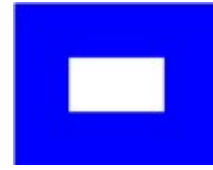
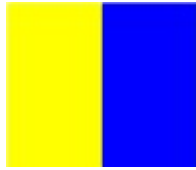


SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION



DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO SERVED ON THIS INCREDIBLE SUBMARINE!

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 3

JULY 2015

EDITOR: LANNY YESKE LTJG 61-63

PUBLISHER: BILL BRINKMAN EM 60-62

WELCOME HOME SEA POACHER VETERANS 8-12 NOVEMBER 2015

From Reunion Chairman Joe Murdoch: Branson is perhaps America's most veteran-friendly town year around. In November a wonderful metamorphosis takes place. All shows honor veterans and the Christmas season begins. There will be over 125,000 there during Veterans week. It is a heart-warming experience to see the love, honor, and respect shown. You will return a proud American, singing songs and filled with the Christmas Spirit.

During the Sea Poacher reunion there will be a short video presentation on the outstanding effort by "Wreaths Across America" whose motto is *Remember-Honor-Teach*. This group places a fresh handmade pine wreath with a large red bow on veterans graves at over 900 location before Christmas. A convoy makes several stops at veterans cemeteries before arriving at Arlington. Many organizations volunteer to place and later remove them.

To fully enjoy Branson, know that other events are happening that you might want to add to your agenda and extend your stay at the Grand Plaza Hotel. This includes over 100 shows with details found on www.reunionpro.com. Hover your mouse over the Shows and Attractions link, and you can order tickets right there. The registration form is on the next page. Check our website and recent newsletters for more details. Sign up now!



**HONORING
VETERANS
EVERYDAY
OF THE YEAR**

SEA POACHER OFFICIAL REUNION BRANSON, MO 8-12 NOVEMBER 2015 REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

SPOUSE OR GUESTS _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

ANY PHYSICAL OR DIETARY DISABILITIES? _____

OUR HOST HOTEL: THE GRAND PLAZA, 245 NORTH WILDWOOD, BRANSON, MO 65616

Call the Hotel at 417-336-6646 for room reservations. Mention the group code of SEAPOA for the reduced rate of \$90 per room per night plus tax that includes a hot buffet breakfast for two. This rate is good for both three days prior and after the reunion based on availability. If attending the early shows on Nov 8, you may want to check into the hotel on Nov 7. Rooms not reserved by 8 Oct 2015 will be released from the group block. We have Treasury funds available to assist in costs, if needed and requested.

OUR GREAT ACTIVITY PACKAGE INCLUDES:

Hospitality Room and Welcome Aboard Packets with Name Badges
Red, Hot and Blue Show with Lunch and Vietnam Veteran's Show
Welcome Aboard Reception and Deli Buffet in the Hospitality Room
Guided Tour and Lunch at Keeter Center followed by Tolling of the Bells at Veteran's Grove
The Clay Cooper Show and the Brett for Vets Show
The Showboat Branson Belle Dinner, Show, and Cruise on Table Rock Lake
Ride the Ducks in the Veteran's Day Parade
Final Banquet with Entertainment
Silent Auction, Vocal Auction, Sapo Game, and All The Rest
Transportation to all Group Activities, Reunion Website, and all Taxes and Gratuities.

Activity Package: # of Attendees _____ times \$290 per person = \$ _____

The Lettermen in Concert _____ # of Attendees X \$45 pp = \$ _____ **Total Due = \$ _____**

If attending the Free Red, Hot, and Blue Show # of Attendees: _____

Fifty percent of the Total Due by 8 Sep 2015 with the balance on 8 Oct 2015.

No refunds after 1 November 2015 on the Activity Package.

MAIL THIS FORM WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Gatherings Plus P.O. Box 1023 Branson West, MO 65737

Check out the reunion details at website www.reunionpro.com. Then click on the reunions link, type in USS Sea Poacher, click apply and then click on the second Sea Poacher logo.

