

# From the Association's Secretary



**T**he dates for our 17th annual reunion are fast approaching and the wheels are in motion for a memorable occasion. A reminder, if you have intentions of attending, you will need to complete the Registration Form, whether you are using the hotel facilities or not. We need the numbers for calculating meals and such, so if you have not already done so, contact me for the reunion package. Cut off date for registration is August 23, 2002.



The winner of this year's Room and Reunion Package is John & Judy Johnstone of the TM Association. (Congratulations!!!!) . . . we only had 31 people take advantage of the drawing this year, so were only able to give out one package. Hope this is not indicative of the projected attendance . . . remember, this was the choice of the majority of those that voted. With the consensus of the Advisory Board, we have chosen Pensacola, Florida for the 2003 reunion site.

Now on to a not so pleasant topic. In the last two newsletters, I have requested information and assistance from the members, with minimal response. In the February issue, I asked that if you had an email address, please advise me, so I could include it on the Master Listing . . . I got four responses . . . YET, I have received emails from persons that never provided that info. Secondly, in the May issue, I asked for assistance in locating additional shipmates. I received a grand total of THREE, yes (3) members who offered to make some phone calls on behalf of the association. This is out of a paying membership of over 1000. You calculate the percentage . . . too small to include here. This leads me to believe one of two things . . . either no one reads this column, or we have located all the persons the membership is interested in finding. Needless to say, this has been very discouraging to me. Over the past 17+ years, I have devoted countless hours to these associations, from maintaining the data base, which presently contains over 9700 names to continually attempting to locate former crew members and shipmates, in addition to trying to put together a reunion to suit all members of the group. Many of you do not have any concept of what it takes to locate just one new member. Let me enlighten you . . . they have not all come knocking on my or Matt Szkopiec's door asking for information and a Membership Application. Consequently, in view of the marginal interest in locating additional members, I have decided to cease that part of my responsibilities, effective July 1, 2002. Believe me, I have many other endeavors to which I can devote the time to. Sorry to end this column on such a sour note . . . but, I needed to vent my frustrations. We

*Cont. on Page 16*



**K** eeping us informed of your address is very important . . . to both of us!

- We want to ensure that our mail reaches you.
- We want to make sure you receive your copy of the "News."

Send all address changes to:

**RON CURTIS**

207 W. Marvin Avenue  
Owensville, Mo. 65066-1038

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

New Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**DON'T FORGET**  
**All dues payments and orders for merchandise are to be sent to**

**DEAN CHOCHOLOUSEK,**  
*Treas.*

**2080 SE RED LANE**  
**LATHROP, MO 64465**

## Membership Dues

Yearly dues for membership in our organization is \$20. Checks can be made out to any of the Associations.

## Life Membership Rates

If you have already paid your 2001 dues, credit for that amount will be allowed toward a LIFE MEMBERSHIP. We trust your integrity, no proof of birth date required.

AGE	LIFETIME DUES
40-55	\$170.00
56-60	135.00
61-65	120.00
66-70	100.00
71-75	80.00
76+	65.00



**Next Issue:**  
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**2002**



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# See you at the **REUNION**



**Sept. 25 – 29, 2002**

**If you are  
planning to  
attend the  
reunion,  
please notify  
Ron so that  
he can send you a  
“Reunion Packet”  
when all details  
are finalized.**



**Sheraton**  
HOTELS & RESORTS

**Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel**  
2886 South Circle Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906  
Phone: (719) 576-5900  
Fax: (719) 576-7695



## **Why a combined association?**

*(From Ron's letter included in  
the Reunion Packet)*

For those of you who may be considering attending our reunion for the first time, let me try and explain why we have three entities grouped together. I am the common denominator, as I served aboard the Currituck and Everglades as a TM. When I began seeking shipmates from my Naval career, we met for the first time in 1987 and it was then decided to remain meeting together as a group. Since that time, on a few occasions, we have discussed the possibility of breaking off into separate entities, but the consensus has always been to continue as ONE group. This has given us considerable bargaining power with the hotels and the like due to the increased numbers of potential attendees. Since we all basically did the same kinds of tasks whether it be aboard an AD, AV or any other type of Naval vessel, we do have a common bond and has never been a problem in finding topics to relate with each other. Our reunions are a family affair and should you have a guest you would like to bring along, you will find they are most welcome in our group. We know no strangers and as has happened in the past . . . you could very well find a life long friend, whom you had never met, within our attendees.



## **Corrections**

Some of our members have reported that 2 items that appeared in our previous issue need clarification.

1. The prices that appeared for the Continental Senior Pass have increased.

2. The hotel does charge for roll-away beds.

We are sorry if the information we printed caused any inconvenience and we thank those members for calling it to our attention.

