

SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION



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

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PUBLISHER: BILL DUKACZ IC 67-68

LET'S DO THE CHARLESTON

The next Sea Poacher reunion will be held in Charleston, South Carolina, from Tuesday April 29 to Saturday May 3, 2014. The reunion committee, led by Jon Nagle MM62-63 and assisted by Cal Cochrane MM55-56 and Vincent Sottile, has dreamed up a variety of activities to keep you busy and entertained. Here is their plan for you.

For you golfers, Tuesday morning the 29th is set aside for a golf tournament. We will provide the course and you provide the rest. Jon is looking for a golfer to step forward to manage this. Contact jknmm1ss@gmail.com

The reunion begins with the formal opening of the hospitality suite at 1200 on the 29th and the handing out of welcome packets and badges. That evening, we will have a barbeque dinner on Gold Bug Island made famous by Edgar Allan Poe in his classic short story "The Gold Bug" concerning local buried treasure and cryptography.

On Wednesday the 30th we start with a tour of Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island. This was the site of the first American victory over the British in 1776. It remained a Fort guarding Charleston Harbor until 1942. Next, we are on to lunch at the Isle Of Palms. After that we go to downtown Charleston where you are free to take a carriage ride, visit the Civil War museum or shop at the Market Street stores. You can also visit the old Exchange Building to see the original wall of the city, the dungeon where pirates were kept before being hung, and where George Washington hosted a party. This is a free afternoon to do what you please which could include optional plantation tours. That evening, we will have a wonderful three-hour dinner cruise around Charleston Harbor.

On Thursday May 1 we start with a tour of Fort Sumter where the first shots were fired of the Civil War. We will then travel to Patriots Point to have lunch at the CPO mess on the Fighting Lady, the Aircraft Carrier Yorktown (CV-10). Then we will tour the Yorktown, the Destroyer Laffey (DD-724) known as the ship that would not die, and Submarine Clamagore (SS-343) the last Guppy III. Dinner will be on your own at a number of excellent restaurants.

Then Friday May 2 starts with the Tolling of the Bells ceremony at the Submariner's Graveyard at Magnolia Cemetery followed by a tour of the Civil War CSS Hunley, the first submarine to sink a ship in wartime. For those so inclined, we will then journey to The Citadel for a renewal of marriage vows at their Summerall Chapel. This will be followed by lunch and the Long Grey Line Parade performed by the Cadets. Then there will be our Business Meeting and selection of the site for our next reunion. The day will conclude with our banquet at the hotel, awards presentation, and several other surprises. On Saturday morning we say our farewells after breakfast and head home unless you wish to extend your stay. This could include a Bahamas cruise where a group rate is being investigated.

The weather should be gorgeous and in the mid 70s. Southwest, Delta, Jet Blue, and USAir have several flights to Charleston. Interstates I-95 and I-26 make it an easy drive and there is a close KOA Campground that gives us a 10 percent discount. Remember how great it was at our earlier reunions in Mobile 2003, Charleston 2004, Virginia Beach 2006, Jacksonville 2008, Branson 2010, and San Antonio 2012? And they just get better all the time.

So plan to visit the rated **BEST VACATION CITY IN THE WORLD** and where Sea Poacher was a primary fixture for many years. Review the registration form on the next page and mail it in. Do it now!

Y'all Come!

USS SEA POACHER REGISTRATION FORM
NATIONAL REUNION – CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

April 29 – MAY 3, 2014

(To be printed and mailed in....this is not for online registration)

Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Other Attendees: _____

Address _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

A. HOTEL: Holiday Inn Mount Pleasant, 250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. Room reservations can be made by calling the Hotel directly at 843-884-6000. Be sure to tell them you're with the Sea Poacher Reunion to get the special rate of \$149.00 (plus tax) per room per night (Single, Double, Triple and Quad rate). This rate includes a full breakfast each day and is good for both three days prior and after the Reunion. Rooms not reserved by Sunday March 30, 2014 will then be on a space available at the then current going rate.

