

Sea Poacher Association



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



Issue No. 1, Volume No. 3

January 2005

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*Keep in touch with your
shipmates!
A list of email addresses*



L. R. Kojm, CO 61-63 Laid To Rest in Arlington National Cemetery

By: Ivan L. Joslin, Capt. USN (Ret)

The death of Captain Leonard R. Kojm, USN (Retired) was reported in this newsletter just before our Charleston Reunion last October. His death had occurred earlier, but due to the heavy schedule of interments in Arlington National Cemetery, his actual burial service was scheduled for December 1st.

While at our reunion, Ivan Joslin, who served as a Lieutenant onboard Sea Poacher during LCDR Kojm's entire tour as Commanding Officer, agreed to make Arlington motel arrangements and co-ordinate with the Kojm family, so that any Sea Poacher shipmates wanting to attend his service, could do so as a group. The Kojm family was thrilled to find out that these arrangements were being planned.

Several e-mail messages were sent out with the details worked out by Ivan, and a total of six shipmates of Kojm's plus two shipmate's wives attended his impressive burial service. The immediate Kojm family consisting of: wife Mary Ann; son Sam; and daughter Rebecca, was extremely grateful and proud to have the eight of us as a group attend Len's funeral service in the chapel, make the long trek to the grave-site behind the black horse-drawn gurney, and then attend the reception at the Fort Myer's Officer's Club.



The six shipmates in attendance had their new Sea Poacher ball caps to wear at appropriate times, and the family was so proud of our visible support. Len's widow, Mary Ann was so personable and gracious to us all. She made sure that all her extended family members and friends knew who we were, and how much she appreciated the Sea Poacher. She and both her children expressed their grateful appreciation for our presence as a group, and spoke to us lovingly of their remembrances of Key West and Len's very successful and rewarding command tour on Sea Poacher.

Many of Sea Poacher's Navy Awards and areas of recognized achievements we received during Len Kojm's time on board as Commanding Officer, and those who were privileged to serve with him have fond memories of his professional leadership, his ship-handling skills, and his personable style of handling both Officer and Enlisted shipmates with dignity and respect. LCDR Kojm was the Commanding Officer when Sea Poacher played it's vital and secret role during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

LCDR Kojm, a journalism major in college with an NROTC Commission from Dartmouth, commanded the Sea Poacher in 1961-1963.

His predecessor was CDR Larry Stahl (who also passed away recently), and his relief was LCDR Richard T. Fox.

Sea Poacher shipmates attending Kojm's Arlington funeral were Bill Brinkman, EM 60-62; Frank Evans, IC 63 & wife Jayne; Ivan Joslin, Lt. 59-63 & wife Marjorie; Jack Merrill, TM 61-63; Larry Weinfurter, MM 62-65; and Carroll Lawson, QM 61-63.



It was with great sadness that we gathered to pay our respects to our beloved skipper, Len R. Kojm, at Arlington National Cemetery on December 1, 2004



Flag flying from the mast upon our return from Cuban Crisis in 1962.

Sailor Rest Your Oars . . .

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.

Bruce Adams, MoMM 44
Raymond E. Adcock, SN 47 - December 1974
Don Barnes, EM 44-49
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
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, SO 58-59 - USS Thresher
Norris Bradley, SN 44-45
Jim Brink, Ens 44 - September 2003
Josephino Bugarin TN 50-54
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
Raymond Conahan, SA 49 - 20 October 2001
Arthur Cornish, MoMM 45-48 - 2001
Richard H. Coupe, XO 61-63 - May 2003
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
Francis Droesch, EN 59 -1978
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
Elwood H. Forni, SO 58 - USS Thresher
Charles H. Foy, GM 45-46 - May 22, 1974
Frank Michael Gambacorta, CO 44 - December 2000
Warden Gaskins, XO 45
Robert C. Gaunt, TM 44 - 1953
John Gerenser, SN 46-49 - 2000

William
Goold, EN 46-49 - June 2003
John A. Gordman, 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
Michael Hehmann ET 68-69 - 1993
Joe Hemphill, EM 44-45
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
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
George 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
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
Robert Madill, EM 49-50 - Jan. 1998
D. B. Maher, CO 55
Gerald Matern, YN 46 - 1998
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

