Colorado springs 2014, a great time was enjoyed by all!

Some enjoyed the cog railway up 14,104 feet to the Pikes Peak summit.
Some loved the views at the Air Force Academy and Garden of the Gods.
Some enjoyed The Iron Springs Chateau dinner and variety Show.
We all enjoyed visiting with shipmates, their spouses and guests.
We toasted Dewey’s return from a health scare last year with some “Hot Damn!”

We talked to shipmates by phone unable to attend due to health concerns; Dave Settle in California and Andy Ulichney in Pocono, PA. Dave Long played “You’ll never know” for Andy and they put the phone up to the microphone.

Andy treated us with his voice raised in song to his lovely wife Flo.

The weather was great, the sights were fantastic! In a word...

Enjoyable!!
Navy News

USS COLE, At Sea (NNS) -- The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Cole (DDG 67) will enter the Black Sea, Oct. 10, to promote peace and stability in the region. The Cole's presence in the Black Sea will serve to reaffirm the United States’ dedication and commitment toward strengthening the partnerships and joint operational capabilities among U.S., NATO, and regional Black Sea partners.

The ship is scheduled to conduct routine operations which include, combined training, maritime security operations, and theatre security cooperation events. These interactions among allies and partner nations reaffirm the maritime relationships and commitment to the security and stability within the Black Sea region.

The U.S. Navy routinely operates ships in the Black Sea consistent with the Montreux Convention and under the domain of International Law.

The U.S. is demonstrating its continued commitment to collective security through a series of actions designed to reassure NATO allies and partners of America's dedication to enduring peace and stability in the region, in light of the Russian intervention in Ukraine.

"Our presence in the Black Sea is meant to reassure and at the same time demonstrate our commitment to work closely with NATO allies in order to enhance maritime security, readiness, and naval capability," said Cmdr. Dennis Farrell, USS Cole commanding officer. "The relationships built during the coming weeks will strengthen and improve interoperability between allies as we all work together toward shared mutual goals."

Cole, homeported in Norfolk, Virginia, is on a routine deployment in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations and is a multi-mission ship able to provide offensive and defensive capabilities.

U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied, joint, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa.

Additional important positions

Immediate Past President
Don King
dwking1942@att.net

Legal Advisor
Don King

Ships Store
Bob & Mary Ruth Halas
mrhalas2001@yahoo.com

Webmaster
Ken Oxenrider
webmaster@ussmtmckinley.com

Chaplain Ron Kilgas
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Newsletter Editors
Mike & Lynne DeBol
archangel.debol51@gmail.com

Reunion Chair
Dave Long
davidlong1944@msn.com

Master at Arms
James Burns
twbjb3946@yahoo.com

Historian
Catherine Anders
rjanders@msn.com

Elections Don King
dwking1942@att.net
Dear Shipmate, October, 2014

Next year we’ll be back down at sea level…well, almost---581 feet; however, shipmates, spouses and guests who were able to attend this year’s Reunion in Colorado Springs were treated to a week of excellent weather, wonderful and impressive excursions and delightful entertainment. My sincere thanks to all the shipmates and spouses who worked on various tasks to make it all happen…from badges to beverages to busses and many things in between! It also was a pleasure to have US Navy Captain, Greg Thomas (Ret), and the Doherty High School Navy Junior ROTC unit for entry salutes and Presentation of Colors prior to our Annual Banquet. They are an impressive group of students!

During the year, your officers and directors accomplished many objectives. Electronic (e-mail) voting was utilized for financial matters; reorganizing the reunion regions from four to six to ensure easier travel throughout the Country from year to year; purchase of our own computer run D.J. system in lieu of continually paying for DJs each year; and, the use of e-mail for more expedient communication with our membership.

To that last point ---communication---with the help of Webmaster Ken Oxenrider, Membership Secretary Dave Long, and The Masthead Editors Mike and Lynne DeBol, we will be evaluating the feasibility of transitioning The Masthead from the current hard copy/printed and mailed edition to an e-mail transmitted newsletter. It should all be the same and look the same. This means it will just be arriving on your desk by e-mail, not in the outside mailbox. We realize that we have some members who do not have computers; therefore, no e-mail address. Hard copies will be printed and mailed to those few shipmates.

Why are we looking into this? Printing and mailing The Masthead amounts to almost 73% of the Association’s total operating costs. Changing to e-mail will substantially reduce our costs with an eye to toward more efficient use of our limited and declining financial resources. To make it successful, we require you help! If we do not already have your e-mail address, we need it. Please ensure that Membership Secretary, Dave Long, has your current e-mail address! Please e-mail or call him with that information.