B. YES, REGISTER ME FOR THE FOLLOWING REUNION ACTIVITY PACKAGE AT \$285.00 PER PERSON AS DETAILED IN THE ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES BELOW:

_____ # of activity packages x \$285.00 per person = Total of \$ _____

**Make your check payable to USS Sea Poacher Association
and mail this completed registration form to:**

**Bill Brinkman, President
USS Sea Poacher Association
4500 Tiffany Nicole Street
Round Rock, TX 78665-9466**

The Activity Package includes for all days the Hospitality Suite with a full bar and snacks open generally from 0600 to 2345 and bus transportation to all of the events. In particular:

April 29: Welcome aboard packet/tote bag with name badges and welcome barbeque dinner.

April 30: Tour of Fort Moultrie including lunch and Charleston harbor dinner cruise.

May 1: Fort Sumter tour, lunch at CPO mess on Aircraft Carrier Yorktown followed by tours of Yorktown, Submarine Clamagore and Destroyer Laffey

May 2: Tolling of the Bells, Confederate States Submarine Hunley tour, lunch at The Citadel with marriage vow renewal, Citadel long grey line parade, and Banquet dinner (coat and tie requested).

May 3: Breakfast and departure unless you are planning to stay longer.

You will be sent more information on the reunion, hotel, several other attractions including plantation tours, and other material after we receive your registration form and check. Contact Bill Brinkman at 512-255-0285 or Jon Nagle at jknmm1ss@gmail.com if you have any questions at all.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN CHARLESTON!

A NEW IRANIAN SUBMARINE



From Hubert Jackson FN67-69 who saw this in The Daily Times of Pakistan 4 Dec 2012 where it is stated: It looks like the Iranian Navy really wanted people to see its new submarine. In a live broadcast on state TV, the Islamic Republic showed off a new Sina 7 submarine painted in an unusually bright turquoise blue hue. So, why would any military want to design its ship in a color easily spotted? It is speculated the ship's designers mistakenly chose the color, believing it would help the craft blend in with the ocean's waters. Launched from Bandar Abbas, the Sina 7 and two Ghadir-class submarines represent the first wave of the country's "indigenously built" warships, Iran said. "Since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution, we have learned not to ask for help from other countries and stand on our own feet in meeting our demands," stated Iranian Navy Commander Habibollah Sayyari. However, be advised that there are several countermeasures to your efforts as detailed below!

OTHER SUBMARINE DEVELOPMENTS

The British! From Bill Buckley TM50-56. Their Navy launched in September 2012 a new £1 billion hunter-killer submarine (HMS Ambush) capable of hearing a ship leaving New York while she sits underwater in the English Channel. At 7,400 tons and a crew of 98, she carries 38 Tomahawk missiles and Spearfish torpedoes. There are no periscopes as they are replaced by thermal imaging and low-light cameras. See: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2203110/Deadly-Hunter-Killer-submarine-capable-hearing-ship-leaving-port-New-York-at-underwater-English-channel.html#ixzz26dyIWOi5>. It was noted by Bill Brinkman they left out the Wardroom Bar and the Crew's Grog Station from the above tour.

The Americans! From Hubert Jackson FN67-69. The Virginia Class submarine is our newest and most advanced. The first sailed just eight years ago and only nine have been completed. They take five years to build and cost about \$2.4 billion each. Check them out at: <http://www.businessinsider.com/here-is-why-the-navy-is-betting-it-all-on-the-high-tech-virginia-class-submarine-2012-7?op=1#ixzz24gr2IWui>

Again the Americans! From John Savory EN58-61. The Navy is defending its plans to replace its Ohio-class SSBN fleet with 12 new submarines with 16 missile tubes that meets our strategic deterrent requirements at the most affordable cost. While the Navy and Pentagon are keeping a lid on proposed costs, it will likely be \$5 billion per boat and perhaps less by reducing specifications somewhat, using modular construction design, and reusing the Trident Weapons System and other Ohio-class components where feasible. See: Aviation Week, 28 Sep2012.

And do not forget the Russians-what ever side they are on! From Ron Godwin ST58-61. They have just launched their third "noiseless" Borei class nuclear missile submarine. They carry 20 ICBM's with nearly 6,000 mile range, 24,000 tons submerged, 29 knot speed, and 1,500 foot depth. The following website shows a crew of 107 with 55 officers, but that is likely a typo and should be 15 officers. How many officers can a crew cope with? In any case, they plan to build seven more of these in the next eight years. See: <http://rt.com/news/russian-noiseless-borei-submarine-106/>

VETERANS DAY BRANSON SEA POACHER AND FRIENDS 2013

And here is another Reunion. From Joe Murdoch ET62-63 who has made this trip for over 20 years.