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
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 Sschoenberger,, TM 57-59
Sid Schorr, SN 45 - March 2003
Walter Seifert, EN 60-62
Vernon Seiple, SO 61-63
Thomas Seric, EN 63-67
Ed Sharp, EN 67
Edward Shook, EM 64-68
Robert Silvis, SC 45-46 - May 1999
Norman Skiles, RM 58-59 - October 2003
James E. Smith, TM 63-64 - 1991
Ebrue G. Smojicic, 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
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
Theodore Znuj, MM 44-46

Sailors Rest Your Oars . . .

Last local Squalus survivor dies at 90

By MICHAEL GOOT
Foster's Daily Democrat

PORTSMOUTH N.H.— Gerald C. McLees, one of the last men to survive the tragic sinking of the USS Squalus submarine off the Isle of Shoals, passed away at his Portsmouth home on Thursday. He was 90.

Although his lifetime included military service at Pearl Harbor, dinner at the White House with former President George W. Bush, 10 combat missions in the Pacific Theater during World War II, and escaping the Dust Bowl in Kansas in his youth, McLees was best remembered for surviving the USS Squalus.

McLees was among 32 other submariners rescued on May 23, 1939 when the USS Squalus sank in 243 feet of water just southeast of the Isle of Shoals during a test dive. The men were underwater for 39 hours. Twenty-six sailors died when the interior compartments flooded.

"It is with deep sadness that Portsmouth Naval Shipyard bids farewell to Mr. Gerald McLees. Mr. McLees proudly served his Navy and this nation with heroic courage and commitment that continues to inspire those in service to our country today. He with his shipmates aboard USS Squalus forever changed the course of history for our Navy," said Debbie White, public affairs officer for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

"For those of us at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the conning tower of USS Squalus stands as a constant reminder of the sacrifice, dedication and selfless service of great men like Gerald McLees. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mr. Gerald McLees," she said.

The survivors of the USS Squalus were rescued by Charles "Swede" Momsen, who directed the use of a diving bell — an apparatus consisting of a container only open at the bottom and supplied with air compressed through a hose. The rescue of the Squalus remains the only successful underwater rescue in world history.

An inquiry determined that there was a mechanical failure in the engine induction valve, but the cause was never completely determined. The Squalus, which was built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, was refurbished and rechristened the USS Saifish.

There were only six living survivors of the Squalus accident in 2000. McLees was the last one from this area. Allen Bryson of Connecticut is believed to be last living survivor.

Capt. William McDonough, former commander of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, termed McLees death as a real loss.

"What a shame. What a great guy he was ... a true hero survivor of one of the early naval disasters — very low-key, very mild-mannered, a real gentleman," he said.

McDonough said he saw McLees a few months ago at a submarine birthday party. "He was outfitted in his old uniform, which believe it or not, still fit. I'm terribly sorry to see him go," he said.

Gene Allmendinger of Durham, a World War II veteran and retired professor of naval architecture at the University of New Hampshire, called McLees a "splendid man" and said he was a



good friend of the Albacore organization in Portsmouth.

"Throughout the years, he's supported the Navy Yard and the submarine force very gallantly. It's a shame to see that type of person go," he said.

"He's a real hero in my eyes. He's a great fellow. A very quiet person," he said.

Allmendinger said McLees actively supported the submarine vets at the Albacore. He said the Albacore might want to do some official memorial observance in the future for McLees.

He said he did not talk about his experiences on the Squalus much.

"He was just there and we all knew what he had been through," he said.

According to his obituary, "McLees never considered himself a hero. Interviewed several times for documentaries, articles and books over the years, McLees insisted that he and his crewmates were simply doing their jobs and that the real heroes of the Squalus were the shipmates who lost their lives and the divers who risked their lives to effect the rescue."

The story of the USS Squalus was told in the book "The Terrible Hours," which was written by Peter Maas in 1999.

