



1943



1972



THE BANG GANG NEWSLETTER

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

PRESIDENT - Bill Fenton	4422 Organ Mesa Loop	Las Cruces, NM 88011-8403	(575) 532-5830	ss385@fastwave.biz
VICE PRES - John Kraft	N49 W28619 Chardon Dr	Hartland, WI 53029-9161	(262) 538-4218	jkraft1@wi.rr.com
SECRETARY - Harry Ross	2882 W 232nd St	Torrance, CA 90505-2855	(310) 539-2935	harrypross@gmail.com
TREASURER - Gene Lockwood	512 Windsor Gate Cir	Virginia Bch, VA 23452-2129	(757) 340-8488	gvlockwood@cox.net
EDITOR - Phil Beals	2127 Oahu Dr	Holiday, FL 34691-3625	(727) 934-9665	pebeals385@verizon.net
WEB MASTER - Bill Fenton	4422 Organ Mesa Loop	Las Cruces, NM 88011-8403	(575) 532-5830	ss385@fastwave.biz

FALL/WINTER 2008

WWW.USSBANG.COM

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LOST AND FOUND



This column 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.



Henry F. Casey, Jr, SM (45-46) WP6

Dan H. Richards, ENC (67-69)

Jack A. O'Leary, FN (52-54)



SHIPMATES, REST YOUR OARS!

The following shipmates have changed their mailing address.

Please let us know when your address has changed or you may not receive the next Newsletter.

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIPCODE	PHONE	Y-O-B
Mayer	Joyce	233 Old County Rd	Hampden	ME	04444-1805		Wife
Ireland	David	810 Wallace Way	Grimsley	TN	38565-6010	(931) 863-2280	66-69
Vincent	Donald A	851 Vandenburg Dr	Boiling Springs	SC	29316-9305	(864) 599-0316	63-65

The following shipmates are new (found) additions to our roster. Your committee is thankful for all your help in locating them and we will continue our search until we have attempted to locate everyone.

LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIPCODE	PHONE	Y-O-B
Bridle	Robert W	6240 Ainsworth Rd	Cocoa	FL	32927-8949	(603) 834-3049	67-70
Moquin	Alan J	132 Iris Dr	Waynesboro	VA	22980-9417	(540) 942-9579	62-64



THANK YOU!

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



**Charles Bunkley
Don Craig
Karl Evans**

**George Fedyna
Gene Lockwood
Joyce Mayer**

**Larry Meaike
John Monroe
Dan T Richards**



THE INTERNET CONNECTION CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION

Robert Bridle goldwingnhc@yahoo.com
Larry Buckmaster ... Larry_Buckmaster@yahoo.com
Ron Gecks atule403@hughes.net
Charlie Jones Charlie@CCJones1.com
Mike Keane mekeane@bresnan.net

Alan Moquin acmoquin@ntelos.net
Wayne Thalasinis wbtgt@embarqmail.com
Don Vincent vincess341@aol.com
Chuck Workman cjwork@alltel.net





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 IMC.

Editor's Notes and Ramble: Hi Shipmates!

For all of you with Internet access, I have a new Email address. It is now pebeals385@verizon.net. During the next few months I will be transferring data folders from my old Juno mailbox to my new Verizon mailbox and, once that is done, my Juno address pebeals385@juno.com will no longer be valid. Please change your address book records.

Back in 2002 (Issue 24) I featured an article about BANG resurfacing in Phoenix, AZ. USSVI Perch Base decided to build a parade float featuring the sail of a submarine. One of its members had in his possession a set of blueprints of USS BANG SS385 and so they used them as guidelines to build their float. It took about 4 weeks of hard labor to complete the structure and place it on the trailer. After that they fitted it out with a stereo system and a diving klaxon. Being the Perch Base, they had a choice of two hull numbers, 176 and 313, to paint on the sail. Instead 385 wound up on it. We thanked its builder for following the blueprints to the letter, or in this case, to the number. It made its debut in the

Cattfish SS339. Scamp Base recently decided to decommission it and offered it for sale. USSVI San Diego Base expressed an interest in it and presented an offer to purchase to the Base membership for approval. That is when shipmate, **Frank Walker (Officer 52-55)**, stood up and offered to pay half the purchase price if the familiar 385 was once again displayed on its sail permanently. The



body accepted Frank's generous offer and the float was part of this year's Veterans Day parade in San Diego. The Base plans to showcase the float in all future functions that it participates in so BANG will be maintaining a prominent position in and around the San Diego area for quite some time.

Thank you, Frank for your most generous contribution to help keep the memory of BANG alive.

I have lost contact with **Charles Tucker (Officer 44-46, WP5&6)**. I was mailing his Newsletter to Bisbee, AZ until the Post Office mailed me his forwarding address in Tucson, AZ. It turns out that he also has moved from the Tucson address and has left no forwarding address.

The Post Office has also informed me that they are unable to deliver **Jordan Bolton's (Officer 51-52)** Newsletter. Jordan was residing in Harlingen, TX but has moved with no forwarding address.

Anyone who might know where Charles or Jordan have moved to please let me know so that I may continue mailing their Newsletter.



2001 Phoenix Veterans Day parade. And now, as Paul Harvey would say, the rest of the story. Sometime between then and now the Perch Base decommissioned the parade float and it found its way west to a new home with USSVI Scamp Base in Escondido, CA where it was recommissioned as

Rose Jarvies, widow of **Jack Jarvies** (Officer 56-57) reports that the Red Cross now has a project going where you write **"THANK YOU"** in a card and send it to: **"Holiday Mail for Heroes"**

PO Box 5456

Capital Heights, MD 20791-5467

The Red Cross is directing the cards to 17 stateside facilities as well as overseas. Many Veteran's are yet waiting to hear this!!

