



1943



1972



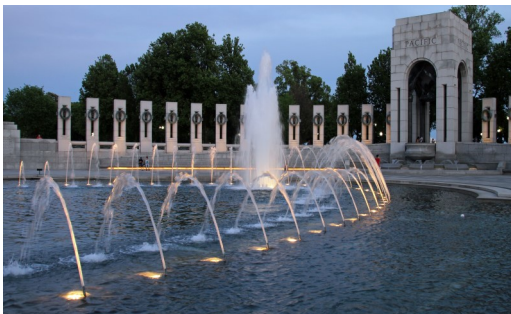
# THE BANG GANG NEWS LETTER

Published to perpetuate the memory of USS BANG (SS-385) and her Crew

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Spring/Summer 2022 [WWW.USSBANG.COM](http://WWW.USSBANG.COM) [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/USSBANG](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/USSBANG) ISSUE-101

**ALL REUNION ALL ISSUE!**  
**SEPTEMBER 18TH THROUGH SEPTEMBER 22ND**  
**HILTON DOUBLETREE CRYSTAL CITY, ARLINGTON VA**





# FPO



This column is dedicated to all the letters we receive from you. Any info about yourself or others you want to share with your shipmates will be published here. Think of this as a combination of the bulletin board in the Crew's Mess and the 1MC.

## Hello Shipmates, Spouses, and Friends!

Well the reunion is finally in its final stages, and the long and trying three years will be over and we'll soon be sitting in the Hospitality Room trading sea stories. Before that however, I need to go over some last minute announcements, requests and requirements for the hotel and tours.

First the tours: Tuesday's tours to the Marine Museum and Mt. Vernon are all set. I'll hand out the admission tickets on the bus when we head for the Mansion. The Marine Museum is all set as well, and we will have lunch on our own there. Wednesday's tours are set, as I stated before, the Capitol is still closed for tours and I don't know when it will reopen, so I substituted the Navy Memorial and hopefully the Pentagon. Hopefully because it has been a lot of conflicting info from the DC tourist board and the Pentagon itself. I got a hold of someone who works there and he is going to go to bat for us and try to straighten things out. So, I'm afraid we'll know when we know. We are set for the Navy Yard Museum, but again since it is a Naval Installation, there protocols to follow. Ordinarily, visitors have to fill out forms to gain admission, but since we are a veterans group we just need to have a one retired Veteran per every ten visitors to act as a chaperone. So, I'd like to ask those "lifers" among us if they'd step up and be a chaperone. We also intend to make a stop at Arlington Cemetery to place a bouquet of flowers on Captain Savage's gravesite. We will be able to stop at the Pentagon's 9/11 memorial which is outside, if all else fails.

Next the hotel: I have received around twenty replies from the crew, and I thank you. If you haven't sent in your registration form and made your hotel reservation, do it yesterday. We MUST have the room reservations made with the hotel by August 19th. Also the catering department needs to know the number of meals by the same date. Speaking of hotel reservations, I have put a page in this section that explains a fast, easy, and fool-proof way to make your reservation, without waiting on hold. Be sure to check it out, it will save you a lot of aggravation. The hotel has a shuttle from Reagan National, and if you're driving the hotel has given us a greatly reduced parking rate of \$15.00/day I have also put in a map of the DC Metro system in case anyone is staying earlier or longer and wants to explore the city. The arrow shows where we are staying.

Here is a sailing list of those who have signed up so far.

Denis and Maureen O'Brien

Jim and Yolanda Klein

Mark and Estelle Walerzak

Charles Dougherty and Christina Ziesmer

Lenny and Sharon Sciuto

John and Terri Regish

Eric and Sally Ericson

Harry and JoAnn Ross

Gerald and Judith Holmberg

Ralph and Claire Gates

Gabe and Pam Lewis

Bill and Joan Fenton

Hal and Edith Wilkins

Don't be left out!!

