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1972



THE BANG GANG NEWS LETTER

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

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2023 USS BANG 80TH REUNION
OCTOBER 2-5 2023
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
801 GREENWICH AVE. WARWICK, RI
(401) 732- 6000



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 once again shipmates, friends, and loyal readers!

Here is, if somewhat tardy, this quarter's issue of the USS Bang newsletter. It is going to be completely devoted to the up coming reunion that will take place in Providence, (actually Warwick Rhode Island) from Monday 2 October to Thursday 5 October. As with every reunion lately, planning was an adventure. Paul Schramm and Jennifer Wilson did another great job in pulling all this together despite some very, shall we say, trying times. We were trying to have the hotel in New London itself, but we were not able to overcome the local ordinance about hospitality liquor rooms. We had been able to "skirt" this issue in past reunions, but this year is different. Paul and Jennifer were able to get rooms and a hospitality venue at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick RI. The hotel is right off Route 95 and adjacent to Providence Airport, (PVD). The pertinent particulars are:

Reunion Hotel Headquarters: Crowne Plaza Hotel
801 Greenwich Ave.
Warwick , RI
(401) 732-6000

Dates: Monday October 2, 2023-Thursday October 5, 2023

Rate \$139.00/nt plus tax the rate is good from Sunday Oct 1st through Thursday October 5th. Check out on Friday Oct 6th. We had

hoped to get the rate good for three days before and after, but the hotel is booked solid. You can, however check in on Sunday October 1st, at the same rate as above. When you call to make a reservation, **MAKE SURE YOU TELL THEM YOU ARE FROM THE USS BANG GROUP!** The hotel as a complimentary shuttle from the airport. Breakfast is included in the rate and will be served in the above mentioned hospitality room.

Also, upon making the reservation, **MAKE SURE YOU GET A CONFIRMATION NUMBER!** In most cases, they will email you the confirmation. Also check the dates you reserved to make sure they are right. We had a couple of cases last year where this was an issue. If you one of the few who do not have internet access, this is extremely important.

The next two pages are some remarks from Paul on the reunion and the all important registration sheet. My advice, send it in **TODAY!** Also, if you're flying in, make those reservations as soon as possible also. Flying is getting worse and more crowded!

I'll have more in the Lucky Bag, so don't go away!

Shipmates, Spouses, and Guests,

Organizing this reunion has been a challenge, thanks to Jennifer looking for hotels right away she could not find a hotel in CT. that would allow alcohol in the hospitality room.

Jennifer then came down with a ruptured appendix and spent time in the hospital, am happy to report she is on the mend. And hopefully my ablation will take care of my A-Fib.

We will make this reunion work, I visited the hotel, Newport, and The Nautilus Museum. With the help of Ralph and Claire Gates we will be visiting the Subbase (I got turned away same phone number different contact.) Our tours will be detailed in the welcoming package.

Make your hotel reservations now we have only a block of dates October 1-5 all other dates are sold out. Oct. 1 is Sunday

Hotel: Crowne Plaza 801 Greenwich Ave. Warwick, RI.

Ph: (401) 732-6000 make sure you tell them you are with the Bang

For group rate \$139 +tax breakfast included served in the hospitality room. When using the hotel restaurants tell them your with the Bang for 20% discount on food.

Tuesday tour will include the Breakers Mansion, Ocean Blvd. and lunch on your own. Wednesday the subbase and Nautilus with lunch included at the base. Note: The Nautilus sub has steps and handrails to go below.

Thanks to Jerry Rosa who hosted the USS Inghram reunion at the same hotel, Charles "Doc" Daugherty for his help and of course Eric Erickson Newsletter Editor and Bill Fenton Webmaster. And Jennifer's Harley who always helps. Paul Schramm PH: (269) 345-0859

USS BANG (SS385) 80th ANNIVERSARY PROVIDENCE-WARWICK, RI.

PRINT FORM AND MAIL TO: - PAUL SCHRAMM

MAIL BY AUGUST 25th - 3402 ONONDAGA AVE.

CHECKS TO PAUL SCHRAMM - KALAMAZOO, MI. 49004-636

YES I/WE PLAN TO ATTEND THE REUNION RATE / RANK _____

NAME _____ YEARS ON BANG _____ TO _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE# () _____ - _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL: _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME _____

ARRIVAL DAY _____ DEPARTURE DAY _____

NUMBER GOING TO NEWPORT _____ @ \$ 70.00PP TOTAL _____

" " " SUBBASE & NAUTALIS _____ @ \$ 55.00PP TOTAL _____

HOSPITALITY RM. STIPEND PER ADULT _____ \$30.00 TOTAL _____

NUMBER ATTENDING BANQUET @ \$ 55.00 _____ TOTAL _____

ENTRÉE CHOICES: BAKED NEW ENGLAND SCROD # _____

CHICKEN BREAST WITH SAGE & APPLE STUFFING, MERLOT SAUCE # _____

VEGETARIAN MUSHROOM RAVIOLI # _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

SHIRT SIZE FOR ALL ATTENDING SMALL TO 3X FIRST NAME AND SIZE

PLEASE PRINT YOUR FAVORITE BEVERAGE AND SNACKS:



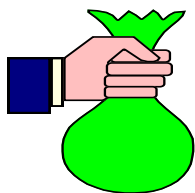
LOST AND FOUND



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.