Also, Portsmouth Poet Laureate John Perrault wrote a song about the accident called "Ballad of the Squalus" featuring McLees telling him the story of how they were rescued. A passage from the song reads as follows:

*"Listen — I hear something, like a rumble in a fog;
Men take hammers bang the hull, bang like hell by God;
They're up there looking for us, I know It in my bones;
Those guys will risk their lives to get us out and bring us home."*

Searchers grab the orange buoy, now they're dragging grapnel;

A diver's boots land on the hatch, they're lowering down the life Bell;

33 men brought up above, after 39 hours of dying;

Four months later 25 men towed in for identifying.

(Continued on Page Nine)



USS Squalus being launched at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine

Shipmate Email Addresses

The following is a list of the email addresses of your shipmate's as we have them now. We are still searching for the whereabouts of many Sea Poacher sailors. When in conversation with your buddies, please try to uncover information that may make it easier to find other shipmates. Information about where they were last seen or where their hometowns were would be helpful. Please forward this to Jack Merrill at sebagojack@hotmail.com. Also, if there are any errors in these addresses please let us know.

Shipmate Name	Rate&Yrs Abd	Email address		
Robert B. Abbott	EM, 49-53	crsjabtk@aol.com	Lloyd Carson	MM, 64-66
Robert A. Acor	QM, 95-60	acornuts@695online.com	Frank Caulfield	CS, 52-53
Norman N. Adams	ET, 62-63	nadamsla@bellsouth.net	Charles E. Chamberlain	FT, 60-61
Dewe Akins	EM, 69	uss399@insightbb.com	Stewart Chapman	ET, 53-54
Donald Allen	EM, 60-62	sahhhaa@aol.com	Richard Chitkowski	ET, 62
Paul Allers	WM 61-62	pbatters@race2000.com	Don E. Cipra	EM, 64-65
Feliz Alqueza	TN, 60	falqueza@bellsouth.net	Richard Clubb	QM, 62-63
Joey Amposta	TN, 61-62	justjoey3@msn.com	Ralph D. Cobb	Ltjg, 44-45
Peter A. Amunrud	FT, 49-52	panam7@aol.com	Calvin Cochrane	MM 55-56
Bernard Anthony	TM, 59-60	janieanthony@aol.com	Ronald Coe	ET, 63-65
Theodore Anthony	SO, 55-57	fhp9912@aol.com	Lawrence Colwell	Lt, 58-59
Edward Ashenden	TM, 62-64	ashenden@quixnet.net	Ronald Comtois	STS, 66-68
Charles Auclair	MM, 60-63	baucclair@juno.com	Harold W. Cook	TM, 46-49
George Axford	Ltjg, 68-69	axford@mindspring.com	Marlow Cook	SN, 46
Vernon Barnett	COB, 60-64	vernbarne@aol.com	William J. Cook	TM 60-64
Jarold Bartz	Ltjg, 68	jbartz4@cox.net	Robert Cooley	SM, 44-45
James M. Beard	EM, 57-59	grandpamily@sdccu.net	Charles Cousins	SN, 44
Ralph Beardlee	QM, 49	rbearlee@swnm.com	Gerald Coutu	TM, 55-59
Robert N. Beers	Lt, 68-69	rnbeers@99main.com	Kenneth Crago	MoMM, 46
Rodney Benefield	QM, 61-62	rbene4505@msn.com	William L. Crozier	SM, 53
Harvey Benson	MM, 63-68	hgbensin@wavecable.com	Reese E. Cruse	RM, 46-51
Truman J. Bernhard	MM, 61-64	tbernhard2@neo.rr.com	Larry A. Dachenhausen	EN, 67-68
Richard Bernotiet	IC, 60-63	bernotiet@cr.som	Grant Dailey	IC, 63-65
Raymond Binns	FN, 52-53	rebinns@ccsinc.com	Park A. Dallis	RM, 64-65
Joseph Birkle	SZ, 49	elkrib31@msn.com	Wendall Damold	EM, 50-51
Douglas M. Bishop	IC, 63	dbishop@cfl.rr.com	Frederick Daughtery	FN, 58-59
Dennis Boland	RM, 68-69	dboland@jvlnet.com	James M. Davis	YN, 68-69
Kenneth M. Bonnell	RM, 57-58	thecob@techinfo.com	Richard L. Deese	YN, 49-52
Thomas Bovyn	QM-67-69	ver-ron@comcast.net	James Demming	Ens, 47
Jerry A. Boyd	SO, 63-66	jboyd@nortexinfo.net	Thomas Deuley	EM, 62
Derwin Brennen	SA, 50	lovev@aol.com	Raymond Dicaire	SM, 68-69
William Brinkman	EM, 60-62	seapoacher@austin.rr.com	William Dietrich	Lcdr, 65-67
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			Ralph French	CS, 59-60
			Harold E. Gall	EN, 59-61
			H. Lawrence Garrett	MM, 62-63
			Bruce Gaudet	EN, 575-58
			Arthur Geddes	QM, 48-51
			Jim Gentry	TM, 62-63
			Ncholas Giampietro	EM, 58-59
			Joseph Giannetta	EM, 69
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				rvhtrman@comcast.net
				bartsmn@aol.com
				tmcmss@crosslink.net
				nick.giampietro@titan.com
				eegbean@aol.com