# Reunion Schedule

USS Currituck • USS Everglades • Association of Torpedoman's Mates  
September 25-29, 2002 / Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel

## Wednesday, September 25

12:00pm - 6:00pm Reunion Registration Open  
Hospitality Room open  
Dinner on your own

## Thursday, September 26

7:00am - Coffee available in the Hospitality Room  
7:30am - 8:30am Reunion Registration continues  
9:45am - 3:15pm **AIR FORCE ACADEMY/GARDEN  
OF THE GODS**  
3:30pm - 5:00pm Reunion Registration continues  
Evening on your own

## Friday, September 27

7:00am - Coffee available in the Hospitality Room  
8:15pm - 1:00pm **COG RAILWAY**  
5:30pm - 9:30pm **FLYING W RANCH**

## Saturday, September 28

8:00am - 9:30am Breakfast Buffet  
9:00am - Men's Business Meeting  
10:00am - 5:00pm Hospitality Room open  
10:00am - 3:30pm **ROYAL GORGE TRAIN RIDE**  
4:00pm - Chinese Auction Drawing.  
5:00pm - Photographs will be taken  
6:00pm - Cash Bar  
7:00pm - 11:00pm Banquet, followed by music and dancing

## Sunday, September 29

8:00am - 9:30am Farewell breakfast buffet until 9:30am.



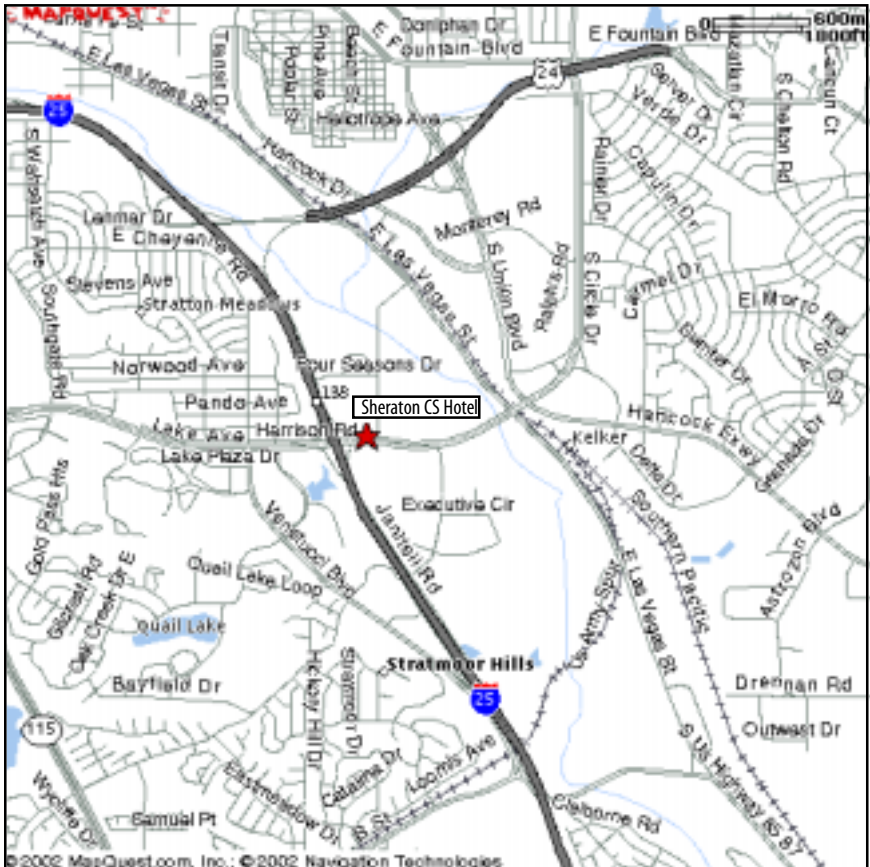
## ***If you are arriving by auto . . .***

**From Denver:** I-25 South to Exit 138 (Circle Dr), hotel is on East side of I-25, clearly visible from the highway

**From Pueblo:** I-25 North to Exit 138 (Circle Dr), hotel is on the right side of I-25, clearly visible from the highway.

**From the Airport:** Drennan 2 miles, right on Hancock 4 miles, right on \*South\* Circle 1 mile, hotel on right side of South Circle Dr.

**Highway 24:** East to I-25, South on I-25 to Exit 138 (Circle Dr), hotel is on the left side I-25, clearly visible from the highway.



## ***If you are arriving by air . . .***

**Complimentary Airport Transportation:** The Colorado Springs Airport is seven miles from the hotel. The hotel offers complimentary round trip transportation. The airport serves major airlines with direct flights from cities across the country.

## **The Chinese Auction**

Remember to bring an unwrapped gift that will be "auctioned off" to help subsidize the cost of the Hospitality Room. The article can be anything from a special handmade item to that really ugly clock that Aunt Clara sent you last Christmas. The "Auction" will be held on Saturday and items will be on display Thursday and Friday.

## **Ship's Store Volunteers**

We've been very successful in past reunions in sharing this task among volunteers. Members volunteer an hour or so for a "watch" when the store is open. Don't hesitate to volunteer and put your name on the list . . . it's effortless and a great way to meet others.

## **Hospitality Room & Desk Volunteers**

Spend an hour or so meeting first and old timers with information at the front door or in the Hospitality Room. You are guaranteed an interesting time. Just ask the volunteers who stood watches previously - we had to talk them into being relieved.