Ken Henry of SubVets WWII notified us of the passing of shipmate **Henry Casey**, SM (45-46) WP6, by e-mailing the following:

CWO Henry Casey, USN(Ret) of Pensacola, FL, 84 years young, departed on Eternal Patrol April 9th, 2008. Henry, a Life Member of AlaFlo Chapter of SubVets WWII, was preceded in death by his loving wife Yvonne. He is survived by a son, Henry III, a daughter, Catherine, their spouses and many grandchildren.

Henry enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1940 serving on aircraft carriers and light cruisers until entering the Submarine Service in 1944 where he and made war patrols on USS Bang and USS Sea Robin. Henry continued to served on submarines after the war and was advanced to Chief Quartermaster. After completing a tour in Operation Deep Freeze and accepting a commission as Chief Warrant Officer, Henry continued his naval career in the surface navy until retirement in 1970 after thirty years service.

Earl Lamb, TM (56), submitted the sad news about **Jack O'Leary**, FN (52-54), dying.

O'LEARY – Jack Arnold, 76, Silverado Senior Living, Sugar Land, Texas, died Nov. 23, 2008. Born Dec. 20, 1931, in Johnstown, PA, son of the late Patrick J. and Lavina (Betts) O'Leary. Jack qualified in 1953 onboard the USS BANG (SS 385). He was a veteran of the Korean War and left the Navy as an FN(SS). Jack joined USSVI Groton Base in 1998 and was a Life and Holland Club member.

A retired safety supervisor at the Pennsylvania Electric Co. He was one of the founding members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Lady of Knock Division. He was also a member of Knights of Columbus Council 467 and St. Gregory and Barnabas Catholic Church, Daisytown, where he was a member of the choir.

Preceded in death by brother, Patrick J. O'Leary, and sister-in-law, Ruth I. O'Leary. Survived by wife, Dorothy "Tippy" O'Leary, Richmond, Texas; son, David, and wife, Linda J. (VanGundy) O'Leary,

Richmond, Texas; daughter, Leslie Ann O'Leary, Alpharetta, Ga.; sister-in-law, Patrice Keelan, Oakmont; sister-in-law, Kay Toth, Walden, N.Y.; brother-in-law, James P. Keelan, husband of Donna (Kent) Keelan, Canton, Ohio; brother-in-law, Thomas W. Keelan, husband of Janet (Reighard) Keelan, Everett; grandchildren, Mikayla and Lauren O'Leary; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at St. Gregory and Barnabas Catholic Church, Daisytown, on Dec. 20 at 11 a.m., Father Robert Ruston. Interment, Forest Lawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Jack to Silverado Senior Living, 1221 Seventh St., Sugar Land, Texas 77478, Att: Linda Lavinson,

Dan T. Richards, son of **Dan H. Richards**, ENC (67-69) e-mailed us with notification of his father's demise:

"I really am impressed with your Web site! I was doing some family research and ran across it. My good luck! Excellent work on your part and whoever else helped put it together. I thought you might want to know: You have my father listed as "address unknown". He is now deceased, having passed away on 2 APR 2004. He spoke often and with affection toward USS Bang. I will send you a little donation in his honor tomorrow via USPS."

*Lord these departed Shipmates with Dolphins on their chest,
Are part of an outfit known to be the best.
Please welcome them and offer them your hand,
As you no doubt know they're the best in the land.
And also heavenly Father add their name to the roll
Of our departed Shipmates who serve on Final Patrol.
Assure them all that we, who still survive
Will always keep their memory alive.*



No matter how you celebrate the last 8 days of the year, Dot and I wish for you good health and much happiness during that time and throughout the New Year.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!
HAPPY HANUKKAH!
HAPPY KWANZAA!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



The writings and material within this Newsletter are the sole responsibility of its Editor and in no way reflect the opinion of its readers, the Bang Gang.*Phil Beals*

Karl Evans, an ElectriciansMate (63), "I'm thinking of y'all. I often do and wear my BANG hat when I'm not wearing another boat. I have five or six hats and that many Editors to tell how much I enjoy the Newsletters and thank them for the joy I find in them. Don't know when or if we'll ever see each other again—but by news it's a great ride!!" *Karl, thanks for writing and sending along the Slush Fund donation. Hope to see you for lunch again sometime.*

Larry Harjehausen, an Officer (57-60), "I received the latest edition of the Bang Gang Newsletter. It is again the best newsletter of any organization that I have seen. Keep up the good work.

I was saddened to read of **CAPT Bob Morrison's** passing. He was a good friend, mentor, and shipmate. The Bang Gang of the 50s are (is) resting their oars at a rapid rate and they will truly be missed. With their passing the knowledge of a unique period in the history of the U. S. Navy is also passing.

Unfortunately, foot and knee problems precluded me from attending the reunion in Green Bay. I feel fortunate that I am still looking at the grass from the green side after 79+ years on this planet.

As an aside, on the evening of the first day that I reported for duty on BANG in Portsmouth, NH in September 1957 I attended my first social function as an officer. It was a baby shower for **Rose and Jack Jarvies**. It was great to see her photo in the newsletter (Hello Rose - Do you remember that night?) and that she is still involved with the submarine force. Once you are a part of it, you never leave it.