Photo courtesy of Cuzz Stickney EN, 64-67

Lloyd Carson, MM 64-66

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Billy B. Gorsuch	RM, 67-68	billygorsuch@hotmail.com	Ivan Joslin	Lt, 59-63	imjoslin@mailstation.com
Robert Gosline	Ltjg, 68	bgosline@att.net	M.J. Ruben Jowers	EM, 61-63	rubenjowers@aol.com
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George Hunt	QM, 56	kitwen@juno.com	Stanley Martell	FT, 69	sandamart@tds.net
Regis J. Huray	CT, 67	usregis@chilitech.net	Robert Matheny	SO, 52-56	abdm@wvgap.net

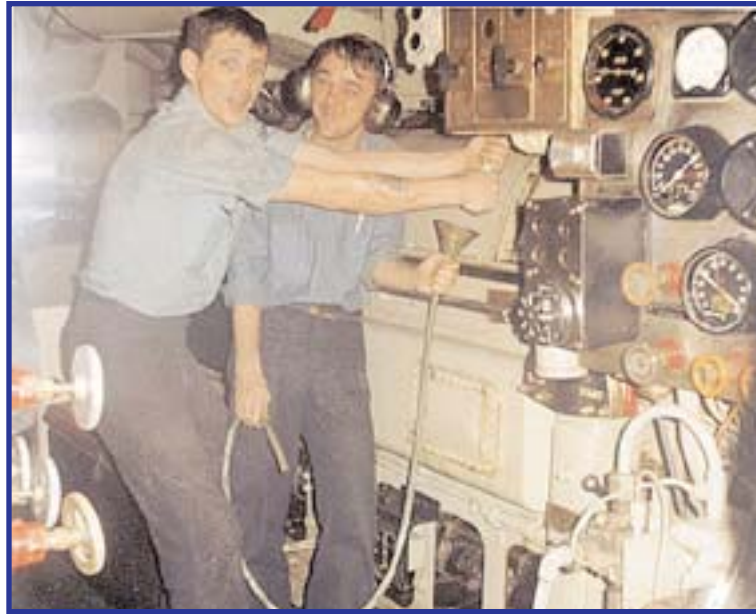


Photo courtesy of Cuzz Stickney EN, 64-67

Richard Whitmire, EN 63-66 and Mike Kassinger, EN 64-66

Nelson Mattingly	EM, 52-56	hmattingly@dejazzd.com	Daniel Ramirez	SO, 61-62	dram447405@aol.com
Jim D. McClanahan	IC/Ens 59-63	jddmccclanahan@cei.net	Roy Randall	ET, 50	roydol@adelphia.net
David McCollum	QM, 62-63	kayemc@earthlink.net	Larry F. Reiche	ET, 67-68	ocoutpost@aol.com
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Carl McCutcheon	ST, 69	carlmac@chartern.net	David R. Ringland	IC, 65-67	dringlan@foxboro.com
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Daniel McLaren	SO, 60-62	DanielMcLaren@cs.com	Henry S. Rogowski	ST, 65&68-69	mimavb@msn.com
Kenneth McNabb	RM, 63-65	kmcnabb@aol.com	Salvatore Rosina	EM, 52-53	lasskj@aol.com
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Joseph Melhorn	EM, 63-64	joe@toyman.ws	John Saeli	EN, 65-67	feveroute@echoes.net
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Joe Murdoch	ET, 62-63	jmurdoch13@aol.com	Marvin Schenker	Lt, 55-57	compass@sea.tm
Lester Murray	EM, 44-48	lmur84@aol.com	Robert Schindhelm	ET, 62-63	bobetec@earthlink.net
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Ray Parker	RM, 63-66	papaslilies@planters.net	John Snook	QM, 59-61	snook52@charter.net
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Marshall H. Poole	EM, 60-61	mxbp60@accessat.net	Jim Spivey	EN, 57-58	spiveys@comcast.net
Rudolph Poteet	FT, 53	rudyh@intelos.net	Harold Stanley	RM, 58-60	croakers@msn.com
James Powers	SN, 55-59	jtp7960@cs.com	Gary Stark	RM, 58-59	gshadow1@bbc.net
Henry Primeaux	FA, 60	henry@crownbristow.com	Richard Stickney	EN, 64-47	stick4013@aol.com
John Rabuse	EN, 47-515	rabuse1232@aol.com	Martin Stikes	EN, 54-57	enolamar@aol.com



Photo courtesy of Cuzz Stickney EN, 64-67

Arnie Weinfurter, MM 64-67

David L. Stoner
