Charleston is located near the middle of South Carolina's coast at the point "where the Ashley and Cooper Rivers meet to form the Atlantic Ocean." It is the state's second largest city and the county seat of Charleston County. Charleston was originally called Charles Town (in honor of King Charles II of England), and its nickname is "The Holy City."

With its rich revolutionary war, civil war, and naval history, Charleston is the ideal place to hold a reunion. Our various tours of the area include excursions to such famous historic battle sites as Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie.

History provides us with defining moments from which we judge where we are with where we have been. The Civil War provides the United States with one of its critical defining moments that continues to play a vital role in defining ourselves as a Nation. Fort Sumter is the place where it began.

America's most tragic conflict ignited at Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, when a chain reaction of social, economic and political events exploded into civil war. At the heart of these events was the issue of states rights versus federal authority flowing over the underlying issue of slavery. Fueled by decades of disagreement and confrontation, South Carolina seceded in protest of Lincoln's election and the social and economic changes sure to follow. With Fort Sumter as an unyielding bastion of Federal authority, the war became inevitable.

A powerful symbol to both the South and the North, Fort Sumter remains a memorial to all that fought to hold it.
Donations to the Associations
Thanks to these members for their donations to the
USS Mount McKinley Association
During the first three months of 2005
Jack Brimer, John Hovhanessian, Edward Decker, Robert Kurland, George Delmhorst, John Moon, Edward Fitzgerald, John Pfeiffer,
Donald Fournier, Irene Rogers, John Stroup
Total Donations in cash and in donated expenses $157.58

USS Mount McKinley Association
Statement of Financial Condition
As of March 31, 2004

Income:
Ship's Store Sales 836.00
Less Cost of Goods Sold 443.26
Gain on Ship's Store Sales 392.74
Advertisement 25.00
Dues-Regular 3156.00
Dues-Allocated Pd Life 655.00
Total Dues 3811.00
Donations 76.00
Interest 82.58
Miscellaneous Income 75.00
Total Income 4462.32

Expenses:
Newsletter 665.96
Postage 312.41
Supplies 29.95
Donation 300.00
Total Expenses 1308.32
Net Income-Operations 3154.00

Cash January 1, 2005 Net of allocated
dues 2005 of $655. 24435.95
Ships Store Inventory January 1, 2005 3301.05
Add Income as of March 31, 2005 3154.00
Add Prepaid Life Dues-2005 427.50
Total 31318.50
Cash-Bank Of America (See Note 1) 8998.18
Cash-Zurich Money Market 18156.29
Total Cash March 31, 2005 27145.47
Ships Store Inventory, March 31, 2005 4173.03
Total Assets 31318.50

Note 1, Includes prepaid life dues of $5670.50 not available for operations will be allocated to dues income over life expectancy period.

Submitted By: William K. Ellis, Treasurer
First I want to thank all that sent in the addresses of your local newspapers. We now have 58 new listings to send our reunion notices to, thanks to your efforts and response to our request for the address of your newspapers. This brings the total number of newspapers on our mailing list to over 350. For those of you that may have not seen our request, just send me the name and address of your local newspaper and we will add it to our mailing list if we do not already have it. You can send it by e-mail to <d.janzen@verizon.net> or by regular mail to: Dwight Janzen, 2515 E. No. Altamont Blvd., Spokane WA 99202.

Now that winter is over (although I wasn't too sure the other day when it started to snow) and we are enjoying spring, let's really start thinking about the next reunion. Charleston in September will really be great and we'll experience a lot of Southern Hospitality there. While reflecting back on previous reunions, all of which have been great, I tried to think of which one had been the best. I've decided I can't pick one as the best as they just keep getting better each year. Meeting new members and those attending for the first time is always one of the high points. Of course, getting together with shipmates and their wives that we have come to know and become friends with, reminiscing about our time aboard the McKinley, telling stories as we remember them (some of them true) is what it is all about. I think those that have not attended a reunion are missing the best part of being a member of the Association. We hold the reunion in a different area of the country each year to make it easier to attend at least some of the reunions and we hope you will take advantage of this. I am looking forward to the reunion and the comradeship we will have in Charleston and hope to see you there in September. Dwight Janzen

I served on the Mt. McKinley from 1953 to Sept. 1955. I was a QM2 in the N-Division. I would appreciate hearing from anyone that served on board at this time that remembers me.