I also want to point out that the Sentry of the Seas BANG plaque that is shown on the back cover of the newsletter is a second generation of one that I designed while BANG was in the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in 1957-58. The original has the stepped sail with a low bridge. Approximately 10 of these were made in bronze and



distributed was extremely limited. I am sure that **CAPT Stu Savage** still has one of the originals also.

Lastly, the rating badge that was submitted by **Marv Christenson** was for a Third Class Specialist (G) and the wearer was an **Aviation Free Gunnery Instructor** (whatever that was). The rating was established 1942-1943 and was absorbed into the Tradesman (Training Device Man) rating in 1948.



Over the years there have been some very unique ratings in the Navy.

Warmest regards to all. I hope to be able to make the Newport News reunion next year.".... *Thanks Larry for the interesting letter. Never knew that your design was complete in '57. The only thing you could get the yardbirds to stamp out at that time was the cowboy fish on fish. I'm sure Chris will be happy to know what his father-in-law did in the Navy. Keep working on those foot and knee problems so you'll be able to make Virginia Beach in the fall. It would be a pleasure to see you again.*

Larry Meaie, a StoreKeeper (70-72), "This letter is way overdue. I'm sorry that I have neglected to contact you before this but my letter writing is at the bottom of my list of "Things To Do". Enclosed is a Slush Fund donation and a thank you for all of the Newsletters that you have sent to me. Please keep them coming. I pass them around to a few of my history loving friends of the military.

Thanks again and GOD bless America and the millions of people who serve her now and in the past."....*Larry, thank you for the donation and happy to hear that you are enjoying the Newsletter. Hope to see you at a Reunion some year.*

Chuck Workman, a Firecontrol Tech (64), "As another member of the crew I would like for you to include my name in the crew page of the web site.

I was transferred to BANG immediately after graduating Sub School, New London. I joined her at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in January of 1964. After completing overhaul we returned to New London and tied up outboard the USS Fulton AS11, Submarine Tender. I was assigned to BANG while waiting for a billet at FTM Polaris Fire Control School, Damnneck, VA. During daily ops out of New London I qualified on BANG and did my walk through with Lt. Dvornick on December 29, 1964. I left for Damnneck December 31, 1964."....*Thank you Chuck for contacting us. Not only are you now on our Roster, I hope you are now enjoying our Newsletter also. Welcome aboard*

George Fedyna, a CommiSsaryman (66-69), "Hope the world is treating you ok. Thanks for all you do for us. I really enjoy receiving your Newsletter. Reading the articles and seeing all the pictures really bring back some great memories. Enclosed is a check for some smaill stores and the Slush Fund as well." *George, thank you for your Slush Fund donation. Hope to see you in Virginia Beach next year.*

Joyce Mayer, widow of **Joe Mayer** a RadioMan (43-44, WP1), "This is to let you know that my address has been changed. I am also enclosing a check for the Slush Fund in memory of Joe. I appreciate your sending me the Newsletter as I enjoy reading it." *Thank you Joyce for Joe's remembrance and, most importantly, updating your address so that the Newsletters will continue to arrive in your mailbox.*

Gloria Nickell, widow of **Charlie Nickell** a TorpedoMan Chief (56-59, COB), "I had run across the enclosed news bulletin from BANG quite a while back and had intended to mail it to you for the BANG Scrapbook. I tucked it away in one of the BANG Newsletters and there it set for awhile. I ran across it again this past week and thought that before I tucked it away again, that I'd mail it to you. On reading its date, it will soon be fifty (50) years old but it still is in good condition. Thought some of the old shipmates of Nick would enjoy reading it." *Thank you for the contribution Gloria. We were just finishing up a Northern Cruise at the time it was printed. It is amazing how good the print clarity is since it was typed on NCR paper which normally doesn't have a life span of 10 years. I also noticed that **Jack Manning** left his autograph and doodles on the back of one of the pages. I know things got boring at times on that trip but scribbling on the back of the COB's newspaper is not a good way to pass the time Jack..*

Chris Moquin, wife of **Alan Moquin** an IC electrician (62-64), "I have just been on your site and noticed that you had no current information on my husband, Alan J Moquin. He served on BANG in 1962. Alan would be writing you except he is a little under the weather due to cancer surgery from back in March. He had two types of aggressive bladder cancer, fortunately caught early enough that it was all contained in the bladder so once the bladder was removed he was cancer free. He opted for a "new rebuilt" bladder and has adjusted to that just fine, it's the super bugs that he contracted (MRSA and VRE)

that have slowed him down. Like he keeps saying, he thinks he's still 18 but the body reminds him he's not! Currently he is fighting some kind of bug and the doctor's want his system to fight it off instead of loading him up with antibiotics like he was for a good 3 months so he's off his usual routine and it is driving him NUTS!!!! He'd wanted to go to the Sablefish reunion next month in CT but bowed out of that." ...*Chris and Alan, welcome aboard! Thank you for contacting us and becoming part of the Bang Gang again. I enjoyed the surprise phone call from Alan and hope to see the both of you in Virginia Beach this fall.*