## **To make hotel reservations**

### **Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel**

2886 South Circle Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906  
call

**(800) 981-4012 or  
(719) 576-5900**

**Fax: (719) 576-7695**

**Don't forget to make your hotel reservations as early as possible. At previous reunions members who booked late had to be placed in other locations in order to be accommodated.**



## **Call for nominations to Advisory Board**

At the Business Meeting to be held on Saturday (during the reunion) a call for 3 nominations and or volunteers to serve a three year term on the Association's Advisory Board. All members interested should notify Ron.



## **Att. Currituck '44**

*My father (Raymond Woolweber) served onboard USS Currituck during WW II. Records indicate that he was a SK1 while onboard in the August 1944 timeframe. I would appreciate any photos or information about the ship and crew during the period that my father was onboard. I look forward to hearing from you.*  
Thanks

—Wayne Woolweber  
mangos9@earthlink.net

## REMINDER

- ✓ *Have you made your room reservations?  
See Hotel reservation information*
- ✓ *Have you requested the tour info packet?  
Available from Ron*
- ✓ *Have you sent back your completed packet  
to Armed Forces Reunions?  
Should be returned before Aug. 23*



## What we won't see in Colorado Springs Cheyenne Mountain Air Station

### America's Space Defense

Cheyenne Mountain Air Station is home to a network of military organizations that scan the skies above North America and the world, searching for threats against American citizens and the

### **Cheyenne Mountain Air Station**

*A bit of a misnomer,  
as nothing flies at  
this Air Force Base.*

U.S. armed forces. It is the first line of defense against attack on North America. The

following are involved: North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), U.S. Space Command, Air Force Space Command, U.S. Army Space Command, Naval Space Command.

The military hollowed out the inside of Cheyenne Mountain in the 1960s to house personnel and equipment, whose purpose was to monitor the skies for missile or air attack. The facility was originally designed to withstand a thermonuclear blast. Though modern nuclear warheads are ca-

pable of reaching the base, the station's design and location still make it virtually impregnable from conventional attack. Unfortunately the events of 9/11 have caused the following message to be posted on their web site.

IN LIGHT OF THE ON-GOING CRISIS,  
ALL VISITS/TOURS OF  
CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN AIR FORCE STATION  
ARE ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.  
DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS TO  
(719) 474-2238 OR (719) 474-2240.

Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center (CMOC) does not offer tours for the general public. In lieu of going inside Cheyenne Mountain, CMOC Public Affairs and Presentations offers a General Public Presentation (GPP). The GPP is a multi-media presentation that includes a brief history of Cheyenne Mountain, the facilities inside the mountain, and missions of CMOC.

Reservations can be made by calling the Cheyenne Mountain Public Affairs and Presentations Office at (719) 474-2238.

# Welcome Aboard . . .

*Due to some poor copies of original applications, some bad handwriting, and not to mention some weak typing skills and eyes of the typesetter, there can be errors in the following list—if you think the errors may prevent former shipmates from recognizing and contacting you please advise and corrections will be made in the next issue.*

*The following names are of shipmates who have joined the association since the last newsletter was printed.*

## **Currituck**

<b>Amick, A., Frank</b> 2218 Mt. Carmel Drive, Waco, TX 76710	254-772-5558	RM2	1944-45
<b>Andrews, Eugene J.</b> 22 Orms Street, Pawtucket, RI 02861	401-723-6130	SH3	1954-57
<b>Baldo, Richard D.</b> 850 Franklin Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057	724-794-5913	ABG3	1953-55
<b>Beamish, Donald F.</b> 620 W. Wright St, West Branch, MI 48661	989-345-1999	S2C	1946-
<b>Burton, Donald W.</b> 1220 Cedar Avenue, Boulder, CO 80304-3114	303-442-2823	ACMM	1944-
<b>Carroll, Robert T.</b> 1614 E. Calle Muleta, Tucson, AZ 85714	520-294-8481	YNC	1951-55
<b>Conn, Kendall H.</b> 817 Fair Franz Drive, Ashland, KY 41101-3005	606-324-9763	SN	1957-58
<b>DeCosterd, Fred</b> 9 Deer Path, Coram, NY 11727-2147	631-642-0039	ET3	1954-55
<b>Delong, Raymond H.</b> 2775 Richmond Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80922	719-574-1506	AFCM	1966-67
<b>Demers, Donald J.</b> 1000 So. Beech Street, Manchester, NH 03103-5812	603-668-8305	HM2	1954-56
<b>Eitatreim, Irving R.</b> 609 Center Ave, Decorah, IA 52101	563-382-2239	AT2	1953-34
<b>Evans, Everett Douglas</b> 11848 Sussex Hill Way, Leesburg, FL 34788-8150	352-483-3117	BT3	1951-54
<b>Fisher, Robert</b> 109 Dr. Braley Road, East Freetown, MA 02717-1816	508-763-5235	S1C	1945-46
<b>Fitzgerald, Richard B.</b> 5928 Pioneer Mesa Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80918	719-388-8180	LI3	1953-54
<b>Fitzke, John L.</b> 7205 Woodmore Oaks Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95610	916-729-2840		1953-54
<b>Grammar, Leslie</b> 419 Patio Drive, Columbia, SC 29212		RD2	1954-57
<b>Haas, Walter E.</b> 2017 Girard Avenue, Allentown, PA 18104-1115	610-437-2747	EMP3	1951-52
<b>Harton, Lee A.</b> 223 Collier Drive, Springfield, IL 62704	217-787-8641	BT2	1960-62
<b>Helveston, William J.</b> 68 S. 3rd Avenue, Fruitport, MI 49415	231-865-3737	SN1	1951-52
<b>Laskosky, Henry P.</b> Costa Marina, Tower Two Apt. 5-G, Carolina, PR 00983-1530	787-762-8184	AG1	1961-63
<b>Martin, Milton T.</b> P.O. Box 2322, Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742	706-375-2280	BT3	1953-
<b>Morris, Don R.</b> 17 Old Creek Court, Rockville, MD 20854	301-762-3340	LT	1966-67
<b>Napoli, Anthony C.</b> 9561 Lydell Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123-5420	314-631-1432	SN	1953-55
<b>O'Hara Marty</b> 305 East 24 <sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10010	212-679-9372	RD3	1954-55

