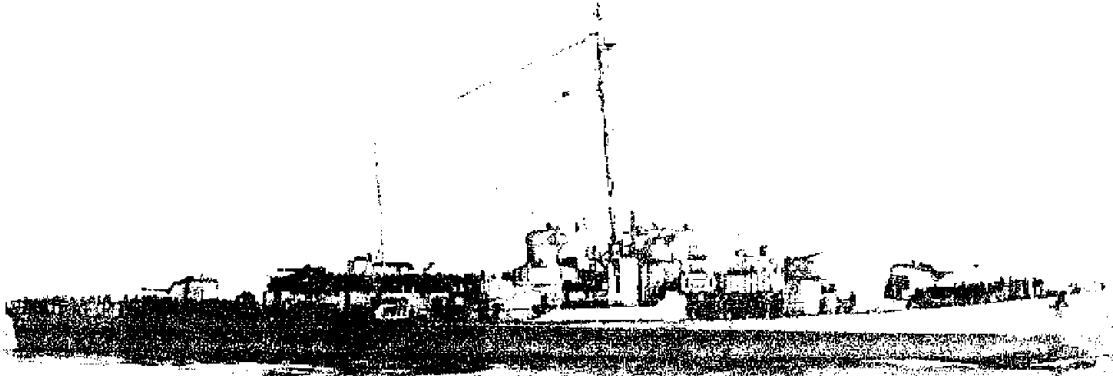


"HOLT HAPPENINGS"

A Periodic Newsletter For And About the Crew And Their Families

Vol XV; No. 1

January 2005



The Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Holidays have come and gone in a flash. Time marches on in what seems to be an ever increasing rate of speed. After what started out to be a normal cold, wet and miserable winter, now feels like Spring in many areas of the country. Even old man weather is playing tricks on us! As we enter our 15th year of publishing these HOLT Newsletters, your editor wishes you Good Health, Happiness and Peace for the year ahead.

IN CONTACT

In our last newsletter, we mentioned the loss of contact with **HARRY HELGESON**. Shortly thereafter, Harry called to inform us that he has moved to New Mexico. His new address is [REDACTED]

ARCH and **CHARLOTTE WEST** down-sized into a retirement condo. Their new address is [REDACTED]

Is anyone in contact with **Thomas Kiska**? For years, we sent his mail to Hendersonville, NC, then in mid-2004, the mail was returned with the new address affixed by the post office. We re-forwarded the mail, which was apparently received, to his address in Norwalk, CT. The last mail was returned as undeliverable. Any help in locating him will be appreciated.

We currently have 71 shipmate's addresses and 67 addresses of relatives. Anyone desiring an updated mailing list, contact Bill Morgan.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

In November, **AL BOGAN** was hospitalized with a heart attack. His daughter, **KATHLEEN** advised before Christmas that he was eager to be up and about. Your shipmates send best wishes for a speedy recovery, **AL**.

Had a "newsy" note from **GLENN & MARGARET LIGHT** (Daughter and son-in-law of **LT HUGH SMITH**, our Engineering Officer). **GLENN** is recovering from kidney failure suffered early in 2004 and is apparently doing very well, although still under a physician's care. Their new address is [REDACTED]

Had an e-mail from **FRAN CLEARO** (Radarman). He wishes everyone a Happy New Year, despite the fact that he has been quite ill for a while with a kidney infection and lung problems. Says he is doing better now and would like to hear from his old shipmates.

We have nine shipmates that we have either lost touch with or never were able to find. They are: Doris Barnes (Georgia), George A. Bartlett (California), Henry J. Craig (New York), Arthur B. Crowl (New York), John R. Crawford (New Jersey), John R. Kolar (Illinois), Edward A Lennon (New York), Charles W. Moore (Ohio ?) And Hans L. Rezac (Florida). If anyone has any idea where these shipmates are please let us know.

ABE SILVER is being treated for Multiple Myeloma. His treatment includes weekly shots and monthly doctor visits. Combined, these activities keep him pretty close to home.

RANDOLPH COWART is totally wheelchair bound these days, advises his daughter, **RAMONA**. He celebrated his 80th birthday in January.

