

Sea Poacher Association



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



Volume 4, Issue 1

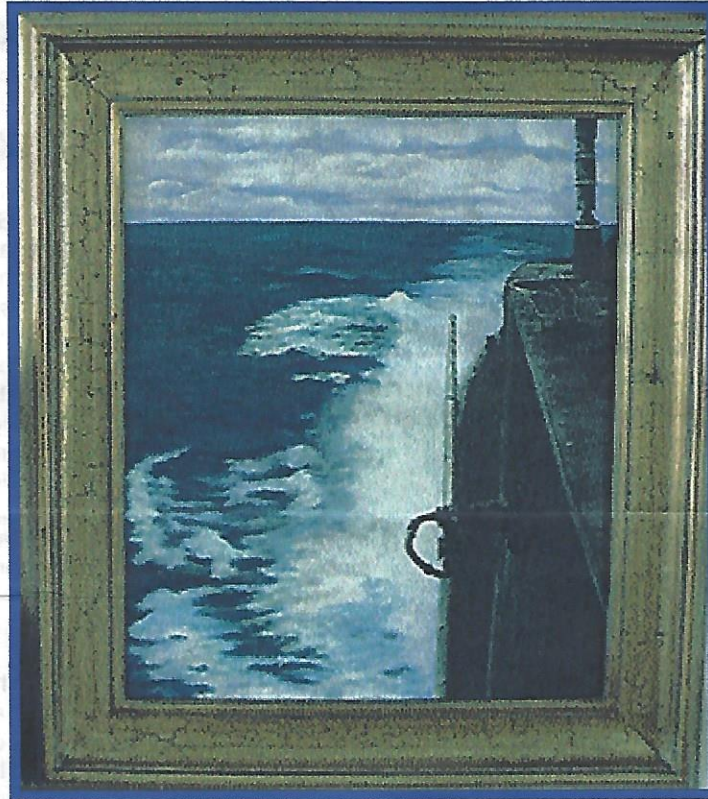
March, 2006

Reunion Virginia Beach is Fast Approaching!

**Have you
made your
reservations!!**

The following is a list of those shipmates who have made their reservations:

Bob & Carolyn Acor, QM 59-60
Charles & Mary Ahler, EM 57-59
Ted & Fay Anthony, SO 55-57
Russ Bauer, TM 62-66
Ray Binns, FN 52-53
Bill & Lyn Brinkman, EM 60-62
Bobbie & Alice Calvert, FT 55-59
Dick Carney, EN 64-66
Leo and Helen Carr, EM 49-51
Ed Chubb, YN 49-51
Ralph and Joyce Cobb, Ltjg 44-45
Cal and Joyce Cochrane, MM 55-56
Jerry & Myrtle Coutu, Tm 55-59
Alfred & Betty Dickey, SA 49
Bill Dukacz, IC 67-68
Jack Easley & Martha Dalhouse, SC 45-46
Rich & Marjorie Ferris, SN 47-49
Dick and Shirley Fox, CO 63-64
Ron Fraley, TM 64-66
Ron Godwin, ST 58-61/Ens 66
Ray Heckroth, QM 49-52
Dick Holtz, ET 63-65
Jerry Houchens, ET 60-62
Dick Jennison, EM 60-64
Joe Joesph, TM 61-65



This beautiful painting by Gazie Nagle will be auctioned during the reunion banquet to benefit our Memorial Fund. The purpose of the Memorial Fund is to allow us to present the Memorial Plaques to families of shipmates who have passed on since the establishment of our organization. The picture that this painting was painted from was taken by Jack Merrill, TM 61-63 from the new bridge after we left the Charleston Naval Shipyard and were transiting to New London, Connecticut in 1961.

