



1943



1972



THE BANG GANG NEWSLETTER

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

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SUMMER/FALL 2011

WWW.USSBANG.COM

ISSUE-61

LA MESA, CA FLAG DAY PARADE



BANG SAILS AGAIN!

Photos and Float
Courtesy Of
Frank Walker (52-55)
And
San Diego Base
USSVI



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.



Hazzie B. Williams, RMC (60)
Claude M. Buchanan, EM (64-67)
George J. Cappuccino, QM (62-64)
John R. Sheppard, EM (51) ComCrew2
Albert K. Mace, MM (63-66)



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
Alexander	Sherman G	4963 Bacopa Ln S Unit 504	St Petersburg	FL	33715-2644		68-69
Corzine	Donald E	8545 Carmel Valley Rd	Carmel	CA	93923-9556		45
Nieman	Bruce M	38 Bridge St	Topsham	ME	04086-1904	(207) 321-5015	60-62
Moore	Patrick J	Stonewall Jackson Dr	Wilmington	NC	28412-1722		67-69
Olszewski	Raymond V	4031 Diamond Pt	Eagan	MN	55122-2838		65-66
Wylie	John L	521 Jewelflower Dr	Desoto	TX	75115-6647		52-62



THANK YOU!

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



Bruce Barham

Eric Ericson

Dick Flanagan

Ed Schovajsa



THE INTERNET CONNECTION CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION

Herb Andrews ... herband383@charter.net

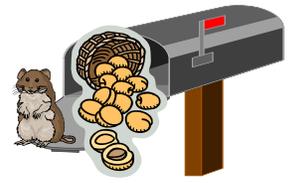
Gary Dannenbaum ... gdann1@q.com

Bruce Nieman ... dtp1@gwi.net



SEE YA IN PENSACOLA...





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!

This will be the last Newsletter mailed before our upcoming Reunion in October and your final reminder to call the hotel for your room reservation and mail your registration form to our host, Lamarr Seader.

If the list of early registrars published on the Reunion page can be used as an indicator, then we should have a very good turnout this year though I am surprised that very few of the shipmates that live "locally" have signed up yet. I know BANG's "final" crew will be happy to see that their skipper, **Dave Harriss**, will be attending this year.

Plenty of camaraderie with "old" shipmates and a wonderful time of the year to be on the Gulf Coast makes for one great Reunion. Register Now!!! Don't wait until you forget again. You have nothing to lose. Should you need to cancel out at a later date, you are covered by the hotel's 48 hour "no penalty" cancellation policy and the "Gang's" guarantee of complete refund of monies mailed with your Registration Form. Your Shipmates await you!



IMPORTANT!!!

Please check the address label on this Newsletter to see if it is valid. If not, please send me your correct one NOW or this may be the last Newsletter you will receive. This goes for E-mail address as well.

The Post Office returned quite a few Newsletters from the last mailing as being "Not Deliverable As Addressed—Unable To Forward". I have been able to locate new addresses for some but others will have to be taken off the mailing list for now. One such shipmate is **Phil Hansen**, whom we just added to our mailing list last year. I recall his daughter-in-law telling me that they were planning to move but I never did receive the new address. If anyone out there has been communicating with Phil, please ask him to send me his new address so I can put him back on our mailing list.



Not much to add to this quarter's Final Patrol List.

Claude Buchanan—The Post Office returned the last Newsletter marked "Deceased". I wasn't able to find an obit for him on the Internet.

George Cappuccino—The Post Office returned the last Newsletter marked "Unclaimed". His wife stated he died in 2009.

Hazzie Williams—The Post Office returned the last

Newsletter marked "Deceased". Unable to locate an obit on the Internet but the Archerfish site listed him as died in November 2010.

John Sheppard—Harry Ross emailed me about his death. His obit was very short. Born 7/6/22—Died 8/8/11. Time and place of funeral. That's it. Since he was a member of ComCrew2 as an EM1, I assume he served on the Boats during WW2. He came to BANG from PIPER.



Al Mace—I first met Al while I was serving aboard BANG with his father, "Mumbles". Al came aboard sometimes on duty weekends to visit his dad. The next time I saw him was about 40 years later at our 1995 Reunion. I looked at his name tag and told him that he wasn't Al Mace. It was then that I found out that he followed in his father's footsteps and also served aboard BANG—I guess those weekend visits impressed

him. After that, I saw Al quite a bit as he became a "regular" attendee at our Reunions and with each Reunion our friendship grew. I will miss Al's attendance at this year's Reunion and all future reunions that I attend. He was a good friend.