**USS BANG (SS 385)  
79TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION  
WASHINGTON, DC  
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH 2022  
THROUGH  
THURSDAY-SEPTEMBER 22ND 2022**



**YOUR HOSTS**

**ERIC & SALLY ERICSON    JENNIFER WILSON**

dr



**HEADQUARTERS HOTEL  
HILTON DOUBLETREE CRYSTAL CITY  
300 ARMY NAVY DRIVE  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202  
1 (703) 416 4100  
ROOM RATE  
\$119.00 +TAX (INC BRKFST)**

**MENTION USS BANG REUNION**

**SUNDAY 9/18-EARLY BIRD ARRIVAL HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN 1200**

**MONDAY 9/19-CHECK-IN-GET WELCOME PACKAGE HOSP RM 1000**

**TUESDAY 9/20- 0930-BUS LEAVES FOR MARINE CORPS MUSEUM  
AND MT VERNON**

**WEDNESDAY 9/21-1000-BUS LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON NAVY YARD  
NAVY MEMORIAL AND ARLINGTON CEMETERY**

**THURSDAY 9/22-0900 BUSINESS MEETING/LADIES TRIVIA  
1730 COCKTAILS, PICTURES, BANQUET, GUEST  
SPEAKER**

**FRIDAY 9/23- CHECK-OUT**

**CLIP AND SEND THIS PAGE WITH YOUR CHECK BY AUGUST 1, 2022 TO:**

**ERIC H ERICSON III  
926 SAVANNAS PT DR APT A  
FT. PIERCE, FL 34982-5163  
MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO ERIC H ERICSON**

YES! I/WE PLAN TO ATTEND THE REUNION RATE/RANK \_\_\_\_\_ -

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ YRS ON BANG \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE#(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DAY \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DAY \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING USMC MUSEUM/MT VERNON \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$75.00PP TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING NAVY YARD/ ARLINGTON TOUR \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$55.00PP TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

HOSPITALITY ROOM STIPEND PER ADULT \_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING BANQUET @ \$68.00 \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRÉE CHOICES INCLUDE GARDEN SALAD, VEGETABLE, DESSERT

SLICED TOP ROUND OF BEEF # \_\_\_\_\_ GRILLED SALMON# \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN MILANESE# \_\_\_\_\_

PENNE PASTA WITH GRILLED CHICKEN# \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFY ANY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE WRITE YOUR FAVORITE ADULT BEVERAGE AND SNACKS HERE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ANY ADDITIONAL GUESTS?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hello Shipmates,

By now you should have received the latest newsletter that had the information regarding the 2022 reunion in Washington DC. I have some interesting news regarding reserving rooms at the host hotel, the Hilton Double Tree, Crystal City.

Large corporations such as Hilton have begun to source their reservation centers offshore, and as such you may be talking to an agent in Manila, or India or some other far off exotic place. This arrangement, while financially beneficial to the company can present some problems if the reservation information and special pricing is not in the computer. This has presented a problem for our reunion group. We have a group rate of \$119.00 Sgl/Dbf that is good for three days before and after the contracted reunion stay. If you call the reservation number and request a room that is not in the contracted stay, 9/18-9/23 the computer does not have the \$119.00 rate. So, to solve this problem, the Hilton Doubletree, Crystal City has provided me with a weblink that will bring you to the correct USS BANG dates and rate for the entire stay.

The weblink is:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/ussbangsubmarine>

I have tried it and it works perfectly; I made my reservation with no problem. You just follow the prompts, and you'll reserve your room and get a confirmation number and receipt for your reservation. The best part is you won't be put on hold. If you are staying within the contracted dates, you can still call the main reservation number, but you may be put on hold for a while. While I have you, here are a couple of things I want to pass on to you.

1. The correct address is 300 Army Navy Drive, NOT Blvd and the zip code is 22202
2. The link has the breakfast buffet at an added price. Don't worry, the buffet breakfast for two is included in the price.

