQ Dinner, the banquet and our final going away breakfast on Sunday morning.

In addition, Ivan got Beth Dukes, USS Scorpion widow, to talk

to us during our "Tolling of the Bells" ceremony Saturday at Memorial Cemetary in Norfolk.

I know they paid a lot of attention to the details to ensure a well run, efficient and fun ship's reunion which has generated a lot of kudos from the attendees.

Also, Marjorie found gifts for the ladies and put together a great informational packet for all those who registered.

2. JJ Lynch, CS 59-62, for providing the drinks and snacks for the hospitality room. He also ran the main raffle at our banquet Saturday night.

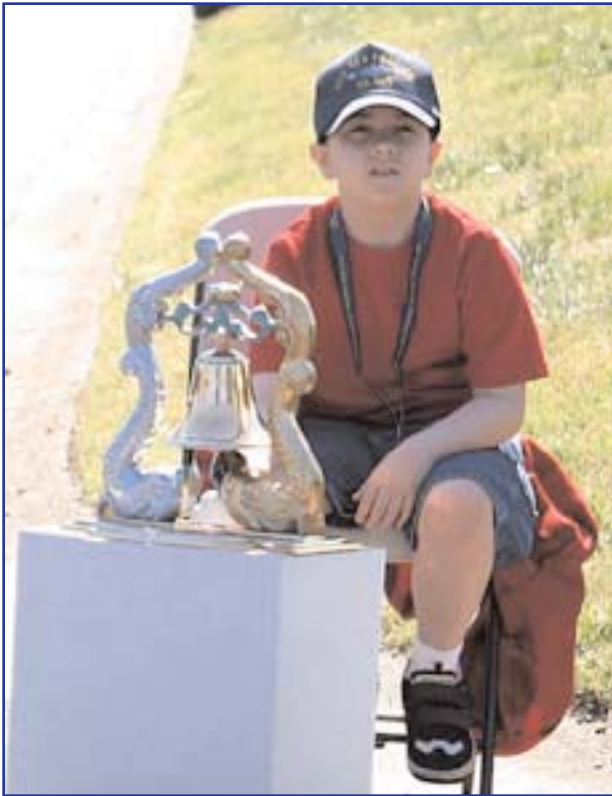
3. Cal Cochrane, MM 55-56, for running the 50-50 raffle.

4. John Tulodieski, LTJg 61-63, for getting the BBQ Speaker, Jim Bunch, to tell us about his dives and research on the German Sub U-85.

(Continued on Page Two)

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



Jimmy Wilkinson, son of Don & Gail Wilkinson, TM 56-57, who so ably manned the bell during our moving Memorial Service at the Scorpion Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia



Photo by: Jack Merrill, TM 61-63

5. Captain Richard Fox, CO 63-64, for getting Capt. Ted Davis of the USS Grenadier to speak about "outing" the Russian missile sub at our Banquet.

6. Ralph Cobb, LT 44-45, for speaking about his experiences during USS Sea Poacher's WWII four war patrols at our business meeting.

7. Jack Merrill, Vice President, TM 61-62, and John Rabuse EN 47-51, for setting up the USS Sea Poacher Golf Match on May 18. He also set up and ran the auction at our banquet.

8. For all you attendees who helped by purchasing 50-50 tickets, raffle tickets and bidding at the auction. These funds allowed the association to pay for the Hospitality Room, drinks, snacks, etc.

By attending the reunion, you all help make the association a living, vibrant organization. We all had a great time renewing all acquaintances with former shipmates and meeting the shipmates from other years.

(For a complete list of those shipmates attending the reunion see Pages 4 & 5.)

9. George Boyajain, EM 44-49, for providing the World War II Battle Flag and Pennants and for Fred Brattain, EM 44-45, for providing WW II pictures which were displayed along with the Battle Flag and Pennants.

10. We especially welcomed the attendance of 3 of our WW II Sea Poacher Veterans: Ralph Cobb, Ltjg 44-45; Jack Easley SC 45-46; and Billy Williams, TM 44-45. Gentlemen, we salute you and thank you for your service.

11. Ken Leblanc, ET 60, our treasurer, for all his work in paying the bills, collecting the monies, and some-how making it all balance!

12. Gazie Nagle, wife of Jon Nagle, MM 62-63, for creating the auction painting of USS Sea Poacher in 1962 as it left the Charleston Navy yard with the new North Atlantic sail.

13. All the ladies that helped organize the raffle items.

Business Meeting Results

1. The Officers agreed to serve another term:
 President: Bill Brinkman EM 60-62
 Vice-President: Jack Merrill TM 61-63
 Treasurer: Ken LeBlanc ET 60
 Secretary: Jon Nagle MM 62-63

2. Next Reunion: We voted to have our next reunion in May 2008 at Jacksonville, FL with JJ Lynch, CS 59-62 as the Reunion chairman.

3. We voted to form a committee to look into establishing a non-profit "Humanitarian Fund". Committee chairman is Lanny Yeske, LTjg 61-63.