<b>Onufrak, Richard A.</b> PMB 189, 297 Rt. 72 W., Ste. C, Manahawkin, NJ 08050	609-242-3774	RD2	1953-55
<b>Richardson, Porter A.</b> 121 Sunrise Court, Naples, FL 34119	239-455-9119	EMC	1947-48
<b>Smith, Neville E.</b> 1112 Citation Circle, Hendersonville, NC 28739-5528	828-698-1500	YN2	1951-52
<b>Steed, William P.</b> 29838 Corte Castille, Temecula, CA 92591	909-587-6372	RMC	1966-67
<b>Sterling, August</b> 1533 See Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601-1745	337-436-6300	BM1	1951-56
<b>Tetzlaff, Robert A.</b> 219 Winfred Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15236	412-655-7554	PRCS	1952-55
<b>Travers, Edward F.</b> P.O. Box 484, 152 Lighthouse Drive, Waretown, NJ 08758	609-6934943	AO2	1951-55
<b>Walcutt, Osee</b> 5876 Marion Drive, Lockport, NY 14094	716-433-3385	RD3	1954-55

### **Everglades**

<b>Adams, Richard L.</b> 921 Trout Avenue, Mansfield, OH 44903	419-389-8466	PM3	1953-54
<b>Blanchard, Neal H.</b> 4862 Embassy Circle, Lapalma, CA 9062-2253	714-826-9145	BM3	1952-56
<b>Briscoe, Michael D.</b> 5 Lakeview Lane, Southhampton, NJ 08088	609-859-2469	SN	1968-70
<b>Chamberlin, Charles</b> 739 Porchtown Road, Franklinville, NJ 08322	856-694-3513	FP3	1952-56
<b>Cooper, James H.</b> 410 16 <sup>th</sup> Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648	714-374-5859	GM3	1951-54
<b>Dunham, Leslie H.</b> 19 Woodland Drive, Springfield, VT 05156	802-885-2024	SK2	1950-52
<b>Fuller, Wayne A.</b> 2576 N. 56 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Lot 7, Hart, MI 49420-8398	231-873-2012	SF3	1966-69
<b>Jacobs, Robert L.</b> P.O. Box 1170, Inez, KY 41224	606-298-7744	SFM2	1963-66
<b>Lazaro, Louis</b> 1854 Waldheim Road, Bethlehem, PA 18015	610-838-1869	EM3	1958-60
<b>Leek, Dennis D.</b> 4123 Burton Drive, Stow, OH 44224	330-688-9121	EN2	1964-65
<b>Leonard, Henry A.</b> 1420 Miami Circle, Birmingham, AL 35214	205-798-4032	E3	1968-69
<b>Linhart, Robert Paul</b> 207 SE 10 Terrace, #2, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301	954-462-8782	E3	1968-69
<b>Pollina, Ronald J.</b> 38 Brickett Hill Circle, Haverhill, MA 01830	978-372-1187	YN3	1968-70
<b>Prince, Larry N.</b> 1625 Neelys Bend Road, Madison, TN 37115	615-865-8436	BT3	1967-68
<b>Seifert, Marvin J.</b> 4741 FM 536, Pleasanton, TX 78064	830-393-6863	SHSN	1951-54
<b>Suttie, Joe L.</b> 225 S. Argyle Avenue, Apt. 114, Fresno, CA 93727-4424	559-252-4719	IC3	1962-63
<b>Thomason, Cletus Donald</b> 22150 Mary Street, Taylor, MI 48180	313-292-5522	GM3	1951-55