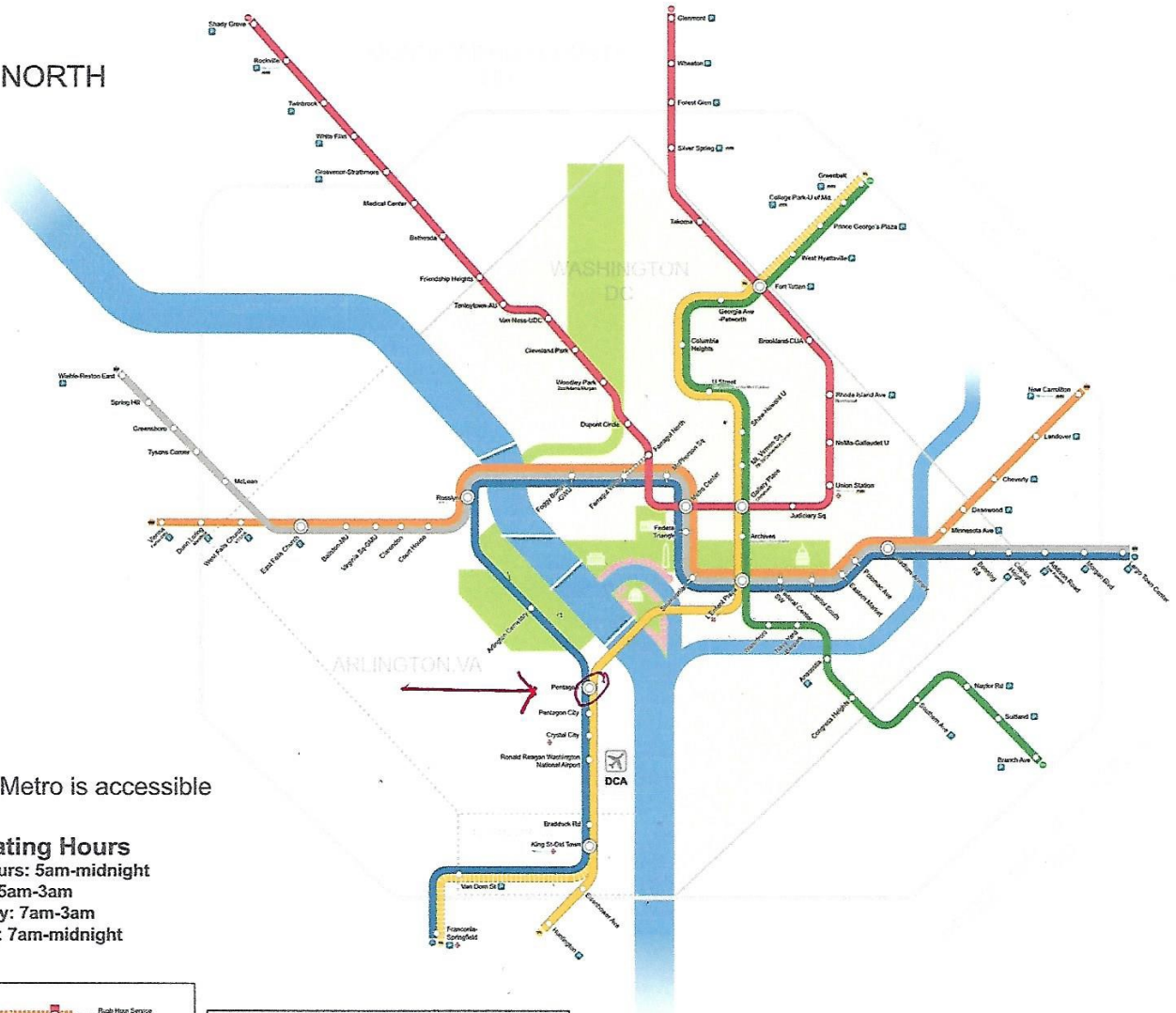
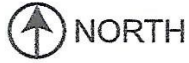
So, I hope this helps everyone to make your reservation for this year's reunion, and that a good many of you will be attending! As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Take care,

Eric



# Metrorail System Map, Washington DC, MD, VA



Metro is accessible

**Operating Hours**  
Mon-Thurs: 5am-midnight  
Friday: 5am-3am  
Saturday: 7am-3am  
Sunday: 7am-midnight

Rush Hour Service  
Shared Transfer  
Parking is Available  
Airport Transfer  
MARC MARC Commuter Rail Transfer  
Virginia Railway Express Transfer

**SU Silver Line:** Reston-Walke East to Largo Town Center

**BL Blue Line:** Franconia Springs/VA to Largo Town Center

**GR Green Line:** Greenbelt to Branch Ave

**RD Red Line:** Chady Grove to Glenmont

**OR Orange Line:** Vienna to New Carrollton

**YL Yellow Line:** Huntington to Fort Totten (No Mt. Vernon Squaring Rush Hours)

## Metro Service Patterns

**Rush Hours:** 6:30am and 9:00am, Mon-Fri excl. holidays  
3:30pm-7:00pm, Mon-Fri excl. holidays

**Off peak-hours:** All other times plus holidays

Service is subject to change. Check [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com) for up-to-date service information

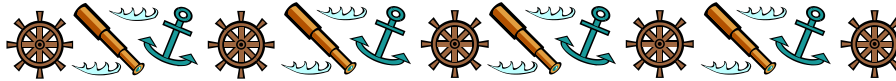
(Click for full size image) ([http://dctransitguide.com/static/images/Wmata\\_system\\_map.png](http://dctransitguide.com/static/images/Wmata_system_map.png))

Stations are indicated by small white circles. Double circles indicate transfer points. Lines running adjacently on the map indicate shared track, in which case both lines are available from stations along that portion of the system. Dashed lines indicated Rush Plus service. During rush times, some orange and yellow line trains will travel on this path instead of their usual path. This is indicated on trains and station information boards by the train's destination station. If traveling during rush periods to stations where these trains deviate from their regular route, pay special attention to each train's final station.