Jim & Joyce Lemmerman, EN 60-62
Bill & Marie Luttrell, YN 55-57
JJ & Sonja Lynch, CS 59-63
w/guests Travis & Marqueritte Rainey
Ken & Jean Manion, EM 63-66
Mark & Kay Markham, TM 48-50
Bob & Ann Matheny, SO 52-56
Jack & Sandra Merrill, TM 61-63
& daughter Valerie
Joe & Stella Murdoch, ET 62-63
Jon & Gazie Nagle, MM 62-63
Ron Patterson, EN 59-62
John & Jean Rabuse, EN 47-51
Dewey & Dottie Reed, SO 62-63
Luke & Linda Riley, Ltjg 61-63
Bob & Nancy Ritz, EM 48-51
Sal & Helen Rosina, EM 52-53
John Saeli, EN 65-67
Herman & Mary Ann Scallon, FN 54-56
Benny & Pauline Sheldon, EN 56-58
Rick Smock, HM 67-69
John & Annette Snook, QM 59-61
Rick Socha, SOS 66-69
Marty & Enola Stokes, EN 54-57
Ed Thompson, EN 53-55
John & Betty Tulodeski, Ltjg 61-63
Arne Weinfuter, MM 64-67
Larry & Arlene Weinfuter, MM 62-65
Don & Gail Wilkinson, TM 56-57
& son Jimmie
Lanny & Frances Yeske, Ltjg 61-63
If any of these guys were one of your "buddies" while you were attached to Sea Poacher, they sure would like to see you in Virginia Beach.

Ivan & Marjorie Joslin, Lt 59-63
Tom & Mary Julien, SO 57-58
Phil Kinnie, EN 53-56
Troy & Earliene Law, EN 52 & son Bill
Ken & Gail LeBlanc, ET 60
Ted & Kiki Lee, ST 60-62

**Reunion
Virginia Beach
May 17-21**

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

SEAL Operations Cuban Missile Crisis 1962

By IVAN JOSLIN,
Lt 59-63

I vividly remember another Cuban Crisis "hairy experience". It was during a late evening practice of the clandestine launching of our black rubber raft from the forward deck with six of us in the raft. I was the OinC of the raft. We had darkened our faces with lamp-black, we wore black gloves and black stocking caps. We had manned our raft up on deck, just waiting for the ship to submerge from underneath us. We heard the diving alarm go, watched the look-outs and OOD disappear from the bridge, and heard the Conning Tower hatch slam shut.

The wait from then until we heard the loud hissing noises of the vents opening beneath us always seemed like an eternity, and feeling the sub diving from beneath us and leave us free-floating like a cork, was a feeling I never got used to.

As soon as we were floating free, we'd paddle like crazy to move away from the ship so as not to be rammed by the submerging sail. We used to see if we could drag our hands down the side of the sail as it went by!! The drill was for us to follow the sail as best we could row, and try to be close enough to signal with a red flashlight to the periscope when it was first raised after obtaining periscope depth.

We all shared a mortal fear that the scope would come up through the bottom of the raft, or worse still, the snorkel pipe would be raised underneath us and capsize our raft! As long as the raft was on deck and the OOD was on the bridge, I could communicate by hand signals, but once the OOD cleared the bridge, we had no way to communicate UNTIL we found the periscope, and I was able to signal through it with my flashlight that we were OK and ready to be towed closer in to shore by lassoing the snorkel pipe. This period of NO COMMUNICATION was scary and quite disconcerting to us in the raft, and lessening this amount of time became the thrust of EVERY practice run!

On one occasion, just as the OOD cleared the bridge commencing the dive, we in the raft spotted a DD on the horizon heading towards us at



Lt. Ivan Joslin in rubber raft as Sea Poacher made mock assaults on sand bar during the Cuban Crisis 1962.

white, he took as a signal something was wrong, and he immediately emergency surfaced! By this time we could see about 20 lookouts with binoculars on the bridge of that Destroyer, and the hard rudder turn that DD made at flank speed was a sight to behold!!

