New Officers take over......

At the Charleston reunion our membership voted into office the largest single change of officers we have ever experienced. In all we have nine officers serving in different positions. With a lot of concerted effort by our outgoing officers, the transition seems to be going seamlessly. What a testimony to our association and it’s membership that we could do this and continue to have the quality of personal taking major positions of leadership.

Our President David Nelsen is still a rather new member to the Association, but his leadership qualities and desire to serve were recognized right away by our nominating team. David was willing to step right into the Vice Presidents position when he attended his second reunion in 2004. I know his new staff will be more then able to help him in his new position as President of the Association.

Our new Vice President, William “Bill” Ellis is not a new name to any of us. He has done an outstanding job as our Treasurer for the about eight or nine years. Who better then Bill to serve in the supporting role to our new President. Bill’s Association experience is broad, because of his role as Treasurer he has worked with all the various team members in making this an exceptional Association.

The new Membership Secretary, Gerald Critz, is new to the top officers, but has been around our reunions and has been of considerable help in supporting the hospitality rooms at the reunions. He is replacing an Association Icon, Dick Armstrong, in maintaining the membership database. His duties are many and challenging. Having worked with Jerry I know he will do an excellent job for us.

Association Secretary, Lee Temanson has already shown us how through he is going to be. With-in a few weeks after the Charleston Reunion, he has already written up our meeting minutes and has distributed them to the various officers. Great Job Lee!

Treasurer, WOW! Now that’s real tough job, and I’ll be honest, I thought Bill was going to stuck in that position forever. Not So! Ed Bannan has been a member for many years, but because of his reality office, his time was limited and he couldn’t attend our reunion. Well! Ed has sold his office and has jumped right in and was willing to take on this most important job. Bill & Ed have been working together to make the change-over as seamless as possible. I have to work with the Treasurer often and I look forward to working with Ed.

Three names that have been around for a long time have stepped in and assumed the three open Directors positions. Richard Wilson, Bill Martincic & Chuck Prange will be serving until 2007 as your new Directors.

As an Association, we are truly blessed to have such people to lead us into the next generation of officers.
Donations to the Associations

There are no recorded donations For this period.

USS Mount McKinley Association
Statement of Financial Condition
As of September 30, 2005

Income:
- Ship's Store Sales: 4917.50
- Less Cost of Goods Sold: 3461.13
- Gain on Ship's Store Sales: 1456.37
- Advertisement: 25.00
- Dues-Regular: 4116.00
- Dues-Allocated Pd Life: 712.00
- Total Dues: 4828.00
- Donations: 190.00
- Interest: 338.23
- Miscellaneous Income: 99.91
- Total Income: 6937.51

Expenses:
- Bank Charges: 3.00
- Newsletter: 2044.19
- Postage: 708.03
- Supplies: 171.81
- Donation: 300.00
- Web Site: 229.40
- Total Expenses: 3456.43
- Net Income-Operations: 3481.08

Reunion Income-2005: 18397.00
- Reunion Expenses-2005: 17582.32
- Reunion Income over Expenses: 814.68

Reunion Deposit 2005 Made 2004: 200.00
- Total Income Year to Date: 4495.76

Cash January 1, 2005 Net of allocated dues 1/1/05 of $613: 24477.95
- Ships Store Inventory January 1, 2005: 3301.05
- Add Income as of September 30, 2005: 4495.76
- Add Prepaid Life Dues -2005 (Net of Allocated 05 Dues): 1438.00
- Total: 33712.76

Cash-Bank Of America ( See Note 1): 11046.72
- Cash-Scudder Govt & Agency Money Market Fund: 18411.94
- Total Cash September 30, 2005: 29458.66
- Ships Store Inventory, September 30, 2005: 4254.10
- Total Assets: 33712.76

Note 1, Includes prepaid life dues of $6723.00 not available for operations
Will be allocated to dues income over life expectancy period.