Of special interest are areas of shared track and platforms, and transfer points:

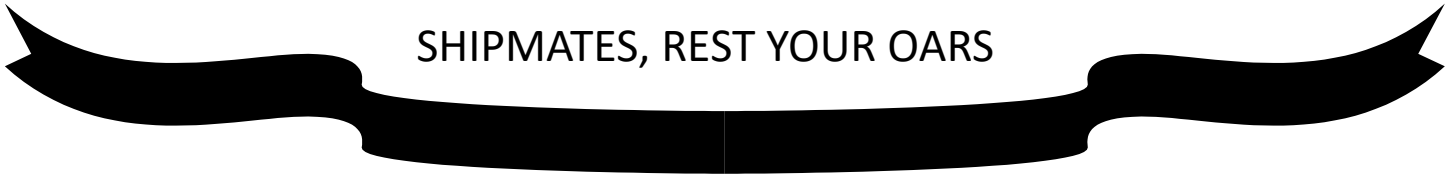


# LOST AND FOUND



**This page is dedicated to informing you of any additions, deletions, or corrections to our active roster.**  
It has been brought to our attention that the following shipmates have passed away and will be placed on Eternal Patrol.

**KENNETH RICHARD BUSH FTLSN 61-62  
EDWARD "TEX" SCHOVAJSA EN 55-57  
DENNIS HULME ENSA 63-64**



**SHIPMATES, REST YOUR OARS**



## **THANK YOU!**

**Since our last publication, the following shipmates have generously donated to our slush fund.**



**BARBARA PANKEY**

**JOHN P. REGISH**

**RAYMOND AND NANCY MOORE**

**ERIC H ERICSON III**

### **THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATES HAVE CHANGED THEIR ADDRESS**

**MARTIN WILSON 1497 PINE SHADOW DRIVE, MEMPHIS TN 38120**

**CONYAL CODY 771 GOETSCHL STREET, SAN DIEGO CA 92114-6723**

**THE FOLLOWING SHIPMATE HAS CHANGED HIS ADDRESS  
BRUCE NIEMAN NIEMANDORIS@GMAIL.COM**

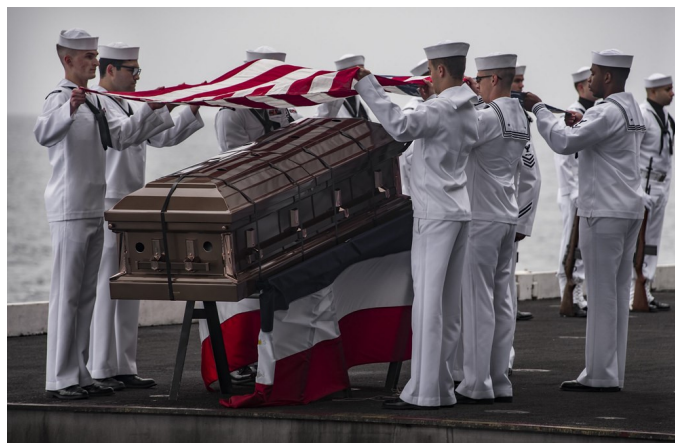
**Kenneth Richard Bush**-Shipmate Ken deployed on Eternal Patrol on 22 March 2022. Ken was an FTLSN aboard the BANG in 1961-62. He completed his Naval service aboard the *USS SEA WOLF (SS575)*. Ken attended several reunions, including Pensacola.



**Edward "Tex" Schovajsa**-Shipmate Ted shipped out of Eternal Patrol on 10 March 2022. A graduate of Spring Branch High School class of 1954, Ted immediately enlisted in the Navy and volunteered for the Submarine Force. Ted served aboard the BANG from 1955-57 as an Engineman.