When you think of Branson think both of veteran tributes and world class live entertainment. Over 100,000 veterans return to Branson each year to celebrate Veterans Day which includes shows that honor all veterans and a huge parade on November 11 at 1100. This is not our official Sea Poacher Reunion gathering, but some of us get together each year here in "VETERANS CITY" for an extra measure of fun. We will be staying at the Branson Grand Plaza Hotel which has very nice accommodations. The room rate is only \$89 per night plus tax and includes a daily hot buffet breakfast for two. When you register yourself, including friends and relatives, tell them you are all with Sea Poacher and everyone gets this great hotel rate. There are going to be morning, afternoon, and evening activities for only \$294 per person which includes the following.

On the 8th, we check into the Hotel. Our Hospitality Room will open at noon. Then we will do Dolly Parton's Christmas Show which is a rodeo-like musical production and her Dixie Stampede four-course dinner, followed by a drive through the Festival of Lights. There may be a stop at Cakes and Cream for wonderful funnel cakes with heaping mounds of ice cream on a Dutch treat basis that must be approved unanimously or we drive on.

On the 9th, we start off with the Brett Family show headed by Tom Brett, an honorary Sea Poacher submariner who wears our dolphins and gives us special treatment and recognition. You never know what to expect from him on this occasion. Then it will be lunch at the Moon River Grill opposite the Andy William's Theater. Then we will be entertained by Danny O'Donnell, the world famous Irish singer, at the Moon River Theater. Our final event for the day will be the Tolling of the Bells Ceremony at a place to be determined. Of course the Hospitality Room will be open tonight and every evening, and a great way to finish the day.

Sunday morning the 10th is open for church attendance as desired, followed by an afternoon tour of one of the Ozarks best, the Copper Run Distillery with the tasting of rum, whiskey and moonshine. This site has both legal and illegal connections to prohibition in the 1920s and 30s. Later we will take in the Clay Cooper country music show with 21 veteran cast members in a high energy variety event.

On the 11th, we will ride the Ducks (provided there are at least 22 attendees) at the Veterans Day Parade which is an incredible event for all Veterans. At our National Reunion here in 2010 we manned three Ducks. This will be followed by Tony Orlando's free show for which you need to act early on to get the tickets for this sell out blockbuster. Call to get them at 417-336-3575 and ask for Row T which we have reserved. This will be Tony's last show as he is going on the road again. Even if you are not absolutely certain of your attending, reserve your tickets now. Once reserved, they must be picked up by the 9th or they will automatically be made available to someone else. Remember to bring your DD214 or military ID card to pick them up at the box office. That evening we will have group photos made followed by a private banquet at the Hotel. This will include a Yankee gift swap run by Karel Earl where each attendee is asked to bring a wrapped present under \$10. This highlight closes the official fun.

However, most of us will continue on for an optional day on the 12th which will include shows by the hit entertainers Twelve Irish Tenors and then the Yakov Smirnoff Show with this famed Russian comedian as well as a four course dinner. The cost for these optional shows including round trip transportation is \$94.

We understand it is easy to delay a decision to attend until later; however, these delays do make it difficult to plan for this entire activity. If you have the slightest inclination to come, please sign up now. And if your future plans change, we certainly understand. No one has ever forfeited any money or been charged for changing their mind. It will be a wonderful week and one you will not forget.

To register go to the website www.reunionpro.com. Then click on Gatherings Plus-Military Reunion Planner, then Reunions, type in Sea Poacher, and look at the itinerary and show list. Most importantly, click on registration, print the form, fill it out, and register today.

If you have any questions at all, call Joe Murdoch at 239-260-1529 any day between 0800 and 2000.

SEE YOU IN BRANSON IF NOT BEFORE AND GOD BLESS.

HAND SALUTE TO A GREAT LADY

Martha Raye was a comedian, singer, and actress. She also won an Academy Award and has two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Martha had her own TV show that featured boxer Rocky Graziano.

But did you know this about her? She made dozens of USO tours during WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. It was well recognized that she endured less comfort and more danger than any other Vietnam entertainer. Martha was just not there to entertain the troops, but was also in the field as a nurse and in hospitals assisting in surgery. She was there over a 9 year time span, paid her own way, and is known to have stayed in Vietnam often for six months at a time.