Questions? Contact Joe Murdoch at jdmurdoch13@comcast.net or

Bill Brinkman at seapoacher@austin.rr.com

WILLIAM SHARP AND SS-406 - THE DEEP DIVERS

From Bill Sharp, SN (SS) 1957-58, who was onboard this 27 May 1958 day operating offshore Guantanamo Bay. His job, as a Seaman, was surface lookout or submerged helm or bow/stern planes. At 0907, he was manning the bow planes with Harry Sherman on the stern. LTJG William Henry was the diving officer - while the skipper LCDR Carl Davis had the conn. Most of us have been through something like this on Sea Poacher, but here is another story with details. The Captain ordered all back 2/3. An unusual maneuver, but they were trying to evade a destroyer in a training operation. The planes men have to reverse their tasks with the stern planes now controlling depth and the bow planes the bubble. And not a very stable situation. At 450 feet, the stern started down, and the depth gauge read 550 feet. LTJG James T. High entered the Control Room and took complete control by ordering a bubble placed in the Safety Tank then a blow of Safety. Over the XJA phone there was a call of flooding in the After Engine Room. Mr. High sounded the Collision Alarm and ordered a blow of Bow Buoyancy. This was followed shortly by blow all tanks. Captain Davis had ordered all ahead standard as we were now at 575 feet. With little effect, Mr. High ordered "cut in the Captain's air bank and blow everything." And we started up. When we had attained a 50 degree up angle, the Skipper ordered the firing of a red flare, but it could not be done. The needle on the depth gauge looked like the second hand on a watch. The Captain called down several times to shut the Forward Group Vents to check our angle of ascent. At 200 feet I was ordered to put full dive on the bow planes, but there was no leveling. Seconds later we were on the surface, and a damage control party was dispatched to the AER. Because of the steep angle, many of the crew later related to me they thought we were descending and would soon crush. We proceeded back to GITMO for repairs, and to make recorded statements as to what had happened. This account mirrors the legal statement Bill made then with the exception of the following comment on LTJG High: "He and the one unknown to me sailor in the AER (who located and shut the valve that stopped the flooding) saved all of our bacon. Without them, we would all have been dead. The rest of you guys, after that, would not have had the 406 to serve on. Interesting enough, the same maneuver was tried the day before and only resulted to a descent of 475 feet without incident." *Editor's Note: We had a similar incident in 1961 when the Main Induction Piping collapsed, and we exceeded test depth. Not a fun experience either for this Ensign.*



In October 1958 Bill was transferred to Sea Cat (SS-399) where they attached a jet plane fuselage to the after deck. These Key West operations involved drills in making escapes while submerged to get a better handle on how to assist downed aircraft carrier pilots. The Principle Investigator was the legendary Navy Commander and Medical Doctor George F. Bond, the Father of Saturation Diving and Principal Investigator of the Sealab Habitat. There was also a highly trained Navy dive team. Bill was acquainted with Commander Bond, and said his counsel changed and shaped the rest of his life. There were also scary times with sharks. Future COB Ken Bonnell was also aboard.

Bill was discharged from the Navy in early 1959 and continued with flight/scuba training. He got married,



had two kids, received a pilot license and instructor rating in both fixed wing and helicopters, and completed qualifications in diving. However, he opted to become a Cleveland police officer for a 25 year career. Eighteen of these years were with the Lake Erie Harbor Patrol Unit with boats up to 46 feet. He was an underwater recovery specialist, where over the years he recovered hundreds of cars, guns, safes, contraband, airplanes, and bodies. This photo shows Bill being donned with the Kirby-Morgan complex diving rig which is similar (but much more advanced) to the old Navy Mark V hard hat diving suit that you walk with and do not swim. This dive

was successful in recovering a car with a woman's body in it after a nine month period. A photo was provided, but your Editor opted to not publish it. Bill was also a helicopter pilot to monitor forced busing to achieve racial balance in the schools and survived three major race riots while on basic patrol, in



addition to many dangerous and mundane calls consistent with big city policing. These activities, just like his submarine service, were very interesting and included the delivery of four babies. The first two were preemie twins that didn't survive. The next a young girl delivered in the bathroom and the baby drowned and the attempted revival was unsuccessful. The last was normal, and infant and mother survived and thrived. Bill said: "It was never routine!" *Editor's Note: Back then, Emergency Medical Technicians did not exist, and the police were the first responders.* Bill's flying experience was mostly part time when off duty. He also did some helicopter instructing, air taxi work, and had other diving episodes as shown above in the above Cleveland Plain Dealer article.



However, there were some less stressful times as attested to in this photo with several other Cleveland police force associates. Bill said it was a tough job, but someone had to do it. The underwater recovery work was a bit more hazardous he also related. Then in 1981, while ascending from 28 feet in zero visibility, using the Kirby-Morgan diving rig, Bill accidentally struck his head on a pier appendage, causing a serious injury to his neck requiring hospitalization. However, he recovered with some nagging medical problems.

But his career did not end there. In 1982 he was assigned to design and write specifications for a new Lake Erie police boat that eventually resulted in a full three year effort. The boat (shown to the right) was completed in Seattle, and required extensive testing and additional training in 1985. Bill retired at age 48, with 25 years of police service. However, he was again called upon by the Cleveland Police Department to help them in the purchase of two Schweizer 300C piston helicopters, which were later traded for two MD500 turbine helicopters and are now part of their arsenal. Bill says he is living the very quiet life in a Cleveland suburb. I did my thing and loved every minute. Now is the time to rest. Nothing exciting or extraordinary. I putter around in the yard and help around the home.



Here he is with wife Lola on their 50th wedding anniversary in 2010. As a fixed wing and helicopter pilot, diver, policeman, obstetrician, Bill was often close to death and it was indeed a privilege to work with him here. He said: "No matter how long ago it was, my submarine service was one of the most important times of my life. It helped to shape the rest of my life. Lola always comments on my accounts of those days, even though it was a small sliver of a long productive life."

THANKS BILL FOR YOUR EXCEPTIONAL WORK!