Other members are Carroll Lawson, QM 61-63, Jerry Houchens, ET 60-62 and John Tulodieski, LTjg 61-63.

The Committee will get back to the Association officers with their findings and recommendations. (more as time goes by.)





From the Treasurer:

Ken LeBlanc

kengail@hotmail.com

Well, it took me a few days but I finally made all the necessary entries and, lo and behold, our Treasurer's Report agrees with the bank balance to the penny.

As you can see from the reports, we didn't do too bad at this reunion. As a matter of fact, WE DID GREAT!

May 1, 2006	Beginning Balance		
	(General & Memorial Funds)	\$23,771.29	
	General Fund Deposits & Credits	9,182.00	
	General Fun Withdrawals	11,242.70	
	Memorial Fund Deposits & Credits	0.00	
	Memorial Fun Withdrawals	30.00	
May 31, 2006	Ending Balance		
	(General & Memorial Funds)	\$21,680.59	

MAY MONTHLY ACTIVITY

Deposits, Receipts and Credits

May 01, 2006	Reunion: Carl Lewis	\$155.00	
	Bobby Calvert	284.00	
	Jon Nagle	300.00	
	David McCollum	260.00	
			\$999.00
May 09, 2006	Ship Stores Sales:	48.00	
	Reunion: Bob Bradley	102.00	
	Danny Hicks	165	
	John Romeo	300.00	
	Deidre Bridewell	162.00	
	Jack Dubbs	150.00	
	Erroneous Credit	6.00	
			\$933.00
May 17, 2006	Keffler Lifetime Membership	100.00	
	Carl Lewis (Reunion)	24.00	
			\$124.00
May 18, 2006	Dues: Jerry Houchens	10.00	
	Ron Fraley	10.00	
	Phil Kinney	10.00	
	Ship Store Sales	546.00	
	Reunion: Jerry Houches	20.00	
	Calvin Cochrane	20.00	
	Raffle	445.00	
			\$1,061.00
Mayt19, 2006	Ship Store Sales	170.00	
	Reunion: Dewey Reed	24.00	
	BBQ	15.00	
	Lunch	25.00	
	Raffle	527.00	
			\$761.00
May 20, 2006	Ship Store Sales	410.00	
	Reunion: Auction, Plaque, Marriott	150.00	

Reunion: Auction, Stamps, Socha & Lawson	100.00	
Auction, Fishing Trip-LeBlanc	80.00	
Breakfast	100.00	
Breakfast-Arne Weinfurter	20.00	
Raffle	313.00	
Tote Bags	42.00	
50/50	357.00	
Booze	17.00	
Humanatrain Fund Donations	300.00	
		\$1889.00

May 21, 2006	Ship Store Sales	320.00	
	Reunion: Booze	15.00	
			\$335.00

May 25, 2006	Ralph Cobb - Dues	100.00	
	Ship Store Sales	382.00	
	Memorial Fond Donation-Fox	50.00	
	Reunion: Raffle	20.00	
	Cash-LeBlanc	203.00	
	Van Rental Refund	100.00	
	Auction: Collage-Acor	500.00	
	Sub Model-Acor	600.00	
	Stamps-Nagle	50.00	
	Painting-Brinkman	500.00	
	Stamps-Brinkman	50.00	
	H/F Donation-Acor	100.00	
	Tulodeski	75.00	
	Joslin	100.00	
	Fox	50.00	
	Murdoch	200.00	
			\$3,080.00

Total Deposits, Receipts and Credits \$9,182.00

MEMORIAL FUND

May 01, 2006	Beginning Balance	\$249.58
May 31, 2006	Ending Balance	219..58

Expenses and Withdrawals

May 01, 2006	Jack Merrill-Cal Miller Plaque	\$30.00
Total Expenses and Withdrawals		\$30.00

Expenses and Withdrawals

May 01, 2006	Nauticus	
	Battleship & Museum Visit	\$812.00
	Fun Tours, Inc	
	Bus Charter #22116 Balance	657.50
	Ralph Cobb - Refund	
	Reunion Banquet	80.00
	Correction of Error on	
	May 09, 2006	6.00
May 19, 2006	Ivan Joslin - Reunion Supplies and Gas	269.29
May 19, 2006	J.J. Lynch- Reunion Hospitality Room Supplies	789.64
May 19, 2006	John Tulodeski-Reunion Van Rental	341.89
May 19, 2006	MWR-Breezy Point OC- Reunion Seafood Buffet	923.40
May 19, 2006	Gazie Nagle-Reunion Painting for Auction	185.00
May 29, 2006	J.J. Lynch-Reunion Hospitality Room Supplies	55.96
May 20, 2006	Ramanda Plaze Resort-	

(Continued on Page Ten)