Albert "Al" K. Mace, 66, of Okeechobee, FL, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 14, 2011, in Fort Pierce, FL. He was born Aug. 19, 1944 in Akron, OH. Mr. Mace proudly served our country in the U.S. Navy. He enjoyed antique cars and Scottish Terriers. He was a friend to everyone.

Mr. Mace is survived by his loving companion of 16 years, Chris Velazquez of Okeechobee, FL; his mother, Barbara Herring of Lincroft; his sister, Donette Fitzpatrick and her husband Joe of Phoenixville, PA; his brother, Kent Herring and his wife Valerie of Lincroft; niece, Courtney Herring and nephew, Kyle Herring; his Naval brother, James Klein and his wife Yolanda; his best friends, Jim and Linda Schnider; and many loving family and friends.

Interment will be Saturday, Aug. 20 at Woodbine Cemetery, Oceanport, NJ. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to The Monmouth County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, website is <http://monmouthcountypca.org/support/donate/>. Please visit Albert Kenneth Mace's memorial website www.sidun.com.



*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.*



SICK BAY

I haven't received any updates on **Marge Heater** nor **John Monroe** (69-72) so I hope no news is good news—or at least, status quo. We are still thinking about the both of you and continue to include you in our prayers.

Larry Harjehausen sends his regrets that he will not be able to make it to Pensacola for the Bang Gang get together. He is experiencing some very painful lower back problems that have affected his ability to walk without the fear of falling over. It is made very painful due to a pinched nerve which causes his left ankle to give out. He also is scheduled to have his left knee replaced sometime in September.

Ed.— I used to have the same symptoms and an officer kept telling me I was drunk. Now, I find out it was my lower back.

Larry, we pray that your knee replacement is successful and gets you back on your feet again.



Bill Fenton, our Webmaster informed me that he now has the video of the rescue of **Don Corsine** up and running on our web site. Just go to www.ussbang.com and click on **Videos**. Then scroll down. Well done, Bill.

Our Reunion Host, **Lamarr Seader**, asked me to remind all SubVets who own vests to bring them to the Reunion “to let the folks in Pensacola know that there is a ‘Boat Sailor’ reunion in town.....

See y'all in Pensacola—I hope!

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



Eric Ericson, a TorpedoMan (67-68), “I've been meaning to send this photo to you for some time now. It's from January when I (second left) was sworn in as Commander, Marblehead, MA Base USSVI. **George LeBlanc** (far left) was again sworn in as Treasurer. He has held that position since the inception of the base. So now, we have two of the Bang Gang on the E-Board.

I have sent in my reservation form for the reunion in Pensacola and am counting the days until Sally and I wing our way to the Sunshine State.

Speaking of the reunion, I know there are some shipmates out there who would like to join us but are hesitant, thinking that it may be a little boring for their spouse or significant other. I also thought this when contemplating going to the Charleston Reunion several years back. I knew I'd have a great time, but would Sally feel out of place. I needn't have worried. Everyone made Sally feel right at home, and now she looks forward to seeing her friends - especially her old "drinking buddy" **Paul Schramm**. So shipmates, if you think your companion will be bored, put that thought right out of your head. They just might have a better time than you.

At my first reunion in Charleston, there were only four shipmates from the '60s. Last year in New London, there were over 30 and it was great to see each one of them again. This is a chance to see

that old running mate, and perhaps find out how and where you spent all that money in Malaga during that Med Cruise. Do you think we could get Mr. Fenton to give a shout out to Officer Country? They might want to come on down. We had some great Officers and I'm sure many of the group would like to see them again.

Well, that's about it for now, see everyone in October."....*Eric, congratulations to you and George on your election to the E-Board and I am very happy to hear that you and Sally will be joining us again this year. And, for all other shipmates, why not make plans to be with Eric and Sally in Pensacola this year. Whether you wore silver or gold dolphins, you will be welcomed with open arms eager to renew old friendships and make new ones.*

Dick Flanagan, a RadioMan (56-58), "It was great seeing you guys again in New London last year, but I had to leave before the banquet as I had a very important meeting the following morning.

I hope to see you again in Pensacola on October 10, however 10/10/10 is a bad day for me. After the meeting we had in Massachusetts in 2005 I suffered a heart attack. Now right after the meeting in New London, I came down with something called Guillain-Barre Syndrome.

