

POWELL POST

Volume 10, Issue 4

September 2004

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS HALSEY POWELL



Points of Special Interest

- Skipper Mike has a busy few months coming up. See his news in the cover story.
- The final installment of "The National Anthem's Birth" is on pages two and three.
- "Welcome Mat" on page three has three newly located shipmates. Maybe one is an old friend!
- Only one favorite memory from a past reunion was sent in. It's on page four. Please send yours in for the next issue.
- "Red's Joke Corner" returns with a few of his latest entries. See page four.

SKIPPER MIKE'S REPORTS

"NOW HEAR THIS" August 1, 2004

Ruth and I are looking forward to getting underway for Albuquerque. We hope to see some warm, dry weather. This has been a terrible summer. Early last week our high was 68 degrees with a low of 47 degrees. My tomatoes are the size of a quarter, green peppers are runts, and roses are not doing very well. My hibiscus tree and bushes are beautiful. We could use less rain and a lot more sun.

Things will be busy now finalizing the reunion plans

with ML&RS. Aug. 15 I have to go to So. Haven, MI for a reunion of pilots that flew at the airport in those days (1957-59). One of my old instructors will probably fly in, in her old Bonanza, all the way from Florida. She was the National Champion Powder Puff Derby winner twice.

Then on Sept. 11 it's back to So. Haven for my 45th class reunion. Sept 18 we are off to Albuquerque.

Oh, Trauts are coming up to visit on Aug. 27.

So far we have 2 first time attendees for the reunion. We have 22 crew members registered as of

this date which is pretty good this early.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Albuquerque. Until then.

That is all,
Skipper Mike

PRAYER COLUMN

Please continue praying for our POWs and MIAs. Prayer does work as recently the bodies of 3 MIA from Vietnam and 1 MIA from the Korean War were identified and returned home for proper burial.

Also pray for our
(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Armed Forces, especially those serving in harms way. Prayers also requested for our shipmates and family members Joe and Jessie Chamblis, Red and Ardie Belden, Ray Parker, Harold Schmidt, Duane and JoAn Traut, and Ken Coggins and Felipe Salazar, and Gary Mootry.

USS HALSEY POWELL 2004 REUNION

SEPT. 22-26

BEST WESTERN RIO GRANDE

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

CORRECTION IN SENTIMENTAL JOURNAL

For those of you who bought the 2003 post reunion book, *The Sentimental Journal*, it has been brought to our attention that the photo labeled Raeford Foster & Lorraine Jenkins should be **Gilbert Curtis & Lee Lege**. Please make this correction in your book. We apologize for the error.

ML&RS, Inc.

The Powell Post is Published By:

*Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc
PO Drawer 11399
Hickory, NC 28603*

828-256-6008 (voice)
828-256-6559 (fax)
dinamlrs@aol.com (e-mail)
mlrsnewsletters.com (newsletter e-mail)
www.mlrsinc.com

*"Our Reunions Work So You Don't
Have To"*

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

The POWELL POST is the official publication of the USS HALSEY POWELL Association. It is published quarterly in March, June, September and December, *subject to receiving sufficient funding*. The Newsletter is funded by voluntary contributions from the membership. All members are encouraged to support the voice of the Halsey Powell by sending contributions to Mike Baker USS Halsey Powell Association.

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially to share experiences.

Unless otherwise stated, the views and opinions printed in the newsletter are those of the article's writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Association leadership or the editor of the newsletter.

All letters and stories submitted will be considered for publication, except unsigned letters. Letters requesting the writer's name be withheld will be honored, but published on a space available basis. Signed letters with no restrictions will be given priority.

Letters demeaning to another shipmate will not be printed; letters espousing a political position will not be printed.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters to conform to space limitations. Copyrighted material cannot be used without attribution to the author and publication. If you think an article printed in another publication would be of interest to your shipmates, send the entire article—do not paraphrase it and send it in your own words. Let the editor do that.