Shipmates who attended the 06' Reunion



Bob Acor, QM 59-60



Charles Ahler, EM 57-59



Ted Anthony, SO 55-57



Russ Bauer, TM 62-66



Doug Bishop, IC 63



Bob Bradley, TM 58-62



Bill Brinkman, EM 60-62



Dick Carney, EN 64-66



Leo Carr, EN 49-51



Ed Chubb, YN 49-51



Richard Clubb, QM 62-63



Ralph Cobb, LTjg 44-46



Cal Cochrane, MM 55-56



Jerry Coutu, TM 55-59



Alfred Dickey, SA 49



Jack Dubbs, EN 48-51



Bill Dukacz, IC 67-68



Jack Easley, SC 45-46



Rich Ferris, SN 47-49



Richard Fox, CO 63-64



Ron Fraley, TM 64-66



Ron Godwin, ST 58-61



Ray Heckroth, QM 49-52



Jerry Houchens, ET 60-62



Hubert Jackson, EM 67-69



Dick Jennison, EM 60-64



Joe Joseph, TM 61-65



Ivan Joslin, LT 59-63



David Keffeler, ET 63-65



Phil Kinzie, EN 53-56



Troy Law, EN 52



Carroll Lawson, QM 61-63



Ken LeBlanc, ET 60



Ted Lee, ST 60-62



Jim Lemmerman, EN 60-62



Carl Lewis, EM 53-57



Nathan Lundy, EM 51-53



J. J. Lynch, CS 59-62



Ken Manion, EM 63-66



Mark Markham, TM 48-50



Sal Rosina, EM 52-53



Olin Williams, RM 57-58



Lanny Yeske, LTjg 61-63



Ron Patterson, EN 59-62



Bob Matheny, SO 52-56



Buster McCollum, QM 62-63



Jack Merrill, TM 61-63



Ty Merritt, MM 65-68



Photo by: Bill Law

The 60's Wardroom: (From left to right) Luke Riley, LTjg 61-63; Lanny Yeske, LTjg 61-63; Ivan Joslin, LT 59-63 and John Tulodeski, LTjg 61-63.



Photo by: Bill Law

Marjorie and Ivan Joslin admiring the items to be auctioned.



Joe Murdoch, ET 62-63



Jon Nagle, MM 62-66



John Rabuse, EN 47-51



John Romeo, IC 68-89



John Sohl, RM 46



Marty Stokes, EN 54-57



Ed Thompson, EN 53-55



John Tulodieski, LTjg 661-63



Dewey Reed, SO 62-63



Luke Riley, LTjg 61-63



Bob Ritz, EM 48-51



John Saeli, EN 65-67



Arne Weinfurter, MM 64-67



Larry Weinfurter, MM 62-65



Don Wilkenson, TM 56-57



Billy Williams, TM 45



Herman Scallan, FN 54-56




Benny Sheldon, EN 56-58



John Snook, QM 59-61



Rick Socha, SO 66-69



Lanny Yeske
 Humanitarian Fund
 Chairman
doctoryeske@yahoo.com

Status of Humanitarian Fund Committee

The Committee has formed with three objectives at present. First, to investigate non profit/tax exempt possibilities for the Sea Poacher Association, wherein individuals and corporations can make tax free contributions to the Association's Humanitarian Fund.

Second, to develop guidelines and be the focal point for the specific collection and distribution of funds for Humanitarian purposes such as another Hurricane Katrina or other disaster affecting our shipmates.

Third, to develop and implement procedures wherein shipmates needing financial assistance to attend a reunion or meet some unforeseen essential and critical expense can be administered in confidence without revealing their need to others in the Association. This may also involve assistance to shipmates too sick or in VA hospitals/nursing homes/residences be it with funds or just a simple visit to let them know that the Association hasn't forgotten them and cares.

Committee members presently include Jerry Houchens, Carroll Lawson, John Tulodieski, and Lanny Yeske as Chairman. We are open for another member or two if someone is interested. There is expertise in fund raising and record keeping for non profit/tax exempt organizations, and in writing both technical and cost proposals.

However, we are missing a vital element which is an attorney with experience to process the involved application and paperwork for a nonprofit/tax exempt organization. So we asking if any of you shipmates know of an attorney, be it a friend, son, son or daughter in law or whoever, who would donate some time and effort at low or no cost to the Association. This is not a trivial undertaking and some of the details are on the internet at http://www.legalfilings.com/services_taxexempt.htm#fee.table.

If we do not find such an individual, and the Association Board/Membership wishes us to proceed with obtaining non



Ivan Joslin
 Reunion 06' Host
imjoslin@mailstation.com

Spoke with Ken LeBlanc today and he's just about got everything wrapped up from the Reunion. We made about \$2,600 profit from the Reunion activities. My goal from the moment we cancelled the third chartered coach was to make the treasury \$2,000 and still give everyone each meal and function at a price they considered value for the \$\$\$\$. I think we succeeded.

We also got MANY favorable comments from the ladies re: the gifts Marjorie selected, and the cost of \$7 per lady was well covered by the Shipmate and Guest Registration Fees. That turned out to be a nice touch!