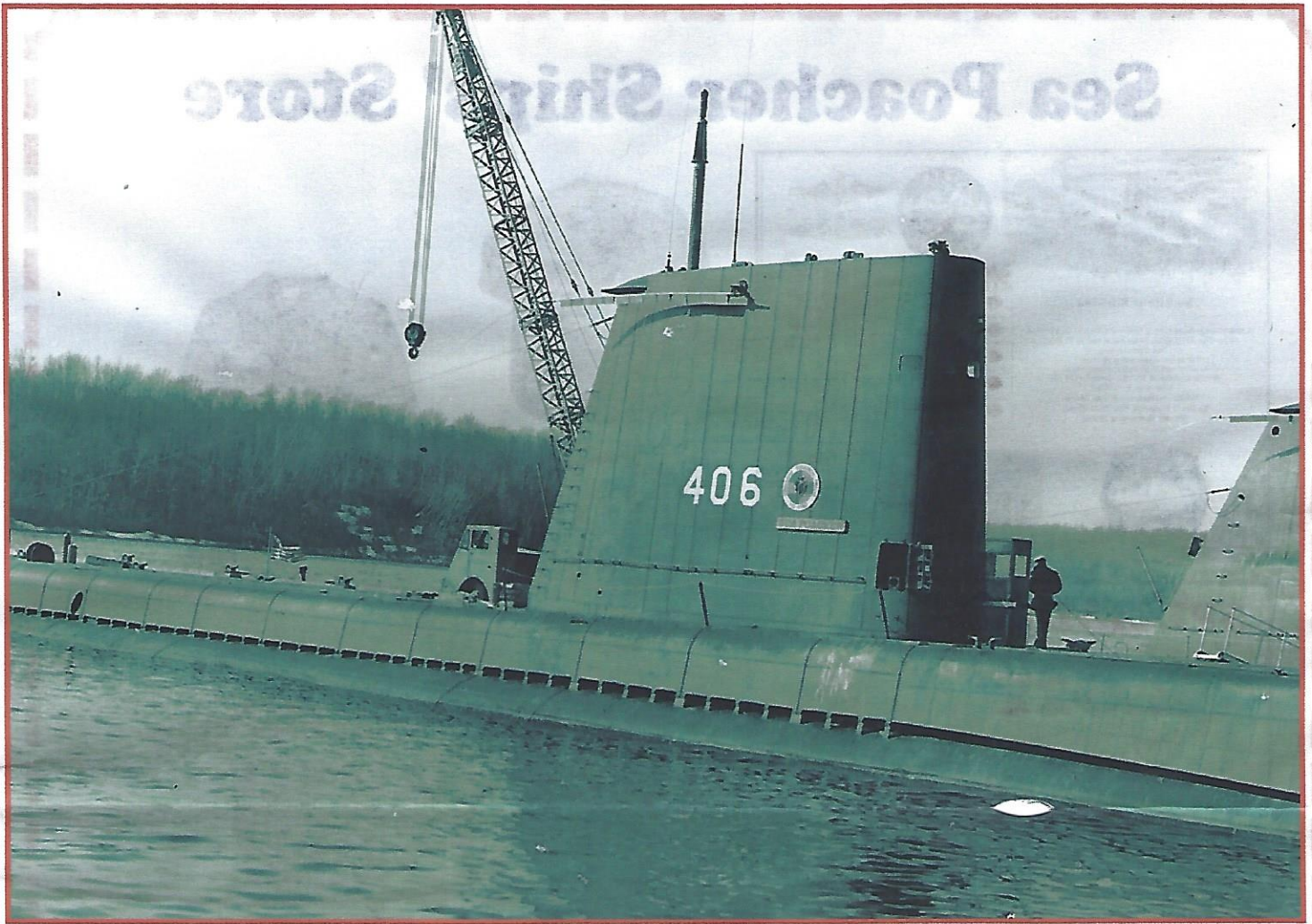
When the wave from his turn hit our raft, it nearly capsized us, and as I recall it gave the sub quite a ride as well. I remember the two skippers having quite a conversation via bull-horns from bridge to bridge, and I also remember that our procedure was changed that night that the Conning Officer would make two full 360 degree sweeps with the scope BEFORE looking for the flashlight signal!!