Charles Bunkley, SeamaN (53-55), "I met a shipmate at the 2004 Taunton Reunion that said he might be helpful if I thought of moving to Florida but I misplaced his data and wonder if you can help me identify him. I believe he lived in Zephyrhills and I believe he was on board 62-65. He wrote his name phone # etc. on a napkin that I had until recently misplacing it. Hope you can help find him for me as it looks like moving to Florida is desirable. Thanks for all your good work in printing the Newsletter. Sorry I can't use the Internet as the computer I'm using is the one at the local library. I will send some money to help pay the mailing costs." ...*Charles, By now I hope you have made contact with **Charles Archer** and he was able to assist you. Thank you for your Slush Fund donation and don't forget to send us your new address once you get to FL.*

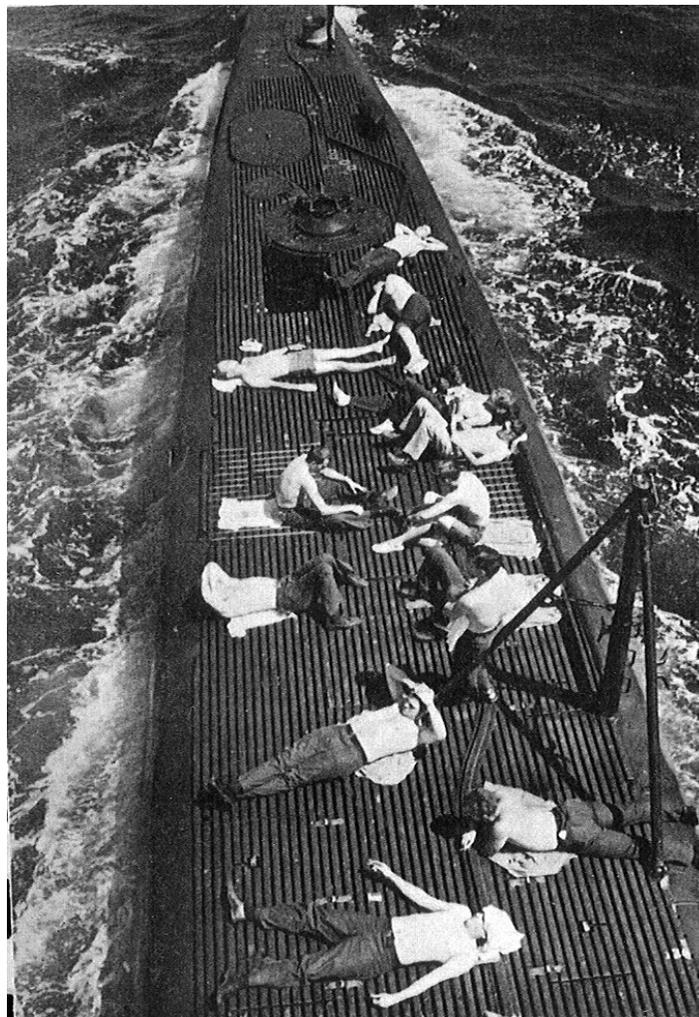
Richard Barbieri, a SONarman (61-64), "In regards to the photo of BANG in the fog, have memories of her pulling into port in the fog. It happened three times, (that my memory managed to retrieve) once in Portsmouth, England and we had to dip the colors as we were being passed in the opposite direction by a British motor torpedo boat going down our portside. The second time was when we were pulling into Bremerhaven, Germany. I was the flag dipper when we pulled into Bremerhaven and I believe we dipped colors to a German Minesweeper. My memory is blank about pulling into Holy Loch, I know we did, as I can still see the snow on the hills and the heavy weather outside of Holy Loch. I just can't remember any fog pulling in there. We also pulled into port in the fog while on the river Clyde going into Glasgow, Scotland. All I remember about that besides the fog is that we passed a Russian freighter on out starboard side, it was tied up, and we were giving them the Bang Gang Salute (An extended middle finger) as we passed it. I do have a snippit of video of me on the after deck of BANG just after we pulled into Holy Loch. I checked it again, and it was dreary, over cast and cold enough to freeze the "titches off a wit", but no heavy fog was

visible in the video. Still there may have been some earlier, I just don't remember." ...*Thank you Richard for your input on attempting to place the photo of BANG in the fog. After added thought, the photo doesn't have to be taken in the British Isles just because an Englishman was selling it. The fog used to get pretty thick around Block Island too. So, it's any ones guess as to where it was taken.*

Billy Cromie, an ElectrocutationsMate (64-71), "Another job well done on the newsletter, as usual. I have an e-mail address for a shipmate who was also in our Long Island shore mansion, and if he is not receiving the newsletter he should be. His name is **Jerry Maly**.

While I have your attention, I would like to relate a story (no shitter) about one of my relatives who was a hero of sorts in world war II. He was a cook aboard one of the boats in the Pacific, and as you know the cooks were the ones who manned the 20MM on the bridge. His boat was extended on station and they by necessity surfaced and tied up to a mother sub for supplies and fuel. Because they were in an active Japanese location the mother sub expedited the off load and submerged. With all the deck hatches open and stores all over the deck, the worst case scenario occurred. A Jap Zero dove out of the sun and started to strafe the boat. Before any damage could be inflicted the planes guns jammed. Undeterred the pilot kept diving at the boat and trying to clear his weapons. Unable to reach the bridge and unable to dive, my cousin started throwing potatoes at the plane and every seventh one he threw an orange for a tracer. This unnerved the Jap pilot to no end and he flew off. Heroism in my family is definitely hereditary.".... *Billy, just being a cook aboard the Boats qualifies your relative for Heroism - though I disagree with his choice of weaponry. He must have been sampling the sherry that day. I would have tossed some lettuce heads, carrots, cucumbers, radishes, onions, and a couple of tomatoes. When they hit the prop of the Zero they would have chopped up nicely and made an elegant tossed salad for the evening meal. Jerry is on our mailing list and he denies knowing anyone by the name of Cromie.*

Bill Powell, a RadioMan (69-70), "It was the summer of 1969, I was relatively new to the Navy and also to BANG. We were on one of our not so important missions... as I remember it... our duties were to play hide and seek with a tin can from Newport, RI. I am pretty sure we were much better at hiding than they were at finding us. When the "training exercise" was complete BANG had a picnic at sea..... steaks, baked beans, corn on the cob, watermelon, potato salad... all the fixins



(except ants). Some of the crew had a "swim call", while others basked on deck in the sun. Swimming activities did not last long, as a shark was spotted circling around.... seems he was interested in having his own picnic!

