

USS HOLT (DE 706) NEWSLETTER

Vol III, No.1

1994 REUNION COMMITTEE

Bob DeAngelis, Co-Chairman
Fred Davis, Co-Chairman
Jay Decker
Bill Morgan
Ralph Parks
Paul Pickett
Leonard Thompson

June, 1993

Our search for HOLT shipmates continues to be successful, although not at the rate we would like. We have located the following since our newsletter of December, 1992:

HOWARD, Garnet E. (Ensign)	HOOVER, ROBERT (LT)
CRAIN, William M (S1/c)	BARNES, Doris (S1/c)
GEBUS, Charles J. (RdM 2/c)	ANGEL, Ernest R. (S 1/c)

Unfortunately, we have learned of the death of several more of our shipmates. These are:

ALLEN, Thomas N. (GM 3/c)	13 March, 1993
BROWN, Robert H. (S1/c)	8 August, 1992
CHAMBERS, James (n) StM 2/c)	5 March, 1976
CLOUTIER, Joseph T. (S 1/c)	27 November, 1992
D'AGROSA, Joseph (F 1/c)	1 June, 1991
ELLIS, William T. (S1/c)	18 January, 1993
FLANAGAN, Robert (RM 3/c)	7 January, 1992
HILL, Robert W. (S 2/c)	28 March, 1986
JONES, Harry W. (BM 2/c)	29 January, 1992
KIMBAL, Stanley John (MM 2/c)	27 September, 1972
KNAPPENBERGER, Charles (CEM)	24 August, 1992
LETKOWSKI, Steven J. (F1/c)	24 November, 1980
MOONEY, William E. (S 1/c)	30 December, 1992

Several shipmates are ill or have been ill in recent months. These include Bill Crain (his wife advises that he is in poor health); Ralph Parks; "Oak" Ramsey and Cliff Cramer. There may be others. If you know of any, let us know. We'll keep them in our prayers.

Bob DeAngelis has explored every conceivable way to locate our missing shipmates through government channels, mostly leading up blind alleys. He keeps trying, and slowly, but surely, we are reducing that list. Our current count is 104 we have addresses on, 118 deceased and 70 we are trying to find.

Other Items of Interest:

Bob Hoover (LT), the HOLT's First Lieutenant advises that his working career included urban planning for several cities in the east and mid-west, followed by a long stint as a college professor teaching urban and city planning. He is retired from Brock University, St. Catherines, Ont., Canada. Mr. Hoover says he plans on joining us for the next reunion. We look forward to that.

In the last newsletter, we mentioned Jim & Frances Willis and their research into the life of LT(jg) William Mack Holt, in whose honor our ship was named. They very kindly gave us a copy of their work (some 90 pages) and it makes interesting reading. After reading this story, I am convinced that Mr. Holt and the ship of the same name had a lot in common. We will have this paper available for you to look over at the next ship reunion. If you desire a copy, we'll make them available for the cost of photo-copying. We are hopeful that Jim & Frances Willis can attend our 1994 reunion.

Had a note from Marshall Gebert (BM 1/c) recently, reminiscing about the early breed of APD's. The original APD's were old converted 4-stack destroyers. Then as the supply of DE's became adequate to control the U-Boat menace in the Atlantic and the need for high speed troop transports increased, the Navy planners began converting DE's to APD's, and later on, the APD was built from the ground up from what was a DE design. Interesting little bit of Naval history.

Earlier this year, George Burke (who had recently moved from Virginia to Florida), visited Ernest Angell and Price Easley in New Port Richey, FL. Following this, George visited Randolph Cowart in Round "O", SC. In the last couple of weeks, Bob DeAngelis visited Al DeHart in Lynchburg, VA.

The photo of the 1991 reunion finally was published in the Destroyer Escort Sailors Association newspaper a few months ago. A photo-copy of this group of "fearless sailors" is enclosed.

1994 HOLT REUNION.....June 1 - 5, 1994

HOLIDAY INN.....KING OF PRUSSIA, PA.

This is just on the outskirts of Philadelphia and close to just about everywhere in the northeast, mid-atlantic states and mid-west. So many of our shipmates live in the general area that we expect a large turnout. If we could get 31 of you to Galveston, TX a couple of years ago, we should double that number next year. To make it easy, we are enclosing some data on the Holiday Inn and the nearby area, as well as hotel reservation forms which should be handled directly with the hotel.

Bob DeAngelis and Fred Davis are developing plans for food, fun, and fellowship. By the next newsletter (about the end of 1993), Bob & Fred will have the program pretty much finalized and we will give you the details then. In the meantime, stay healthy, have fun and mark your calendar for

JUNE 1 - 5, 1994

AFTER-THOUGHT:

If you want a copy of the up-to-date crew lists (current addresses, deceased and those we cannot locate), just call or write Bill Morgan, [REDACTED]. Be glad to send these to you. Also, we do have the names and addresses of some of the widows and children of our shipmates, unfortunately, just a few.

Let us hear from you, what you have been doing all these years, etc. We will try to include this in the next newsletter.