ML&RS, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of article submitted for publication. It would be a monumental task to check each story. Therefore we rely on the submitter to research each article.

You are encouraged to actively participate in the newsletter family by submitting your stories and suggestions.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM'S BIRTH

By L. Peter Wren

Continued from June 2004

Further, if you have seen the proper folding of our flag, the result is a triangle of stars. Some consider it a tri-cornered hat in memory of yester-years patriots. But history says this is the new "Constellation." so what is a "Constellation"? Why is it so important that we would name our second Naval vessel with such a title? First let's explain what a constellation is and then tell why it was so important to our independence.

First, a constellation is a special group of stars among the many stars that enables the ship's navigator to find a known star in the heavens and thereby determine his position at sea.

Second, having found a position at sea allows the sailor to leave the sight of land and journey further into the sea, finding new markets with which to trade. This action allowed us to maintain our independence and be free of Great Britain Kings whose markets were designed to control our growth. In fact we offered strong competition for the British's control of sea trade with other nations.

A third point should be made here because this new nation called the United States depended a great deal on that sea trade. A strong Navy and good ships were needed if the new nation was to succeed.

History says that Congressman Francis Hopkinson directed Betsy Ross to sew the first 13 stars in a circle and thereby creating a new Constellation. The names of the first ships built to protect this nation reflect their view of the importance of such names.

USS CONSTITUTION (old Ironsides) Boston harbor

USS CONSTELLATION (Baltimore Harbor) (new carrier in San Diego)

USS UNITED STATES (scuttled

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Norfolk Harbor)

USS PRESIDENT, USS CONGRESS, USS CHESAPEAKE

The Navy war veterans of WW2 grew up with ships that were named for States (battleships), cities (cruisers), famous battles and old ships (carriers), and for honored people (destroyers) and forth. In the early days of the US Navy, the ships were named after those things that were important to them and thus the names of those times. Now how is it that the second ship of our early Navy is called the Constellation? As stated before, it was through the location of the constellations that we are able to find a navigational star and thus leave sight of land behind. They sailed into the wide sea without fear of being unable to return to their home port. How important is that navigational star to a sailor? Well, John Mason answered that when he wrote:

SEA FEVER

I must go down to the sea again
To the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall Ship
And a star to steer her by!

When you look on that blue square of our flag, with 50 white stars originally called a constellation, the words from our Declaration of Independence surges forth and are worth repeating here. "To wit: In the support of this declaration, (the constitution) with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, (in God we trust) we (now 50 states) mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

So when you look upon the "Constellation" in our flag you know that it helped us find the way to our inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. When a family member receives the folded flag, the constellation is foremost, signifying the deceased loved his God and his country, and his country thanks him.

From different lands, men still come to our shores seeking what those gathered stars (constellations)

portend. The Star Spangled Banner says it all. Blessed are we to have that Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America!

By Peter Wren
July 4, 2003



WELCOME MAT

The USS HALSEY POWELL Association welcomes the following recently located crewmember. We hope to see you at our next reunion, and trust that you will become an active member of the Association. Welcome Aboard!

Bill Holmes (1961-63) MM3
15615 Lockhart Rd
Hinkley, CA 92347

Thomas Johns (1956-60) YN2
938 Wheatridge Dr
Troy, IL 62294

Coleman Blue (1958-60) BTSN
800 Savannah Ln
Calera, AL 35040
205-6200252



TAPS

The Post was notified of the following shipmates' deaths since the last newsletter. Not all members died recently, but we just learned of their deaths. The entire crew sends our deepest sympathy to the widows, families and friends of the deceased. Please let ML&RS know if you learn of the death of a former shipmate so he can be recognized in here and on the Honor Roll at the reunion.

Daren Cantrall (Eng Div)
Date of death not reported

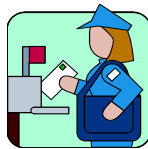
James Gorka
Died October 17, 2000

Phil Walker (MM2)
Died May 13, 2004

Mike Dolan
Date of death not reported

NEWSLETTER FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The cost of this issue is \$294.49



MAIL CALL

We are getting more and more letters and stories all the time. Keep up the good work. Here is my story.