### **Torpedoman's Assn.**

<b>Aldrich, Claud</b> 4410 Canal Road, Lake Wales, FL 33898	863-439-3297	TM3	1944-46
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<b>Boccia, Archie D.</b> 1907 Commodore Drive, San Jose, CA 95133-1148	408-729-4626	TMC(ss)	1960-80
<b>Bohac, Charles B.</b> 10541 Plymouth Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702	727-578-9738	TM2(ss)	1969-72
<b>Bolda, Edmund C.</b> 663 Greenbay Avenue, Calumet City, IL 60409	708-891-4944	TM2	1952-56
<b>Chandler, Dennis</b> 2 Pocono Road, Middletown, RI 02842	401-847-6260	TMC	1968-88
<b>Coppinger Boies P., Jr.</b> 910 Contento Street, Sarasota, FL 34242	941-349-1719	TM2	1944-52
<b>Hacker, P. J.</b> 506 E. Bayview Blvd., Norfolk, VA 23503	757-583-3820	TMCM	1967-94
<b>Higley, Arlyn J.</b> 1110 Grinnell Street, Key West, FL 33040	305-296-5992	TMCS	1967-88
<b>Hutchison, William V.</b> 7282 Sugar Lake Road, Cochran, PA 16314	814-789-2802	TMC	1959-82
<b>Large, Robert Terry</b> 2818 Summer Drive, Chipley, FL 32428	850-773-3612	TMC(ss)	1966-86
<b>May, Kelvin M.</b> P.O. Box 1311, Denham Springs, LA 70727	225-791-2216	TM2	1980-86
<b>Nicodin, Larry J.</b> 1609 Churchill Road, Moncks Corner, SC 29961	843-761-6994	TMCM	1967-91
<b>Noble, Gary D.</b> 17765 Meadow Wood Drive, Siloam Springs, AR 72761	479-685-4650	TM1(sw)	1974-90
<b>Olsen, Richard (Dick)</b> 9 Chelsea Court, Palm Coast, FL 32137	386-445-6312	LT	1948-73
<b>Parker, Joe C.</b> 1788 Kingsmill Drive, Orlando, FL 32826	402-281-0697	TMC	1961-91
<b>Peterson, Kenneth R., Jr.</b> 3535 Apollo Drive, N-346, Metairie, LA 70003	504-887-1572	TM3(ss)	1974-77
Rathgeber, Edward T. 11 Ann Street, Plainfield, CT 06374	860-230-0265	EG/TM1	1991-
<b>Rylen, Louis</b> 162 Hanover Street, Citrus Heights, CA 95621	916-725-8072	TM1(ss)	1952-73
<b>Sergent, James A.</b> 129 Hillsborough Drive, Sorrento, FL 32776-9612	352-735-4695	TMC(sw/ss)	1965-96
<b>Statson, John C.</b> 19 Woods Place, Fon du Lac, WI 54935	920-922-7753	TM2	1942-46
<b>Welsh, William, Jr.</b> 33 Cindy Lane, Mystic, CT 06355	860-536-7068	TMCS(ss)	1945-71



## **History of the Currituck on a CD**

*Steve Eakin (AV7 Historian) has compiled an extensive history of the Currituck on a CD. This data along with photos is available for the cost of \$15.*

*Contact him at 1054 Visalia Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Phone No. 714-641-1482.*

## **Master Listings price change**

*Due to increases in postage costs and printing we need to change the cost to \$7 per copy.*



*The winner of the Colorado Springs Room & Reunion Package Raffle is  
**John & Judy Johnstone (TM Assn.)**  
of Cudahy, WI*

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# Mail Call



Please address  
all correspondence to:

**Ron Curtis,**  
207 W. Marvin Avenue,  
Owensville, MO, 65066-1038.

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Please note that these letters have been edited  
due to space considerations.

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*Dear Ron . . .*

## **Currituck**

*. . . Just got the newsletter and enjoyed it as I always do. I am so impressed with all the work put into the association and everything that goes with it. Please send me a reunion packet as I plan to attend the reunion in Colorado Springs. I have a number of relatives there so I am not certain where I will stay but I will want to make a couple of tours. My Father was raised in Cripple Creek so I am most interested in that tour if it doesn't conflict with the Accademy tour. Heart condition prohibits the Cogg railway although my grandfather helped build that years ago; He also worked as a lawman in the Cripple Creek gold mines. Thanks again, Ron, for all your work. Warm regards.*

*—Wayne Stewart.*

*. . . Hoping to attend the reunion. If you could send us the package for the reunion we'd appreciate it.*

*—Ken VanLoon*

*. . . Please be so kind to mail details on the reunion. I spent over 25 years in the Navy and the Currituck was my first ship. I served on her from 1950-53. I was the Chief's mess cook and later their cook. Hope to hear from you soon.*

*—Gorden J. Wedig (Chiclana, Spain)*

*. . . Haven't seen you since Portland.. If I don't make it to Colorado Springs, I'll*

*be sure to make it in 2003. Hope you are well.*

*—Farris Smith*

*. . . Enjoyed learning about your "missions" associated with the USS Currituck and admire your ambition and loyalty. I can only imagine the amount of time and effort you have put into this project. Don't know how helpful it will be hearing back from "us" . . . but I did want to let you know my husband (James F. Ecarius) is NOT the James L. Eccarius you are trying to reach at 145 Oak View Circle of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Unfortunately we cannot offer any idea as to who this individual is, let alone his whereabouts. How special it will be when you can reap the benefits of all your hard work. Best of luck with your search, etc.,*

*—Barb Ecarius*

*. . . Please send us a reunion packet. A month or more ago, a woman put a note on my car (because of my bumper sticker) and then saw me. Her husband, I think the name was John Carey, was on the Currituck. Joe spoke with him and we gave him all the info and told him about the web site. They lived in Sussex/Wantage. Have you heard from him? Looking forward to seeing you both again.*