PAUL PICKETT had a heart attack on December 23rd. The doctors inserted a stint and he was able to get home on Christmas Day, as of 1-14-05, he was back in the hospital. His daughter, **DEBBIE HIGHTOWER**, reports that he is doing well and expects to be home in a few days.

Others on the "Binnacle" list include: **Ralph Parks, Bob DeAngelis** (recently diagnosed with Leukemia), **Russ Coates, Bob Cooper, Frank Shepherd, Garnett Howard, Kess Adams, Phil DeFosses, John Coward, Ted & Sue Eazer, Phillip Corriher Bob & Ellen Hoover and Cate Dettling**.

BOB and **DOROTHY SWARTZ** recently moved into an apartment in a retirement community. **Bob's** arthritis keeps him from doing all those things he once loved such as spending time at their cottage in upstate Wisconsin. Their apartment faces west and this allows them to enjoy the beautiful sunsets.

If there are others that are ill, please let Bill Morgan know.
Please remember all these in your prayers.

IN MEMORIAM

HOWARD EASTHOUSE (Fireman) passed away on 25 October 2004. He is survived by his wife, **BARBARA**.

RICHARD GENNANTONIO (Radio Technician 1/c) passed away on May 24, 2004. We remember him as being a quiet, efficient professional who somehow kept all the radio, sonar and radar equipment operating despite a lack of spare parts at times. His wife reside at [REDACTED]

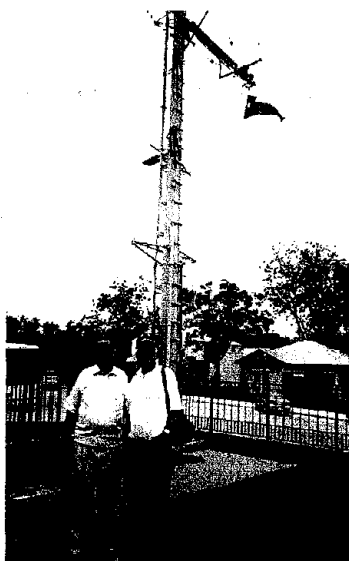
HAROLD (PETE) ROID, (Baker 2/c) passed away on Christmas Day 2004. We remember him for the work he did at night in the galley, baking pies, cakes and loaves of bread. On many occasions, he would let us have a loaf of fresh-baked bread on the mid-watch which helped to make those dreary watches tolerable. We had a cache of peanut butter and jelly stashed away in the flag storage area on the signal bridge. The fresh loaf of bread would allow everyone a mid-watch snack that kept us energized. His wife, **Lael**, resides at 408 Teakwood, Grants Pass, OR 97526.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to each of the families of these shipmates.

OTHER ITEMS

John and Mary Anne McGauley took an 11 day cruise to Alaska in late summer. They are both doing well and John just celebrated his 80th birthday this past year. As this is being written, they are at sea on a 15 day cruise to Hawaii. Guess it is true that "once a sailor, always a sailor." even on a luxurious cruise ship.

Al Boorman and Bill Morgan (below) at the Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, TX .



A BIT OF HISTORY

In the first half of 1942, 397 ships were torpedoed and sunk by German U-boats along the treacherous shoals off the North Carolina Outer Banks. Even more tragic, nearly 5000 people lost their lives in the burning waters of the *GRAVEYARD OF THE ATLANTIC*. It was one of the greatest maritime disasters in history. During these early days of WW II, ships were not running in convoy as we did not have the naval vessels available to escort them. The German U-boats would surface at night and watch the lights on shore. They simply waited like hunters in a blind for ships to pass between them and the shore, then pick them off. So many tankers were sunk in this area that the beaches were virtually black with heavy crude oil. Dead bodies drifted offshore and appeared in the surf to be found by innocent children.