I also was quite pleased with the quality of our meals, especially the Saturday Night Banquet Buffet and the Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet. The hotel's food was much better than most hotel foods I've eaten over the years, and I've written the catering manager at Ramada and told her so. Have also sent Susan Bowerman a "Bravo Zulu".

JJ and his gang did a fantastic job with the Hospitality Rooms and the Door Prizes and Raffles, and my special and personal thanks go to Marjorie for all her good help and advice over the last two years of preparation and planning. I tend to be a tough "taskmaster", and no-one felt the heat quite like she did!!

My hope is that EVERYONE who attended had as great a time as I did, and that you're looking forward to Jacksonville in 2008 as much as we are!! For those who missed Virginia Beach this year, hopefully the good reports will entice you to commit to Jacksonville in two years, when the best diesel submarine crew gets together again to reminisce and make friends. JAX will be great in Two thousand and eight!!!

(Continued to Page Six)



Photo by: Bill Law

Deidre Bridewell, widow of James bridewell, ET 63-67, receives Sea Poacher's Memorial Plaque from Association President, Bill Brinkman, EM 59-62 and Vice-President Jack Merrill, TM 61-63 at the Virginia Beach Reunion. The plaque was presented at the Memorial Service at the USS Scorpion Memorial.



Donald J. Kamuf

EN 1960-1961

June 4, 2006

NORTH STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT—Donald J. "Muff" Kamuf, 69, of North Stonington, died on Saturday, June 4, 2006, at his home. He was a retired chief petty officer.

Donald was born in the Bronx, N.Y., the son of the late John and Johanna (Sauer) Kamuf.

He joined the U.S. Navy in 1955 and was stationed at Groton. Throughout his naval career he served on the USS Bang SS 385, the USS Sea Poacher SS 406, the USS Abraham Lincoln SSBN 602, the USS Dace SSN 607, and the USS Fulton AS 11; serving his country through the Vietnam War.

After retiring from the Navy, he worked for General Dynamics as a construction engineer. He was a member of the VFW for many years, the Groton Elks, the Dirty Thirty Club, and served as a constable in East Lyme. Donald had also recently published his first book, "Tales from Da Bronx Submariner"?

He is survived by his sister, Helen Althaus of Bronx, N.Y.; his brother, Rudy Kamuf and his wife, Ann Marie, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; his three children, daughter, Kristina Wegrzyn and her husband, Bill, of Springfield, Mass., son, Donald P. Kamuf and his wife, Joyce, of Plainville, and his daughter, Alexandria Kamuf of East Hartford; three grandchildren; five nieces and nephews and their families; and many friends.

Contributions may be made to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, 875 N. Randolph St., Suite 225, Arlington VA 22203-1977.



A Subsailor's Life

Bob "Dex" Armstrong

The Lads Who Rest Below The Waves

In my day in the boatservice we used to say, "Most of the time all we had was each other." Nothing illustrates that clearer than thinking about the lads entombed in the rusty hulks resting on the oceans floors throughout the world. The oxydizing hulls that were once operating American submarines and now service as the honored repositories of our lost brothers. They rest in a common burial vault side by side with those they served with, next to sidelockers containing the scant belongings limited space allowed the sub-

mersible bluejacket and his officers...sidelockers containing the time and saltwater destroyed photographs, wallets, letters, stationary,...uniforms, hats...the personal dust left to stand witness to their having lived, loved and served at risk in defense of the nation they loved and gave so much to. In death they are all equal...when a pressure hull loses it's ability to withstand external pressure, loss of life becomes the common denominator and in the words of our Constitutional founding fathers, "All men are created equal", the equality of shipmates resting in eternal repose entombed in the vessel they served. The Boy Scouts who annually place flags on the graves in National Cemeteries will not place small flags on their final resting places. No family members will visit their graves to proudly honor their selfless service and personal sacrifice. Their remembrance and their service will be honored in drinks in sailors bars held high in their remembrance by shipmates old and new...by those of us who served in the continuous chain of Dolphin wearers who fully recognize the cost of their service and the dedication that earned them the right to NEVER BE FORGOTTEN. So Gentlemen, sometime this weekend remember those resting in the silent National Cemetery that encompasses the various floors of the oceans of the world. God Bless and keep them all.

FINAL PATROL

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 shipmates still on patrol.
Let them know that we who survive will
always keep their memories
alive.

Samuel W. Acree, ET 57
- October 2003

Bruce Adams, MoMM 44

Raymond E. Adcock, SN 47 -
December 1974

Willie Austin, EM, 49-56

Robert P. Ayer, EN 60 - 1978

Don Barnes, EM 44-49

Wayne Elton Barton, TM 47-48 - 1997

Raymond Basset, 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 Biangiardi, EN 61 - June 2002

Federick Boczon, EN 48-50 - May 1993

Joseph Bole, ET 50-51 - 1995

John Bornowski, TM 54-57

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

Howard A. Coffman, HM 59-56 - 2004

Raymond Conahan, SA 49 - 20 October 2001

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

Fred Davis, TM 49-53

William Davis, MoMM 44-48

Maurice Demers, HM 48-50 - October 1995

Robert Demonge, TM 55-57 - August 8, 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