I was in my den on a Saturday, 10/10/10 and my wife said she was going to the store to get something for lunch, I said OK, I'm going to read a book I was into. She left and I turned around to flip on the light and the next moment I was on the floor. My legs just went out from under me and I couldn't move. I was completely paralyzed, arms and legs. I lay on the floor for about 20 minutes thinking I ruptured something in my back and contemplated living like this for the rest of my life. I tried to crawl to a chair and my arms and legs just collapsed. When my wife came home I hollered to her from the den and told her I was on the floor, that I had fallen and couldn't get up. Finally after repeated try's we got me into a chair and she called members of the family who came and got me to the hospital. [I wouldn't go in an ambulance as they take you to the nearest hospital and I refused to go to that butcher shop]. My son-in-law is the head of the emergency room of another hospital nearby and I went there. After every test possible they said they had one more to do, a spinal tap. I said fine and it was done. My wife said "didn't that hurt?" and I replied "I'm paralyzed I can't feel anything." They finally came and told me I had Guillain-Barre and I said "what the hell is that?" They explained it was very rare effecting 1 to 2 people out of 100,000. I said "well, I guess this is my lotto winnings."

Later that night they got the serum and I got 5 IV's a day for 5 days. I just found out the cost, \$8,000 each. Thank god for insurance. I spent a month in

the hospital learning how to walk and move my arms again. When I fell I also tore my rotator cuff so my right arm atrophied.

I was doing great until about a month ago and I started having symptoms again so back to the doctor and they diagnosed me with something called CIDP [long name]. Both illnesses are something that attacks your immune system and your peripheral nervous systems. [My luck again, another lotto win]. This is a chronic counterpart of GBS. Looks like I might have to go back on the IV's ..

Oh well!, at least I'm back to playing golf, not as well as I would like but at least I'm playing.

My wife has been wonderful in taking care of me through all of this—feeding me, bathing me, walking with me, and taking me to rehab. Without her, my 6 kids & spouses, and 15 grandchildren, I would have never made it.

Hope you all keep on sailing on an even keel.

!" ... *Dick, sorry to hear about your blown chances of winning the lottery. From what you describe, there seems to be a pattern forming. Your illnesses are not caused by you attending our Reunions but, by you attending our reunions and leaving early. Make plans this year to stay on board 'til the end and lets see what happens.*

An old sub sailor remembers!

When I am an Old Sailor,

I will stand at the shore and remember the raging waves,

The glassy calm shimmering under a soft full moonlight.

In a harbor I will remember leaving the shore,

To be gone for seas and length of time unknown.

In a cemetery my memories will honor those there, Also those whose graves are only the depths of the cold uncaring sea.

On the deck of a memorial submarine those that I sailed with,

Living, working, laughing, crying and sadly sometimes dying.

I will remember the thunder of huge engines and the klaxon sound.

Sea stories and of chow call going down.

As I finger the worn silver dolphins on an old ball cap,

I remember the day when bright and shiny they were pinned on my shirt.

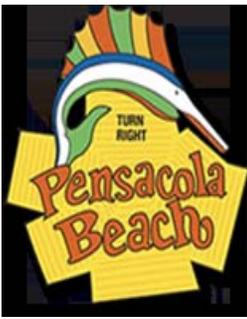
At a reunion faces and names will return to my memory,

As will fires, flooding and other challenges of the always dangerous deep.

These memories give me the satisfaction of knowing I said, "I can do this." "I did do this."

"I am glad I was one of the few that did it."





REUNION UPDATE 2011



PENSACOLA, FL



Hello Shipmates!

Congratulations to **Ed and June Kracker**, winners of the free room upgrade drawing that was available to all who mailed in their Registration Form before August 1st.

As the October 10-14, 2011 USS Bang (SS-385) Reunion at Pensacola Beach draws near, consider this your last reminder to make your hotel and reunion reservations. Don't forget that you can get the same room rate three days before and three days after our Reunion to extend your stay.

IMPORTANT: MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW AS ALL UNRESERVED ROOMS BLOCKED FOR OUR REUNION WILL BE RELEASED BACK INTO THE GENERAL INVENTORY ON FRIDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER.

There is a large music festival scheduled on the beach the weekend after our Reunion so all available hotel rooms will be snapped up by the festival goers.

If you have the National Parks Service Golden Age Passport card be sure to bring it along. At the Western end of Santa Rosa Island (Pensacola Beach) is Ft Pickens National Park, a Civil War era fort that guarded the entrance to Pensacola Bay and once housed Indian Chief Geronimo. Entrance fee is regularly \$25.00 but it's free with the card. You can get the Golden Age Passport if you google "National Park Service" and click on the Senior Pass application. A one-time fee of \$20.00 gains you free access for a lifetime to any National Park.

If you are driving your RV to the Reunion there is a RV park on Ft Pickens grounds, about 10 miles from the Reunion hotel. Reservations can be made year round by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777, or visit their web site at **www.Recreation.gov**. There are two other RV parks located about 15-17 miles from the hotel in Navarre, FL. If you need info on them call Lamarr and Kathy at (850) 623-0502.