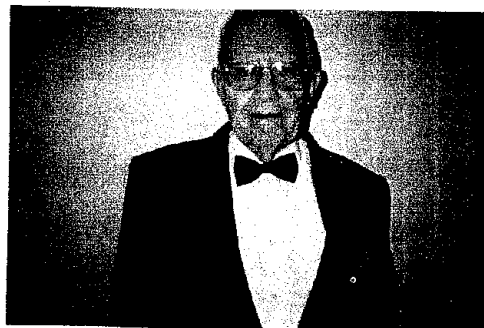
In late 1942, with the production of escort ships (destroyer escorts, destroyers, and patrol craft) increasing, convoys were mandated and the slaughter of merchant ships was greatly curtailed. For a while, the enemy was sinking tonnage at a rate greater than our ability to replace it. Had Hitler listened to Admiral Donitz earlier, the German U-boat fleet would have been nearly doubled in size and the war may have been lost before the Allies could amass the forces necessary to stop the Germans.

A COINCIDENCE

While visiting the Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, TX last May during the HOLT reunion, we had the opportunity to see a PT Boat from WW II, the **PT-309**. While learning of the background of this PT Boat, **Al Boorman** realized that this boat had been purchased as war surplus by a friend and operated as a fishing boat out of Island Park, Long Island, NY. He mentioned that the owner had sold the boat to another fishing boat skipper. This clicked with **Bob Hoover** as the brother-in-law of his wife, **Ellen**, had bought a PT boat from someone on Long Island and converted it to a party boat. As the **Boormans** and the **Hoovers** compared notes, it became apparent that the PT 309 was indeed the same boat. Years later, this craft was obtained by the Admiral Nimitz Museum, brought to Houston, TX and restored to it's original WW II configuration. It is this boat that is housed (indoors) in Fredericksburg for folks to enjoy today.

NEW ITEM

This photo of **Bob Hoover** was taken at a recent dinner meeting of the Niagara Military Institute. This month, **Bob** takes office as a member of the Board of Directors of this organization. Congratulations, **Bob**.



WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

To those of you who have sent in photos to be entered in the WW II Memorial, I am happy to report that, to the best of my knowledge, all have now been entered. To access the World War II Memorial on your computer, go to www.wwiimemorial.com, click on "WW II Registry", click on "Search The Registry" and then enter name and state (State the person you are seeking was living in when he/she entered service).

We had stated earlier that all names have been entered in the memorial log. This is not entirely correct. All the names on which we had a home town or state have been entered. The enclosed list contains the shipmates on which your assistance is needed. If you know the town and/or the state of any of these please fill in the data and send back so we can enter them in the memorial.

NAME	RATE/RANK	HOMETOWN/STATE	OTHER NAVAL SERVICE IF KNOWN
AMBLI, Newton E.	Chief Yeoman		
ANDERSON, Sigurd A.	Pharmacists Mate 1/c		
ANDERSON, Wilfred A.	Stewards Mate 2/c		
ANDREASEN, Thomas C.	Yeoman 2/c		
ARNOLD, Ray (n)	Boatswain Mate 2/c		
BARGO, Carl F.	Electricians Mate 3/c		
BAUGHMAN, Myrl E.	Chief Water Tender		
BECKER, Ellsworth (n)	Electricians Mate 2/c		
BOUDOUIN, Gerald A.	Stewards Mate 2/c		
BROWN, Alex D.	Steward		
BROWN, William E.	Seaman		
BRYANT, Carroll L.	Seaman		
BULLARD, Charles J.	Coxswain		
CAREY, Robert G.	Pharmacists Mate 1/c		
CARROLL, James J.	Seaman		
CHAMBERS, James (n)	Stewards Mate 2/c		
CHAUSSE, Leo J.	Ship Serviceman - L		
CHRISTOPHERSEN, Arthur E.	Chief Radioman		
CLOUTIER, Joseph T.	Seaman		
CORNETT, Edward G.	Yeoman 3/c		
CRAIG, Henry J.	Yeoman 3/c		
CRAMPTON, Donald R.	Coxswain		
CRAWFORD, John R.	Sonarman 2/c		
CRESCENTINI, Alfred J.	Seaman		
CRISAFULLI, George J.	Water Tender 3/c		
CROSS, Robert A.	Ships Cook		
CSASZAR, Stephen (n)	Seaman		
CUNNINGHAM, Joseph R.	Seaman		
CUNNINGHAM, Verne. D.	Chief Pharmacists Mate		
D'AGROSA, Joseph J.	Seaman		
DALLAS, Cecil (n)	Shipfitter 1/c		
DAVIES, Jay C.	Coxswain		
DAVIS, Robert B.	Stewards Mate 2/c		
DE CARLO, Jerry C.	Seaman		
DE CARO, John L. Jr.,	Seaman		
DUGGAN, Robert J.	Electricians Mate 2/c		
DUL, Arthur J.	Seaman		
DYER, Melburn C., Jr.,	Seaman		
ELLIS, Clifford L.	Machinists Mate 3/c		