Richard Earl, EN 63-65 - 1980

William G. Eason, TM 63

John H. Epps, Ltjg 47

Morris E. Ezell Jr., QM 46 - June 2004

Jess Favors, EM 59-60 - February, 2003

George Fender, EN 52-July 2003

Elwod 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 46-49 - June 2003

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

Jere Hensel, TM 58

James High, Lt, 57-60 - December 2003

William F. Higley, SO 60-61 - October 2005

Dale Holtzclaw, EN 60-61 - 1999

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 Jordan, Lt, 59-61 - February 2005

Matthew H. Jordan, EM 69

Jerry Jorn, IC 51-54 - 7 November 2002

John Juricek, QM 63 - March 2000

Zigmund Kanaszka, EM 52-55 - 1975

Donald J. Kamuf, EN 60-61 - June 2006

Arthur Keevil, Ltjg, 47 - August 1993

Carlos Killgore, EM 63-65 - February 2003

Edward Kilosky, EM 63

- 1997

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

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, N 49-52

Robert Madill, EM 49-50 - Jan. 1998

D. B. Maher, CO 55

Stanley C. Martell, FT 69 - March 2006

Gerald Matern, YN 46 - 1998

James L. McCombs, TM 49-50 - April 2002

William McNeil, SN 47-48 - December 1999

Calvin Miller, Ltjg 63-67 - September 2005

Morgan J. Minchey, TM 61-63 - May 2004

John Minett, YN 45 - June 1989

Rudolph Myers, QM 58-60 - 1993

William Nelson, EM 52-54 - Jan. 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

Thomas H. Polk, CO 55-57

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

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

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 Sirici, 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. Smojcic, 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

Jesse Symanek, SA 68-69 - July 1970

Melvin Syme, TM 44-45

William N. V. Tackett, EN 51-55 - February 2005

Frank J. Taggart, FT 56-59

Joe Tasillo, FA 52 - March 1993

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

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

Fred Yarborough, TN 48-50 - 1990

Theodore Znuj, MM 44-46

Sailors Rest Your Oars . . .

Dogs on Submarines

Sea Dogs: Mascots of the Silent Service

They padded aboard submarines and proved themselves steadfast in boredom and in battle. During the worst of war these canine mascots brought their shipmates some of the comfort of home.

BY WILLIAM GALVANI

Sailors have been taking dogs to sea since a pair of canines shipped out with Noah. Nevertheless, the picture of the floppy-eared poodle, looking as jaunty and confident as the young submariners who surrounded her, surprised me. What was the dog's name? I wondered. Why was it on a submarine? A scrawl on the back of the photo revealed only that this was the crew of the USS Whale after its return from its eighth war patrol in the Pacific.

The Submarine Force Library and Museum in Groton, Connecticut, where I'm the director, has thousands of books, documents, and photographs about U.S. Submarine operations but no file, I realized, about mascots. Were there dogs on board other submarines? If so, could we find enough information about them to perhaps mount an exhibit for the museum? For the next six months the curator, the archivist, and I kept a watch for pictures and stories of what we came to call sea dogs. Our finds were infrequent; once in a while we'd turn up a picture in a folder or a brief reference in a yellowed news clipping.

Then I published an appeal in *Polaris*, the monthly magazine of the Submarine Veterans of World War II. In poured letters with photographs, ID cards, service records, and newspaper stories. The replies showed that after nearly fifty years the veterans' feelings for their pets remained strong. One wrote: "She was truly one of our crew, and we all loved her. She was a comfort. . . When we were in silent running and getting a good depth charging." Another recalled: "Some chief from one of the seven hundred-odd ships in the anchorage (at Ulithi) decided to abscond with our dog, and I interceded and got a broken nose for my efforts. Hope Garbo

(Continued from Page Five)

Humanitarian Fund Status

profit/tax exempt status, the cost to hire an attorney is about \$500, plus Federal IRS fees of \$300 to \$750 depending on amount of funds received, and State filing fees would generally be under \$100.

So, if you know of any one willing to help us, please contact me at Lanny Yeske, 1063 MacArthur Place, Forest, VA 24551, phone 434-385-7117, or doctoryeske@yahoo.com

appreciated it!" A third remembered: "Since I left the boat before Betty did, I cannot tell you of her final fate. May her soul rest in peace."

From this correspondence I discovered that during World War II many United States submariners carried mascots with them in the Pacific. We did put together an exhibit called "Sea Dogs: Mascots of the Silent Service." Still on display, it is as popular with the public as the mascots were with their crews and for the same reason: The dogs touched their hearts.

Submariners' pets were usually small and of mixed breed. Crews acquired them through purchase and gift or in trade for a case or two of beer. One dog even dashed aboard a sub as the boat was getting under way. The dogs cheered and amused the men during their long war patrols. They helped relieve the tension and weariness of hours of silent running or nights of surface attacks. The men doted on their dogs. They fed them steak and bacon; they gave them ID cards and service records; they took them on liberty all over the Pacific, and more than one mascot acquired a taste for beer. Crews made their pets leashes and collars, complete with combat submarine insignia and service stars. Some dogs wore special coats emblazoned with their boat's war record. At least one miscreant even went to captain's mast.