The following is from an Army aviator: It was just before Thanksgiving 1967 and we were ferrying dead and wounded from a large GRF west of Pleiku. We had run out of body bags by noon, so the Hook (CH-47 Chinook) was pretty rough in the back. All of a sudden, we heard a “take-charge” woman's voice in the rear. There was Martha Raye, wearing a Special Forces Green Beret and jungle fatigues with subdued markings, helping the wounded into the Chinook and carrying the dead aboard. We took off, short of fuel, and headed to the hospital pad at Pleiku. As we all started unloading our sad passengers, a “Smart Mouth” USAF Captain told Ms. Ray, with all these dead and wounded to process, there would not be time for her show! To all of our surprise, she pulled on her right collar and saidCaptain, see this Eagle? I am a full Bird in the Army Reserve, and on this is a Caduceus which means I am a Nurse, with a surgical specialty....now, take me to your wounded! He said Yes ma'am.... follow me. Several times at the Army Hospital in Pleiku, she would cover an entire 13 hour surgical shift giving a nurse a well-deserved break. GI tributes include that she made fun of everything, that you had the feeling she really cared about you, that she was never looking for photos or publicity opportunities, that she went where the need was greatest and where other entertainers would not go, and that she endured the same hardships as the GIs.

Martha was known in Vietnam as “Colonel Maggie.” She had Colonel commissions in both the Marines and the Army. In Hollywood she was known as The Big Mouth, but if the truth be known she was The Big Heart. The movie FOR THE BOYS with Bette Midler in the 1990s many believe was based in part on her life.

In 1993, a year before her death at age 78 and while confined to a wheel chair with both legs amputated and suffering from Alzheimer's, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton for her service.

Martha is the only woman buried in the Special Forces Cemetery at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. She declined Arlington National Cemetery.

Perhaps the most unforgivable error in television is that her shows were not taped and are not available for viewing. Rest in Peace Maggie and thanks!



Photos and initial information from Hubert Jackson FN67-69 with some details added by your Editor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT-BILL BRINKMAN

1. Dues: We have 216 Life and 34 Regular members. If you're a Life Member or have paid your 2013 dues, thank you. If not, please pay \$10 for each year or become a Life Member for \$100. Life Members no longer get annoying letters from me or our Treasurer Hubert Jackson, receive a free patch, and we continue Life Membership status for your widow. Make checks payable to Sea Poacher Association and mail to me at 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street, Round Rock, TX 78665-9466 or email me at seapoacher@austin.rr.com with questions.

2. Address and e-mail changes: Please send us your latest mailing and e-mail addresses. Remember, it is our Association policy to not show your mailing address and telephone number on our newsletters or our website. When shipmates request them, we do put them in touch with you.

3. Your newsletter by e-mail? Here is the situation from the Board. We have 57 members who receive our quarterly newsletter by email at essentially no cost to us. On the other hand, we are spending over \$2,000 a year to publish and mail from the Post Office the newsletter to our remaining 193 members. And prices continue to rise. Part of these funds could be put to better use, in support of reunions or charitable activities, if we can get significantly more members to sign up for the newsletter by email. If you have a computer, we will send it to you by email or you can access it directly from our website to view or print. If you do not use a computer but your wife does, we could easily email it to her. Or we could e-mail it to anyone in your family, and they could print it for you. We recognize that some that of you will still have a need for the newsletter by regular mail, but for others please consider this.

4. Sea Poacher Memorial Fund: When a shipmate passes on, our Association presents to the next of kin a Memorial Plaque. The framed and matted picture of Sea Poacher underway at sunset includes a Final Prayer and indicates the service years. Funding for this stands alone, so we appreciate check contributions made out to Sea Poacher Association and mailed to me. Please indicate "Memorial Fund" on your check.

5. Newsletter Contributions: Our Editor welcomes anything new be it a write-up or photo. Send to Lanny Yeske, 1063 MacArthur Place, Forest, VA 24551 or email drlannyyeske@gmail.com with ideas. Most everything will eventually be printed. You can always expect a bit of editing in order to meet page and space requirements. Any suggestions for future articles are also appreciated.