Robert L. Brouse     bobbrouse@aol.com

My name is Roy Peterson, known as "Pete" to my shipmates. I was aboard for the atomic bomb tests in 1946. I was radarman second class in charge of the radar gang for the tests. Wonder if anyone has had any ill effects from the radiation. If anyone was in this unit please E-mail me. Thanks, Pete

Roy Peterson    mslizpete@rrt.net

I am looking for my father Ralph Herbert, who served on the great Mt McKinley between the years of 1955-1962. we have been trying to locate Jerry I Smith --(Smitty), or anyone who served and was on board when the typhoon hit, and do you remember how bad it actually was. We have been looking for this information for awhile now. If anyone has any info please email or call at 253-857-6571. Thank you all for your services you have done may god bless you all! Linda Anderson   andrslin8@aol.com
Everything listed below and much, much more is at Patriots Point, one of our daily tours being set up. Visit www.patriotspoint.org for a more complete description.

The Greatest Generations' Greatest Weapons...

The Patriots Point Fleet
“The Fighting Lady”
YORKTOWN (CV-10)

Come aboard and feel the power of the greatest generations greatest weapons. The American aircraft carrier. Our centerpiece is the world famous USS Yorktown (CV-10). Known as “The Fighting Lady” Yorktown became one of the best known warships in American history because of her service in World War II.

“The Ship That Wouldn’t Die”
LAFFEY (DD-724) Berthed alongside Yorktown is the Destroyer LAFFEY. It is an American legend that participated in the D-Day landing in Europe as well as breathtaking maneuvers in the Pacific where LAFFEY’s service was purely heroic. In the space of one hour, LAFFEY was hit by five Japanese Kamikazes and three enemy bombs. Her crew not only kept LAFFEY afloat but incredibly managed to shoot down eleven planes. LAFFEY would come to be known as the ship that wouldn’t die!

Congressional Medal of Honor Museum

Patriots Point is proud to house on board YORKTOWN the museum of The Congressional Medal of Honor Society. Americans and people all over the world honor the individuals who wear our nation's highest award for military valor. This fascinating museum tells the story of these brave warriors from the time of the Civil War up to the present. Learn more about famous names like Audie Murphy, Sergeant Alvin York, Jimmie Doolittle and many more. These are recipients of all races that come from varied social classes and economic levels. The exhibits include memorabilia and artifacts relating to Medal of Honor recipients and archives of important documents. The Congressional Medal of Honor Museum features a wide range of permanent exhibits as well as traveling exhibits.

The Vietnam Base Camp Replica

Among the many dangers in Vietnam, the troops who patrolled the jungle shrouded rivers and deltas faced constant threat of ambush. Our Vietnam Naval Support Base features an actual River Patrol Boat, actual weaponry and combat centers. Our extraordinary aircraft collection includes two Army Huey helicopters that took fire in Vietnam, as well as a Sea Cobra attack helicopter. This is the story of the Vietnam veteran and we tell it proudly.

The Cold War Submarine Memorial

For this Memorial, the period of the Cold War has been defined as beginning on March 12, 1947, the date on which President Harry S. Truman set forth the Truman Doctrine in a speech before the Congress of the United States; and ending on November 9, 1989, the date on which the Berlin Wall which separated East and West Germany was finally opened. Located on Charleston Harbor, the Cold War Submarine Memorial stands as an enduring tribute to the dedicated men who served in our submarines during this unique and dangerous period in our nation’s history; to their families who remained behind and managed alone at home during their long absences; and to the men and women, both civilian and military, who provided the superb support that assured the remarkable success of their missions. The Memorial pays special tribute to the citizens of South Carolina whose strong commitment to freedom and democracy provided strong and unflagging moral support to these Navy men and to their families throughout the challenging years of the Cold War.
It's about time!
This has been the longest, most depressing winter I can remember! I think it’s pretty safe to say, Spring is here.