As I recall, either Lanny Yeske or Luke Riley spent some time in training as a Rubber Raft Officer, but I could be wrong. I know we had two Raft crews, and several times launched both boats on the same dive.

Oooooohhhhhh . . . those were the good ole days!! In all the rest of my 38 year Navy career, I never had as much fun as I did on Sea Poacher!! What memories!



Ltjg John Tulodeski and TM2 Jack Merrill man one of the rubber rafts during the sand bar assaults during the Cuban Crisis in 1962.



Picture courtesy of Ivan Joslin, LT 59-63

Sea Poacher alongside the pier at the Submarine Base at New London after our overhaul in Charleston, SC, in 1961.

Off Watch at Sea



A Subsailor's Life

Bob "Dex" Armstrong

The late night hours underway submerged became late in life, gentle memories.

Night people have always been a different breed of cat. There's something kinda special about people who own the middle of the night...cab drivers; Waffle House waitresses; 'Dirty Apron Bill', the short order cook at the I-95 truck stop; and midnight shift highway patrolmen. Great people, great conversationalists...there

are few competing distractions so you tend to pay more attention to what people say during the hours most folks are sleeping.

Coffee always tastes better when it has percolated to the point of massive liquid reduction...stuff one step above hot tar. Coffee that can pop rivet your eyelids to your eyebrows...a concoction resembling boiled Egyptian mummy wrappings or Pakistani bunion pads. Late night submarine, bottom of the pot midwatch, wake the dead, put hair on your chest jamoke can dissolve your adenoids.

But, you never forget it...and you never get any cup of coffee that matches submarine midwatch coffee the rest of your life.

When you turn in to an after battery rack...as you are corking off you can pick up bits and pieces of messdeck conversation as on duty crewmen pass through the crews' mess airlock door.

"Yeah...Mary told him to..."

Then the door would close.

"Back around 1952, my old man..."

And then the door would shut again. You never learned what his dad did in 1952. If it was one of those mid-western farm kids, his dad probably bought a damn hay baler or married some big,

(Continued on Page 7)

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
Afghan	—	\$50.00	—
Ships' Patch	—	\$5.50	—
Ballcap	—	\$14.00	—
Coffee Cup	—	\$14.00	—
Golf Shirt	—	\$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!

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
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 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
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
Offie 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 - June 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 49-50 - October 1995
Robert Demonge, TM 55-57 - August 8, 1996
Kenneth Derasus, TM 57-63
Alfred Despang, EM 59, 61-63
John Dittmer, MoMM 47-48
Jere W. Driver, RM 63 - March 1998

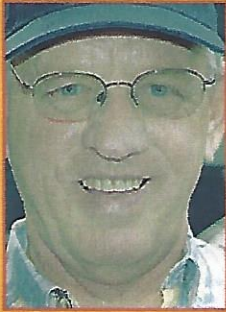
Francis
Droesch, EN 59
-1978
Richard Earl, EN 63-65 - 1980
William G. Eason, TM 63
John H. Epps, Ltjg 47
Morris E. Ezell Jr., QM 46 - June 2004
Jess Favors, EM 59-60 - February, 2003
George Fender, EN 52-July 2003
Elwod H. Forni, SO 58 - USS Thresher
James N. Forrester, EN 58-54
Taylor Fox, TM 46 - November 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
Zigmond Kanaszka, EM 52-55 - 1975
Arthur Keevil, Ltjg, 47 - August 1993
Carlos Kilgore, 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 61-62 - 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
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 53-57
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
James W. Scott, QM 60
Walter Seifert, EN 60-62
Edwin W. Sharp, EN 67 - July 2002
Edward Shook, EM 64-68
Robert Siivis, 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. Smojlicic, 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 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 . . .



From the Treasurer: Ken LeBlanc

kengall@hotmail.com

As of 3 March 2006 our treasury looks like the following:
We have a \$17,287.37. This does not reflect any payouts for the reunion in Virginia Beach, but does include \$9,184 for people who have registered so far.