Joseph G. Storz
David Strunk
Robert W. Sumner
Hugh Tabb
Terry Tague
William D. Talbert
Chester Taylor
Gary Testerman
Donald Tetschlag
Gerald Teheriault
Edwin Thompson
Thomas R. Thompson
Thede Tooma
Richard Trench
Earnest Truelove
Glenn Trumble
James Tryon
John Tulodieski
Albert Turbeville
Anthony Tuttobene
Ed Urban
Mark Valenti
Frederick A. Vavra
Donald J. Waldrop
Larry Weinfurter
George Weinstein
Ross Wesner
George West
James Weston
Donald Wilkinson
Billy Williams
Olin Williams

IC, 62-63
EM, 65
TM, 44-45
BT, 60-63
Ltjg 62-64
FTG, 63-64
EN, 68-70
RM, 56-57
EM, 69
TM, 67-68
EM, 66-69
EN, 63-55
IC, 55-56
SM, 47-51
EN, 52-53
EM, 67
ET, 54-55
RM, 63
Ltjg, 61-63
MM, 63-66
EN, 57-58
EN, 63-69
TM, 68-69
TM, 60-61
SA, 51-54
MM, 62-65
MT, 62
Ltjg, 62-65
EN, 58-60
ET, 59
TM, 56-57
TM, 45
RM, 57-58

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avdonw@bigplanet.com
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Stanley R. Wonnell
Richard Worl
George Wyse
Roy Yancy
Bruce Young
Jerome Young

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FN, 66
EN, 48-53
IC, 65-67
Lt, 44-46
SN, 62

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Photo courtesy of Cuzz Stickney EN, 64-67

"Cuzz" Stickney

(Continued from Page Four)

Squalus survivor dies

A movie about the accident, "Submerged," was produced in 2001. McLees attended a private screening of the film at the White House. At the screening of "Submerged", McLees sat next to actor/producer James Keach's wife the actress Jane Seymour.

"He was really cool!" Keach says. "My son Kailin played him in the movie. All through the screening he was saying -- That happened. That didn't. That happened. That didn't. He was great."

McLees, who was 25 at the time of the accident, was an electrician's mate 3rd class. He served on the USS Sailfish and went out on war patrols. Then, he served on the USS Crevalle submarine. When the war ended, he headed back to combat in the Pacific on the USS Sea Leopard.

After attaining the rank of chief, McLees retired from the Navy in 1956. He then worked at the Portsmouth Naval shipyard as chief electrical inspector of submarines until his retirement in 1972.

Credit also goes to J. Dennis Robinson.

The Old Sailor's Poem

Old Sailors sit and chew the fat, about how things used to be,
Of things they've seen and places they've been, when they ventured out to sea.