Submitted By: William K. Ellis, Treasurer
FIRST A BIRTHDAY WISH TO THE UNITED STATES NAVY 13 OCTOBER 1775.

THIS DAY IS INTENDED AS AN INTERNAL ACTIVITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE ACTIVE FORCES AND RESERVE, AS WELL AS RETIREES AND DEPENDENTS. SINCE 1972 EACH CNO HAS ENCOURAGED A NAVY-WIDE CELEBRATION OF THIS OCCASION "TO ENHANCE A GREATER APPRECIATION OF OUR NAVY HERITAGE, AND TO PROVIDE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE TOWARD PRIDE AND PROFESSIONALISM IN THE NAVAL SERVICE"

OUR USS MOUNT MCKINLEY ASSOCIATION CERTAINLY CELEBRATES THESE GOALS EVERY DAY AND I PERSONALLY THANK YOU ALL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT. JUST THREE YEARS AGO IN SAN FRANCISCO PAT AND I ATTENDED OUR FIRST REUNION. WHAT A WARM WELCOME. WHILE WAITING AT THE AIRPORT FOR THE HOTEL BUS SEVERAL COUPLES FROM THE ASSOCIATION INTRODUCED THEMSELVES. AT THE HOTEL DWIGHT AND SHIRLEY, LES AND SHARON INTRODUCED THEMSELVES AND THE LIST GOES ON. THE FRIENDSHIP THAT HAS DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS JUST GROWS AND GROWS AND WE ARE SO THANKFUL TO BE PART OF THIS GREAT ASSOCIATION. I HOPE THAT THE THIRTEEN "FIRST TIME" COUPLES ATTENDING THIS YEAR HAVE THIS SAME FEELINGS.

A SPECIAL CONGRATULATION TO ALL OF THE NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS WHO HAVE WILLING VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE THE ASSOCIATION 2005/06

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT IT HAS BEEN OVER A MONTH SINCE THE GREAT CHARLESTON REUNION. THANK YOU AGAIN DWIGHT, BILL, POPS, STEVE AND ALL THE REUNION COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR A JOB "WELL DONE".

CHEERS, DAVE

Bits and Pieces

Hi Shipmates; I am a Service Officer of the Vietnam Veterans of America and I look for shipmates who have not been able to look on their own. I am seeking anyone on the Mac during Oct. 68 to Mar. 69 with knowledge of combat action while in the harbor of, or near Da Nang. Please contact this office via e-mail. Roosevelt D Ward, GMGC Ret, vvarward@vba.va.gov

From Rick Hall: Paul Hall, a radioman and my father served on board the ship from 1963 or 1964 through 1966 or 1967. I would like to correspond with anyone who may have served with him. I am compiling a scrapbook with any stories, memories and events with him and the ship during that time period. I would greatly appreciate it. Also the mood Icon is the branch that I served. My dad was all Navy.

From Mark Fuhrman: It is Veteran's Day, and I was searching the internet for info on the ship my dad proudly served on in the 1950's...and here it is. My dad (Donald) has shared many stories of his fairly short career on this ship. He will be happy to hear about this web page...unfortunately he does not have an internet connection at his home in Central Minnesota....
Why do we press harder on the remote when we know the batteries are low?
I have to say, I enjoyed the Charleston reunion the most of all your reunions I’ve attended. Of course a big part of that is because I had some very dedicated helpers for our hospitality room and other reunion related jobs. Thanks to all of you, I really appreciated it.

The city of Charleston was simply beautiful as were all the people I met. I could easily live there.

Now we are on to the next reunion in Dayton, Ohio. I am going on a site visit to our proposed hotel in two weeks and hopefully I will have the hotel under contract before the end of the year. Right now it is looking like September 13th to the 17th for our dates, but keep that as a tentative date until I lock in that hotel. By the time of the next newsletter, it will all be in place.

I just want to take a minute to thank three great guys & their wives for all the help they gave me at the reunion. Jerry & Gloria Critz, Harry & Mary Cox & Frank & Becky Mannina. And thank you to all the others who contributed too.