MEMBERSHIP JANUARY 2015

Robert Abbott	Bill Crismon	Dave Harms	Buster McCollum	Donald Schwartz
Robert Acor	Walter Culp	William Hayes	Karen McCommas	William Sharp
Charles Ahler	Jolene Darnold	Carl Headland	Carl McCutcheon	Ben Sheldon
Dewey Akins	James Demming	Frances Heckroth	Daniel McLaren	Harry Sherman
Paul Allers	Shirley Dempsey	Bill Hellmer	James McNerney	Delvin Smith
Joey Amposta	Tom Deuley	Bob Henry	Jack Merrill	John Smith
Peter Amunrud	Floyd Dickerson	Marjorie Hickman	Ty Merritt	Rick Smock
David Andres	Betty Dickey	Dick Holtz	Mark Mordecai	John Snook
Ted Anthony	William Dietrich	Billy Howerton	Joe Murdoch	Fred Socha
Ed Ashedon	William Donnelan	Jerry Houchens	Lester Murray	John Sohl
Charles Auclair	Charles Donnelly	Harry Huggins	Joe Musgrave	Bill Sokoloski
Les Axford	Merlyn Dorrheim	C.R. Humphries	Gary Nagle	Vincent Sottile
Vernon Barnett	Peggy Dougherty	Rodney Ihrig	Jon Nagle	Richard Stickney
Russell Bauer	Jack Dubbs	William H. Jackson	Jack Nims	Marty Stokes
Amelia Beers	Bill Dukacz	Mary Jennison	Charles O'Baker	Chuck Strand
Harvey Benson	Dan Dybala	Arnold Johnson	Julius O'Bannon	Evelyn Strunk
Carol Bergs	Richard Earl	Gerald Joseph	James Ochs	Tom Sugden
Truman Bernhard	Martha D. Easley	Ivan Joslin	John O'Grady	Robert Sumner
Richard Bernoteit	Daniel Eberhardt	Mike Kassinger	Paul Ogg	Glenn Suttle
Charles M. Birck	Fred Edwards	Allen Katen	William Parhamenko	Terry Tague
Douglas Bishop	Leon Eggleston	David Keffeler	Ron Patterson	Chester Taylor
Stanley Bissen	Richard Elliott	Gerald Keffer	Charles Peppler	Ed Thompson
James Blackmon	David Elmore	Kenneth Kile	Dale Petersen	Ron Thompson
Kenneth Bonnell	Jack Ensminger	Chuck Kilgore	Tom Polen	James Thompson
Bob Bradley	Marge Erickson	Terry Kleineweber	James Powers	Thomas Thompson
Fred Brattain	Garl Eubank	Terry Kopansky	Henry Primeaux	Richard Trench
John Brill	Francis Evans	Ray Krivascy	Jeanne Rabuse	James Tryon
Deidre Bridewell	Buster Flaskas	Richard Laake	Dewey Reed	John Tulodeski
Bill Brinkman	Robert Ford	Earline Law	Michael Regner	Albert Turbeville
Leroy Broadbent	Dante Fortini	Robert Lawrence	Larry Reiche	Tony Tuttobene
William Buckley	Richard Fox	Carroll Lawson	Zelda Richwine	Ed Urban
James Burgett	Ron Fraley	Gail LeBlanc	David Richter	Fred Vavra
Warren Burkett	Harold Gall	Frank Lederer	Dick Riggarr	Edward Voloka
Russell Burrows	Larry Garrett	Ted Lee	Roy (Luke) Riley	Don Waldrop
Joyce Calderone	Barbara Geddes	James Lemmerman	David Ringland	John Walton
Richard Carlson	Louise Gentry	Bryon Lennox	Robert Ritz	Arne Weinfurter
Dick Carney	Ed Gibbons	John Love	Nick Romano	Larry Weinfurter
Leo Carr	William Gibson	Jerry Loveless	Agnes Romeo	Ray Wengrzyn
Kent Carroll	Lyle Gillette	Betty Lundy	Salvatore Rosina	Linda Weston
John Chaich	Ron Godwin	Bill Luttrell	Robert Roth	Richard Whitmire
James Clark	Billy Gorsuch	JJ Lynch	Martin Ruch	Olin Williams
Norm Clark	Jack Graham	John Mach	Marcelle Rull	Lanny Yeske
Richard Clubb	David Green	Charlann Madsen	Kathy Saeli	Lee Yonts
Ralph Cobb	John Greenville	Ken Manion	John Savory	Hope Young
Cal Cochrane	Lillian Guilbault	Mark Markham	Mary Scallan	Jerry Young
Joyce Colwell	Tom Haire	Ann Matheny	Bob Schindhelm	Robert Young
William Cook	Jim Halbert	Earl Mathews	Karl Schipper	
James Cooney	Carol Hale	John Mazjun	Ron Schnars	
Billy Cowart	John Hallam	Doris McClanahan	Russell Schondorf	

A LOVE TEST FROM JACK ENSMINGER

First, go to your car. Then lock your wife and dog in the trunk. Now wait 15 minutes and open the trunk.

WHO IS HAPPY TO SEE YOU?

