

U.S.S. MAGOFFIN APA 199

VETERANS ASSOCIATION

#11

MAGOFFIN MESSENGER

SUMMER 1999

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Presidents Corner

by sam rubin

I promised myself that I would get this Newsletter out around the first of July, well here it is the first of August and I am just getting started. I have no excuses except the weather turned nice and I have been spending time in my garden and helping my son in law build his 4000 square foot dream home. I am one half of the framing crew.

Our web site has been helping enroll new members. I have had several inquiries these past few months and have sent out membership forms to those requesting them. Thanks to Webmaster Jerry Lopez who is maintaining the web site.

We have made partial restitution to those members that donated to the Seattle Fund. If you were a donee and did not receive any refund, please contact our Treasurer with the pertinent information.

I have been in touch with the various parties involved with the Tucson Reunion and all is moving along nicely, with the Saturday activities now arranged. Further

information elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Our Scholarship fund is now \$2000.00 richer due to one of our members and his wife (who wish to remain anonymous) donated that sum. I wish to thank them for their very generous donation and assure them that it will be used wisely.

Joe Brady has sent a check to the Magoffin High School and I understand that a student has been selected but as of this date, I do not have any details.

REUNION TUCSON, ARIZONA

Doubletree Suites Hotel

April 5 to 8, 2000

The hotel is located on Tucson's upscale eastside just 20 minutes from the airport and within 5 minutes to great shopping at Park Mall. Additionally, there are a multitude of restaurants, theaters and night life to visit. Complementary transportation within a 3 mile radius is provided by their bellstaff. They do not provide transportation to or from the airport.

Each suite has a separate bedroom with tv, a sitting room with sofa, chairs, tv, refrigerator, coffeemakers, iron and boards, wet bar and clock radios. The bath area features a separate tub and shower and a large vanity/dressing area. Microwave ovens, hair dryers and sofa beds can also be requested. All this and a FREE full buffet breakfast and a two hour cocktail period from 5 to 7 each evening for our special price of \$84.00 plus local taxes. Les Wilson and I were quite taken with both the accommodations and the hotel in general. The hotel surrounds an open courtyard which includes the large swimming pool. A nice cool area to congregate when the temperatures are in the 80's as expected that time of year.

Our Hospitality Room is very large and opens into the courtyard where additional tables will be made available for us if necessary. All the other facilities we require are quite adequate for our needs.

The golfer's will be delighted with the local courses available and we will arrange tee time at one of them during their stay.

I have arranged for our first day of touring which will be to the Sonora Desert Museum, then to Old Tucson, the scene of many western movies where we will also have a western BBQ lunch. Both locations are in the Saguaro National Monument, high above Tucson proper.

Our next Newsletter in the summer will show the complete list of tours and pricing.

This is a reunion no one is going to want to miss. Please put those dates on your calendar and be prepared for a very enjoyable time in TUCSON, AZ. APRIL 5 TO 8, 2000

Active Membership

As of Feb. 15, 1999 the following members have paid their 99 dues:

Agostini, Aguilar*, Alexander, Anson, Arnold, Barnes, Bellin, Bidinger*, Blomgren, Brady, Brown*, Bryant*, Church, Clayton*, Clifton, Dickenson, Eagon, Engleman, Ferguson, Ford, Frank, Furlow*, Gehrlich, Gideon*, Griffith, Guido*, Hagg, Haglage, Hancock, Hogard**, Hornor, Hummel*, Jardine, Jennings, JH Johnson*, Kuklenski, Latham, Leroy, Lopez, Lowther, Macioce, Martin, Masters*, Maxwell*, McCann, McCants*, Mozis, Nass, Needham*, Olson, Patterson, Petruzzi, Phares, Poortvliet*, Pope*, Reece*, Renfro*, , Roth*, Rubin, Sakers, Savage*, Schanzenbach, Schirmer, Simpson*, Small, W Smith, Spiese, Swary, Swonson, Tessar, Truxillo, Tull, Vandewouwer, Walker*, Ward*, Weinberger, Whiteley, Wideman*, Wiley, Wilson and Wood.

* Paid 2000 dues.

** Paid 2001 dues.

(If I accidentally missed you or made a mistake, let me know and it will be in the next newsletter.)

The Ensigns

A group of ensigns were given the assignment to measure the height of a flag pole. So they go out to the flagpole with ladders and tape measures, and they're falling off the ladders, dropping the tape measures- the whole thing is a mess.

Finally an old chief comes along and sees what they're trying to do, walks over, pulls the flagpole out of the ground, lays it flat, measures it from end to end, gives the measurements to one of the ensigns, and walks away.

After the chief had gone, one ensign turns to the others and laughs, "Isn't that just like a chief? We're looking for the height and he gives us the length!"

