

# USS HOLT (DE 706)

## "HOLT HAPPENINGS"

### REUNION COMMITTEE

Bill Morgan, Chairman  
Bob DeAngelis  
Karl Nease  
Ralph Parks  
Paul Pickett, Treasurer

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### WELCOME ABOARD

Six shipmates and two spouses of deceased shipmates have been located since our last newsletter. We used the computerized telephone/address list furnished by Sal Dimilla. Ruth Stout gets the credit for finding Sal and introducing him to us. He is a former USS FOGG (DE 57) sailor and was in King of Prussia on business when Ruth located him. Sal volunteered to run off a listing of addresses for the names we supplied to him.

Those Located are:

BABUREK, John A., (TM 2/c)  
CORRAO, Anthony S., (Rdm 3/c)  
EAZER, Ted, (F 1/c)  
McCORMICK, William M.  
NILGES, Gil W., (RM 3/c)  
PRIHODA, Oliver R., (BM 2/c)

Spouses of deceased shipmates recently located are:

Ms. Anna Mae AMBLI

Ms. Grace LLANEZA

Al "Lug" Llaneza was a Water Tender 3/c and a member of Lt Hugh Smith's Engineering Division. Newt Ambli was a Chief Yoeman in Lt Ben Lamb's Communication Division.

We extend to these newly found shipmates a sincere welcome to the HOLT family and look forward to meeting you in person at the 1996 reunion.

### CONDOLENCES

Kay Steinhauser, wife of John "Doc" Steinhauser (PhM 2/c) passed away suddenly on September 10th. We enjoyed meeting Kay at the last reunion. Doc asks that we "Please convey my thanks in your newsletter for all the cards and flowers sent by the crew of the DE 706".

### 1996 REUNION

Paul & Jeri Pickett and Bill & Lois Morgan visited Charleston, SC last month to look at hotels for the 1996 reunion. After two days of on-site inspection (we looked at 8 hotels), the SHERATON INN - CHARLESTON was selected and the dates set for April 28 - May 1, 1996 (Sunday thru Wednesday). By selecting early in the week, we got a break on room rates. The folks in Charleston indicate that the flowers will be in bloom and that always attracts a large crowd starting in late March. Charleston is an interesting town with many attractions and friendly people.

### ADDRESS CHANGE

Norman L. "Frenchy" Cournoyer's new address is: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Virgil Gracey's new address is: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### QUICK GLIMPSES

We received a letter from Don Fredette (GM 2/c) expressing his regrets at not being able to attend the last reunion. He and his wife, Gloria, live in Wallingford, VT. Their children and grandchildren live nearby. Since retiring in 1986, Don keeps busy with some carpenter work (for a fee) and work for his children (for free). He enjoys spending time at his son's nearby camp cross country skiing, snowmobiling and hunting.

Gil Nilges (RM 3/c) joined the HOLT prior to commissioning in 1944 after a tour of duty aboard the USS SAVANNAH (Light Cruiser). The SAVANNAH was bombed at Salerno, with a loss of 378 of her crew. Gil divides his time between Ohio and his winter home in West Palm Beach, FL.

Ken Hogg who relieved B. B. Anderson as Executive Officer when Anderson became Commanding Officer of HOLT, lives with his wife in Marquette, MI. At a young age of 83, he remains very active. He retired from the naval reserve as a Captain.

Although neither knew it at the time, Ken and Bill Morgan were in Sasebo, Japan at the same time during the Korean conflict. Ken was Harbor Defense Commander in Sasebo and Bill was aboard the LSMR 404.

How about this for confusion? Ken Hogg's executive officer in Japan was a LtCdr Hogue!

### OTHER

An 8 x 10 group photo, in color, of those attending the 1994 reunion, can be obtained from ABS Visuals, 1855 Lippincott Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006, Tel (215) 947-0808. The cost is \$13.00, including shipping and handling.

Our treasurer, Paul Pickett, reports that so far this year 55 shipmates have remitted the \$10.00 fee to help defray the expense of locating shipmates, producing newsletters, postage, etc.

At the last reunion Doc Steinhauser raised the question of forming a ladies auxiliary. Doc would welcome your suggestions on this. He can be reached at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

If you are in the Washington, DC area, make a point of visiting the U. S. Navy Memorial. It is located on Pennsylvania Avenue just across the street from the National Archives Building. This memorial was built completely with no government funds. It is maintained by voluntary contributions and the sale of navy related merchandise. Read over the enclosed flyer on the Navy Memorial Log. It is a unique experience to go into the log room and punch a few buttons on a computer and see a photo of yourself or a friend on the screen along with their rate/rank and dates of service.

The mail just brought a letter from Ted Eazer. He has been busy checking out the Tucson area for missing shipmates.....called about a half dozen names on our list of those we are trying to find. None were located, but we give Ted a "Well Done" for trying.

### PALPH PARKS PARTY

In mid-October, Bob DeAngelis, Frank Shepherd and Doc Steinhauser loaded up in Shepherd's motor home and headed west to Iowa for Ralph Park's birthday. Karl & Helen Nease, Bob & Lee Kent, Harry Helgeson and George & Mary Reimers also attended.

The following is Bob DeAngelis' account of the events.

"We headed Shep's old stage coach west, with Shep and Doc arguing all the way. I walked a tight rope, agreeing with one 50% of the time, then agreeing with the other. It was all in good fun and we had a great time.

We arrived at Ralph's house in the afternoon. Ralph's wife served us a wonderful dinner and we slept well. The next morning we took Ralph with us to "Connie's Black Hawk Inn" for breakfast. We stayed for lunch too. A Cherokee spokesman gave us a dissertation on "The Traitor General Custer". After a spirited discussion, I circled the wagons (moved the customers to different chairs) and we calmed down. Beaver Joe Terrace, the Indian and Ralph (who is part indian) both got a good laugh at our antics. I became the host at Connie's.....seating people, taking orders and cooking. Connie & Rich let me do it because when the customers went home and told other people, the next day the place was full of patrons waiting for the show! The one thing that Beaver Joe said that will remain with me for a long time was "When YOU win the battle, it's a stirring victory and when the indians win, it's a massacre". The indians are getting even with us by

taking our money at their casinos!

The next day we took a tour of LaPorte City (misnomer, because it is not French, nor is it a port nor a city).....visited a cheese factory, and a pig breeding farm. Ralph's brother, Grover, kept us in stitches with his Will Rogers wit and home spun stories. Grover took us on a tour of the John Deere Tractor Plant.

Then we attended Ralph's birthday party, followed by a great dinner and VCR movies of the commissioning of the HOLT, the Galveston reunion and Harry Helgeson's stirring narration of the HOLT war record as seen through the eyes of a Radarman. This was followed by a viewing of the King of Prussia reunion tape. The next day, we visited the Amana farms, shops and restaurants. We enjoyed their food and hospitality.

Finally came the time for departure and it was an emotional moment as we headed east on I-80. It was great to see those faces again after so many years."

The foregoing is from Bob DeAngelis' letter to Bill Morgan and Paul Pickett. These visits that take place from time to time makes all the effort of searching for lost shipmates worthwhile.

END