It is difficult to recall details after 40 years, but I will always remember the very good food served aboard BANG.....there is no doubt at all about the submarine service having the best chow in the Navy. I enjoy the newsletter, keep up the good work.".... *Such is the life of a DBFer in the 60's — it was a tough life but, somebody had to do it.....Thanks for sharing your remembrances with us Bill.*



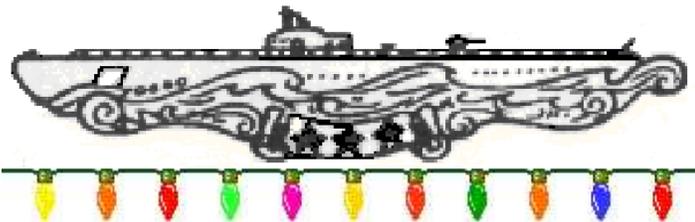
"I touch my country's mind, I come to grips
With half her purpose, thinking of these ships...
They mark our passage as a race of men.
Earth will not see such ships as those again."
John Masefield "Diesel Boats Forever!!!"



Owen O'Neil, an Electronics Tech (59-61), "First, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and all the Gang!

There was a old, narrow bridge that ran across the Exeter River from Newmarket, NH to Stratham, NH. These towns are not far from Portsmouth.

A while back, the bridge was replaced with a new one and it's dedicated to our Submarine Veterans of WWII. The Squalus Memorial Chapter sponsored this. Attached is a photo of the bridge and the sign.".... *Owen, it is always nice to see our WWII brethren being remembered. Hopefully years from now people will still remember their heroism.*



SALUTING the FLAG

The 2009 NDAA clarified actions to be taken during the playing of the National Anthem. It authorizes individuals in uniform to give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note. Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

On 29 JAN 08, President Bush signed a law

amending federal code to allow a veteran to salute the U.S. flag while not in uniform in certain, but not all, situations. The amended federal code addresses actions for a viewer of the U.S. flag during its hoisting, lowering or passing. In these instances, the law allows a veteran in civilian attire to salute the flag. All other persons present should face the flag, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes. However, another section of federal code that specifically relates to actions of those reciting the Pledge of Allegiance was not amended. In this case, a veteran in civilian attire is not specifically authorized to render a hand salute during the Pledge. In any case, a veteran in civilian clothes is authorized to place their right hand over their heart as has been tradition. [Source: NCOA Leg Actions 22 Oct 08 ++]



FLU SHOTS UPDATE 01: The nation is set to receive between 143 million and 146 million doses of flu vaccine this fall, a record amount that comes as the government is urging more children than ever to be inoculated. Each year, influenza causes 200,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The elderly, young children and people with chronic illnesses are at greatest risk for severe illness, but the CDC recommends that a wide variety of people get vaccinated:

- All children between ages 6 months and 18 years, unless they have a serious egg allergy. Until now, flu vaccine was recommended for children under 5 or those with chronic illnesses such as asthma. The expanded recommendation takes into account that healthy school-age children have higher rates of flu than other age groups.
- Adults 50 and older.
- People of any age with certain lung, heart or other chronic disorders, or a weakened immune system.
- Women of any age who will be pregnant during flu season.
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities.
- Health care workers.
- Parents or other caregivers of people with high-risk conditions.

Choices include standard flu shots for all ages, and the nasal vaccine FluMist, which can be used in health people ages 2 to 49. The CDC says there should be plenty of flu vaccine available despite the extra influx of children. While 140 million doses were manufactured last year, fewer than 113 million were

actually distributed. Many pediatricians already had ordered vaccine by the time CDC added school-age children to the list. While acknowledging that they may not be ready to fully vaccinate this group until next year, CDC is urging them to try and encouraging more programs that provide flu vaccine in schools, with parents' permission. Hawaii has announced a "Stop Flu at School" program to offer free flu vaccination at elementary and middle schools statewide.

[Source: Washington Post AP article 8 Sep 08 ++]