**Dennis Hulme**-Shipmate Dennis Hulme reported for Eternal Patrol on 4 June 2022. Dennis served aboard the BANG from 1963-64 as a FNSA. He then transferred to the *USS ENTEMEDOR (SS340)*





## REUNIONS AND RUNNING MATES

In the military, they have many names. In the Air Force or Naval Aviation, they're your wingman, in the airborne you're called troop, in the Submarine Force, especially the smoke boats, we're running mates. We're the guy that you hang out with after knockoff, on the occasional weekend liberty, or over a cup of coffee at the Hygienic Café after last call at Ernie's or Lamparelli's. We're the ones who we lent our last dollar to and did not worry about payback. We gladly swapped duty days, knowing they'd do it for us. We stood lookout together, manned the planes with, and stood an equalizer watch with, down in the after engine room, on the hottest day of the Summer, and didn't complain...at least to the Duty Officer. We were shipmates, and for a time, we had the best friends, and the best job, on the best boat we ever had.

I had a few running mates in my day, one was George Fydena, CS2(SS). He was regular Navy, and we still got along. I can remember, or I think so, of the times we were on liberty and I'm I made it back to muster with a little help from George. When I mustered out, another running mate, Tom "lurch" Prendergast and I decided to quit our good paying jobs, and travel cross country, I was young and stupid, I'm older now. We made a stop in Wisconsin, picked up George and headed West. Talk about three of a kind to beat a full house! It was an eventful trip, I'll discuss the details in the hospitality room later as this is a G rated publication.

We made back to our respective homes and I kept in touch with George and Tom through the years. I called George a few times, exchanged Christmas cards, that sort of thing, and I hoped we could hook up again at a reunion. We never did. George passed away in October 2019. My running mate is now on Eternal Patrol still trying to explain to St. Peter about those girls in the Phoenix Motel. I'll explain later.

The point of this rambling missive is that we all had a running mate or two on our time on the Thames, on the best boat on the river, and there are a lot of past shipmates I know we'd like to see again, and tell those same sea stories.

However, BUPERS is not cutting any more orders for the 385 boat, who we are is who we have left, and who we have left is getting fewer every day.

Many of the crew, mainly regular Navy, went on to other boats but always seem to return to the BANG. Those of us, reservists, who were "one and done" knew only one boat, but I for one am glad it was Old 385. The time I spent, and the friends I made have stayed with me all these years. I don't go to my high school or college reunions anymore, but I will make it, if I can, to see my shipmates, my running mates one more time.

Because it was the BANG, best boat on the river. We stood topside midwatch in February, steamed through a hurricane and lost a propeller shaft off of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. We were visiting ship in New York, San Juan and Barcelona. We were a "steamer", and we actually lived up to the advertising slogan. We joined the Navy and we saw the world.

So, if you are hesitant about attending this year's reunion, let me say this in closing. Everyone who attends can be sure that all your shipmates will be glad to see you. When you hit the hospitality room for the first time it will be like you never left.

Plus, it will be a tribute to our "Sentry of the Seas" The USS BANG (SS385), who took all her boys out and brought all her men back.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!**

Thanks!  
Eric



# THE LUCKY BAG

## A FEW THOUGHTS BEFORE WE HEAD OUT

As I said earlier we will be heading off to Washington pretty soon and will be joining, what I hope will be a lot of our shipmates in a twice postponed annual gathering of the “Sentry of The Seas” alumni. In the last newsletter I mentioned how close the hotel is to Reagan National Airport (DCA). The hotel has a shuttle from the airport and that should very easy for the shipmates to get to the hospitality room. I’ll be arriving the Saturday before to start setting up the hospitality room , and heading out to the local BJ’s or Costco to requisition more supplies, liquid and otherwise to insure a well stocked compartment. If anyone else is coming early they are welcome to accompany me. I’ll be bringing a “starter kit” of liquid refreshment to prime the pump, so to speak for any early arrivals, and head out to fully stock the room. I had mentioned the fantastic Metro system in DC, but not the prices. A single ride, at this writing is \$2.25 per person, but they have 1,3, and 7 day passes that are very economical if you plan to do some sightseeing on your own.

A one day unlimited pass is \$13.00  
A three day unlimited pass is \$28.00  
A seven day unlimited pass is \$58.00  
The prices are valid as of this writing.

The passes can be purchased at any Metro station. You can’t miss the specific vending machine, it will probably be the one that has no line!