Lastly, at this year’s Officers’ and Directors’ Meeting, reunion sites for the next three years were confirmed: 2015 Milwaukee; 2016 Norfolk; and, 2017 Phoenix. Location and dates for next year’s reunion in Milwaukee will be published after the first of the year.

Yours in service,

Ray Zall
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served aboard these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in times of war or peace.

**Remembrances of Robert Horrell ET3 1950-'53**

**Reporting aboard the MAC.**

October 30 or 31, 1950, I reported aboard the USS Gunston Hall, LSD-5, for transport to Wonsan and the **McKinley**. (Gunston Hall, located about 10 miles south of Mount Vernon, was the home of George Mason, a significant contributor to writing of the Bill of Rights and other activities during the Revolutionary War).

Around November 5, the ship arrived in Wonsan about 10:00 PM. The other passengers and I off-loaded into an M-Boat “taxi” for delivery to the various ships in the harbor.

Within minutes after we started on the rounds, one of the boat’s crew told us to face in a certain direction, close our eyes until told to open them. We all did, because we knew with officers among us this was not some type of joke.

Seconds after we closed our eyes we saw a quick bright flash of light and heard a loud explosion. We opened our eyes and were told to look up at a certain section of the sky; although bright with stars, we all detected something moving across the sky.

Rapidly the three discernable objects began to glow, and became brighter orange as we followed them until they disappeared over a mountain, quickly followed by big flashes of light. The crewman told us we had watched three projectiles fired from a cruiser in the bay aimed at North Korean forces on the other side of the mountain.

It was nearly midnight when several of us reported aboard the **McKinley**, had our orders checked, and were sent off for night to the troop compartment located several decks down near the bow. Early the next morning, one of the ETs came and led me up to shop, where I met many of my new shipmates, and started my nearly 30 month tour on the MAC.

**Gun Salute Mishap**

A small-bore gun was mounted on each side of the ship on the main deck. Its primary purpose was to render honors to dignitaries and high government officials, as they boarded or departed the ship by firing blanks a specified number of times; e.g., a 21 gun salute for the President.

In late 1950 or early 1951 while anchored at Wonsan, the then Secretary of the Navy, a man named Matthews, came aboard.

As the Admiral’s barge pulled alongside, the 17 gun salute for Cabinet members began. The salute was rendered by alternate firing of the two salutes, a few seconds apart. The salute went off perfectly.

However, on the Secretary’s departure the 17<sup>th</sup> round was fired simultaneously by both batteries! Much to the dismay of Captain Printup, the Gunnery Officer, and the Gunner’s mates, and to the probable delight of officers and crew of other ships nearby to witness a flagship’s embarrassment.

**Your Swan is Sautéed**

T Division’s most junior man was assigned to the Chief’s mess for a 90 day tour as a mess cook. Some time around January, 1951, being the junior man, I reported to the mess’s cook, Charlie Getgen, and began my tour. The Chief’s mess had the best food on the ship, and I gained almost 30 pounds.

The McKinley was tied up in Pusan from December 26<sup>th</sup> until 8 March. During this time, various activities including hunting trips were scheduled. On one tour, Chief Quartermaster Glover, shot an enormous swan, with at least a seven foot wingspan. Glover wanted it cooked, so Charlie and I cleaned the bird and ended up with barely two pounds of meat. The bird was cooked and served, about one thin slice per Chief (Charlie and I had our samples before serving it). As I remember, the meat was still pretty game, even after Charlie had **soaked** it something to make it more palatable.
Hungnam Evacuation

Most of December, 1950, was spent anchored in Hungnam Harbor. Admiral Doyle, his staff, and others were planning/directing the evacuation of soldiers, Marines, and North Korean refugees as a result of the massive invasion by Chinese troops. During the next week or so, the town became more crowded as the military and civilian refugees kept arriving.

Our anchorage was about a half-mile from a very large, long pier that had warehouses running its length. This pier was focal point of the evacuation with all types of military and civilian vessels taking on equipment and people. On one occasion I went ashore and was able to take pictures of the damage from various ship’s shelling, bombs and other explosives.

A tour had been arranged for some of the crew. Melvin Hobart and I were among that group. We rode about 12 miles up to Hungnam’s twin city, Hamhung. The group was turned loose and told to report back to that particular intersection at 1600 or so. Hobart and I wandered off in one direction, others in various other directions. Hamhung homes and businesses were more like shacks, streets unpaved and muddy, and very few electric poles and lights. There was very little to see; I only took one or two pictures.

