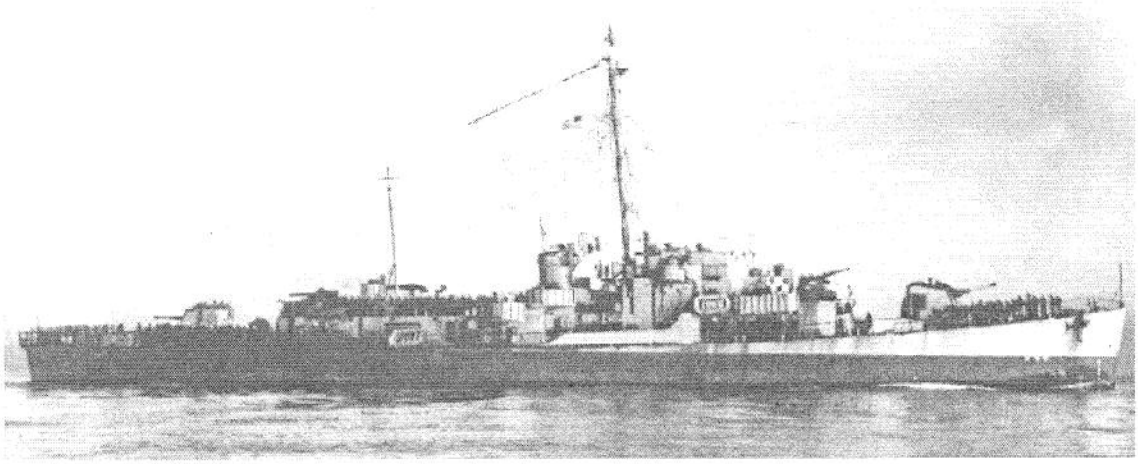
HOLT HAPPENINGS

A NEWSLETTER FOR AND ABOUT THE CREW AND THEIR FAMILIES



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BINNACLE LIST

In addition to those who were reported in the last newsletter as being ill, we add the name of **Fred Lear**. Fred had a stroke a few weeks ago. Thanks to Russ Coates for letting us know. I called Fred's wife. Anita, and she reported that he was doing well under the circumstances. The outlook seems very positive. If you would like to send a note to Fred, he can be reached at [redacted]

We have had no other reports of illness. If you know of a sick shipmate, let us know, please.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Harry Helgeson moved back to Minnesota in early summer. His new address is [redacted]. We had lost touch with Harry ,then he turned up in New Mexico where one of his sons lives. I guess the heat was too much for him as he went back home.

Tom Kiska moved back to Connecticut. His address is [redacted]

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM HERE AND THERE

Rumson, NJ, the hometown of our deceased shipmate, Bayard Stout, held a Memorial Day Parade and a Monument Dedication ceremony honoring all local veterans, past and present. This event was well attended by the citizens. Thanks to Stout's daughter, Corky Lawrence, for sending us this information.

Last month, Bill and Lois Morgan attended a symposium sponsored by the Admiral Nimitz Foundation in Fredericksburg, Texas. The subject was "*THE BATTLE OF OKINAWA*" and it included the radar picket lines where kamikazes played havoc with U. S. Naval vessels. Much discussion centered around the land operations and the problems involved with fighting the Japanese in the hills and caves where they were ensconced. The various speakers included noted authors who have researched the battle, survivors from some of the ships that participated in the heavy fighting and survivors of the land battles, including Army and Marine Corps veterans. An interesting part was the participation by two Japanese flag officers. One was a pilot of the suicide boats who remained in the Japanese self-defense force after the end of WW II and became a Major General. The other was a retired Admiral from the Japanese self defense force who had no direct WW II experience, but helped establish the post war Japanese Navy. Both were very interesting to hear.

In July, we made a trip to the Virginia Mountains. On the way, we stopped for a couple of hours to visit with **Phillip** and **Wilma Corriher.** They were most gracious hosts and we had a great visit. Wanted to go by Raleigh and see **Kess Adams**, but as fate would have it, we could not squeeze in the time. Hope to see **Kess** in Washington next April.

Al and **Ann Gebauer** have been traveling the continent in their motor home. I can't tell you where all they have been, but they did get to pay a surprise vise to **Bob** and **Ellen Hoover** in Canada. A note from them says they were to be in Michigan in August and September, The Carolina's in October and November and back home in Florida in December.