*—Ruth Prol*

*. . . Thanx for the package containing a Currituck Cap, the "Secret Land" video, and the roster of shipmates. The pkg arrived on the 15<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) and I put on the cap immediately. It was my pleasure to serve aboard the Currituck for only six months during the winter of 1946-1947 while assigned to OPERATION HIGHJUMP as a Photographers Mate. Attached are a couple of shots taken on that cruise. The Currituck carried with her my fondest memories of the entire term I spent as a sailor. I was sorry to learn that Robert Saunders died. I had been trying to trace his whereabouts for several years. Bob, myself, and an Army Photographer named*

Hubert Foster hung around together during our seven day liberty in Sydney, Australia on our way back from Antarctica. I have more fotos if any one is interested. My e-mail address is: hjzap@juno.com. Best regards.

–Hugh Paz

... I live in Currituck North Carolina and we will be dedicating a new recreation park (Veterans Memorial Park) to honor all the veterans of Currituck County, NC. I would like to acquire all the history from Commissioning to De-commissioning of the USS CURRITUCK (AV-7). Who is the ship named for, etc. I plan to have the American Legion Post use it at the dedication of the Veterans Memorial Park. Time frame is Memorial Day next year (2003). Could be as early as Veterans Day November 11th 2002. Thanks for your assistance. Enjoy your reunion in Colorado Springs.

–Bob Kohler, Vice President  
USS Forrestal CVA/CV/AVT-59 Assn.

... We have finally gotten our act together about coming to the reunion. We now will need a reunion package as soon as possible so we can make all our arrangements. We have just called the hotel and our reservations are now made. Time seems to be flying fast and just awhile ago we thought we had so much time. We will also be submitting a payment for a raffle ticket and the check will go off tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you in September.

–Tom Schwindinger

... This is to let you know that Bob lost his 6 year battle with cancer on March 28, 2002. He was very proud to have served in the navy and on the Currituck. He enjoyed attending the reunions and seeing old friends. He just got out of the hospital on Sept. 9, 2001 and was determined to leave on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> for the King of Prussia reunion. Even though it was difficult for him to get around, he enjoyed seeing old friends. He fought the good fight all the way.

–Norma Granger

... Just got my Currituck Newsletter and was trying to look at some of them Websites of interest and discovered that you had the wrong web address for access.?? I tried to use the one for the Tuck (<http://av7.8m.com/>) and it came up with “unable to locate web site”, so I tried the old standby “www.av7.8m.com” and it worked.??? Not sure if you knew that or not or if it affects the other ones you posted?? Might want to let all the guys know about that.??

–Jerry Tuttle

*Error has been noted. Thanks, Ed.*

... Prior to commissioning the Currituck and leaving her in Okinawa at the end of WWII, I served on one of the early small aircraft carriers, the USS Bogue. We engaged mainly in anti-submarine warfare in the North Atlantic. Can you advise me how I can obtain a record of this ship? Searching the web has not produced anything. The Currituck write up you sent me a few years ago is great. I would like to have similar information on the Bogue such as areas of operation, ports-of-call, actions, awards, etc., but haven't the slightest idea where to start. Would certainly appreciate any guidance you can give me. Thank you very much for all the efforts you put out to keep the Currituck organization alive and thriving. Regarding my request for help, maybe I can provide a little pay-back by helping run down some shipmates that were in the communications division and served during my time on board (as per your request). Hoping to hear from you.

–James B. Hass

Jim, In response to your request for a location in finding info regarding the USS BOGUE... I have a couple of suggestions. One is the National Archives, which has copies of the ships Deck Log on microfilm. You can purchase these either by inclusive dates and they will print them out for you... at sometime a large cost or you can buy the

microfilm and take it to a library that has a microfilm reader/printer and do it yourself. You might also want to check with the Naval Historical Center . . . web address is <http://www.history.navy.mil/nhc1.htm>. I hope this assists you, however, I will tell you in advance, when I requested info on the USS CURRITUCK, they had zero . . . and consequently, I ended up supplying them with the history that I compiled. I located some information in my reference library and will include it with a list of people whom I am trying to locate and you so graciously volunteered to assist in my search. Thanking you in advance for your interest.

—Best Regards, Ron

. . . Through the Internet I was able to find out that the Currituck has reunions. I was on the ship twice attached to the Admiral's (Bernard Stream) staff as a Aerographer's Mate 2. The first time was Dec. '61 to Jan. '62. The second time was one year later from Nov. '62 until April '63. I rotated every six months between the three seaplane tenders, Currituck; two times on Pine Island (AV-12) and the Salisbury Sound (AV-13). I remained in WESTPAC while the ships rotated and went back to California. On my second enlistment I served aboard the USS Shangri-La (CVA-38) out of Mayport, FL. I did a Med Cruise from Nov. '67 to July '68 on that ship. I have been a member in good standing with the Salisbury Sound Association, but not the other two tenders. I'd very much like to become a member of the Currituck Assn. Please send me an application. There was a Currituck cruise book published in 1962 for the cruise that ended in April '62. Do you know where I can get a copy? The Supply Officer (Lt.jg), was in charge of that book and the collections for it. I got a receipt but never did receive the book. I 'm interested in the CD that you have in order to view the cruise book for '62-

'63. Also, I will be retiring from my job with NOAA/National Weather Service 19 October so I'll be able to attend some reunions.