A couple of house keeping items:

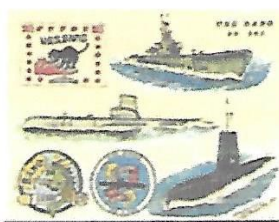
In the last newsletter, I mentioned that shipmate **Lenny Sciuto** was going to have his debut novel published. That has finally come to pass, and he will be selling copies at the reunion. Part of the proceeds will go to Navy and Coast Guard relief. If you would like to reserve a copy to be picked up at the reunion just email or call me and I’ll let Lenny know. All copies sold will be autographed by Lenny at the reunion.

Our Treasurer/Storekeeper Ike Cohen, will also be bringing along a good supply of “authorized” Bang accessories to the reunion. I included the small stores page so you can purchase a few things before the reunion, to be in proper UOD. Please note that Ike is spending the Summer in the cooler New Jersey climate and send your order to the New Jersey address that is listed on the small stores page. Speaking of Ike, ever watchful of the purse strings, Ike alerted me of a website that had US Postal stamps at half price. Who knew Uncle Sam had clearance sales? In any case this newsletter was sent out at half price of the previous ones, saving us a couple of hundred dollars. Bravo Zulu, Ike! Remember to let me to buy you a drink in the Hospitality Room!

On the subject of newsletters, A couple were returned because the Post Office only forwards change of address mail for one year. So, if you have changed you address and haven’t notified me, do so now so you won’t miss another issue. So that’s it for now, and like the song says, “See you in September”



Navy Blue Ballcap - \$8.00 ea.  
Solid or Mesh top State Your Choice



6" Window Trilogy Decal  
\$5.00 ea.

All orders are normally sold at our Reunions or shipped via USPS Priority Mail. Send mail orders to Isaac Cohen with your check payable to USS Bang and be sure to include a few extra bucks to cover the postage.

**Please include your phone number in case of discrepancies.**  
Mail to: Isaac (Ike) Cohen  
26 Rossetti Ct.  
Brick, NJ 08724-2426

**Note: License Plates are no longer available.**

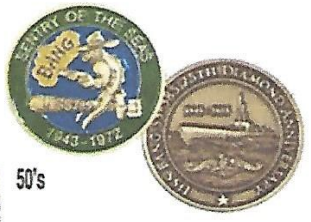
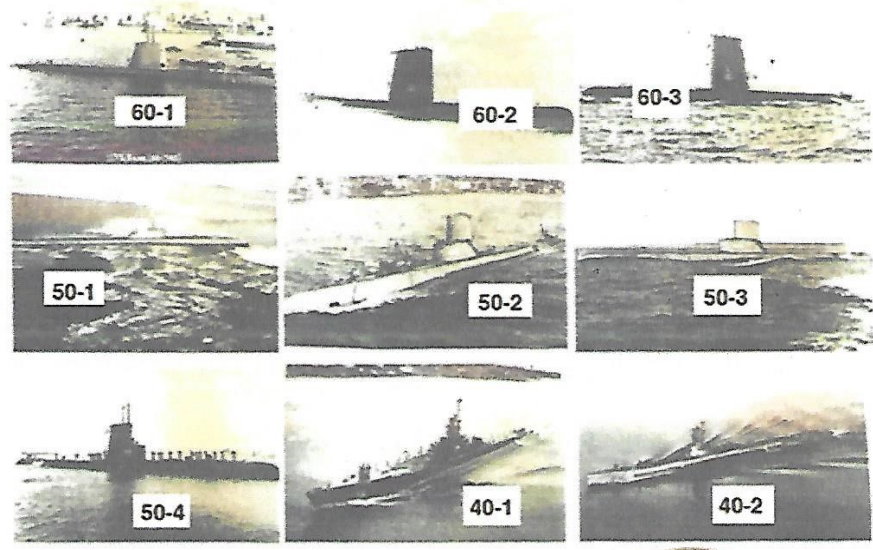


5" Jacket Patch - \$5.00 ea.  
State Your Choice



1" Lapel/Hat pins - \$5.00 ea.  
State Your Choice

11x14 BANG Photos - 40's, 50's, 60's - \$3.00 ea. State Your Choice



50's  
75th Anniversary Hat / Lapel Pin  
\$ 5.00



60's/70's

75th Anniversary  
Challenge Coins

\$15.00



Bang Trilogy  
Mouse Pad  
\$12.00

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FIRST – CLASS MAIL  
FORWARDING SERVICE  
REQUESTED



PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