	HOME TOWN/STATE	OTHER NAVAL SERVICE
ELLIS, William T.	Seaman	
EMPEREUR, Victor J.	Fireman	
EVANS, Paul L.	Ships Cook	
FERANTE, Mario A.	Yeoman 3/c	
FERGUSON, Eldon D.	Electricians Mates 3/c	
FISK, Dale T.	Seaman	
FLANAGAN, Robert J.	Radioman 3/c	
FLORIO, Thomas J.	Fireman	
FORESMAN, James F., Jr.	Gunners Mate 3/c	
FRITZ, Octave C.	Storekeeper 2/c	
GAGNE, Joseph R.	Machinists Mate 3/c	
GEBUS, Charles J.	Radaman 2/c	
GLASNER, Leo F.	Chief Commissary Steward	
GOSSETT, Myron F.	Radioman 3/c	
HAGAN, Henry J., Jr.	Fireman	
HANRATTY, Robert J.	Coxswain	
HILL, George W.	Seaman (Storekeeper)	
HOOPER, Charles F.	Captain (COMCORTDIV 74)	
KEMRY, Samuel C.	Seaman	
KIMBALL, Stanley J.	Machinists Mate 2/c	
KING, Anthony E.	Machinists Mate 2/c	
KNAPPENBERGER, Charles D.	Chief Electricians Mate	
KOSTICH, John D.	Fireman	
KROHN, Lowell A.	Seaman	
LETKOWSKI, Steven J.	Machinists Mate 3/c	
LO PRINZO, Anthony (n)	Ships Cook 3/c	
LYNCH, Francis A.	Fireman	
MC CULLOUGH, Mark W.	Fireman	
MC GINLEY, Milo D.	Radaman 3/c	
MELTON Delbert J.	Gunners Mate 3/c	
MOORE, Charles W.	Machinists Mate 3/c	
MOSHER, Harold C.	Seaman	
NILGES, Gilbert W.	Radioman 3/c	
OLIVER, Richard K.	Fire Controlman 3/c	
OLSON, Clarence M.	Storekeeper 1/c	
OUTLAW, George C.	Seaman	
PATAKY, Albert F.	Torpedoman 1/c	
PATRICK, Costa E.	Seaman	
RAYMAN, Fred R.	Machinists Mate 1/c	
REED, Ray L.	Gunners Mate 2/c	
REEL, William H.	Seaman	
REZAC, Hans L.	Fireman	
ROBERTS, Allen H.	Chief Machinists Mate	
ROGERS, Robert L.	Machinists Mate 3/c	
SCHULTE, Donald R.	Electricians Mates 1/c	
SHAUGHNESSY, Martin T.Y	Radaman 3/c	
SMITH, Donald E.	Machinists Mate 2/c	
SWEENEY, Vincent W.	Electricians Mate 2/c	
TETREAU, George E.	Electricians Mate 2/c	
THOMAS, Johnnie, C.	Seaman	
THOMPSON, John Calvin	Fireman	
TURK, Frank Vincent	Seaman	
TURNER, Lonnie H.	Seaman	
WAYTENICK, Robert J.	Torpedoman 2/c	
WEARSHING, JOHN f.	Chief Water Tender	
WILLIAMS, Harry C.	Chief Machinists Mate	
WOOTEN, Robert G.	Sonaman 3/c	
ZAMBRELLA, Nicholas J.	Water Tender 1/c	