We are offering two tours. Tuesday's tour to Battleship Park in Mobile, AL includes park admission and lunch. You will have ample time to tour USS Drum (SS-228) and USS Alabama (BB-60) plus other Park features.

Wednesday's tour is to the National Naval Aviation Museum on Naval Air Station Pensacola. Admission to the museum is free and a group lunch is already arranged for 11:30 at the infamous "Cubi Point Bar's Westpac Room for \$11.00 per person including tip.

A choice of several IMAX films at a group discount rate of \$8.00 each will also be available.

Wednesday evening we will have a new feature. "The USS Bang Olympic Games" from 8:00 to 9:30 PM. Teams will compete for prizes and recognition as top Olympians.

During Thursday evening's cocktail hour and banquet dinner (5:30-8:30), hotel bartenders will be serving our own libations **so there's no charge for drinks other than a complimentary tip.**

If you have special dietary needs write them on the back of the registration form.

Please contact Kathy and I with any questions.

Lamarr & Kathy Seader

3855 Windsor Castle Blvd

Milton, FL 32583-5005

(850) 623-0502

e-mail: seaderl@bellsouth.net

Shipmates currently signed up to attend.

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Phil Beals | 20. Charles Kimball |
| 2. George Bailey | 21. Jim Klein |
| 3. Charles Bunkley | 22. Ed Kracker |
| 4. Al Cadenhead | 21. John Kraft |
| 5. Fritz Carlson | 22. Ben LaPorte |
| 6. Marvin Christenson | 23. Joseph Leonardi |
| 7. Isaac Cohen | 24. Gene Lockwood |
| 8. William Cromie | 25. Andrew McKaye |
| 9. Rocco De Leo | 26. Raymond Moore |
| 10. Ed Delong | 27. Edward Moran |
| 11. Charles Dougherty | 28. Denis O'Brien |
| 12. Eric Ericson | 29. William Powell |
| 13. Len Fagotti | 30. John Regish |
| 14. Bill Fenton | 31. Harry Ross |
| 15. Dick Flanagan | 32. Stuart Savage |
| 16. Bob Gunny | 33. Len Sciuto |
| 17. Richard Gahan | 34. Lamarr Seader |
| 18. Dave Harriss | 35. Lee Sivil |
| 19. Domenic Iammarino | 36. Bill Von Der Lieth |

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

68th Anniversary Reunion

Pensacola Beach, FL

Monday - October 10th 2011

through

Thursday - October 14th 2011



Your Hosts

Lamarr & Kathy Seader

HEADQUARTERS



MONDAY **OCTOBER 10th - Check In - Hospitality Room opens at 12:00 noon.**



TUESDAY **OCTOBER 11th - 8:15 a.m. - Battleship Park Tour. Mobile, AL**



WEDNESDAY **OCTOBER 12th - 8:15 a.m. - Naval Aviation Museum Tour.**



THURSDAY **OCTOBER 13th - 8:30 a.m. - Business Meeting - Election of Officers.
5:30 p.m. - Cocktails & Banquet.**



FRIDAY **OCTOBER 14th - Check Out.**

----- **Clip Here and Mail To:** -----

Lamarr Seader —3855 Windsor Castle Blvd—Milton, FL 32583-5005 by **AUGUST 1ST**

YES, I/WE PLAN TO ATTEND THE REUNION.

RATE/RANK: _____

NAME: _____ **YEARS ABOARD BANG:** ____ to ____

ADDRESS: _____ **PHONE NO:** (____) ____ - ____

CITY: _____ **ST:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

SPOUSE'S / GUEST'S NAME(S): _____

ARRIVAL DATE: __/__/__ **DEPART DATE:** __/__/__ **E-MAIL:** _____

NUMBER TAKING BATTLESHIP PARK TOUR:..... ____ **@ \$45.00 per person. =** _____

NUMBER TAKING AVIATION MUSEUM TOUR:..... ____ **@ \$25.00 per person. =** _____

NUMBER ATTENDING BANQUET:..... ____ **@ \$40.00 per person. =** _____

PLEASE SPECIFY ENTRÉE CHOICE(S)

INDICATE HOW MANY?: ____ - Chicken ____ - Beef

HOSPITALITY ROOM STIPEND:@ \$10.00 per person. = _____

Make check payable to **Lamarr Seader**

TOTAL _____

PHIL BEALS, EDITOR
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NIVERVILLE, NY 12130-0385



**GOD Bless America!
For In GOD We Trust.**

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REQUESTED**



PRaise OUR MILITARY! - AND PRAY FOR THEM TOO.