I can’t wait to get to Charleston. While setting up the tours, I came to the conclusion that four days will not be enough time to do all the things I want to do while there. This place has such an abundance of exciting places to see, and things to do, that I know I can’t do it justice. Since we only have two days to plan tours, I will have to stick to the traditional places, like the Patriots Point, Ft Sumter & maybe a good harbor tour. If at all possible, I really suggest that you plan on spending at least a few extra days in Charleston.

Something else I want to point out, is to please read the article concerning e-mailing of the Masthead, and how to download it. As new members come on board they are not aware of this. If you are not on e-mail disregard it.

Bill Ellis has also informed me that there are a lot of members dragging their feet in getting current with your dues. Please save Dick and Bill the extra work chasing after you, if your dues are late, please get them in.

Another thing Bill told me is, our next new member will be our 1000th member. I think that’s an impressive feat. Now that the new press releases will be coming out to announce our Charleston Reunion, I am sure we’ll be attracting a lot of new guys.

Keep an eye out for the next issue in early July for the Reunion Registration/POD.

I may have spoken to fast. I just found out that Cleveland is supposed to get up to 4” of snow this weekend.....Will it ever end!

Spirit of Carolina Dinner Cruise

Cruise Charleston’s beautiful harbor by moon light aboard the 100’ luxury yacht, Spirit of Carolina. Enjoy the unique and beautiful sights of our harbor at night as well as a delicious dinner in a romantic atmosphere. Dance to the music of a live band. Entrée choice may be made at the table. Alcoholic beverages and optional dessert menus are on your own. Includes round trip transfers to Patriots Point.

Dinner Menu - Charleston She Crab Soup, Spirit Signature Salad with assorted home made dressings, Choice of a Beef, Seafood, Chicken, and Pasta Entrée. Chef’s selection of potatoes, rice or pasta, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Freshly Baked Breads with Sweet Cream Butter, House Dessert, Coffee, Tea, or Decaffeinated Coffee. This event will be set for Thursday evening after the normal city tour of Charleston. The cruise is from 6:15 to 10:30 PM

Seen it all, done it all,
Can’t remember most of it!
The world's first submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat... 

While I was not able to fit this site into our tour schedule, I do feel it important enough to give you some information in the event you can fit it into your schedule.

On February 17, 1864, the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley, attacked and sank the U.S.S. Housatonic four miles off Sullivan's Island in the Atlantic Ocean, becoming the first modern submarine to sink a ship. The Hunley signaled to shore that she had completed the attack and was on the way home, but instead, she disappeared in the dark with her brave crew of eight. History recorded this mission as a valiant exercise of duty and the Hunley as a pioneer in technological innovation.

Surrounded over time in mystery, the Hunley was raised on August 8, 2000, 136 years after her triumph and tragedy. She was brought to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center, a technological workplace designed to seek out and record the facts of the H.L. Hunley’s journey into history.

Additional information about the Hunley can be found on their web site at www.hunley.org.
New Members

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>998 Donald R. Douglas</th>
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<tr>
<td>SN2C, 2nd Div., 1946 - 47</td>
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<tr>
<td>3750 Carl St. NW</td>
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<td>Uniontown, OH 44685-9153</td>
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<th>999 Donald R. Parkin</th>
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<tr>
<td>SN, 2nd Div., 1954 - 55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 134</td>
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<td>Superior, MT 59872-0134</td>
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Our next new member will become our 1000th member!

Patriots Point & Ft Sumter Tour

Tour Patriots Point, the world’s largest naval and maritime museum. Visit the Aircraft Carrier YORKTOWN, the famous fighting lady of World War II; the destroyer LAFFEY, a participant in the World War II D-Day landings at Normandy; the submarine, CLAMAGORE, one of the Navy’s last diesel powered submarines; and the Coast Guard Cutter, INGHAM, which was in active service until decommissioning and given to Patriots Point in 1989. Enjoy a delicious hot lunch in the CPO Mess aboard the Yorktown before boarding the General Beauregard for your Fort Sumter tour. As you cruise through Charleston’s beautiful harbor, you will view the beautiful homes along the Battery and watch the sea gulls and the dolphins play in the harbor. Upon arrival at Fort Sumter, where the Civil War began, ranger from the National Park Service will give you an informative introduction before you tour this famous bastion and ins marvelous museum. The tour includes Round Trip Transportation to Patriots Point.