—Henry Laskosky

. . . Enclosed please find check. I would have definitely considered this years reunion with the Currituck if my reunion for the USS Lloyd Thomas was not scheduled for the very same time 9/25 through 9/29. I am very much interested in receiving the newsletter and mailing list. I would especially hope to find Jim Fendorf and Mike French in the roster. Hope to make it to Pensacola.

—Robert Scherrer

. . . Sorry about the lapse of my dues. I thought I had paid them, a little lapse of dementia on my part. I enjoy receiving the newsletter and reading about old friends and shipmates. I was a plank owner, 1C Torpedoman and helped to precommission the ship. Although I have been unable to attend some of the reunions because father time is catching up to us all. I served on two other vessels before the Currituck. I commissioned the USS Hornet CV8 and USS Princeton CVL 23. I try to make one reunion a year, so hope to see you in Pensacola in 2003.

—Russell Burke

. . . I thank you for your prompt response regarding the reunion in Colorado and other information. Enclosed please find my check for associate membership in your association and I look forward to receiving the ship's history and roster of personnel, also the newsletters. I will have to pass on the reunion this year as I have other plans the end of Sept.

—Janice Ellefson

. . . Are you still the Secretary for the USS Currituck Association? Quite sometime ago you sent me information, but I accidentally misfiled it and did not locate the information until yesterday. I'm still somewhat interested in joining, so I need to know if the Membership Application is still good? Your records are correct in that I was a RM 2/C while

aboard the USS Currituck. I was discharged as a RM I/C. I believe that I told you that I was part of the original ships crew and was on board when she was commissioned June 1944. I was transferred to Admiral Wagners staff after the USS Currtuck became his flagship and then transferred to Sangley Point, Cavite, Luzon, Phillipines when the Flag moved ashore for the rebuilding of the airfield at Sangley Point. Also, would be interested in knowing what sort of information you would like to have. I have pictures of Captain Evans, Captain Powers (Ex. Off.). Also a few copies of the newspaper published aboard. Anyway would be interested in knowing what sort of information that is of interest to you. Hope to hear from you soon. Very sorry about mis-laying the information you sent. PS: KG9PT is my Amateur Radio call sign. I hold an Extra Class Ticket.

—James R. Emery

... We will be at the USS Hornet reunion in PA Sept. 13-15 and then for a high school 50th reunion on Sept. 21 so will not make it to Colorado but hope to attend Pensacola in 2003.

—E. Douglas Evans

... I guess it's about time to get things done. I have let a lot slide. Dot broke her hip falling off a chair the week we got back from the last reunion. She is doing very well and got back on her feet very fast. We took a cruise to Bermuda and now are spending a lot of time in our trailer in the mountains. I figured I had better get this raffle ticket in as time is getting on. Also please send the reunion packet when it is ready.

—Ed DuGray

... Now that I am semi-retired I would like to have my membership reinstated. Please find my check that I have enclosed. I look forward to meeting you personally at this year's reunion in Colorado Springs since it is only 100 miles from my home.

—James T. Maxwell



## TAPS

BOB GRANGER  
HOWARD SCHROEDER  
RUSSELL HAYS  
GEORGE C. HULIEN  
Dr. REX E. WRIGHT  
EVERETT N. BAYLEY  
FORREST R. GAULT  
NORMAN DEWITTE

## Everglades

... I and my wife definitely intend on being at the reunion in Sept. We have been anticipating this for two years. Please do send packet. See you there.

—Eugene B. Whaley, II

... We are definitely going to Colorado Springs this year. So please send us the information package. We tried to attend the last two but had to call the Hotels and cancel our reservations. Velma is feeling better now. I hope she continues so we can attend more. Thanks.

—Bill Smith

... Just got my newsletter today and I was reminded to make my room reservations (which I've done) and to order my reunion packet from you (which I'm doing now). So, with that completed, I bid best regards to you and Robbie. See you in Colorado.

—Charlie Bostick

... Thanks for the reminder. I had planned to reinstate earlier but when summer came around, fishing took its toll.

—Paul Peeler

... I have already enjoyed the packet that I received from you and hopefully we will be able to attend the reunion in Colorado Springs this year. Definitely, if we are around, we plan to attend the one in Pensacola next year. I would like to order the following: 1 Ball Cap, 1 Jacket and one lifetime membership. My personal check is enclosed. Please forward this request to Dean (Treas.) if you are unable to process. For your information, I am one of the original

*Plank Owners. Thank you for your time in this association.*

*—Gerald Acker*

*... We have gone to the last five reunions and have enjoyed each one while making new friends. Could you please send me the "Reunion Package" for the Colorado Springs reunion to be held this year. Thank you.*

*—Paul Couture*

*... Just a note with my change of address. You may know, I lost my wife of almost 50 years (12-7-00) and it's been tough. I have moved from our home of 32 years to a condo. It's not too easy trying to get everything in its place, but I'm getting on it. If conditions stay the same I'll make a real effort to see you at the 2003 reunion.*