The Memorial Fund has a balance of \$249.58.



Raffle Items Needed!

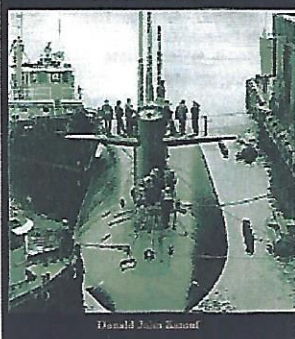
SHIPMATES! Please consider bringing raffle items to our 2006 Reunion in Virginia Beach. You probably have good Navy related items and books (does not necessarily need to be Navy related) which will be attractive gifts for our raffle which will be held during our Saturday night banquet.

Let Bill Brinkman know what you plan to bring so that he can keep track of the number of items to be raffled.

Examples collected so far are: a purple Navy bear, a Navy tie and a magazine subscription to "Sea Waves"

If everyone could bring just ONE items we could have a great raffle.

Tales from Da Bronx Submariner



Donald J. Kamuf

EN 60-61

Author

**Tales from Da
Bronx
Submariner**

Available at amazon.com

www.dabronxsubmariner.com

Membership Roll

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

LIFETIME MEMBERS

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

MEMBERS

Dewey Akins	Garl Eubank	Ron Patterson
Charlie Auclair	Francis Evens	Dale Peterson
Vernon Barnett	Richard Ferris	Robert Poteet
Russell Bauer	Ralph French	John Rabuse
Rodney Benefield	Harold Gall	Roy Randall
Richard Bernotiet	Arthur Geddes	Mark Richwine
Ray Binns	James Gentry	Robert Roth
Stanley Bissen	Lyle Gillette	John Saeli
Donald Blomquist	Billy Gorsuch	Herman Scallen
Fredrick Brattain	Paul Gusler	Donald Schwartz
William Buckley	Mike Heberling	Bennie Sheldon
James Burgett	Darrel J. Hickman	Delvin Smith
Warren Burkett	Jimmie E. Hickman	John Sohl Jr.
Neil Cabe	Wayne Holmgren	Ron Spooner
Rick Carlson	Gerald Keffer	Harold Stanley
Frank Caulfield	Kenneth Kile	Gary Stark
George Childs	Phillip Kinney	Glen Suttle
Ed Chubb	Ray Krivacy	Harold Swan
Don Cipra	Jim Lemmerman	Terry Tague
Dennison Compton	Jerry Loveless	Ed Thompson
Harold Cook	Clement Maue	James Thompson
William Cook	Buster McCollum	Ron Thompson
James Deming	Peter McCormack	Albert Turbeville
Ray Dicaire	Daniel McLaren	Tony Tuttobene
William Docekal	Mark Mordecai	Andrew Viers
Charles Donnelly	Thomas Nein	Ed Voloka
William Dougherty	Charles O'Baker	Ross Wesner
William Douthit	Charles Owen	Don Wilkinson
John Dubbs	Roy Palmer	Lee Yonts
Daniel Eberhardt	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 78664-9468

(Continued from Page 3)

Off Watch at Sea

corn fed gal with a John Deere tractor seat butt.

It was great layin' there in your hot sack rack picking up bits and pieces of late night 'Go nowhere' pass the time, revelations.

Every smokeboat sailor had those gentle memories.

Aft of the After Battery berthing compartment was the enlisted head.

Here you could pick up entire conversations from guys using the side-by-side, port and starboard sinks...or between some using the urinal and some socially convivial bluejacket with his butt parked on a freckle maker head seat.

"Hey Pete...That you?"

"Yeah...it's me...That you, Ralph?"

"It's me...Hey, when we pull in tomorrow morning, you got the duty?"

"Naw...Section Three has the duty...I'm in two."

"You hittin' the beach?"

"Yeah, if the COB opens the Saltwater Savings and Loan."