The tempo of operations had stepped up rapidly in the few days before Christmas; more people loaded on ships, various buildings, ammo dumps and other strategic materials were being blown up. There were fires and almost constant flashes of light and smoke everywhere.

A day or so before the 24th, the DIACHENKO, APD 127, anchored between the pier and us. She carried and supported an underwater demolition team, UDT 3. The team’s job was to attach explosives to pilings of many of the piers in the harbor and preparing the big pier for destruction.

The nearby cruiser ROCHESTER and a battleship beyond the harbor were sporadically shelling various targets in the port. When the ROCHESTER fired just one of her big guns, the shock wave would rattle the McKinley.

On Christmas Eve, the evacuation had been completed, and as the fleet began heading to sea, the big pier erupted, throwing stuff everywhere as the explosives went off. Pictures of that explosion that appeared in the press and TV were taken aboard the McKinley. I have my own pictures of that event plus pictures of Admiral Doyle, Army General Almond, and other officers watching the explosions. As we sailed out, Chinese troops were coming over the mountains like an army of ants. I had a good look at them using the big binoculars mounted on the 0-5 level. The MAC was among the last ships departing the harbor, and all one could see was smoke from all the fires.

In addition to soldiers, Marines, and as much equipment as possible had been loaded, over 100,000 North Korean refugees were evacuated.

We anchored at ULSAN late that night and in the morning, headed for Pusan while celebrating Christmas Day.
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in times of war or peace.

Members and Non Members reported deceased since 06/30/2014

Robert Moreno Passed 7/10/14 served ‘56-’58 BMSN 1st Div.

Merril Starker Passed 8/7/14 Non-member

Tom Drodgen Passed September 2014 Non-member

Farewell Shipmates.

New Members since 6/30/14

#1207 Richard Schuetz
Previous member rejoined

#1208 Gene Patno
Previous member rejoined

#1209 Gary Davies
Mt Mac ‘65-’67
Resides in Las Vegas, NV

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CHILE: EISENHOWER IN SANTIAGO.

President Eisenhower - continuing his 13-day, 15,500 mile good-will tour of South America - received a rousing welcome as he arrived in Santiago, Chile, Feb 29, and drove in a motorcade to the American Embassy along a cheer-packed five mile route lined with an estimated million of the population. No time was lost before the visitor commenced a two hour discussion with President Alessandri of Chile. In the evening President Eisenhower was the guest of President Alessandri for dinner in his palace, 'Le Moneda.' During a speech in Santiago, Mar 1, the President said he had heard it repeated that the United States supported dictators, and he vehemently declared: "This is ridiculous, we repudiate dictatorship in any form, right or left." President Eisenhower went on to say that serious misunderstanding of the United States unfortunately existed in all the Latin American Republics. President Eisenhower was due to leave Santiago, Mar 1, for his visit to Uruguay, where carnival-minded Uruguayans have been ordered by their government to cease their festivities during the President's stay.

Before satellites the Mt Mac provided a communication link to Washington D.C. for the President

In February 1960, the USS Mt McKinley 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.

The 1960 Chile trip was memorable for President Eisenhower, and etched in the memories (mostly good memories) of the MT Mac’s crew. We were Med-moored to the breakwater, and provided Ship’s tours (via our two LCVP’s) for local Chileans. The Mt Mac was the first American Navy ship to visit in 50 years. The weather and the local people were warm and welcoming.
USS Mt McKinley Association Our Purpose:
To Promote Patriotism and Camaraderie among those who served on board the USS Mt McKinley during that ship’s 25 years and 10 months active service to the U.S. Navy from May 1st 1944

Banquet 2014 In Colorado Springs, Colorado some pictures, memories.

Salutes were rendered as members entered banquet.

Colors! Attention! Doherty High school Navy R.O.T.C do the honor.

L-R Handsome Bald Guy, Wes Brubacher, Bobbie Chamberlain, Ed Basham, Bonnie Demaster, empty chair of Bill Demaster Ardelle Temanson, Lee Temanson, Joan Basham

U.S. Navy Capt. Greg Thomas (Ret.) with the well trained Junior Navy cadets from Doherty High.

L-R Mike DeBol, Sheila Hempfer, Tom Hempfer, Tom Welch, Carol Welch, June Standley, Dewey Standley, Richard Wilson, hazel Wilson