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VA News……

To any member of our association and other veterans that we know have participated in WW II, Korea and Vietnam. If you have had any illness or injury while on active duty or had exposure to radiation, agent orange or have suffered from diabetes or colon cancer, it is important that you contact a FULL TIME veterans service officer. You must bring your DD214 with you to see if you are entitled to any benefits.

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First Lady Tea

From all accounts rendered, this years newest event, a “ladies Tea” put on by out-going First Lady, Shirley Janzen, was a huge success. Approximately 80 women had an enjoyable 2 hour respite on Friday afternoon from all the military talk the guys get into.

Plans are already in the works for a similar event in Dayton, and hopefully for making this a yearly event. It’s a great way for the new members wives and First-Reunion members to get to know some of the other women. Many great suggestions have come from this event. Pat Nelsen & Lynn Ellis will be coordinating the event, look for additional information as this all gets pulled together.

---

Look for the Winter issue of the Masthead for news about our next reunion in Dayton, Ohio.
Reunion Cruise

Last summer, Bill Ellis & I attended a seminar for setting up a “Reunion Cruise”. At this year’s reunion, we passed along the information we received and our officers, and members, gave approval to continue gathering information with respect to doing a tentative cruise in October of 2007. This is NOT set in stone yet, as we cannot get pricing for the cruise until after January of this year. The various cruise lines don’t give out schedules until then. We still have a lot of homework to do since a cruise reunion will certainly be different from what we are accustomed to. From what Bill and I learned, we both feel it is very “do-able” cost wise. The cruise lines are very anxious for our business and we’ll get a good bang for our bucks. More on this in later newsletters.

Cruising In The Mac

By: Ken Boenitz

26 March 1945 The task Group arrived at the objective, Yakabi Shima, Kerama Retto and landings were made by the 305th Infantry Regiment of the 77th Division and 5 of the 9 major islands (aka, Zamami, Hokaji, Geruma, and Yakabi). These islands are precipitous, rising to heights of several hundreds of feet. Some pre-landing bombardment was necessary and the USS Arkansas, BB33 participated. The landings surprised the Japanese and they did not attempt to use their 359 suicide boats that were then captured. The most resistance occurred on Aka Shim and Zamami Shima. Japanese POW’s, one from Aka, the other from Yakabi were brought to the Mac for questioning by intelligence. The destroyer USS Halligan fouled a mine near the anchorage and the exploding mine touched off both forward magazines.

27 March 1945 Landings were made on the Tokashiki, Kuba and Aruma Shima. Many civilian suicides (estimated at 350 civilian and military) began to occur as a result of previous Japanese propaganda concerning the Americans.

29 March 1945 The invasion force found and commandeered 2 squadrons of flying boats in the largest anchorage in the Retto, Kerama Kaiyo. The Japanese used these airplanes mainly for anti-submarine patrols. The Navy then moved in and placed anti-submarine nets at anchorage to protect its ships.

The above excerpts are from Ken Boenitz excellent book “Cruising in the Mac”. This book is available in our Ship’s store.
**NEW MEMBERS**

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<th>Membership Certificate</th>
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<td>Ken Oxenrider, our web master, has asked me to let you know about another great feature he has added to our Association Web Site. If you can get access to a computer, go to <a href="http://www.ussmtmckinley.com/crew/members_only/certificate.html">www.ussmtmckinley.com/crew/members_only/certificate.html</a>. At that web page you can create your Association Membership Certificate. This is also available to our associate members. Once you have created you certificate you can save it to file and then print out a beautiful color version suitable for framing.</td>
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If you still owe your dues….this is your last newsletter! Take a minute and mail it in, we hate to loose any of our shipmates. Mail to our treasurer.