Note: Slush Funds were totally illegal and outlawed by the United States Navy...they operated far beyond anything remotely resembling Federal banking regulation, inspection or protection. It was a cross between an Aboriginal headhunters' credit union and the booty split of the brotherhood of pirates.

The Chief of Naval Operations and Secretary of the Navy had no idea of the complexity of E-3 finances and the periodic difficulty of financing a night of inebriated lust.

Our slush fund was run out of a beat-up 'Have-a-Tampa' cigar box in the COB's bunklocker. Every payday, the animals tossed five bucks in the box. You could borrow \$10.00 for \$11.00 or \$20.00 for \$22.00. Profits went to beer ball games, ships parties aft of the conning tower fairwater, Luaus, and flowers for deceased people...and one baby crib for a strapped E-3 new dad.

The Saltwater Savings and Loan was a great, faith based financial institution, that saved more submarine sailors than Billy Graham.

All night long, the lads on duty in the maneuvering room and both enginerooms sent men forward to get coffee.

Another set of sounds that originated from the crews' mess were the rattle of silverware being washed and the banging of pots, pans, aluminum trays and crockery. Messcooking was not a delicate art...the messcooks created racket like tossing horseshoes on a tin roof.

But the racket was a familiar sound...one of those comforting sounds that a boatsailor accepted as indicating all being right in the underwater environment in which he lived.

Every time someone passed through the watertight door from the forward engine room, you would get a momentary ear full of the pounding of a pair of Fairbanks-Morse 38D rockcrushers...then it would suddenly stop and you would hear the click of the spring loaded latch.

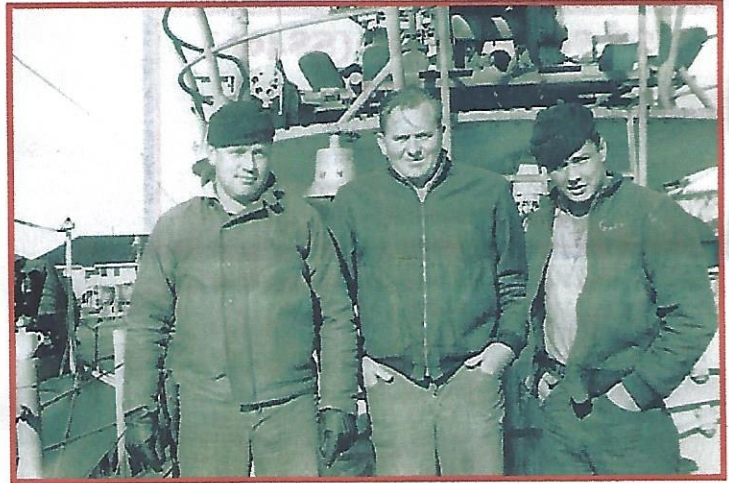
Some nights, cooks and messcooks would play hell with your sleep when they started rooting around the compartment in search of the location of specific canned goods needed for future meal preparation.

"Jeezus, what in the hell's going on?"

"Lookin' for some gahdam cans of beans."

"You gotta disturb a working sailor's sleep to find a couple of cans of lousy beans??"

"There isn't a sailor sleeping back here that would qualify as a working sailor on his best day."



From left to right: Scott Horton, QM 44-47; Tracy Price, EM 44-46 and Bobby Newell, GM 44-46.

"Yeah...nobody listens to a stupid, worthless canned food heater-upper."

"Mickey...don't bother to ask what's in the soup the next time yours tastes like somebody peed in it."

Nonsensical, go absolutely nowhere conversation between men who would have shown up for a kidney transplant if either needed one. The gentle, no malice bullshit that was the common coin of diesel submariners.

No narrative of the nocturnal activities of the underwater kingdom would be complete without mentioning the acid-eaten dungaree voltage ferrets...the main power ^{and} electricians.

Those bastards would show up...open a manhole hinged door in the thwartships passageway and drop down into a world where they snaked around taking battery temperatures and topping the cells off with pure distilled water. In short, they feed the electron wizards that pushed us through saltwater below snorkel depth.