Garbo

Garbo was the perfect submarine mascot. A mongrel puppy so small she could be concealed in a white sailor's hat, she came aboard the USS Gar (SS 206) in Hawaii about the time of the boat's tenth war patrol. She and the crew took an immediate liking to each other, and she remained on board for the rest of the Gar's fifteen war patrols. The puppy made her home in the forward torpedo room. Whenever the sub got under way, Garbo stationed herself all the way forward on the bullnose and barked. Once each patrol she toured the Gar from stem to stern; as she arrived in each compartment, the crew there would come to attention. "She owned the boat and knew it," recalled Motor Machinist Mate Second Class Jim Bunn.

Garbo earned the combat submarine insignia that she wore on her collar, along with a star for each successful patrol she made on the Gar. Under the heaviest depthcharge attacks, when the gauges were leaking, light bulbs breaking, and fires breaking out, Garbo remained as playful as ever. Bunn said, "She should have gotten a medal for keeping our spirits and morale up when we needed it most." Anyone was welcome to pet her, but only the skipper, Lt. Cmdr. George Lautrup, Jr., and the cook, Red Balthorp, could pick her up. The skipper would put her on his shoulder and carry her up the ladder to the bridge at night for fresh air.

One night while the Gar was running on the surface during a

(Continued on Page Nine)



Continued from Page Eight

Sea Dogs

war patrol in the Palau Islands, Garbo stepped off the cigarette deck and vanished into the darkness. The C.O. Immediately began a dogoverboard search. With the boat making frantic circles in enemy waters, a lookout finally spotted the mascot below the bridge, safe on the main deck.

Between patrols Garbo stayed with the crew at their hotel in Pearl Harbor. She joined in the ship's parties, and like some of her two-legged shipmates, she didn't know her limit. After lapping up too much beer, she tended to blunder into furniture.

Garbo gave birth to two pups while the sub was en route to Ulithi; the father belonged to the USS Tambor (SS 198). The Gar's crew traded the pups to other submarines for cases of beer. At the end of the war, when the Gar returned to the States, Chief Motor Machinist Mate Jim Ellis took Garbo home with him.

Sugie joined the crew of the USS Besugo (SS 321) when he was six weeks old. At the sub's commissioning party in June 1944, the puppy, wearing a custom-made sailor's blue jumper, looked on from the arms of the exec.

Skeeter

Skeeter, mascot of the USS Halibut (SS 232), was a swash-buckler too. The crew acquired him in Lefty's bar in San Francisco while the sub was undergoing overhaul in 1944. During his tour on the Halibut, Skeeter appeared at captain's mast twice, perhaps a canine record. He was first charged with disturbing the peace in the forward battery compartment and with being surly and belligerent. Cmdr. I. J. Galantin, the Halibut's C.O., dismissed the case with a warning. Skeeter's second trip to mast came when he mistook a chief petty officer's leg for a fire hydrant. But the dog eventually received an honorable discharge and was mustered out of the Navy in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in July 1945.

Sugie

Sugie joined the crew of the USS Besugo (SS 321) when he was six weeks old. At the sub's commissioning party in June 1944, the puppy, wearing a custom-made sailor's blue jumper, looked on from the arms of the exec.

Sugie made the shakedown cruise and all five war patrols during which the Besugo sank more than forty thousand tons of enemy shipping. He liked beer and whiskey, disdained gilly (a vile beverage distilled from the alcohol in torpedo fuel), and would, in a pinch, drink a pink lady. Submarine food suited him fine, and he especially enjoyed sitting in a chair while the crew spoon-fed him. His appetite didn't stop there: he chewed gum (and swallowed it), he would eat soap if someone didn't keep an eye on him, and he liked to chew up socks whenever he could, especially the skipper's.

Others were not so fortunate. Potshot survived three war cruises aboard the USS Hoe (SS 258) only to be run over and killed by a torpedo truck during a routine stop at Pearl Harbor. Myrna, the mascot of the USS Sawfish (SS 276), another casualty of war, was one of a litter of six pups born to Luau, the mascot of the USS Spadefish (SS 411). Myrna still wasn't weaned when her crew smuggled her aboard the Sawfish; the corpsman fed her a formula of milk, Karo syrup, cod-liver oil, and vitamin pills. At the end of the Sawfish's ninth war patrol, the sub went to Camp Dealy

on Guam for rest and recreation. Myrna was sleeping under a table on which several sailors were sitting; when another man joined them, the table collapsed, crushing their mascot. The accident left the crew depressed for weeks.