**NONE TO REPORT
AMEN!**

SHIPMATES, REST YOUR OAR



THANK YOU!

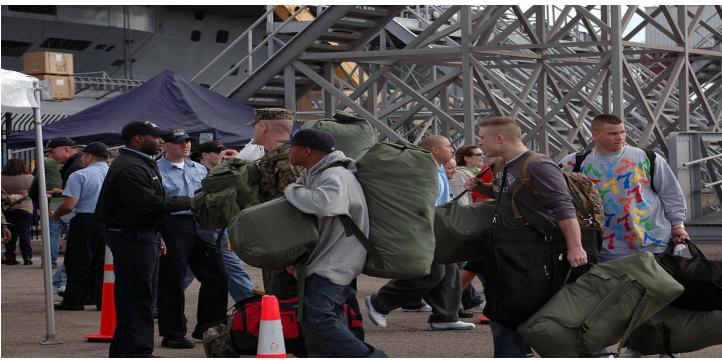
**Since our last publication, the following shipmates
have generously donated to our slush fund.**



**WILLIAM HOPKINS
JOHN & DARLENE KRAFT
ERIC H ERICSON III
WILLIAM & KATHLEEN POWELL
GARY & THERESA GRIMM**

**AND FINALLY A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO LARRY SCHAFER
FOR HIS VERY GENEROUS DONATION**

NO NEW PERSONNEL, ADDRESS OR EMAIL CHANGES



THE LUCKY BAG

So we have the outline of the upcoming reunion. It will be good to get back in the habit of seeing our old shipmates and those we met along the way, even though we didn't serve with them.

As you read in Paul's outline that he and Jennifer went through some, shall we say, medical hiccups and still managed to put together what I believe will be a fantastic reunion. Both Paul and Jennifer did yeoman work in getting this reunion up and running. I've already had a couple of calls inquiring about the reunion so I think attendance will be good.

As with any, and I should know, reunion that includes tours of military installations has to navigate a plethora of regulations, requests and a seemingly long line of supervisors, senior officers etc. To get the proper paperwork, okays, and all that those things required to finally get the greenlight for the proverbial "three hour tour". This reunion was no different. Paul must have called numerous times and talked to a different person each time for the Base tour. Finally he got a hold of a Commander that took charge and cleared the decks. Former hosts Ralph and Claire Gates were also instrumental in helping Paul navigate the New London scene. We will be having lunch on the base, and I'm sure the tour will bring back some real great memories.

Our tour of Newport is sure to be one to remember. When I was New England District Manager for Baskin-Robbins, I opened the store in Newport and spent quite a bit of time there. Lunch is on our own and I'm heading to the Greenhouse Restaurant down by the seashore. It is still open as of this writing, and if it is still on the menu, I'm going for the bacon cheeseburger. I'll get in touch with the visitors bureau and check to get a restaurant guide.

The tour of the Breakers Mansion will be quite an afternoon. As I said before they were the Summer "cottages" of the rich and famous of New York. The Vanderbilts, JP Morgan, and the Rockefellers all had a mansion of Ocean Blvd, each built to out shine the others, and all built before the income tax became law.

I hope as many of the remaining crew will be able to join us in Rhode Island for the 80th reunion which will also be the 80th anniversary of the USS BANG's commissioning. I can't think of a better way to join us all to celebrate and remember the "Best Boat on The River"

Finally, a word from our sponsor...you. As we all know the biggest cost for the slush fund is what you are reading or holding in your hand, the newsletter. We have had 28 slush fund contributors in the past year, and their contributions have been generous. After checking the list, I saw that many of the contributors are repeat givers and to all of them I extend my profuse thanks. The bottom line is this, we need more donors and hopefully the same amount from each new donor. Another cost to the fund is small stores. Our duty "Chancellor of the exchequer" Ike Cohen has informed me that the small stores locker is getting a little bare, and will need replenishing soon. So, if you can, please consider giving to the slush fund. A challenge coin will thank you!

Finally, I read someplace that only about 1% of the population has seen a sunrise from the deck of a warship. That includes all of us. It's good to be part of the 1% of something!

**So to all, maintain the bubble, straight board, and fair winds and following seas!
Take care**

Eric

SINCE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT OF REUNIONS, HERE ARE A FEW PICTURES FROM LAST YEAR'S GET TOGETHER. THEY ARE COURTESY ONCE AGAIN OF OUR PRESIDENT BILL FENTON. ONE WORD OF ADVICE, THE NEWTPORT MANSION TOUR IS WORTH THE OF ADMIS- SION ALONE. THEY WERE THE PROPERTY OF AMERICA'S FIRST RICH AND FAMOUS AND THEY WERE DUBBED "COTTAGES" BY THEIR OWNERS, AND SURPRISINGLY , SOME WERE USED ONLY A FEW WEEKS EACH YEAR. SO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A EXTRA SANDISC, OR YOUR I PHONE IS FULLY CHARGED.



SEE YOU IN OCTOBER!

Eric H. Ericson, III-Editor
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**FIRST – CLASS MAIL
FORWARDING SERVICE
REQUESTED**



PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