6. Sea Owl Reunion: From President Roy Purtell TM 66-69 who attended our San Antonio Reunion. He invites all of us to participate in their Reunion in Cleveland, OH from Aug 29 to Sep 1, 2013. Activities include the Submarine Cod, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and the Blue Angels at the Cleveland Air Show. So far, Fred Brattain EM44-45, Vito DiAntonio TM44-46, and Lin and I are attending. It will be fun and let me know of your interest.

7. WWII Submarine Patrol Reports: From Bill Buckley TM50-56. Go to hsna.org/doc/subreport.htm for all 63,000 pages. Remember they were written during a deadly and bitterly fought war. So there are references to enemy forces that some may consider offensive in today's context.

8. Dolphins to Women: From Luke Riley LTJG61-62. The first three unrestricted women line LTJG officers qualified in submarines and received their dolphins in December 2012 aboard the Wyoming and Maine. By 2015 you can expect women officers to be routinely assigned to attack boats.

9. A Mystery shipmate. He was a member of our 1944 Commissioning Crew and made three war patrols and four more on other submarines. Awarded the Silver Star Medal, he was lost at sea in a mysterious 1953 boat explosion and never heard from again. Lanny and I are working with his son on an article for the July newsletter that we have almost finalized. Any correct guesses will be awarded a free drink at our hospitality suite in 2014 Charleston!






10. Peruvian Submarines. A South Korean company has signed a memorandum of understanding with Peru to build them replacement boats. This could deliver four submarines in 2016 to replace the German Type 209 subs commissioned in the 1970s and 80s which several of us visited in March 2009.

11. The Future of the Navy? In 1947, I wrote a letter to OUR NAVY magazine on this subject. At the time the Air Force was claiming the Navy could be scrapped as they would rule with their new B-36 bombers. Admiral Arleigh Burke personally answered my letter, and assured this six year old that the Navy was here to stay!

SEA POACHER SHIP'S STORE

Richard DeRosset has done paintings showing Sea Poacher with the Step Sail and during the Cuban Missile Crises with the North Atlantic Sail for which we have prints and high quality canvas reproductions. He has also done a third painting of the 406 showing a gun battle with the Japanese in 1945.

Our own Ray Krivascy TM 1952-1953 has painted Sea Poacher at the pier in 1952 which he gave to Captain William Gibson at his change of command in 1953. We also have prints and canvas copies of it. All come unframed and prices include shipping/postage. Make a copy of the below form, fill it out, and mail it with your check payable to Bill Brinkman at 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street, Round Rock, TX 78665-9466. Check out the other items also available from our Ship's Store.

 <p>This beautifully crafted stainglass piece of Sea Poacher created by Annette Snook, wife of John B. Snook QM 59-62. This piece will be a crafted by Annette as we receive orders, so there will be some delay in delivery. Piece measures 17"x10 1/2".</p>	<p>New Items : 7 Paintings by Richard DeRossett and our own Ray Krivascy.</p> <p>DeRossett , WW II 1945 Surface Action 17" X 39"</p>  <p>DeRossett , Step Sail 10" X 23 " Print DeRossett , Step Sail 15" X 28 " Canvas</p>  <p>DeRossett , North Atlantic Sail 10" X 23 " Print DeRossett , North Atlantic Sail 15" X 28 " Canvas</p>  <p>Krivascy , Step Sail 18.5 " X 15 " Print Krivascy , Step Sail 21.5 " X 18 " Canvas</p> 
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Items	Quantity	Price	Total
Key Chain	_____	\$3.00	_____
Ship Patch	_____	5.50	_____
Ball Cap	_____	14.00	_____
Plastic Mugs	_____	12.00	_____
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (w/o pockets)	_____	22.00	_____
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (with pockets)	_____	25.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print Step Sail	_____	20.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 15x28 canvas Step Sail	_____	30.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print Cuba	_____	20.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 15x28 canvas Cuba	_____	30.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 17x39 canvas WWII	_____	40.00	_____
Painting Krivascy 15x18 print Step Sail	_____	20.00	_____
Painting Krivascy 18x21.5 canvas Step Sail	_____	35.00	_____
Stained Glass Sea Poacher	_____	110.00	_____
Dolphin Vest chains, gold or silver	_____	25.00	_____
We Remember Sea Poacher Book (on CD)	_____	10.00	_____
TOTAL			_____

SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION

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Courtesy of Shipmate Ron Godwin ST 58-61 who often provides this finale. Keep them coming Ron!