THE UNLUCKIEST SHIP IN U.S. HISTORY

We all saw a lot of screw ups when in the service, but this one is unbelievable. This is condensed from an article by Kit Bonner, Naval Historian and provided by Richard Clubb QM 62-63. From November 1943, until her demise in June 1945, the American destroyer William D. Porter (DD-579) was often hailed with the greeting: "Don't shoot, we're Republicans!" Much of this was kept secret for 50 years. So what did the Willie Dee do: Upon leaving Norfolk in 1943, bound for North Africa, she backed down with the anchor not secured and accidentally badly damaged the Luce, an adjacent sister ship. Twenty-four hours later, she was in company with the Battleship Iowa which was carrying President Roosevelt to the Big Three Conference in Tehran where he was to meet Stalin and Churchill. Under strict orders to maintain complete radio silence as they were proceeding through a known U-boat feeding ground, a huge explosion rocked the convoy and they underwent evasive ASW maneuvers. Porter admitted that one of her depth charges had accidentally fallen off the stern and exploded. Same voyage, a freak wave inundated the Willie Dee, stripping away everything that wasn't lashed down. A man was washed overboard and never found. The boiler room was flooded and power was lost for some time. Just east of Bermuda, the President wanted to see how the Iowa could defend herself against an air attack. So, they launched a number of weather balloons to use as anti-aircraft targets. It was exciting to see more than 100 guns shooting at the balloons, and the President was proud of his Navy. She did not hit them all, so the Willie Dee went to battle stations to shoot down the remaining balloons as they drifted toward her. The torpedo men aboard were simulating practice shots on their own at the Iowa from a distance of 6,000 yards. Unfortunately a primer had not been removed from one of the tubes and they accidentally fired a live torpedo at the Iowa. When the fish hit the water, the Weapons Officer asked the Captain if he had given permission to fire the torpedo? The skipper's response to this will not ring down through naval history. There was, needless to say, a bit of confusion on the Willie Dee including some reluctance to admit what had happened or even to warn the Iowa. As the awful reality sunk in, people began racing around shouting conflicting instructions. Confusion abounded. A radio message was finally received on Iowa who began evasive maneuvers. FDR was informed, and he asked that his wheelchair be moved to the railing so he could see better what was coming his way. His Secret Service guard immediately drew his pistol as if he was going to shoot the torpedo. The Iowa had all of her guns trained on the Willie Dee, as there was now some thought that the Porter was part of an assassination plot. Then there was a tremendous explosion just behind the Iowa. The torpedo had been detonated by the wash kicked up by the Iowa's increased speed. This ended the Captain's career, and his final utterance to the Iowa, in response to a question about the origin of the torpedo, was a weak: "We did it."

The Willie Dee was ordered off of the convoy, and in Bermuda the Captain and entire crew were placed under arrest and awaited trial. It was the first time that a complete ship's company had been arrested in the history of the U.S. Navy. The ship was totally surrounded by Marines when it docked, and held there several days as the closed session inquiry attempted to determine what had happened. A Torpedoman eventually confessed to having inadvertently left the primer in the torpedo tube and was sentenced to 14 years of hard labor. The Captain and many others found themselves in obscure shore assignments. The incident was chalked up to an unfortunate set of circumstances and placed under a cloak of secrecy. However, President Roosevelt intervened asking that no punishment be meted out for what was clearly an accident. The Willie Dee was banished to the upper Aleutians for 8 months, which was probably thought as safe a place as any for the ship and anyone who came near her. However, in late 1944 she was re-assigned to the Western Pacific. However, before leaving the Aleutians, she accidentally left her calling card in the form of a five-inch shell that a drunken sailor fired into the front yard of the American Base Commander. She joined the Philippine invasion forces and acquitted herself quite well, by shooting down a number of attacking Japanese aircraft. Regrettably, after the war, it was reported that she also shot down three American planes. In December 1944, Porter was assigned to support the invasion of Okinawa and other operations. On 10 June 1945, her luck? finally ran out. She was sunk by a Japanese dive bomber Kamikazi which had (unintentionally) attacked it from under-water. The plane, made almost entirely of wood and canvas, slipped through the Navy's defense, and with little in the way of metal surfaces did not register on radar. It was headed for a ship nearby, but just at the last moment veered away and crashed alongside the Willie Dee. There was a sigh of relief as the plane sunk out of sight, but then it blew up underneath her, opening her hull in the worst possible place. Three hours later, after the last man was off, the Captain jumped to the safety of a rescue vessel and the ship that almost changed world history sank in 2,400 feet of water. Not a single soul was lost. After everything else, it was almost as if the unlucky ship had chosen to let her crew live. RIP Willie Dee!



REPORT FROM 406 ASSOCIATION TREASURER HUBERT JACKSON

BEGINNING BALANCE ON 13 NOVEMBER 2014

Memorial Fund.....	\$1,822.18
Humanitarian Fund.....	\$1,480.00
General Fund.....	(\$13,407.88) \$13,318.88*
Bank Balance.....	(\$16,710.06) \$16,621.06*

Debit Activity	Check#	Amount	Purpose
January 2015	389	\$917.97	\$307.87 Ships Stores from General Fund, \$174.80 for printing Newsletter from General Fund, \$400.00 for 40 tickets Branson Show on 8 November 2015 from General Fund, and \$35.30 for two Memorial Plaques from Memorial Fund
March 2015	390	98.64	PDF File Conversion from General Fund

Deposit Activity	Date	Amount	From/To
February 2015	2	\$305.00	\$295.00 Wreaths Across American to General Fund and \$10.00 Annual Dues to General Fund
April 2015	15	10.00	Annual Dues to General Fund