This will be our Thursday tour……

Avis Rent A Car Systems, Inc. has contacted me and is offering special reunion pricing to our members attending the Charleston reunion, September 7 – 11, 2005 for anyone wishing to rent a car. Avis has assigned a specific discount number for our event. The Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) Number is J994240.

Please, if you would like to take advantage of this special pricing use this AWD number when calling Avis directly at 1-800-331-1600 to receive the best car rental rates available.

Lest we Forget, These former shipmates who departed us this

We offer our sympathy’s to the families of these shipmates.

BMSN Bobby Jones #597
Died January 8, 2005

BMSN Charles Day #909
Died January, 2005

He who laughs last, thinks slowest!
When you go into court you are putting yourself in the hands of 12 people what weren’t smart enough to get out of jury duty!

Recollections of My Mac Duty by: Raymond Ferri # 918

The following are excerpts from the Arlington National Cemetery Website. It describes the actions of Marine Staff Sergeant William Gordon Windrich. Sergeant Windrich is one of our own, serving aboard during Operation Crossroads.

Marine Staff Sergeant William Gordon Windrich was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by President Harry S. Truman for his heroic actions as an infantry platoon sergeant of Company I, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced) during the Korean War 1950-1953. He was killed in action on 2 December 1950 in Northeast Korea, following a savage night battle with Chinese troops across the 38th Parallel.

Late in the afternoon of 1 December 1950, because his company was surrounded by enemy aggressors at Yudam-ni, they were ordered to move toward Hagaru-ri. By the time they reached Hill 1520 (Hill number shows elevation in meters), three miles southeast of Yudam-ni, it was very dark and the temperature averaged a minus 40 degrees. The company relocated a few times, then back to the knoll, between two rugged mile high mountains where they were bombarded by grenades, machine gun and rifle fire. Staff Sergeant Windrich led a rifle squad of twelve men to meet the enemy head on, while armed with a M-2 carbine. Seven of his men were wounded or killed before they reached the forward position they were to defend. Windrich was also wounded in the head by a bursting grenade. As blood gushed down his shoulder and back he moved his remaining men into a tight fire group. Then he ran to the company command post, drafting a small group of volunteers, and led them to evacuate the dying and wounded. Assuming command of what was left of a platoon, Windrich once more took up defensive positions. Now he was shot in both legs, but kept fighting, always refusing medical attention. For a long time he crawled in the snow, back and forth between his men shouting words of encouragement, deploying his forces and helping to throw back the attackers. It was only after the communist had been beaten off did Staff Sergeant Windrich collapse and die due to the bitter cold, excessive loss of blood and severe pain. In the end there were two officers and eighteen enlisted men alive, who staggered down the mountain to be with the rest of the column headed toward Hagaru-ri. Windrich was not there! They could not take his body down seventy miles of treacherous mountain terrain.

Word spread fast of a marine Staff Sergeant, a one man Army so to speak, who had been on Hill 1520. He did not care where the enemy was coming from, as he cussed, blowing them away before they could kill him. Many marines talked about Windrich’s heroics, as well as some of the prisoners being interrogated. Because of Windy and others like him, who gave the supreme sacrifice, the Chinese did not fulfill their orders to annihilate the entire First Marine Division.

From 1 May to 26 August 1946, Sergeant Windrich participated in operation "Crossroads", the atomic bomb tests 'Able' and 'Baker' at Bikini Atoll, Marshall Islands, while attached to the Joint Task Force One aboard the USS Mt. McKinley. The men had a great liberty on Bikini beach before boarding the ship for the tests.

At the breakout of the Korean Conflict Staff Sergeant Windrich was attached to the First Provisional Marine Brigade serving as a military policeman. They were the first group of marines sent to the Pusan Perimeter, arriving 3 August 1950. After the Brigade mission was completed they were ordered to join the First Marine Division for the amphibious seizure of Inchon 15 September 1950. After that they rendered invaluable assistance in the capture of Seoul.