By Mike Baker

Thanks to Red's idea about writing about our reunions.

For years I told stories about sitting on the fantail to watch movies

on the side of Mount 55. I told Ruth that as we sat watching the movie, occasionally, quite often in fact, flying fish would fly up over the fantail and hit you, and if you got one in the head, it hurt. Ruth just laughed a bit and said I shouldn't tell the kids my BS sea stories. Then at the 1995 San Diego reunion, we were having dinner and my old buddy J.T. Higgins started talking about the movies and the flying fish. Ruth said, "Oh, my gosh, you've been telling the truth all these years. I'm sorry I didn't believe you." Now she believes, I think, everything I tell her. The truth is so great.

(Continued from page 3)

Question

Ships are referred to as "SHE". She's big, she's beautiful, she's a rusty old tub, etc, etc.

My question is, if ships are a SHE, do they have husbands?

I'll be watching the Dec issue for an answer. Someone from the old days must know. We will wait to hear from you.

Mike Baker

TIDBITS

This is a column intended keep you up on any news from a crew-member or family member. Send any "Tidbit" you may have to Mike Baker at 109 Dunton Ave, Holland, MI 49424.

RED'S JOKE CORNER

The Lone Ranger and Tonto walked into a restaurant for a meal. After a few minutes a big, tall cowboy walked in and said, "Who owns the big white horse outside?"

The Lone Ranger stood up, hitched his gun belt, and said, "I do. Why?"

The cowboy looked at the Lone Ranger and said, "I just thought you'd like to know that your horse is about dead outside!"

The Lone Ranger and Tonto rushed outside and sure enough Silver was ready to die from heat exhaustion.

The Lone Ranger got the horse water and soon Silver was starting to feel a little better. The Lone Ranger turned to Tonto and said, "Tonto, I want you to run around Silver and see if you can create enough of a breeze to make him start to feel better."

Tonto said, "Sure, Kemosabe," and took off running circles around

Silver. Not able to do anything else but wait, the Lone Ranger went back inside to finish his meal.

A few minutes later, another cowboy struts into the bar and asks, "Who owns that big white horse outside?"

The Lone Ranger stands again, and claims, "I do. What's wrong with him this time?"

The cowboy looks him in the eye and says, "Nothin', but you left your Injun running."

A preacher was making his rounds to his parishioners on a bicycle, when he came upon a little boy trying to sell a lawn mower. "How much do you want for the mower?" asked the preacher. "I just want enough money to go out and buy me a bicycle," said the little boy.

After a moment of consideration, the preacher asked, "Will you take my bike in trade for it?"

The little boy asked if he could try it out first, and, after riding the bike around a little while, said, "Mister, you've got yourself a deal."

The preacher took the mower and began to crank it. He pulled on the rope a few times with no response from the mower. The preacher called the little boy over and said, "I can't get this mower to start."

The little boy said, "That's because you have to cuss at it to get it started."

The preacher said, "I'm a minister, and I can't cuss. It's been so long since I've been saved that I don't even remember how to cuss."

The little boy looked at him happily and said, "You just keep pulling on that rope. It'll come back to ya."

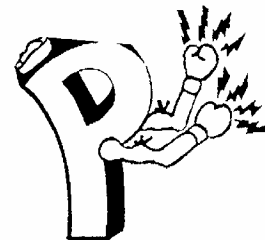
Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says, "Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?"

Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants."

**FOR SALE
PATCHES &
COFFEE MUGS**

**PATCHES \$10.00
COFFEE MUGS \$15.00**

**Make check payable to:
Mike Baker
109 Dunton Ave
Holland, MI 49424**



**U.S.S. HALSEY POWELL
DD-686
KOREA 1950-1953**

**MUG \$15.00
#PPM**



**MUG \$15.00
#BCM**



**4 1/2" 7 COLOR PATCH
\$10.00 #HPP**