Lest we Forget,
These former shipmates who departed us this past quarter:

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

- **CS3 Wilber Lee Witt #787**  
  Died May 6, 2005

- **ETM2 James P. Quinn #325**  
  Died June 28, 2005

- **Signalman, Marcian J. Snyder #594A**  
  Died March 31, 2005

- **S1 Cotton Young #554**  
  Died October 9, 2005

- **LCDR Frank E. Harrison**  
  Died July 15, 2005

If at first you don’t succeed, shouldn’t you try doing it like your wife told you to in the first place?
Obviously, if at first you don’t succeed, then don’t take up sky diving!

We heard the thump of two explosions and the broadcast reported “two bombs had been dropped astern of the Mt McKinley”.

The following account is an excerpt from Lt Cdr Hegarty’s web site. The complete article can be seen at www.britains-smallwars.com/korea/jamaica2.htm

The Inchon operation would take many pages to describe, but suffice to say Jamaica participated in the bombardment before the landing and covered the operation throughout. However, one daring action, prior to the affair, remains in my memory.

The evening before the landing, four U.S. Destroyers sailed up to the port of Inchon in confined waters with no cover and little room to maneuver; their purpose was to draw enemy fire in order that an assessment could be made of likely resistance when the landing craft went in next day. They proceeded in formation, flags flying, and guns manned. The inevitable response came from the defenses ashore as the ships drew fire from the shore batteries. It seemed like an age to those of us awaiting their return, but eventually all four reappeared, still in proud formation, but perhaps their upper works not quite so shipshape as before. We learnt subsequently one of the destroyers CO had been killed and many other too. But the likely strength of resistance was assessed and it surely went a long way in ensuring a successful assault next day.

The day following the landing, together with other ships, Jamaica was at anchor in the approaches to Inchon. Nearby was the HQ ship, USS Mt McKinley, with General Douglas Mac Arthur on board. All appeared to have gone well ashore, but nevertheless, in accordance with usual RN practice, the ship went to dawn action stations as the first signs of light appeared on the horizon. From long experience over war years, this was the time of maximum threat from attack. Being landlocked, our radars were not effective. Just as it got light, over the tannoy (PA) system came the report, “Alarm Aircraft Starboard” and then followed the usual commands for the guns to stand to. An aircraft was sighted and was reported over the broadcast system. Those of us below decks could understand what was happening. We heard the thump of two explosions and the broadcast reported “two bombs had been dropped astern of the Mt McKinley”. Again the broadcast - “Aircraft turning towards”. Immediately those guns sighted were trained on the approaching aircraft. There was a desperate urgency throughout the ship to hear our guns respond - but the Captain, calmly but with complete assurance, ordered the guns not to fire but to track the target as it closed the ship.

Then, when near enough to read the insignia on its fuselage, the order came - "FIRE". Jamaica shook from stem to stern as every gun free to engage fired and the unfortunate pilot together with his aircraft disintegrated in a flash and disappeared into the water. A second aircraft was sighted and again engaged, this time it veered away from us as it saw the first aircraft explode, but the guns were successful and although not quite so dramatic the aircraft was last seen losing height and subsequently crashed as it crossed the estuary. Later reports indicated the aircraft had strafed the ship causing some casualties and one sailor, Boy Seamen Ron Godsall was fatally wounded.

I read Andrew Ulichney’s article in the last masthead and it brought up some memories for me...

I was an RT1c in Comphibgroup four while the Mount McKinley was at Sasebo, Japan. A group of us got a jeep and decided to see what actually happened in Hiroshima. While reroute, we got stuck in some mud. The more we spun the wheels, the deeper we got mired in that gooey stuff. While we were trying to get out, a truck pulled up with about twenty or so Nips in it. They got out and walked towards us, we did not know what to do. We did not know if they were aware the war was over, or how they felt about Americans.

They walked over to us, picked up the jeep and carried it out of the mud. They then bowed to us, got back into the truck and left. Wow, what a relief to see them go.