ED MORAN-DICK GAHAN-BEN LAPORTE



SAVAGE-VONDERLIETH-KIMBALL-LEONARDI-CHRISTENSON



MARV & JOANN CHRISTENSON

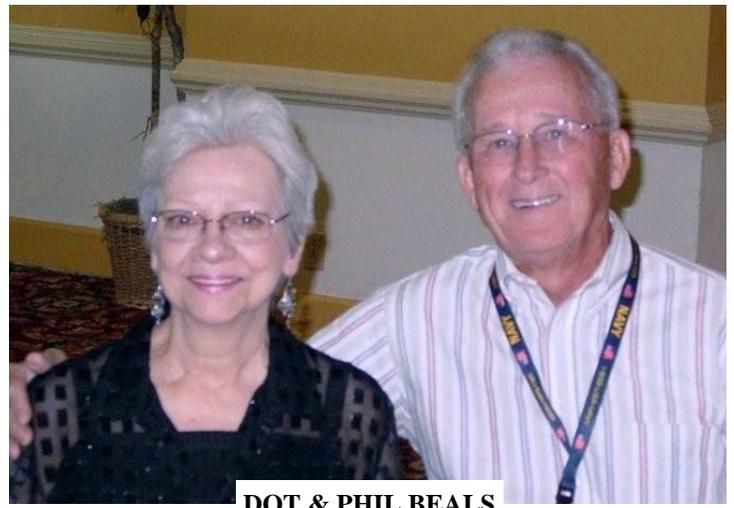


HARRY & JOANN ROSS & JANE DELONG





MARILYN BARRATT & LEN FAGOTTI



DOT & PHIL BEALS



IKE & MICHELLE COHEN



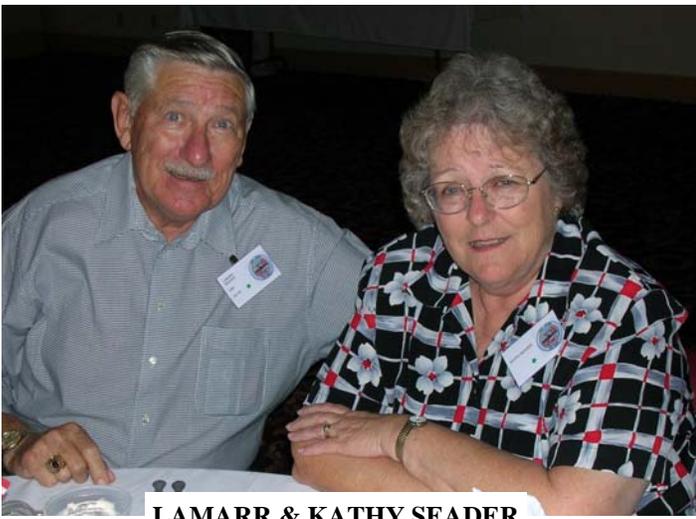
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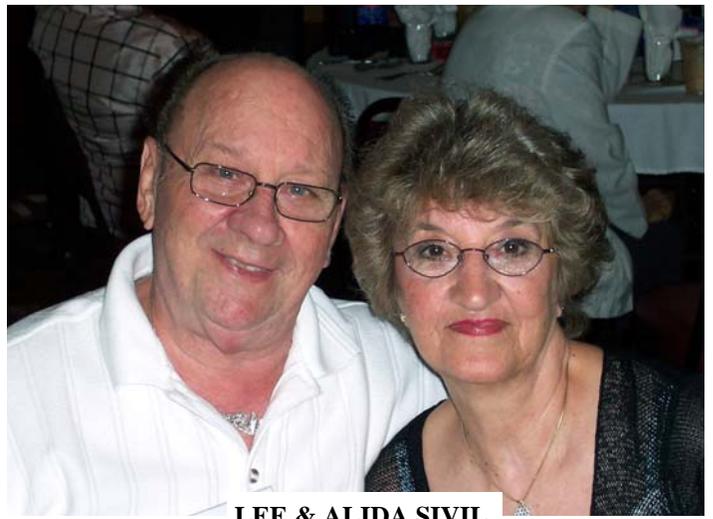
BILL & JOAN FENTON



RALPH & CLAIRE GATES



LAMARR & KATHY SEADER



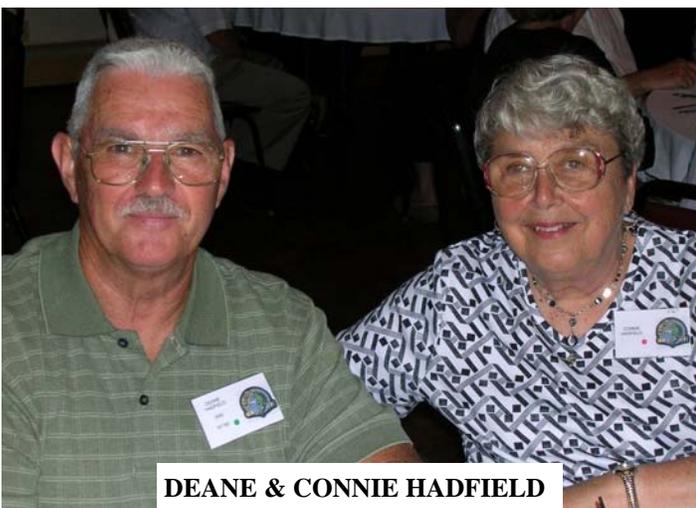
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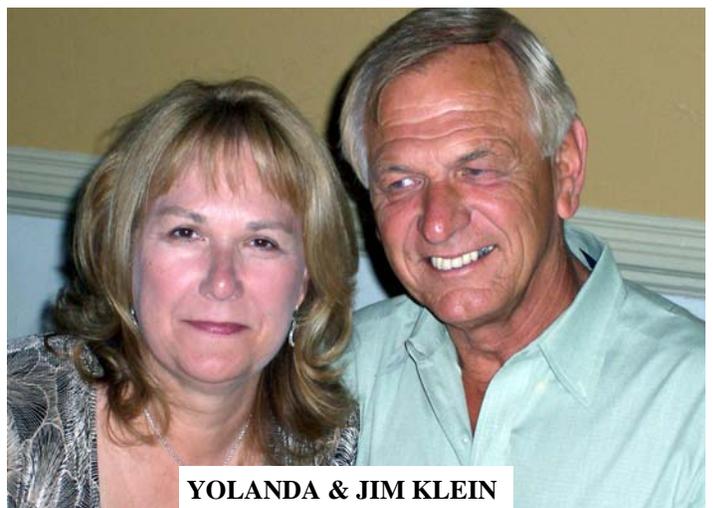
DALE & ROSIE LARSON



