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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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**USS CONSTITUTION (IX-21) THE OLDEST COMMISSIONED WARSHIP AFLOAT AND THE NATION’S SHIP OF STATE ON HER ANNUAL JULY 4TH “TURN AROUND” IN BOSTON HARBOR**





# 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 faithful readers!

Well it's that time again, and we are in the midst of the beginning of Summer and preparing for the upcoming reunion at the end of September! Alan and Linda Thole have been hard at work getting ready for the annual get together. For those who need a slight "refresher" as to the particulars of the reunion, here is a quick run-down of the festivities, time line, and venue along with prices. The registration form and hotel description are on the next two pages. One note of interest, the original registration form had the wrong street address to send the form along with your money to Alan. I have corrected the address, (in a way that no one should be able to miss it) and you should not have any trouble sending in your check and pertinent info to Alan. The form is on the next page, so fill it in and get it back to Alan as soon as possible. The deadline is 30 August, so don't wait, and don't put it off to the last minute.

On other business, Lenny Sciuto, our Chaplain, has an essay in this quarter's newsletter. It was originally intended for Memorial Day (hence the title) but due to scheduling conflicts, I put it in this quarter's issue. The meaning and theme works well for both holidays, in fact it works for all days of remembrance for all our brothers-in-arms, no matter what time of year or deployment. It is a very well written and heartfelt missive, and I thank Lenny for sending it to me. Take the time to read it and even better reflect upon it. Bravo Zulu Scooby!

Here is the preliminary sailing list for the upcoming reunion:

Paul Schramm  
Ike Cohen and guest Michelle Ostapiej  
Bill and Joan Fenton  
Gabe and Pam Lewis  
Mark and Anelisa Heiman  
Denis and guest Denis Hansen  
Rocco and Nancy DeLeo

**SUNDAY 9/29 EARLY BIRD ARRIVAL HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN 1PM**  
**MONDAY 9/30 CHECK IN GET WELCOME PACKAGE HOSPITALTY ROOM 10AM**  
**TUESDAY 10/1 9:30m BUS LEAVES FOR ARKANSAS INLAND MARITIME MUSEUM**  
**BARBECUE LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AROUND 12:30pm**  
**WEDNESDAY 10/2 9:30am BUS LEAVES FOR ARKANSAS FINE ARTS MUSEUM & THE**  
**MCARTHUR MILITARY HISTORY MUSEUM**  
**THURSDAY 10/3 BUSINESS MEETING/LADIES TRIVIA**  
**5:30pm COCKTAILS, PICTURES, BANQUET, SPEAKER**  
**10/4 CHECKOUT**

CLIP AND SEND THIS PAGE WITH YOUR CHECK BY AUGUST 30, 2024 TO:

Alan Thole  
11337 205th ~~St~~ NW, Elk River, MN  
55330  
*AVE ←* MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO Alan Thole

YES! I/WE PLAN TO ATTEND THE REUNION  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_, ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RATE/RANK \_\_\_\_\_

YRS ON BANG \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE#(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

NUMBER ATTENDING ARKANSAS INLAND MARITIME MUSEUM \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$42.00PP TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING ARKANSAS ART/MACARTHUR MUSEUMS \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00PP TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

HOSPITALITY ROOM STIPEND PER ADULT \_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER ATTENDING BANQUET @ \$58.00PP \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Back Yard Barbeque Buffet

Tossed salad with Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Red Onions, Choice of Two Dressings

Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Sliced Red Onion, Dill Pickle Spears, Beef Brisket,

Baked Beans with Onions, Fried Catfish, Hushpuppies, Tarter Sauce, Fried

Chicken, Potato Logs, Green Beans, Apple Cobbler, Peach Cobbler

Iced Tea, Water

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

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

PLEASE WRITE YOUR FAVORITE ADULT BEVERAGE AND SNACKS HERE:

ANY ADDITIONAL GUESTS?

**USS Bang (SS 385)  
81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Reunion  
Little Rock, AR  
Monday, September 30, 2024  
Through  
Thursday, October 03, 2024**

**Holiday Inn Airport  
3201 Bankhead Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72206  
Phone 501 490 1000**

**[www.holidayinn.com](http://www.holidayinn.com)**

**[When making your reservations you can call 888 465 4329](tel:8884654329)**

**Or use WEB:**

**[https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&localeCode=en&regionCode=1&hotelCode=liteb&\\_P\\_MID=99801505&GPC=uss&cn=no&viewfullsite=true](https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&localeCode=en&regionCode=1&hotelCode=liteb&_P_MID=99801505&GPC=uss&cn=no&viewfullsite=true)**

Make sure to put the correct date you are arriving and leaving to get the correct room rate of  
\$107.00 plus tax.

The rates are honored three days before and after the reunion dates.

If calling, tell the reservationist you are with the Bang Reunion.

Our contact person for reservation issues is Tonya Flemons 501 235 2004.

Or call me

A full breakfast buffet is included at \$10.99 + tax =~ \$12.60 per ticket.

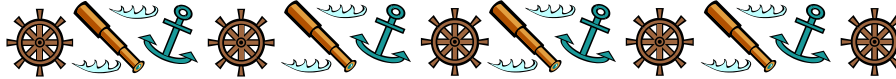
See the Hostess and identify yourself with the Bang Reunion.