Myrna's mother, Luau, was a plank owner on the Spadefish, having come aboard in February 1944, lured from the landlubber's life by a large, tender steak after the crew discovered her in a Vallejo, California, bar. She distinguished herself in the service. When writing up the Spadefish's first war patrol, Lt. Cmdr. G. W. Underwood noted that Luau "contributed greatly to the morale with her ready playfulness with all hands. She was a bit perturbed by the depth charges, but soon recovered with only a slight case of depth charge nerves."

Betty

If Hollywood had dreamed up a sea dog, it would have been Betty, a white toy poodle who was the mascot of the USS Whale (SS 239). She came aboard in Honolulu in September 1943, prevailing over the protests of the Whale's executive officer by licking the captain's hand. She was then designated Dog First Class, issued service and medical records, and given the run of the ship. She avoided the noisy engine rooms and hid in the control room during gunnery practice.

The men liked to take their dog on liberty in Pearl Harbor because, as Lt. Emmett Fowler, Jr., recalled, Betty was a "girl getter"; it didn't take long for the poodle's escorts to strike up conversations with their mascot's attractive admirers.

The weather was bad at Midway when the Whale returned from one patrol, and the port captain ordered the sub to remain outside the harbor till conditions improved. Unwilling to linger where his vessel might become a target for Japanese submarines, the C.O. entered port anyway. The irate port captain met the sub at the pier and yelled at the C.O. while the Whale was going alongside, then came aboard and continued to argue. Tiring of the stream of abuse, Betty slashed an eight-inch rip in the port captain's pants leg. A subsequent admiral's inquiry in Pearl Harbor exonerated the Whale's C.O. Betty had only been defending her crew. The port captain was relieved of his duties.

Victory and the end of the war meant the breaking up of most submarine crews. Garbo, Skeeter, Betty, and other dogs went home with crew members. Porches, lawns, and the occasional cat replaced steel hulls, tile decks, and depth charges. Gabby, mascot of the USS Gabilan (SS 252), proudly represented all submarine sea dogs when he marched with his crew in a welcome-home victory parade in Mobile, Alabama, in October 1945.

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"

(Continued from Page Two)

	Reunion (Partial)	2,151.64	
May 20, 2006	Bus Driver Tips	40.00	
May 21, 2006	Ramada Plaza Resor		
	Banquet (Partial)	3,795.00	
May 23, 2006	Ramada Plaza Resort		
	Reunion (Balance)	183.50	
May 24, 2006	NAB Litrtle Creek Catering-		
	Reunion Buffet	951.88	
JUNE MONTHLY ACTIVITY			
June 01, 2006	Beginning Balance		\$21,680.59
	General Fund Deposits & Credits	0.00	
	General Fund Withdrawals	2,242.69	
	Meorial Fund Deposits & Credits	720.00	
	Memorial Funds Withdrawals	0.00	
	Humanitarian Fund Deposits & Credits	825.00	
June 31, 2006	Ending Balance		\$20,982.90
	Memorial Fund Balance		\$939.58
	Humanitarian Fund Balance		\$825.00
	Total Deposits, Receipts and Credits		\$0.00
	Expenses and Withdrawals		
June 1, 2006	Jack Merrill-Reunion Golf		\$264
	Bill Brinkman		
	Ship Stores Expenses	\$62.67	
	XL Shirt {urchase	208.00	
	Marjorie Joslin Gift	37.50	
	J. Bunch Hotel Room	125.22	
	TOTAL		\$433.69
June 06, 2006	Transfer to Memorial Fund		
	Auction of Painting	\$500.00	
	Donation-Richard Fox	50.00	
	TOTAL		\$550.00
	Transfer to Humitarian Fund		
	Cash	\$300.00	
	Donation-Acor	100.00	
	Donation-Tulodieski	75.00	
	Donation-Joslin	100.00	
	Donation-Fox	50.00	
	Donation-Murdoch	200.00	
	TOTAL		\$825.00
	Transfer to Memorial Fund		
	Rick Smock Donation	\$170.00	
	TOTAL		\$170.00
	Total Expenditures & Withdrawals		\$2,242.69