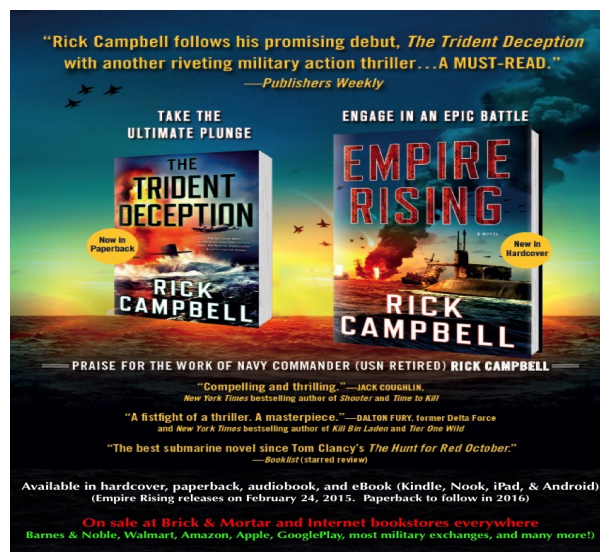
ENDING BALANCE ON 1 MAY 2015

Memorial Fund.....	\$1,786.88
Humanitarian Fund.....	\$1,480.00
General Fund.....	\$12,652.57
Bank Balance.....	\$15,919.45

* **Treasurer's Note:** The beginning bank balance was actually \$16,621.06 as a result of check #368 for \$89.00 to Fort Moultrie for tour tickets. This check was written on 29 April 2014 and did not clear the bank until 9 December 2014 which was after my previous Treasury Report. After eight months, I reasoned Fort Moultrie was not going to deposit the check for some unknown reason, but very lately they did so.

DONATION TO BRANSON REUNION

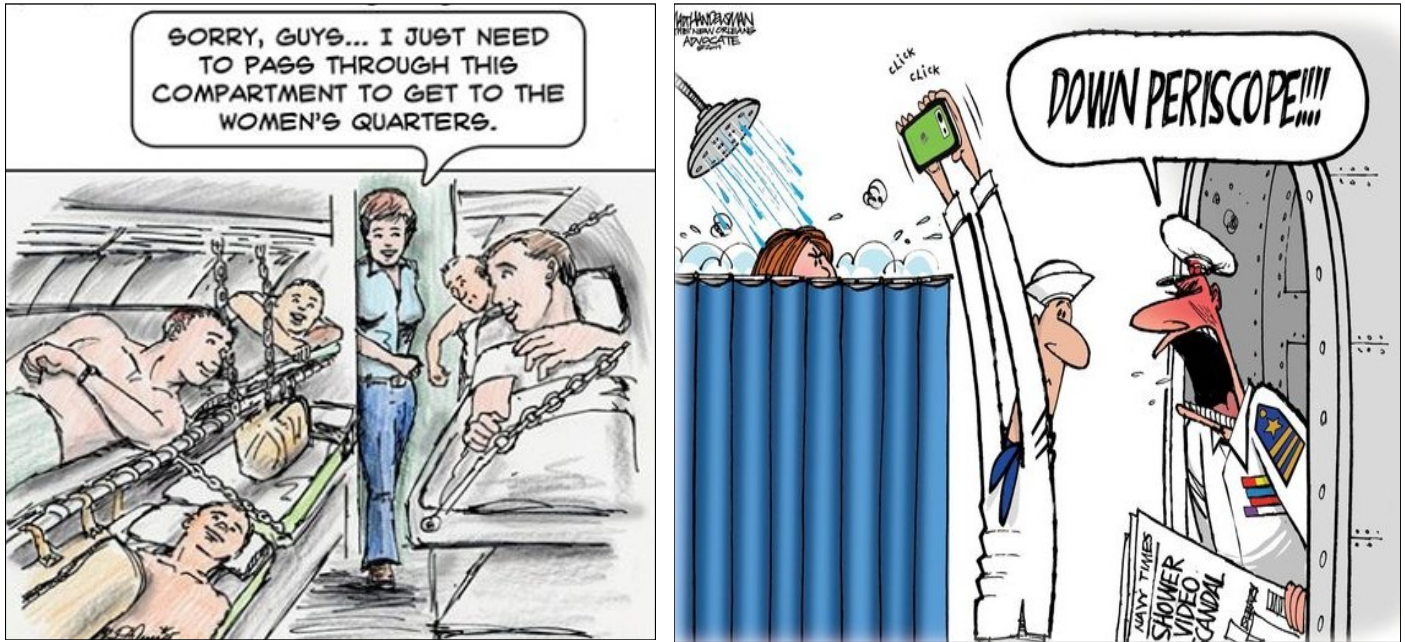
Rick Campbell, a retired submariner Commander who served on John Adams, Georgia, Kamehameha, and Maryland has donated a signed hardcover of his book The Trident Deception, to us for our Branson Reunion. Booklist has called it "The best submarine novel written in the last 30 years, since Tom Clancy's classic - The Hunt for Red October." His second is Empire Rising and already a Barnes & Noble thriller and is being shown on FoxNews.com. Walmart has ordered 10,000 copies and the paperback will be carried by military exchanges. There may be a second signed book donated to our reunion as well. Rick also donated 75 bookmarks for our reunion welcome bags. His first book is now available in paperback with the second in hardback and ebook formats. Check it out.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT-BILL BRINKMAN