MARION & JOE LEONARDI



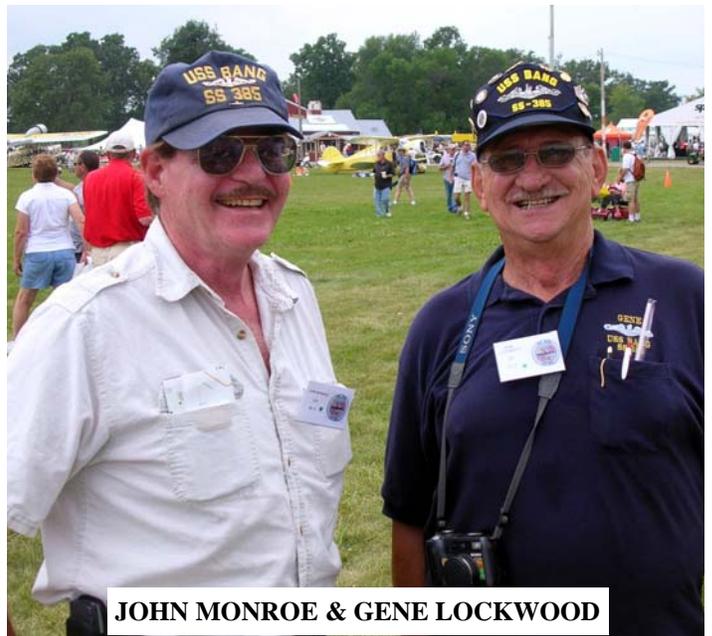
DEANE & CONNIE HADFIELD



YOLANDA & JIM KLEIN



TOM & ROSE HILL



JOHN MONROE & GENE LOCKWOOD



BEN LAPORTE



DORIS COOTER & MARILYN BARRATT



JOE & MARION LEONARDI



SIDNEY SAVAGE & DEANE & CONNIE HADFIELD

BANG VIDEOS NOW ON SALE!



I have received my order from **John Monroe** for DVDs of the 1993 and 1994 Reunions. I am amazed at how good the quality of the video is after 15 years. Seeing and hearing shipmates that are no longer with us is priceless. I thank John for having the foresight back then to take these videos and help preserve the memory of the Bang Gang.

He also has a video that he produced from photos and 8mm film which records BANG history throughout her Commissioned years from 1943 to 1972 and also featured highlights of a 1970-1971 Med Cruise.

John is offering these videos for \$20.00 each in either VHS tape or CD/DVD format. A portion of the proceeds will go to our Slush Fund. (Just recently our Treasurer received a generous Slush Fund donation from John).

Anyone interested in purchasing any or all of these videos contact John by mail at the following address:

**1029 Bush St. Apt. B
Red Wing, MN 55066-3470**

THE SUBMARINER

Submitted by Robert Ashley, ETR (64-65)

Only a submariner realizes to what great extent an entire ship depends on him as an individual. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend, but it is so!

A submarine at sea is a different world in herself, and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of submarines, the Navy must place responsibility and trust in the hands of those who take such ships to sea.

In each submarine there are men who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to each other. These men are ultimately responsible to themselves and each to the other for all aspects of operation of their submarine. They are the crew. They are the ship. This is perhaps the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy.

There is not an instant during his tour as a submariner that he can escape the grasp of responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small, nevertheless, it is the spur which has given the Navy its greatest mariners: the men of the Submarine Service.

It is a duty, which most richly deserves the proud and time-honored title of **SUBMARINER**.

USS BANG (SS385) MEMORIAL SITES

"Keeping The Memory Alive"

Albacore Park - Portsmouth, NH
Tree and Engraved Ground Marker

Battleship Park - Mobile, AL
Engraved Walkway Brick

Mathis Plaza Waterfront Park - S. Toms River, NJ
Engraved Walkway Brick

Deterrent Park - Silverdale, WA
Engraved Walkway Brick

Veterans Memorial Park - Pensacola, FL
Submarine Lifeguard League Memorial Stone

Idaho Science Center - Arco, ID
Engraved Bronze Plaque @ Hawkbill Memorial

Veterans Freedom Memorial - Tampa, FL
Engraved Walkway Brick

USS Lapon Memorial Sail - Springfield, MO
Engraved Walkway Brick

Clarion Hotel - Charleston, SC
Framed Trilogy Drawing on Lobby Wall

New Mexico Vets Memorial - Albuquerque, NM
Engraved Walkway Brick

Nimitz WWII Museum-Fredericksburg, TX
Brass Plaque on Memorial Courtyard Wall

DEPRESSION/RECESSION SALE ON NOW!!!

Place your orders now before we threaten the government with Chapter 11 in order to get us some of the Buy Out Money. Items will be sold by mail or at our Reunions. Send mail orders to **Phil Beals**.

Make your check payable to **USS BANG** and be sure to add a few bucks extra to cover the postage. All proceeds from these sales are deposited directly into our Slush Fund.