OLD NAVY

JAMES LAWRENCE

During the war of 1812, with blood in his eye, John Bull hit back, and he had a big club with which to hit. In June, 1813 a British frigate lay off Boston. On her quarterdeck was Captain Philip Broke, tough as hardtack and twice as clever. In Boston Harbor lay US frigate CHESAPEAKE. Broke suspected she was taking on new hands, and he challenged her to come out.

Captain of the Chesapeake was James Lawrence, hero of the HORNET. Not the fighter to turn down an enemy's challenge, but the CHESAPEAKE crew wasn't quite ready when he took her out to tackle frigate SHANNON. SHANNON'S crew was one of the best trained in the Royal Navy. So CHESAPEAKE was out maneuvered and out-fought. Teh Yankee gunners traded broadside for broadside, but the SHANNON got alongside. The Britishers swarmed over the CHESAPEAKES deck.

Cutlas fight! The two ships locked like wrestlers. British Jacks and Yankee Tars hand -to-hand. Leading the boarders, British Captain Broke took a gash across the skull.

But James Lawrence, hit by a sniper's shot, fell mortally wounded.

Carried below, Lawrence lay dying. He begged his men to fight on. "Don't give up the ship!" Uproar drowned his words. The SHANNON men won. CHESAPEAKE went captive to Halifax. So the ship was lost but Lawrence left the navy an enduring slogan.

Picked up from an e-mail.

The Navy Experience

I am speaking today on behalf of those of us who have family members that think we live (or lived) a "TOP GUN" existence. You know, those relatives who have watched one too many episodes of JAG, and think that Navy life is glamorous. I have a few suggestions for these people on how they can experience Navy life, right in the comfort of their own homes.

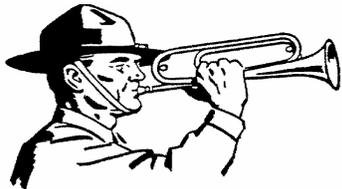
1. Buy a dumpster, paint it gray and live in it for six months straight. Have someone move it around during the days AND the nights.
2. Run all of your house piping and wires on the outside of the walls.
3. Pump 10 inches of nasty, rank water into your basement, then pump it out, clean up, and paint the basement "deck gray." You must then pump this kind of nasty water back into and out of your basement twice a day.
4. Every couple of weeks, dress up in your best clothes and go the scummiest part of town, find the most run-down, trashiest bar you can, pay \$10 per beer until you're hammered, then walk home in the freezing cold.
5. Perform a weekly disassembly and inspection of your lawnmower. Have your father-in-law "spot-check" you every four weeks and give you an assessment of your technique.
6. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays turn your water temperature up to 200 degrees, then on Tuesday and Thursday turn it down to 10 degrees. On Saturdays and Sundays declare to your entire family that they used too much water during the week, so all showering is secured.
7. Raise your bed to within 12 inches of the ceiling.
8. Have your next door neighbor come over each day at 5am, and blow a whistle so loud that Helen Keller could hear it and shout "Reveille, Reveille, all hands heave out and trice up!"
9. Have your mother-in-law write down everything she's going to do the following day. Take a ladder at 6 a.m., climb up to your roof, then back down, and then stand in the back yard at attention until 6:25 so she can come out and read it to you.
10. Eat the raunchiest Mexican food you can find for three days straight, then lock the bathroom door for 12 hours, and hang a sign on it that reads "Secured - contact OA DIV at ext.. -3053".
11. Submit a request form to your father-in-law, asking if it's OK for you to leave your house before 3pm.
12. Invite 200 of your not-so-close friends to come over, then board up all the windows and doors to your house for six months. After the six months is up, take down the boards, and since you're on duty, wave at your friends and family through the front window of your home ... you can't leave until the next day.
13. Shower together with above-mentioned friends. No one can use more than 60 seconds' worth of shower water, and you can only use hand towels to dry off.
14. Make your family qualify to operate all the appliances in your home (i.e. dishwasher operator, blender technician, etc). Make sure they get signatures for each step of operation, and then give them an oral review conducted by three other (cont. from page 2) previously-qualified operators before allowing them to operate the

appliance.