- 1. Dues.** We have 213 Life and 26 Regular members. If you're a Life Member or have paid your 2015 dues, thank you. If not, please pay \$10 for each year or become a Life Member for \$100, and you no longer get annoying letters from me or Treasurer Hubert Jackson, receive a free patch, and we continue Life Membership for your widow. Make checks to Sea Poacher Association and mail to me at 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street, Round Rock, TX 78665-9466.
- 2. Address and e-mail changes:** Please send us changes. Remember, we do 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. Sea Poacher Memorial Fund:** When a shipmate passes on, we present to the next of kin a Memorial Plaque. The framed and matted picture of Sea Poacher underway at sunset includes a Final Prayer and 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.
- 4. Ship's Store Form and Ordering:** To save room for other stories, we don't need to run this form every issue. If you want to order something, check out our website or an earlier newsletter.
- 5. Sea Owl (SS-405) Cartoonist Bob Damico:** He provided the first cartoon on the right and has provided us with several others. Many thanks Bob. Check out his website: cartoonbob.org/sitemap.html. Not only is Sea Poacher close to Sea Owl in hull number, but our first reunion in Mobile in 2003 was hosted by Sea Owl. We also purchased many of the WWII microfilms from the National Archives for both subs. In 2007, we had a joint four day cruise out of Jacksonville. And we have participated in each others reunions since then. We are hopeful several Hooters will join us in Branson.
- 6. Our First Submarine and the Naval Invasion of Japan:** From Hubert Jackson. Great photos of HOLLAND at <http://pigboats.com/subs/holland.html>. And then from Sue Stange an incredible array of ships ready to invade Japan at <http://www.warbirdinformationexchange.org/phpBB3/viewtopic.php?f=38t=52966>.
- 7. Roy Gallemore Submarine Memorial:** From Bill Buckley initially. A major 10 year effort by the USSVI Sea Poacher, Seadragon, and Central Florida Bases it was dedicated on 10 March 2015. Well done from both Lanny and I. It consists of a submarine sail, torpedo, and plaques and flags to all the boats lost in WWII. No photos here would do it justice. Just go to the USSVI Sea Poacher Base website or their Base Feb/March 2015 Newsletter. Truly a wonderful job by Sea Poacher Base. Bravo Zulu!
- 8. The Turbo-Encabulator:** From Sea Poacher West Coast Posse John Savory (AKA Crusher). He claims this is Ensign Yeske addressing his Supply Division on 406. Herder objected, and said Crusher had not seen a submarine in 30 years. The response from Crusher said Herder was wrong, as he drove by several nuclear submarines at Point Loma a few years ago. Now as your President, let me set the record straight, this was actually done at a Plant where I worked in upstate New York, and I have some of the original records on this. Check is out at <http://biggeekdad.com/2010/11/turbo-encabulator/>
- 9. Where Is Your Boat Today?** From Lanny Yeske on another new initiative. He is putting together a 70 page DVD on this with details of every boat from World War II to the present time and encompassing at least 600 submarines including all 80 boats transferred to foreign countries. Submarines named, but cancelled or numbers not assigned are also there. It will be a fund raiser for the Association and with Lanny as Writer and myself as Publisher we will determine a reasonable cost for it.
- 10. Our 2017 Reunion?** From James and Rose Ann Halbert (MM62-64) who always have good ideas for these type of events and they have another one. It is also a very solid well thought out proposal. Both Halbert's went to Norfolk for an indoctrination of several days and were most pleased. This will be Norfolk and not Virginia Beach. It sounds like a wonderful time. Lanny has agreed to be a Co-Chair for this one if accepted by the vote in Branson. I like it as well and would also be a Co-Chair. Details are under lock and key. All of which means nothing at this early stage, so if you have some thoughts for the next reunion, please let me know! New London or Portsmouth or San Diego or San Francisco or Seattle or Newport or anywhere. If not, you are going to love Norfolk 25-29 April 2017. Nothing gets obviously locked in until Branson in November.
- 11. Third Reich in Ruins:** Lanny and sons just returned from Germany after two weeks on a self-guided tour. It was not possible without GPS lat/long coordinates for remote sites. They found the 1940 Hitler Bunker, V1/V2 Rocket Site, Amerika Rocket Site, Nazi Party Rallying Grounds, Himmler's SS Training Center, Vogelsang School for training 1,000 Hitler's, Siegfried Line, Nuremberg Trial Courthouse 600, Buchenwald Concentration Camp, and other sites. Check with him if interested in details.

WOMEN ON SUBMARINES!



With over 100 female officers already aboard, enlisted female submarine sailors begins in 2016 with the crews of Michigan in Bangor and Florida at Kings Bay. Habitability modifications will include a separate female berthing area and toilet/shower facility for CPO's. In addition to nine-person bunkrooms, a separate female head will be created for E-6 and below personnel. The CPO's will assist in the integration.

LEFT BEHIND AT PEARL HARBOR!