Navy Blue Ballcap - USS BANG SS385 embroidered in gold with silver dolphins and solid or mesh top.
Please state your choice.....\$8.00

BANG Photos - 40's, 50's, 60's 8x10 black & white as shown on back page.
Please state your choice.....\$3.00

Jacket Patches - 40's, 50's, 60's 5 inch in full color as shown on back page.
Please state your choice.....\$5.00

WWII Battle Flag Patch - 3x5 inch full color.....\$5.00

1" Lapel/Hat pins - depicting above jacket patches & battle flag. **Please state your choice**.....\$4.00



REUNION UPDATE



Greetings everyone! I hope this newsletter finds all of you in the best of health and Ronnie and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Let me give you a little rundown on why you should attend the 2009 Bang Reunion held in Virginia Beach, VA.

For those of you that made it to the last reunion held here in 2002, you know how much fun there was for all. For those who missed it you can make up for it by attending this years reunion. Being we have almost a year to go before the actual date it commences, you have plenty of time to plan on being here. For those who receive the fabulous newsletter and never attended a reunion you don't know what you're missing.

First, I want you to know that our Headquarters will again be the **Surfside Oceanfront Inn and Suites**. All rooms have been newly renovated since our last stay and come with balcony and ocean view. The cost per night will be **\$56.00** and that includes a **free** Deluxe Continental Breakfast, **free** Internet access, **free** parking, and many more amenities.

The reunion will start on **Monday**, October 19, 2009. I have set this day aside for a quiet MEET, GREET, and be MERRY in our Hospitality Room.

Then **Tuesday** morning is our first scheduled trip. We will head out in the morning for a bus ride to the 70 year old **Mariner's Museum**. Besides being one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world, housing a treasure trove of more than 35,000 items, it is home to the world class and one of the country's premier Civil War attractions — the 63,500 square foot USS Monitor exhibit.

Allotted time will be given for lunch on your own at the Museum café before we board the bus and head for The Casemate Museum, home of the Army's Coast Artillery collection and the focal point of historic Fort Monroe. Discover how the armament at the fort was improved through time taking advantage of new technologies that emerged from the Civil War through WW II before heading back to the hotel.

On **Wednesday** I planned a narrated riding tour of Olde Towne Portsmouth on our way to visit the MacArthur Memorial, located in Norfolk's historic city hall, which traces the life and times of five-star

General Douglas MacArthur. It will then be lunch on your own at MacArthur mall and a short visit to Doumar's Ice-cream parlor for a free cone of ice cream. Doumar's is the home of the first ice cream cone machine which was first introduced at the World's Fair of 1904 in St. Louis. Then, back to the hotel to prepare for the Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise.

The Spirit of Norfolk is an exciting opportunity to get out on the Elizabeth River and see the ships of the Atlantic fleet up close at the Norfolk Naval Base. They will start you off with their candlelit top-of-the-line buffet with several hot entrees. As you eat, appropriate dinner music will be played for a soothing dining experience. After dinner be entertained by live performers with Broadway quality singing and dancing and dance to some of the hottest DJ tune mixes. Things to note:

The dress code is business casual to dress.

The ship is handicap accessible.

Smoking on the outdoor observation decks only.

The cruise lasts three hours and believe me you won't forget it.

Thursday will be a day for yourself to walk on the Boardwalk and enjoy Virginia Beach.

The Banquet Thursday night will feature your choice of:

- 8 oz Broiled Chicken Breast
- 10 oz Broiled Fresh Catch of the Day
- 10 oz Delmonico steak

Served with a fresh Garden Salad, Red Potatoes, Grilled Vegetable Medley, Dessert, Coffee/tea.

More about the Reunion agenda will be published in the Newsletters to follow. In the mean time, If you have any questions, suggestions, etc to help make this Reunion a memorable one for you, please write, call, or e-mail Ronnie and I at the address below and we will try to fulfill your needs.

Gene & Ronnie Lockwood

512 Windsor Gate Cir.

Virginia Beach, VA 23452-2129

(757) 340-8488

gvlockwood@cox.net

Let's break all attendance records

U. S. S. BANG (SS - 385)

66th Anniversary Reunion

Virginia Beach, VA

Monday - October 19th 2009

through

Thursday - October 22nd 2009



Your Hosts

Gene & Ronnie Lockwood

HEADQUARTERS



**Surfside Oceanfront
Inn and Suites**

13th St & Atlantic Ave

Virginia Beach, VA 23451

\$56.00/night Reservations 1-(800) 437-2497

Website—www.virginiabeachsurfside.com

-  **MONDAY** **OCTOBER 19th** - Check In - Hospitality Room opens at 12:00 noon.
-  **TUESDAY** **OCTOBER 20th** - 9:30 a.m. - Mariner's Museum & Fort Monroe.
-  **WEDNESDAY** **OCTOBER 21st** - 9:30 a.m. - MacArthur Memorial & Doumar's
6:00 p.m. - Dinner Cruise - Business Casual Dress to Dress
-  **THURSDAY** **OCTOBER 22nd** - TBA a.m. - Business Meeting — Election of Officers
TBA p.m. - Banquet – Cash Bar – Casual Dress



Clip & Mail to



Registration Form will be published in next issue.

PHIL BEALS, EDITOR
BANG GANG NEWSLETTER
2127 OAHU DRIVE
HOLIDAY, FL 34691-3625



GOD Bless America!
For In GOD We Trust.

FIRST – CLASS MAIL
FORWARDING SERVICE
REQUESTED



PRAISE OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