*—Phil Buckholz*

*... My wife and I will be attending the reunion. Info on tours and fee's can be emailed or sent by regular mail. In regards to your need for help in locating old ship mates I would like to give you a hand. I served on the Everglades '63-'65 (ships company electrical shop).*

*—Dan O'Reilly*

*... My wife and I are planning to attend this reunion. We have not been to any of the previous reunions. I was on the Everglades from '55-'59 as an electrician in the motor rewinding shop. We also did all the repair on destroyers. I have one cruise book to the Med for 1957 and also a large picture of the ship as we were returning to Norfolk. These I plan to bring with me. We would like to get any information on the reunion. We live in Peoria, IL and most likely drive out to Colorado Springs if the place isn't burning.*

*—Steve Gill*

*... I would appreciate your sending me a Reunion Packet for the reunion when they become available. We are hoping to make it to the reunion and are looking forward to seeing everyone there.*

*—Robert M. Bowen*

*... I havent been to the reunion the last two years I plan on attending this year. Please sent me a Reunion Packet. In the May issue of the news there was an article about the plane tender that saved the burning ship. The article was very interesting. My wife used to work with Anthony Bosch Jr. at the Toledo Edison power company in Toledo, Ohio and he also was a member of the legion post that we used to belong to and we never heard about the article before. Hope to hear from you soon.*

*—Frank Walbolt*

*... Many thanks for all your work for the association.*

*—O. E. Nault (Tim)*

*... Just a few words to request the "Reunion Packet" for our up coming reunion in Colorado Springs in September. We have been paying close attention to the terrible fires out that way and hope that they are extinguished soon. So much damage that has been done. I will be sending a check off to you this week on a chance for the room raffle. Hope all goes well with you and Robbie. Stay well. Lis sends her best to you both.*

*—John Rogers*

*... I just received your letter addressed to my father Richard Stumm regarding joining your association. Unfortunately, my father passed away June 3, 2001. I wished he could have lived to receive this information, he talked often of trying to locate friends he served with. We tried to get him interested in using the computer which would have made it much easier for him to locate these friends, but he didn't have time to get that done. I am grateful that you have included your web site so that my brothers and I can hopefully find some info on this ship my father served on. Thank you so much, and I wish all the best in locating your shipmates. Sincerely,*

*—Lori Turbett (Stumm)*

*Lori, Thank you for responding. We are sorry to hear that your father passed away. The AD24 Assn.*

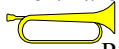
documents ALL former shipmates, including those who have passed away. During our reunion, we have a memorial service for all those who have passed away. While locating your father's address, I found the four matches for Richard Stumm. Thanks again,

—Matt Szkopiec

AD24 Assn. Shipmate Locator

... The Gaylord, MN address is mine which all of his correspondence was diverted to when he passed away. He was born and raised in Alexandria, MN if that helps for record keeping purpose. His birth date was 7-7-30. He is buried in Gaylord, MN. On your web site, will I be able to find information about my father and his time spent in the Navy? I do have his original navy I.D. card and a picture of him and some of his navy buddies together, but would really like to find out more. Thank you for the fast response.

—Lori Turbett (Stumm)



**TAPS**

RICHARD STUMM  
WILLIAM ANDREWS JR.

## **Torpedoman's Assn.**

... Received the Torpedo News on May 13th and always appreciate reading the fine work done on it, thanks. Regarding the upcoming reunion in Colorado Springs, we have been there before but would love to return to that spot again. We're planning to go and are requesting the packet which you will prepare to entice us and if the physical allows, we plan to go. Thanks.

—Chet Leonowich

... Just in case our e-mail does not come through to you, we want you to know that we will be attending the reunion and we would like you to send us a "Reunion Packet" when all details are finalized. We also would be interested in taking a trip to Cripple Creek.

—Don Moller



**TAPS**

CHARLES ALBERT COYNE

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Some letters requesting reunion packets have been omitted due to lack of space.

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Secy's column cont. from Page 1

have a small nucleus of people, who bear the total responsibility for keeping this organization afloat . . . but, that seems to be the norm in most groups . . . a few drivers and numerous riders.

I would like to take this time to thank Jerry Jotkoff for his continually superior publication. I belong to three other ship's associations and can tell you, our publication is head and shoulders above any of theirs. Also, thanks to Matt Szkopiec for his continual diligence in attempting to locate former EVERGLADES crew members. I am sure Matt will tell you that for every 100 letters we send out . . . if we get 5 responses, we feel lucky. To Steve Eakin, who has done a superb job at

expanding the history of the CURRITUCK and making it available to members in print or on CD. And lastly, but not forgotten are Nathan Good of the CURRITUCK ASSN and James Santos of the TM ASSN for their establishment and maintenance of the related web sites.

My sources on the scene in Colorado tell me that the fires are mostly under control, although, the smoke continues to be somewhat of an irritant. Hopefully, over the next two months this problem will also subside if not disappear and we will have good weather for our gathering. Everyone, have a safe trip to Colorado and looking forward to seeing many of you in attendance. —*Ron*