15. Walk around your car for four hours checking the tire pressure every fifteen minutes. Check the oil and transmission fluid levels once every four hours even if the car has not been started. Record your readings in a log.
16. Sit in your car and let it run for four hours before going anywhere. This is to ensure your engine is properly "lit off."
17. Empty all the garbage bins in your house and sweep your driveway three times a day, whether they need it or not.
18. Repaint your entire house once a month.
19. Cook all of your food blindfolded, groping for any spice and seasoning you can get your hands on.
20. Have your neighbor collect all your mail for a month, randomly losing every fifth item.
21. Spend \$20,000 on a satellite system for your TV, but only watch CNN and the Weather Channel.
22. Have your five-year-old cousin give you a haircut with goat shears.
23. Sew back pockets to the front of your pants.
24. Attempt to spend five years working at McDonald's, and NOT get promoted.
25. Ensure that any promotions you do get are from stepping on the dead bodies of your co-workers.
26. Have your son power-nail the aluminum siding on your house after your neighbors have gone to bed. Then yell at him for not doing his job when he stops to explain that you told him to do it.
27. When your children have been in bed for three hours, run into their room with a megaphone, and shout at the top of your lungs that your home is under attack, and order them to man their battle stations. Have them do it over again if they are not dressed and on station in four minutes.
28. Post a menu on the refrigerator door informing your family that you are having steak for dinner. Then make them wait in line at the front door for at least an hour. When they finally get to the kitchen, tell them that you are out of steak, but that you have dried ham or hot dogs. Repeat daily until they don't pay attention to the menu any more and they just ask for hot dogs.
29. In the middle of January, place a podium at the end of your driveway. Have your family stand watches at the podium, rotating at four-hour intervals.
30. Lock yourself and your family in your house for six weeks. Tell them that at the end of the sixth week you're going to take them to Disneyland for "weekend liberty." When the end of the sixth week rolls around, inform them that Disneyland has been postponed because they need to get ready for "E-cert," and that it will be another week before they can leave the house. After the week is over, tell them that you no longer have any room in the budget for a trip to Disneyland, but that the garage needs painting and that should give them some much-needed time in the fresh air.

Treasurers Report

I am including the report on a separate page which shows our financial standings through the end of 1998. Gene will be furnishing an updated report in the next Newsletter. During the entire month of March, Gene and Bernice are cruising around both the west and east coasts of South America.



TAPS

Pete Agostini	64-68	3/9/99
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Recollections

I was in the 1st. Division and in charge of the deck crew. Our leading PO was a Chief, nice fellow, 6'2", dark hair, can't remember his name. One time we were letting out the anchor, and the last 50(?) fathoms are always painted yellow. The Warrant Officer, (Bosn XXXXX) was asking why the anchor chain was painted yellow. It is yellow as a warning to start slowing down the chain going out. Our Chief looked at him and told him to go to his quarters because he didn't know much about the ship. Another time on shakedown training we had a landing craft hanging over the side, and a steadying line broke, the Chief and I quickly made a long splice of the line so it would pass thru the fairlead blocks for lowering the boat. At one time we set a record in time for lowering all small craft. Another memorable event was that one night I was going up to the Radio Shack to see if I had any word on the birth of my son. Just before entering the Radio Room a door opened and there stood our skipper, Capt. Moore. We talked awhile and then he asked me why I was up there. I told him that I was waiting for a radiogram from my wife on the birth of my son, he said "well so am I , so lets both of us go in". Another time we had just left Pusan after dropping off the Combat Engineers and we picked up a group of Marines who had just come off the Chosin Reservoir area. For his recreation the Captain would have some mess cooks throw large empty cans overboard at the bow and he would shoot at them from the bridge wing with his carbine. One day while the combat marines were lounging around on the #2 hatch cover, the Captain opened up, and the Marines were scattering and hiding under anything. Someone ran up to the Captain and told him what was going on, he got on the PA and apologized to the Marines. Our Captain was a very good skipper and we all thought very highly of him.....Don Schirmer BM3 50-52

Landing at Okinawa,, Crossing the Equator. Being in a few typhoons. Wilton Schanzenbach 44-46

First cruise to Pearl Harbor, then from the Aleutians to the South Pacific. New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Tokyo Bay for the signing of end of war. Agreat experience in my young life. James Mozis S1/c 44-46

Storms at sea, coastal patrol of South Vietnam, GQat various times. WestPac was hard, many storms and spending a lot of time in Vietnam. Joe Petruzzi PN3 67-68

Landing troops, bombs, tanks in Vietnam. Steamed in circles for 56 days straight. Bruce Melsha BT3 63-66

Magoffin Web Page

<http://home.att.net/~jlopez-auburndale/GUESTBK.HTM>

jlopez-auburndale@worldnet.att.net

**REGISTRATION FORM
USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

SERVED ABOARD MO/YR. _____ TO MO/R. _____

BATTLE STATION _____

RATING/RANK _____ DIVISION _____

WIFE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER _____

SPECIAL FRIENDS WHILE ON
BOARD _____

MY 1999 DUES (\$10.00) ARE ENCLOSED ()

MY 2000 DUES (\$10.00) ARE ENCLOSED ()

If you have previously filled out this form completely, just your name and address would be required to re-register unless something has changed otherwise.

**MAIL DUES TO;
USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION
EUGENE WALKER, TREASURER
6413 N. 82nd. ST.
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85250-5612**