We then continued on our way to Hiroshima. What a horrible sight. It still gives me chills when I think of it! A smoke stack standing intact and nothing else near it, but dust! Just complete devastation. We saw lots of people with terrible burns on their faces. We entered into some houses that were still standing. I remember one house I entered, there were a couple of urns on a mantle piece with ashes within them, and now the owners of these houses were also probably ashes. Fortunately my memory has dimmed with the passing years, well over fifty years.
My Favorite!

Statistics on sanity say that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends, if they’re okay, then it’s you!

12/07/1960 - USS Mt McKinley AGC-7 - Mount McKinley’s third Mediterranean navy cruise from 20 February to 26 August 1959 was marked by seven amphibious exercises involving U.S. and NATO forces. In February 1960, the ship sailed to Valpariso, Chile, via Panama Canal to provide communications support for President Eisenhower’s good will visit to Latin America. On 19 April, the AGC deployed to 6th Fleet, returning to Norfolk 7 December. Upon completion of her yard period in the summer of 1961, Mount McKinley made her fifth deployment to the Mediterranean from September to February 1962, acting as flagship for several large-scale amphibious exercises.

12/15/1944 - USS Mt McKinley AGC-7 - On 15 December the navy ship participated in the invasion of Mindoro and proceeded to Lingayen Gulf with ComPhibGru 7 aboard to direct shore bombardment and landings at San Narcisco, near Subic Bay on 9 January 1945.

In the month of December, the USS Mt McKinley was .......
Operated by: Steve Schermerhorn

1. **Mount McKinley Golf Shirt** (new design) 100% pre shrunk cotton..............................................$25.00
2. **Mount McKinley Golf Shirt** – Blue, White Short-Sleeve w/ w/o /Pocket
   Sizes: SM, MED, LG, XL .................................................................$23.00
   XXL + $1.50, XXXL + $2.50
3. **Mount McKinley Baseball Caps** – White w/war on Back, Vietnam era only $18.00
4. **Mount McKinley Baseball Caps** – Blue or White, plain back $15.00
5. **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 & Cruises.
   Sizes:
   SM, MED, L, XL ...........................................................................$10.00
   XXL, XXXL , add $1.00

Due to reduction of stock on t-shirts & golf shirts a substitute color will be supplied if your selection is no longer available in your size

6. **Assoc. Logo T-shirts** (only available in L & XL).................................................$10.00
7. **Mount McKinley Ship’s Patches**
   3 3/4” Mountain Patch, 5” Association Mermaid/Turtle Patch, 6” Diesel Gang Patch, Snipe Force Patch, Task Force 90 Patch, Gator Navy Patch.........................$8.00
8. **Ship’s Pin** Charm’s only.................................$4.00
9. **Ship’s Photos** 8 x 10’s (specify with/without helo deck)...............................$5.00
10. **Decal**..............................................................................$3.00 ea. or (2) $5.00
11. **Official Assoc. Mouse Pad**...............................................................$5.00
12. **Laser Engraved Key Tags**.................................................................$5.00
13. **Laser Engraved Pencils**.................................................................one for $1.00/6 for $5.00
14. **Master Rosters:** (listing of all years) **Red 1944-70**.............................................$26.50
15. **Blue 44-49, Yellow 50-59, Gold 60-70.........................................................$16.50
16. **Ship’s Bell**..............................................................................$31.00
17. **Laser Engraved Plaque**.............................................................................$65.00
   (Please call Steve to receive a special order form for the Plaque)
18. **Ken Boenitz book, Cruising in the Mac**.................................................$16.00

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

Sorry, No Credit Cards......

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Dayton, Ohio
Sept. 13 to 17, 2006

"IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO SERVED"

CHARLES J. WORREL
WORREL EXPLORATION, INC.
OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION GEOLOGICAL CONSULTATION
WORREL EXPLORATION INC.
P.O. BOX 6786
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78209-6786
(210) 822-7171

Tacron One
Was there, May 1950 to June 1951

Dick & Viv Armstrong"
Come to Dayton & help us celebrate another reunion!

A night view of the Vietnam Wall Memorial, Washington D.C.

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!