In my tour in the boats, I never met a bad electrician. They, like enginemen, machinist mates and other auxiliary rates were numbered among God's most generous people.

I have no idea what late night sounds a modern day sailor will carry with him into old age, but, I do know, having seen living conditions aboard the most recent classes of the modern high-tech subsmeribles, there are certain memories we will not share in common.

No modern day nuke rider will carry the memory of feet in stinking socks stepping on him on the way to an upper bunk just below an air conditioning condensate drip pan.

He won't have memories of waking up to a close-up view of a bare butt when the Chief Corpsman was conducting a sick call crab check in Hogan's Alley.

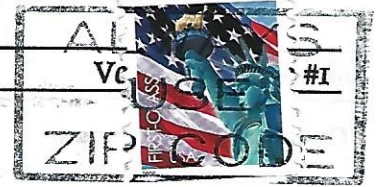
He won't remember the aromatic wonder fog that accompanies the venting of #2 Sanitary Tank Inboard.

He won't remember midwatch cheese sandwiches made from Navy contract self-healing, scab forming mayonnaise and sliced cheese that could patch a tractor tire blowout.

He, or maybe she in the not so distant future, won't leave the boatservice with memories of CPO dried armpit salt stains that would deflect a 20mm round.

Each generation will collect memories to pass on to downline generations.

These are mine...the ones I carry in my heart of wonderful times spent among the finest men I would ever know during the time I spent as an oxygen thief on this planet.



USS Sea Poacher (SS406)

Association

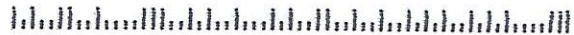
Bill Brinkman, President
4500 Tiffany Nicole St.
Round Rock, TX 78664-9466
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Sea Poacher web site: <http://seapoacher.com>

Fred Socha

4745 Grove Court
Canton, MI 48188-2342

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Dues Coming Due Soon!

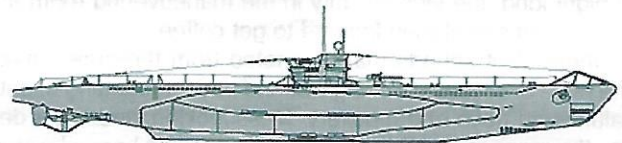
The following shipmates memberships expire on

October 31, 2006.

- Rodney Benefield
- Neil Cabe
- Don Cipra
- Bill Cook
- Jack Gentry
- Geral Keffer
- Ron Spooner
- Charles Auclair
- Vernon Barnett
- Russell Bauer
- Ray Binns
- Stanley Bisson
- Don Blomquist
- Fred Brattain
- Jim Burgett
- George Childs
- James Demming
- William Docekal
- Charles Donnelly
- William Douthit
- Jack Dubbs
- Garl Eubank
- Richard Ferris

- Ralph French
- Arthur Geddes
- Lyle Gillette
- Paul Gusler
- Jimmie Hickman
- Phil Kinnie
- Jim Lemmerman
- Clement Maue
- Dan McLaren
- Peter McCormack
- Thomas Nein
- Charels Owen
- William Parhamenko
- Dale Peterson
- Rudolph Poteet
- Robert Roth
- Don Schwartz
- John Sohl
- Gary Stark
- Glenn Suttle
- Ron Thompson
- Albert Turbeville
- Ross Wesner

U-85



One of our featured speakers at Virginia Beach Reunion in May, will be Jim Bunch who will give a talk entitled: Germany's U-85: A Shadow in the Sea.

U-85 was the first German U-boat sunk by the United States Navy after America's entry into WWII. This is a PowerPoint presentation which includes an insight into the U-85's developmental history, its crew, its war patrols, and its sinking by the American destroyer Roper (DD147).

Mr. Bunch will also give a history of the diving of the U-85 wreck and artifacts recovered from that wreck. History buffs and diving enthusiasts will be especially interested in this presentation.

It will be held after the Fried Chicken & BBQ Buffet at the 67th Street Beach Club on Friday, May 19.25 7-8