Membership Roll

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

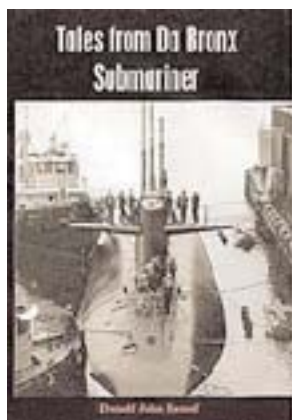
LIFETIME MEMBERS

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

MEMBERS

Dewey Akins	Garl Eubank	Roy Palmer
Charlie Auclair	Francis Evens	William Parhamenko
Vernon Barnett	Richard Ferris	Dale Peterson
Russell Bauer	Ralph French	Robert Poteet
Rodney Benefield	Harold Gall	John Rabuse
Richard Bernotiet	Arthur Geddes	Roy Randall
Ray Binns	James Gentry	Mark Richwine
Stanley Bissen	Lyle Gillette	Robert Roth
Donald Blomquist	Billy Gorsuch	John Saeli
Fredrick Brattain	Paul Gusler	Herman Scallen
William Buckley	Mike Heberling	Donald Schwartz
James Burgett	Darrel J. Hickman	Bennie Sheldon
Warren Burkett	Jimmie E. Hickman	Delvin Smith
Neil Cabe	Wayne Holmgren	John Sohl Jr.
Rick Carlson	Jerry Houchens	Ron Spooner
Frank Caulfield	Gerald Keffer	Harold Stanley
George Childs	Kenneth Kile	Gary Stark
Ed Chubb	Phillip Kinney	Glen Suttle
Don Cipra	Ray Krivacy	Harold Swan
Dennison Compton	Ted Lee	Terry Tague
Harold Cook	Jim Lemmerman	James Thompson
William Cook	Jerry Loveless	Ron Thompson
James Deming	Clement Maue	Albert Turbeville
Ray Dicaire	Buster McCollum	Tony Tuttbobene
William Docekal	Peter McCormack	Andrew Viens
Charles Donnelly	Daniel McLaren	Ed Voloka
William Dougherty	Mark Mordecai	Ross Wesner
William Douthit	Joe Musgrave	Don Wilkinson
John Dubbs	Thomas Nein	Billy Williams
Daniel Eberhardt	Charles Owen	

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



Donald J. Kamuf

EN 60-61

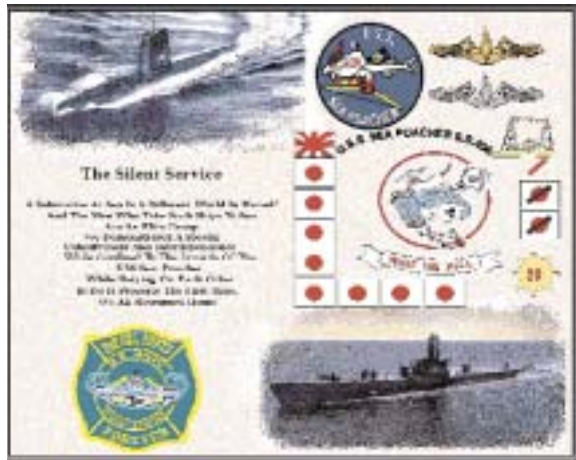
Author

**Tales from Da
Bronx
Submariner**

Available at amazon.com

www.dabronxsubmariner.com

Sea Poacher Ships' Store



SPECIAL OFFER:

\$ 2 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

ITEM	Quan.	Price	TOTAL
DBF Pin	—	\$4.00	—
Afghan	—	\$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	—
Reunion 2004 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!

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>



Honestly, now, would you have any patience with any officer who looked like this?

By LANNY YESKE, LTJG 61-63

I guess this needs to be told. I reported aboard Sea Poacher January 1961. My first duty from Captain Stahl was to place a retirement ad in the Key West Citizen newspaper of a CPO who had just retired from SS406.

Okay, I just now checked the list of chiefs on board in 1960 versus those still on board in 1961, and while I am not sure of eight possibilities, it had to be either William Goold or William Graef. To be honest it could also have been either Blankenhagen, Dechard, Favors, Jonas, McCorkle, or Taylor. In any case, the story is the same.

Captain Stahl told me this was a very important event and said to get it published with a photo in the Key West paper. Aye aye sir. I went to their office and spoke with the Editor who said no problem; the Navy is very important to us. I provided her with the article and photo and she said it would run in the next Sunday edition.

Come Monday, I had not seen it in the paper but during lunch in the Wardroom, Captain Stahl asked me about it. Seems like he had not seen it either and what was the problem. I didn't know, but knew I had better find out.

I bicycled over to the Newspaper office and confronted the Editor. She was more than hostile. She said we have a large Navy community here and we don't have the room or the time to do this for everyone. She said she trashed the article and the photo. I guess I became a bit more indignant than I should have, and in more words than this told her that she had reneged on her promise and THAT IT WAS A HELL OF A WAY TO RUN A NEWSPAPER. She turned white as I slammed the door to her office.

It was maybe only a hour or so later when we were seated in the Wardroom ready for lunch, when the topside watch called down over the IMC now "WILL THE CAPTAIN AND ENSIGN YESKE REPORT TO THE ADMIRALS QUARTERS ON THE DOUBLE". We were out of there at the speed of light. The Captain said to me, what the hell is this? I said I had no idea. We made the two block trip as a 440 olympian. The Secretary stopped us, but told us to go in. Captain Stahl told me to wait and went in by himself.

I envisioned death in the waiting area. It was five minutes later when the Captain emerged. He said lets go. I asked if I needed to talk to the Admiral. He said, "NO".

We were driven to the pier in the Admirals car and then walked to our boat. But we didn't stop. He took me all the way to the end of the pier. There was no one within even shouting distance. He just looked at me. I feared the worst. My first job as an Ensign and I had really screwed it up.

Captain Stahl looked at me, with sort of a wry twisted smile, and said: "The Admiral admires your enthusiasm, but you tact is not worth a damn."

That was it and not another word was ever said.