They remember friends from long ago, and the times they had back then,
Of the money they've spilled, and the beer they've swilled, in their days as sailing men.

Their lives are lived in days gone by, with thoughts that forever last,
Of dixie cup hats and bell bottom blues, and the good times in their past.

They recall long nights with a moon so bright, far out on a lonely sea,
And the thoughts they had as youthful lads, when their lives were unbridled and free.

They know so well how their hearts would swell, when the flag fluttered proud and free,
And the stars and stripes made such beautiful sights, as they plowed through an angry sea.

They talk of the bread ole 'cookie' would bake, and the shrill of the boatsun's pipe,
And how the salt spray fell like sparks out of hell, when a storm struck in the night.

They remember mates already gone, who forever hold a spot,
In the stories of old, when Sailors were bold, and lubbers were a pitiful lot.

They rode their ships through many a storm, when the sea was showing it's might,
And the mighty waves, might be digging their graves, as they sailed on through the night.

They speak of nights in a bawdy house, somewhere on a foreign shore,
And the beer they'd down, as they gathered around, cracking jokes with a busty whore.

Their sailing days are gone away, never more will they cross the brow,
But they have no regrets, for they know they've been blessed, 'cause they honored their sacred vow.

Their numbers grow less with each passing day, as their chits in life are called in,
But they've nothing to lose, for they've all paid their dues, and they'll sail with their shipmates again.

I've heard them say, before getting underway, that there's still some sailing to do,
And they'll exclaim with a grin, that their ship has come in, and the Lord is commanding the crew.

Memorial Fund

When a shipmate passed on we send 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 in these pages. It also indicated 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 Bill Brinkman. Indicate "Memorial Fund"

Membership Roll

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

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Robert Abbott	Carl Hale	Paul Ogg
Bob Acor	Dave Harms	Tom Polen
Charles Ahler	Ray Heckroth	Jim Powers
Paul Allers	Bill Hellmer	Charles Rager
Peter Amunrud	Dick Holtz	Dewey Reed
Ted Anthony	Robert Horne	Larry Reiche
Robert Beers	Harry Huggins	David Richter
Harvey Benson	Carol Humphries	Robert Ritz
Truman Bernhard	Richard Jennison	Salvatore Rosina
Doug Bishop	Gerald Joseph	John Savory
Kenneth Bonnell	Ivan Joslin	Karl Schipper
Bill Brinkman	Donald Kamuf	Russell Schonedorf
Russ Burrows	Mike Kassinger	William Sharp
Frank Calderone	Allan Katen	Harry Sherman
Bobbie Calvert	Richard Laake	Rick Smock
Dick Carney	Troy Law	Fred Socha
Leo Carr	Carroll Lawson	Richard Stickney
Kent Carroll	Ken LeBlanc	Marty Stokes
John Chaich	Frank Lederer	David Strunk
Richard Clubb	Bill Luttrell	Robert Sumner
Cal Cochrane	J.J. Lynch	Chester Taylor
Lawrence Colwell	John Mach	Tommy Thompson
Gerry Coutou	Ken Manion	James Tryon
William Donnelan	Robert Matheny	Ed Urban
Merlyn Dorrheim	Clement Maue	Don Waltrop
Daniel Dybala	Jim McClanahan	Arne Weinfurter
Leon Eggleston	Carl McCutcheon	Larry Weinfurter
Buster Flaskas	Jack Merrill	James Weston
Dante Fortini	Joe Murdoch	Olin Williams
Richard Fox	Gary Nagle	George Wyse
Ron Godwin	Jon Nagle	Bruce Young
Dave Green	Jack Nims	