Otho W. Helm QM2 1946, who as a 19-year-old sailor was left behind at Pearl Harbor days before it was attacked, departed on Eternal Patrol in 2007 at age 85 which we just learned of. Prior to Sea Poacher, he was a seaman aboard the heavy cruiser Chester in the Pacific and was one of 13 men left ashore 10 days before 7 December 1941 at Pearl Harbor. The Chester needed room for equipment to be delivered to Marines on Wake Island, so the launch boats were put ashore, and 13 crew members were left to guard them. Otho was walking back to the boats after breakfast when the Japanese planes began their bombings. Strafed by the attackers, he and a companion dived into the water under the heavy concrete of the coal dock. But before long, they tired of treading water and were unable to hold on to the barnacle-encrusted pilings. The two then began using their ship's launches to ferry sailors on shore leave back to their ships. They later brought acetylene torches out to workers trying to cut through the hulls of the capsized battleships Oklahoma and Utah, where men were trapped. When his ship returned, Otho rejoined it and served in the Marshall Islands battles. He later served on the battleship Massachusetts and participating in the invasion of North Africa, as a Gunner's Mate AND Captain of a quad 40mm anti-aircraft gun. He was awarded 15 medals during his short tenure in the Navy.



After the war, he graduated from Virginia Tech and then earned two master's degrees in public administration from George Washington University and another from Harvard. Otho then worked for the Navy for another 20 years finishing as Director Plans and Programs for the Office of Naval Research in 1974. Otho had numerous other functions as well including Comptroller for the American Institute of Biological Sciences, Consultant to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Staff Member of the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, President of the Masonic Lodge in Annandale, Elder Emeritus in the Presbyterian Church, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, VFW, and American Legion. Otho is interred at Fairfax (VA) Memorial Park.

"I never did go around mouthing about being at Pearl Harbor, because that is an instance of being at the wrong place at the wrong time, as far as I am concerned," Otho once remarked. The medal make "it sort of sound like every survivor of Pearl Harbor is a hero. No, man! Uh-uh! I was looking for sanctuary, too. I don't like people shooting at me with a 50-caliber machine gun...I suppose that I can revel in the fact that I came off that with all my parts intact. And that was not because of anything that I did. It was a matter of true, raw, fortunate fate."

SEA POACHER SHIP'S STORE

In addition to our normal items, Marine Artist Richard DeRosset has done a painting depicting Sea Poacher in a 1945 WWII gun battle with the Japanese. There are also two other paintings showing Sea Poacher with the Step Sail during the Cuban Missile Crises with the North Atlantic Sail. We have prints and high quality canvas reproductions of these. Our own Ray Krivascy TM 1952-53 has painted Sea Poacher at the pier in 1952 which he gave to Captain William Gibson at his change of command in 1953, and we also have prints and canvas copies of it. All come unframed and prices include shipping/postage. There is also a beautifully crafted stained glass piece of Sea Poacher created by Annette Snook, wife of John B. Snook QM 59-62. This will be crafted by her as requests are received. To order, fill in the below form with your items (specify shirt size), make a check payable to Bill Brinkman, and mail to him with a copy of this form to 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street, Round Rock, TX 78665-9466. Check out the other items also available from our Ship's Store. The USSVI website also has other submarine items if interested.

DeRossett –WWII 1945 Surface Action 18" X 44"



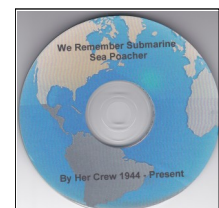
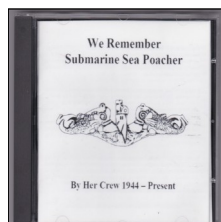
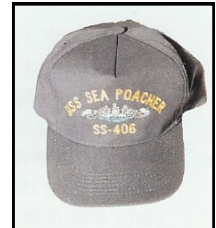
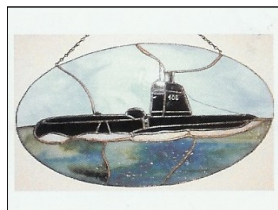
DeRosset-Step Sail 10" X 23" Print or 15" X 28" Canvas



DeRossett-N. Atl. Sail 10" X 23" Print or 15" X 28 "Canvas Krivascy-Step Sail 15" X 18.5" Print or 18" X 21.5" Canvas



Annette Snook Stained Glass 10.5 " X 17"



Items	Quantity	Price	Total
Painting DeRossett 18x44 canvas WWII 1945	_____	50.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print Step Sail	_____	20.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 15x28 canvas Step Sail	_____	30.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print N. Atl. Sail/Cuba	_____	20.00	_____
Painting DeRossett 15x28 canvas N. Atl. Sail/Cuba	_____	30.00	_____
Painting Krivascy 15x18 print Step Sail	_____	20.00	_____
Painting Krivascy 18x21.5 canvas Step Sail	_____	35.00	_____
Ship Patch	_____	5.50	_____
Plastic Mug	_____	12.00	_____
Stained Glass Sea Poacher	_____	110.00	_____
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (no pockets)	_____	22.00	_____
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (with pockets)	_____	25.00	_____
Ball Cap	_____	14.00	_____
CD-We Remember Sea Poacher Book with Addendum	_____	15.00	_____
Dolphin Vest chain, gold or silver	_____	25.00	_____
TOTAL			_____

MEMORIAL PLAQUES



TROY A. LAW, FN 52-54. Troy entered Eternal Patrol on 10 March 2015 in Eden, NC at age 85. After service and qualification on Sea Poacher, he graduated from Virginia Tech and retired from the American Furniture Company. Troy and Earline, and son Bill (our first Honorary Submariner) and Karen attended many of our reunions. Troy was active in the Ruritan Club, a Victory Church deacon, involved in many charitable organizations, and the Sea Poacher Association since its beginning. He was interred in Overlook Cemetery with full military honors. Lanny and Fran Yeske attended and proudly presented the family with our Memorial Plaque at the graveside ceremony.