Have your name tag with you.

Pay with CC, cash, or charge to room.



# 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!**



**THE FOLOWING PEOPLE GENEROUSLY  
CONTRIBUTED TO OUR SLUSH FUND**

**SANDRA FREISS**

**IN MEMORY OF WALTER FREISS**

**DENIS O'BRIEN**

**IN MEMORY OF MAUREEN OBRIEN**

**BARBARA PANKEY**

**IN MEMORY OF RUSSELL PANKEY**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS, ALL  
THREE OF YOU. WE HAVE TO HAVE MORE  
SHIPMATES AND OTHERS STEPPING UP TO  
HELP FUND THE SLUSH FUND. YOU ARE THE  
ENGINE THAT DRIVES THIS NEWSLETTER.**

## THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### A Memorial Day Thought

Like most of us who are military, we do not wear our religious faith on our sleeves. Many of us believe that there is a Supreme Being that guides us, leads us, and takes care of us. There are always many trials and tribulations to overcome along life's path. We must learn from them. Cherish the ones that we overcome and forget the failed ones. Have trust in the future.

We submariners have a specific image to project and that image, along with our gold and silver dolphins, bring us admiration from many as well as fear from adversaries. We are the best there is from the past, the present, and for the future. We have set an example, and that example is immortality.

We, as sub sailors, have a great respect for tradition. With that tradition comes a passion for what is right, respectful, and for what is truthful. We all volunteered for submarine duty. It wasn't for the extra pay, and it certainly wasn't for the glory. What was the driving force? That force was to be the very best we could be but also to be in a service where many fear to tread. We were and are different than most other services. This force cannot be seen or touched. But it is real. We love our country and are willing to defend her to the death if need be. That force was also to preserve the United States as an exemplary country standing for life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, as well as defending and supporting its people. But also, to provide these rights to others living in foreign countries who want the very same gifts. Yes, they are gifts. Make no mistake about it. These gifts were and are heavily paid for and the price was and is high. They are and must be passed along to all other peoples no matter where they live. With these gifts comes the cherished word of peace. We have yet to attain it throughout the world. Do not give up hope.

Some say that the United States is Utopia. Utopia is defined as a fictitious or imaginary place where everything is perfect. This perfect place has yet to be reached from our country's very beginning. It seems like we will never attain it and only God knows.

Memorial Day reminds all of us of the high price of freedom and the debt of gratitude we owe to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. It is a day to reflect on their sacrifice and to honor their memory with the honor they deserve.

My very best wishes to all of you, your families, and friends.

May God continue to bless the United States and its people.

With Utmost Respect,  
Len Sciuto  
BANGANG Chaplain.

# THE LUCKY BAG

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT  
WAS SAFE TO GO TOPSIDE !



Well, the time honored, if less than squared away LUCKY BAG has returned ! There are a couple of housekeeping items I'd like to get cleaned up.

First, please address all slush fund, or other donations to Ike Cohen our treasurer. If you send them to me, you are adding another step in depositing the check to the bank. Also, you are entrusting that check to another round with the USPS. Plus, with vacation season upon us, you'll have a good chance that one of us will be holding our mail, which impedes delivery even more. Lastly, and perhaps more importantly, Call, text, or email Ike when sending your check. Ike will tell you what address to send it to, as he summers in the garden state of New Jersey, and winters in "supposedly" sunny Florida. The phone number and email address are on the masthead.

Second, the last two mailings have seen an increase of non-forwardable newsletters coming back to our "palatial" office headquarters. Usually, this means that shipmates and family or friend recipients have moved and have not notified me of the new address. The Post Office will only forward mail to new permanent addresses for one year. After that they go back to the addressee, me. So, if you move to another permanent address, be it another home, a friend or relative's home, or assisted living address, let me know so I can update the mail list. Which brings up one other reason, eternal patrol. Noone likes to talk about it, but it happens and it is happening much more often. Please ask any relatives or friends to notify me, if that happens. Many relatives like to get the Newsletter, if only to keep the memory of their loved one alive. Finally, if you want to discontinue the newsletter, call or drop me a line, I'll be sorry to see you go, but we'll abide by your wishes.

In closing, this issue is a little "thin" mostly because no eternal patrol orders were issued this quarter!  
YEA!!!!

We had no new found shipmates, and no address changes (see above paragraph) Also, if like Lenny, you'd like to contribute an article, or even tell us about how your grandson pitched a no-hitter in little league, or won a junior golf tournament, (I'm looking at you Schultzy) send it in, we'll always have space. The only guidelines are no political, religious rants or advertising. Just good old fashioned scuttlebutt.

Well, that does it for now, take care and have a great, and safe summer. And, if you get the urge write me a few lines and I'll insert it in the Bang Gang Newsletter! Straight Board, and maintain the Bubble!

Eric

Eric H. Ericson, III-Editor  
Bang Gang Newsletter  
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Ft. Pierce, FL 34982-5163



FIRST – CLASS MAIL  
FORWARDING SERVICE  
REQUESTED



PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