MEMBERS

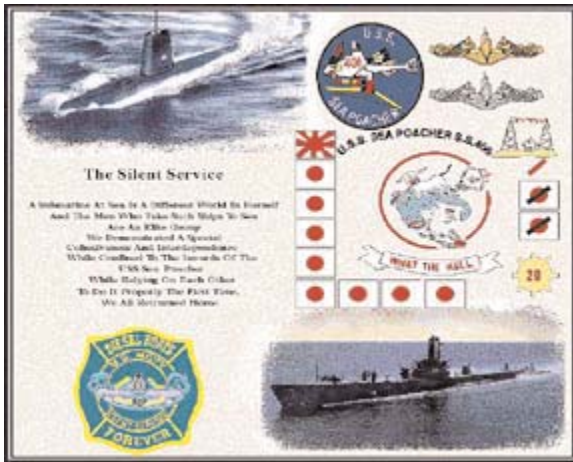
Dewey Akins	Francis Evens	Dale Peterson
Charlie Auclair	Richard Ferris	Robert Poteet
Vernon Barnett	Ralph French	John Rabusse
Russell Bauer	Harold Gall	Roy Randall
Rodney Benefield	Arthur Geddes	Mark Richwine
William Buckley	James Gentry	Robert Roth
James Burgett	Ray Gillin	John Saeli
Warren Burkett	Billy Gorsuch	Herman Scallen
Neil Cabe	Jimmie Hickman	Donald Schwartz
Rick Carlson	William Higley	Bennie Sheldon
Frank Caulfield	Gerald Keffer	Delvin Smith
Ed Chubb	Kenneth Kile	John Sohl Jr.
Don Cipra	Phillip Kinney	Ron Spooner
Harold Cook	Ray Krivacy	Harold Stanley
William Cook	Jim Lemmerman	Glen Suttle
Robert Cooley	Jerry Loveless	Harold Swan
James Deming	Nathan Lundy	Terry Tague
Alfred Dickey	Buster McCollum	Ed Thompson
William Docekal	Peter McCormack	James Thompson
Charles Donnelly	Daniel McLaren	Albert Turbeville
William Dougherty	Thomas Nein	Tony Tuttobene
William Douthit	Charles Owen	Ross Wesner
John Dubbs	Roy Palmer	Don Wilkinson
Daniel Eberhardt	William Parhamenko	Lee Yonts
Jack Ensminger	Ron Patterson	

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 Nichole St., Round Rock, TX 78664-9466

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	—	\$12.00	_____
Coffee Cup	—	\$14.00	_____
Golf Shirt	—	\$22.00	_____
Etched Glass Tankard	—	\$20.00	_____
WWI & 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!



Treasurer's Report

Ken LeBlanc

December 1, 2004	Beginning Balance (General + Memorial Funds)	\$7,377.53
	General Fund Deposits & Credits	\$1,180.50
	General Fund Withdrawals	\$0.00
	Memorial Fund Deposits & Credits	\$0.00
	Memorial Fund Withdrawals	\$0.00
December 31, 2004	Ending Balance (General + Memorial Funds)	\$8,558.00
December 31, 2004	Memorial Fund Balance	\$364.58

MONTHLY ACTIVITY

DEPOSITS, RECEIPTS AND CREDITS

December 6, 2004 (402 & 404)	Wayne Holmgren Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	\$124.00
	Daniel Eberhardt Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Kenneth Kile Two Year Member (04-06)	\$20.00	
	Hat Sales: 2 Hats	\$24.00	
	Coffee Mug Sales: 1 Mug	\$14.00	
	Shirt Sales: 1 Shirt	\$22.00	
	Reunion Video Sales: 1 Video	\$10.00	
	WWII Video Sales: 1 Video	\$14.00	
December 13, 2004 (415)	Jim Weston Lifetime Member	\$90.00	\$390.00
	Bill Hellmer Lifetime Member	\$90.00	
	Anthony Tuttobene Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	William Docekal Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Jack Ensminger Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	George Childs Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	James Demming Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	William Parhamenko Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Vernon Barnett Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Delvin Smith Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	David McCollum Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Coffee Mug Sales: 1 Mug	\$14.00	
	Shirt Sales: 1 Shirt	\$22.00	
	Reunion Video Sales: 2 Videos	\$20.00	
	WWII Video Sales: 1 Video	\$14.00	
	Afghan Sales: 1 Afghan	\$50.00	
December 21, 2004 (431)	John Mach Lifetime Member	\$100.00	\$337.50
	Nathan Lundy Lifetime Member	\$100.00	
	John Saeli Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Charles Owen Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Ross Wesner Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Raymond Krivacsy Annual Member (04-05)	10.00	
	Roy Randall Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Charles Auclair Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Donald Schwartz Annual Member (04-05)	\$10.00	
	Hat Sales: 1 Hats	\$12.00	
	Coffee Mug Sales: 1 Mug	\$10.00	
	Shirt Sales: 2 Shirts	\$40.00	
	Patch Sales: 1 Patch	\$5.50	
December 28, 2004 (443)	Richard Laake Lifetime Member	\$90.00	\$329.00
	Frank Calderone Lifetime Member	\$90.00	
	Paul Ogg Lifetime Member	\$90.00	
	Coffee Mug Sales: 2 Mugs	\$29.00	
	Shirt Sales: 1 Shirt	\$20.00	
	Reunion Video Sales: 1 Video	\$10.00	
Total Deposits, Receipts and Credits		\$1,180.50	