Staff Sergeant William Gordon Windrich transferred to Item Company, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines during the Wonsan Hungnam Chosin Campaign, North Korea on 2 November 1950. He gallantly gave his life for our country exactly one month from joining Item Company.

The complete article can be read by visiting the official Arlington National Cemetery web site at www.arlingtoncemetery.net/windric3.htm

PFC Ray Ferri, member 919, served with Sgt Windrich and brought this to our attention. Thanks Ray!
A little Navy History......

The U.S.S. Constitution (Old Ironsides) as a combat vessel carried 48,600 gallons of fresh (remember that figure) water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of sustained operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (fresh water distillers).

However, let it be noted that according to her log, "On July 27, 1798, the U.S.S. Constitution sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot, 11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum."

Her mission: "To destroy and harass English shipping."

Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum. Then she headed for the Azores, arriving there 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine. On 18 November, she set sail for England.

In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchantmen, salvaging only the rum aboard each. By 26 January, her powder and shot were exhausted. Nevertheless, and though unarmed, she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland. Her landing party captured a whiskey distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then she headed home.

The U.S.S. Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with No cannon shot, No food, No powder, No rum, NO wine, NO whiskey and 38,600 gallons of stagnant water. GO NAVY!

Historic Charleston & Boone Hall Tour

Tour Charleston, one of the most beautiful and historic cities in the south. Her stately homes with their lovely gardens, her magnificent public buildings and her majestic churches will enchant you. As you tour you will see the College of Charleston, Harleston Village (one of the early suburbs of the city), The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, and of course our famous Battery with its elegant town houses built by planters and merchants in the 18th & 19th centuries. After touring the city spend a couple of hours in the old City Market shopping and browsing and have lunch on your own at one of our many excellent restaurants. Journey across the Cooper River to the town of Mt Pleasant. Here visit historic Boone Hall Plantation which was used in the filming of the television mini series, North and South” and “Queen” and for background filming in “Gone with the Wind”. Tour the lovely Georgian plantation house, the slave quarters built from brick made on the plantation in the 1800’s and watch the flower ladies making their sweetgrass baskets. This is our Thursday tour and will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00PM.

Historic Boone Hall Plantation which was used in the filming of the television mini series, North and South” and “Queen” and for background filming in “Gone with the Wind”.

If the shoe fits, Get another one just like it!
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<td>Mount McKinley Golf Shirt (new design) 100% pre shrunk cotton</td>
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<td>Mount McKinley Golf Shirt – Blue, White Short-Sleeve w/ or w/o Pocket Sizes: SM, MED, LG, XL</td>
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<td>Mount McKinley Baseball Caps – White w/war on Back, Vietnam era only</td>
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<td>Mount McKinley Baseball Caps – Blue or White, plain back</td>
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<td>Mount McKinley T-Shirts – Navy Blue or White, w/Blue, White or Gold, Screenprint Lettering on Shirt Front Front – Ship’s Silhouette, Atomic Bomb Test Logo, Mermaid Logo, Commissioning Date, De-Commissioning Date, Other Important Dates &amp; Cruises Sizes: SM, MED, L, XL</td>
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<td>Ship’s Pin Charm’s only</td>
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<td>Laser Engraved Plaque</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Ken Boenitz book, Cruising in the Mac</td>
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Please include a “ship-to” mailing address with your order!

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Make check payable to: USS Mount McKinley Association & mail to: Steve Schermerhorn 69272 County Rd 23, New Paris, IN 46553

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The day we forget about the sacrifices our Nations Veterans have made for the Freedom we now enjoy... Is the beginning of the end of that FREEDOM! Don't forget, take those lessons to our children...... they NEED TO KNOW!

Dick & Viv Armstrong"

Come to Charleston & help us celebrate another reunion!

This and other ad space is available for rent, contact Dennis for rates at Masthead@USSMtMcKinley.com or use the address above in the upper left corner. These ads help defer the huge cost of producing our Newsletters.

“IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO SERVED”

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SAN ANTONIO, TX 78209-6786
(210) 822-7171