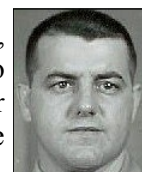
GEORGE BOYAJIAN, EM 44-49. George departed for Eternal Patrol on 10 February 2015 in Mansfield, MA at age 92. He made four WWII patrols on Skipjack and four more on Sea Poacher as a Plank Owner. He was still working as an Executive with the New England Patriots in Foxboro, and owned at least one (maybe two) Super Bowl rings. A detailed article on him, with photos, was published in the Sea Poacher Association Newsletter in October 2014. George is interred at Spring Brook Cemetery in Mansfield.

NORMAN F. SKILES, RMC 55-59. Norman began Eternal Patrol at age 92 on 19 March 2015 in Charlotte, NC. He was a WWII submarine veteran, served on seven boats and two submarine staffs, and was an RMC on Sea Poacher from 1955-59. Following Navy retirement, he worked for the U.S. Postal Service. Norman served as a church deacon and constantly visited the sick and shut in. He is interred at Sharon Memorial Park and Cemetery in Charlotte.



RICHARD EUGENE DEMPSEY, LTJG 60-62. Gene departed for Eternal Patrol on 31 March 2015 at Olympia, WA age 81. He spent 30 years in submarines, retiring as a Commander in 1980 with service on Salmon, Requin, Ray, Sea Poacher, Barracuda, Sea Leopard, and Commanding Officer Mackerel and CO of the Naval Submarine Support Facility San Diego on his last tour. Gene was very active in the Sea Poacher Association and USSVI Sea Poacher Base. TAPS was his only obituary with no details. My guess is that Gene chose to be buried at sea from a submarine from the Bangor Submarine Base. He was one of my dearest and closest shipmates. We traveled a lot of nautical miles together both at sea, as next door neighbors, and several reunions. West Coast Sea Poacher Posse Member *Snow Angel* Bob Sumner presented Widow Shirley with our Memorial Plaque. RIP - *Crash!*

JAMES W. MULHOLLAND, FT 51. We just learned of this. At age 84, James passed away in Niantic, CT on 14 May 2008. He spent 23 years in the Navy and made nine WWII submarine patrols. He also served in Korea and Vietnam before retiring as a Senior FTC. Then he went to Sperry as a Test Engineer in FBM Fire Control with another 20 year retirement. James was a life member of VFW, USSVI, and the New London Power Squadron.



THOMAS E. HENDRIX, FC 45. Tom departed for Eternal Patrol on 3 December 2001 in Richardson, TX at age 78. He qualified on Sea Poacher and left the Navy 1946. He is interred in Greeley, CO. No photo or other details found.

JAMES CLEVELAND HUGHES, RM 60-61. James left for Eternal Patrol on 10 May 2015 in Orlando at age 76. Besides Sea Poacher, he served on Grenadier, Archerfish, Chopper, Carbonero, Cubera, Odax, Amberjack, Bushnell, and Nathan Hale retiring as a RMC (SS). James later retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 19 years. He was active in church and local election activities. No photo was found.

NAVY HYMN SUBMARINE VERSES

Lord God, our power evermore, Whose arm doth reach the ocean floor,
Dive with our men beneath the sea; Traverse the depths protectively.
O hear us when we pray, and keep them safe from peril in the deep.
(Written by David Miller, 1965 and no information found on him)

Bless those who serve beneath the deep, Through lonely hours their vigil keep.
May peace their mission ever be, Protect each one we ask of thee.
Bless those at home who wait and pray, For their return by night and day.
(Written by Rev. Gale Williamson, date unknown and no information found on him)

SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION

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OBSOLETE NAVY JOB RATINGS - POWDER MONKEY & OTHERS

Thanks to Jack Ensminger and U.S. Naval Institute for this Dec 2014 update. Here is a Powder Monkey on USS New Hampshire in 1864 who carried gun powder from the magazine to the cannons. Minimum age was supposedly 13 but lads as young as 6 are documented as having served. There are many other deleted ratings in the Navy including:

Pigeon Trainer, Lamplighter, Loblolly Boy, Photo Interpreter, Admiral of the Navy, Boiler Technician, Airship Rigger, Jack of the Dust, Coal Heaver, Chemical Warfare, Steward, IBM Operator, Pharmacist, Schoolmaster, Aviation Carpenter, Ship Cooper, Draftsman, Molder, Painter, Data System Technician, Radioman, Sonarman, Teletype Repairman, Shore Patrolman, Storekeeper, Lithographer, Signaller, Torpedoman, Gunner, Quartermaster, Tailor and Sailmaker. Surprised?

Your Editor is and there are a lot more! We hate to even list the other dinosaurs here.

You can do it for yourself!