At the last reunion, I got the word from shipmates that we should enter all HOLT sailors into the **WORLD WA II MEMORIAL LOG**, which is maintained by the World War II Memorial Commission. To do this correctly, we needed to know the hometown of each shipmate when he entered the service. In a large part, we had this or was able to get this information. A few we had to use just the state as we had no way of determining the hometown, and in a very few cases, we had to "guess" at the location, based on the navy serial number which was issued in blocks to regional recruiting offices. The final total listed in the "log" is 266. There were more aboard ship, but they came aboard after the ship returned to the States after the war and only stayed aboard a matter of days or weeks, so we did not try to identify and list these. Anyone, anywhere, can view these by logging into the Internet National WW II Memorial , http://www.wwiimemorial.com and entering the name in the designated space. We have identified each shipmate as being a crew member of th USS HOLT (DE 706).

RECENT CONTACTS

Had a short phone conversation with several folks in recent weeks. They include **Ruth Stout, George** and **Gay Burke, Karl Nease, Anita Lear, Russ** and **Barbara Coates , Arch West** and **Jay** and **Joan Decker.** All are doing well. **Joan Decker** is handling chemotherapy well and she and **Jay** are making their plans for the reunion, as are **Russ** and **Barbara. Russ** related a couple of interesting incidents that occurred aboard ship that he is writing up to send to **Jeff Cope** for the book he is working on. Incidentally, any one who has a favorite tale from their time aboard the **HOLT** should let **Jeff** know. We need all your reminisces to make the book as complete and interesting as possible.

THE 2006 REUNION

The plans for the **April 27 - May 1, 2006** reunion in Arlington, VA are on-track. As mentioned in earlier newsletters, the arrangements are being handled by National Military Reunion Planners. They advise that we have 13 paid reservations in hand as of right now. That is good news and we expect many more in the upcoming weeks. Hotel reservations must be made directly to the [redacted] in Arlington, VA. The phone number for reservations is [redacted]. [redacted] the USS HOLT (DE 706) reunion.

Enclosed are reunion registration forms. Please note that one is to be completed and sent to Military Reunion Planners with check to cover selections and the flat $25.00 registration form is to be sent to Paul Pickett.

We are planning a bingo party for the reunion and have procured a number of prizes for the winners. More details on this and the raffle prize later.

A wreath laying ceremony is planned at the Lone Sailor Statue as part of our visit to the Navy Memorial. More details on this later.

SPOTLIGHT ON A SHIPMATE

Occasionally, we try to talk about a shipmate, in as much depth as possible. In this newsletter we want to recall **Burroughs B. Anderson**. He is well known to all of us as he was the Executive Officer of the HOLT, then when Captain Blue was detached, he became the Commanding Officer (From September 1945 to late January 1946). Andy, as his fellow officers called him, Mr. Anderson to the rest of us, "Burr" was a native of Seattle, WA where he lived most of his life, except for college and duty in the Navy. He graduated from Stanford University in 1940 where he played varsity basketball as a strapping 6'3" young man. Immediately after college, he joined the Navy and went to midshipman's school in Norfolk. He was commissioned as an Ensign in February 1941 and was sent to the Sub Chaser Training Center in Miami, FL, then to sonar school in Key West, and finally back to Norfolk for a short indoctrination in Watch

Officer's School. Subsequently, he was assigned to the old four stack destroyer, recently converted to a mine sweeper, DMS 14, the USS ZANE. He was ashore in Honolulu on December 7, 1941, washing his car, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. A fellow officer on the ZANE, was the noted author, Herman Wouk.

I'm not sure of just what action the Burr participated in while attached to the ZANE, but later in 1942 he came back to the States. The ZANE was involved in several major actions in the Pacific area during this time. In 1943, he was assigned as Exec of the yet-to-be-built USS HOLT. From that point forward, you know his record as we all were there.

Anderson entered the University of Washington in 1946 and earned a law degree in 1949. He married the late Allison Lile, and they had three children...Burroughs, Jr., Lile, and a daughter. After getting his law degree, he joined a prestigious Seattle law firm, Holman, Micklewait, Marion, Black and Perkins where he rose to become a senior partner right up to the time of his death in 1982. He died of heart failure while jogging one Saturday morning along the Seattle waterfront.

My only contact with Burr Anderson was in 1963-64 as we planned the first HOLT reunion. After that, our paths did not cross again. Then in 1983 I had the occasion to seek the services of his Seattle law firm, only to learn that he had passed away the prior year.

My recollection of Anderson is that he was a stern task master, yet a fair person. (That's a 60 year old recollection!)

ON TO WASHINGTON, DC IN APRIL 2006.....Due to the age and health of the old HOLT crew, the 2006 reunion could very well be the last one, so why not plan to attend and enjoy!

Note: We have noticed lately that many old WW II ships have discontinued reunions due to the aging and scarcity of the old crew.