EXPENSES AND WITHDRAWALS

Total Expenses and Withdrawals	\$0.00
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MEMORIAL FUND

December 1, 2004	Beginning Balance	\$364.58
December 31, 2004	Ending Balance	\$364.58

DEPOSITS, RECEIPTS AND CREDITS

Total Deposits, Receipts and Credits	\$0.00
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EXPENSES AND WITHDRAWALS

Total Expense & Withdrawals	\$0.00
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USS Sea Poacher (SS406) Association

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

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



Crew of Sea Poacher after 1st War Patrol -Guam, 1944

Front Row, l to r: Robert "Frenchy" Label MoMM, Willford "Shorty" Bailey SM, Timothy "Bumper" Cotter EM, John "Rocky" Ross RM, Billie Williams TM, Buster Flaskas SM, Roland "Blackie" Marchesault EM, Vito "Di" DiAntonio TM, Frank "Whitey" White TM, Kenneth Marcotte SC, William "Hobo" Fulton MoMM, Richard "Spitz" Spitzner TM, Ira "Drip" Houston RM, Charlie Foy, GM, Keith "Dumbo" Thomas BT, Frederick "Doc" Smith, HM, Constantine "Greek" Pappas SO, George "Abbie" Childs TM, Earl Berry MoMM, Fred Brittain EM, Harmon Kline TM, Louis Cafone SN, George Zelina TM, Luther Lott GM, Bruce Rounds MoMM, Earl Slack MoMM, William H. "Diamond Jim" Davis MoMM, Donald Shaffer CY, Ivory Poole TM, Freeman "Bucky" Buck, Richard Anderson MoMM, Satterlee French TM, Unidentified, Unidentified.

Second Row, l to r: J. A. Brink, Ens, Unidentified, Warden Gaskin, XO, Unidentified, Francis Michael Gambacorta CO, Ebrue G. Smojice, EN, Jerrald Nesmith SC, Rudolph "Rudy" Macielak, William Porter, William R. Lilliot Lt, Ralph D. Cobb Ens.

Top Row, l to r: Frank "Fessor" Bain RT, Richard "Pit" Pitstick RM, William "Sleepy" Runyon RM, Darrell Hickman TM, Robert Cooley SM, Unidentified, James Demmings Ens, Joseph "Nick" Nichols SN, Lester Murray EM, Theodore "Ted" Zunj MM, William Hurt MM, Robert Russell RM, William "Mack" McCann MoMM, Ira Graboff MM, Edwin Belden EM, David Strunk TM, Donald S. "Bear" MacPherson MoMM, Willford Bailey SM, Richard Baybutt FN, Norris "Tripod" Bradley, Scott E. "Scotty" Horton Jr. QM, James Burke EN, Bobbie Newell GM, George "Bojo" Boyajian EM, Samuel "Spindle" Glenn MoMM, Ralph Cunningham QM, "Tracy" Price EM, Robert Atkins TM, "Danny" Arnold Daniel MoMM, Irving Morrow, MoMM, Wayne "Romeo" Holmgren RM. Missing from Picture: Syme TM and Hall FC

Change of Address

Please let us know of any change of status – address, phone or email. Either call Jack Merrill at 863-660-3314 or Bill Brinkman at 512-255-0285