

POWELL POST

Volume 9, Issue 1

December 2002

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS HALSEY POWELL



Special Points of Interest

- Read all about the Corpus Christi reunion in the cover story. It was a great reunion.
- Skipper Mike's column is on page two along with the Memorial Address he delivered at the reunion.
- WELCOME MAT has six new names to add to the list of shipmates. Welcome aboard!
- MAIL CALL has two more jokes sent in by Red Belden. What would we do without Red's jokes!
- Read all about Norfolk on pages five thru seven. Then return the survey to let your voice be heard.

A GREAT TIME IN CORPUS CHRISTI

Everything is bigger and better in Texas, right? Well, just ask those who attended the 2002 reunion of the USS Halsey Powell and they will tell you that it is really true! Beautiful Corpus Christi, TX, was the location of the reunion for thirty-nine former shipmates and thirty-four of their guests. The October 2-6 reunion was held at the Radisson Beachfront Hotel, giving guests a chance to take in some sun, sand and surf right outside the door of the hotel. Although hurricane Lili threatened, it never came close to ruining the events for the reun-

ion. This reunion was bigger—five days, not four, and better—some tours and some unscheduled time periods for a more relaxed atmosphere. So see, Texas is bigger and better!

Registration began on Wednesday at noon and a welcome reception followed at 5:00 pm. Skipper Mike welcomed the group and asked the first-time attendees to introduce themselves. Everyone enjoyed the buffet dinner and the fellowship that followed. Many retired to the hospitality room afterwards to begin sharing more memories and catching up on

one another's lives. The reunion had officially begun.

Thursday had an unhurried pace because most things were in walking distance and everyone could go on their own to the attractions. Today was designated USS Lexington day. Those who chose to, walked the few blocks to the famous war ship and spent any amount of time they pleased exploring the ship. The rest of the day was spent at leisure and at dinner time the group met in the lobby of the hotel to go for dinner at one of the

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nearby restaurants.

On Friday a tour of the famous King Ranch was offered. The King Ranch is one of the largest and oldest working ranches in the world. It has more than 825,000 acres and covers 1,300 square miles. A stop was made for lunch at Cotton's BBQ house. After returning to the hotel, the group met for cocktails in the hotel lounge and made their own plans for dinner.

Saturday was "beach" or "leisure" day. It was a day to check out the beaches and explore Corpus Christi on the local trolley system. Many spent a good part of the day in the hospitality room in lively conversation and fellowship, while others took advantage of the day for sight-seeing. In the afternoon the business meeting was held and the Norfolk/Virginia Beach area was chosen as next year's location for the reunion. Everyone was encouraged to call other shipmates and encourage them to come in 2003 so the next reunion can be even larger than the 2002 one. Mike Baker was again chosen as coordinator of group. Following the business meeting, the memorial service to remember those members who had passed away since the last reunion was held. Their names were read aloud as a bell tolled for each man. The beautiful view of the ocean added an extra special quality to the service.

The Saturday night banquet began with cocktails and a chance for each attendee to have his/her picture taken for the Sentimental Journal, a post reunion book offered for sale. What a great looking bunch! A drawing was held at the banquet to give away the items brought by each attendee. The item was to be from his/her home state and was to represent something about the state. This was a big success. Everyone was interested in seeing what everyone else brought. After dinner, the group enjoyed the karaoke—especially the Halsey Powell Men. They are hoping to get a recording contract any day now. We'll

keep you posted. It was a fun ending to a great day.

The last official event of the reunion was the Sunday morning breakfast buffet. Good-byes were said among hugs, handshakes and a few tears. Plans were being made to see one another again in the Norfolk area in 2003. See you there.

NOW HEAR THIS

By Mike Baker

You all should have received your annual letter. If not, please let me know and I will forward it immediately. All I can add to the letter is "PLEASE RESPOND."

I talked to the ML&RS today and the hotel and dates for the 2003 reunion are not yet set in stone, so I can say no more at this time. (See page five.)

I'm looking forward to Norfolk even though I hated it when I was stationed there. This time I don't have to go to sea on the USS Detector MSO4-29. You guys probably thought the Halsey Powell rode rough. I remember the day we steamed full power (15 knots) and lost over 2 nautical miles. The USS Dash was out front of us and completely out of the water, turned 180 degrees and came down coming straight at us. Believe me, I wouldn't _____ you a bit. I'll take a tin can any day.

Several people in Corpus Christi asked for a copy of my Memorial Address, some said I should put it in the Powell Post. I never thought of myself as a speaker or writer. Now and then I try to put my feelings out in the open, it's not an easy thing to do. I hesitated to do this, but finally decided that if it will help anyone put their feelings in better perspective, I would put my address in the Powell Post. You can find it elsewhere in this issue.

Going back to the 2003 reunion in Norfolk. I don't know what we will do, or how, but it will be a year we recognize the WWII veterans.

(I wish I could put sounds on paper because I think my Bubba has a possum cornered by the patio. My bet's on Bubba.)

I should say thank you to Chano because he promised good weather in Corpus Christi and we had great weather. Two hurricanes slid by, one brief shower, and then 90 degrees with sun. Thank you, Chano. Oh, nothing but rain before we came, and nothing but rain since we left.

On the home front. Things at Life Savers about the same for Ruth. She will retire early in 2003. Weather is lousy. Cold, rainy, some sleet, and today some light snow. Leaves are dropping late and are all over the lawn. Can't do much in this weather.

In closing, let me remind everyone that dues are due.

Let us all also keep our Armed Forces and our POWs and MIAs in our prayers.

That's all,
Skipper Mike

MEMORIAL ADDRESS

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX
BY MIKE BAKER

Throughout history, freedom and the sea seem to be united. Great battles have been fought on and over the seas of the world.

WWII began and ended for the United States with a Naval fleet on the sea.

It is fitting that we who served at sea, and survived, be it during war or peace, hold this memorial service to honor and remember those shipmates who did not survive and those shipmates who survived and have since departed this life.

As long as we honor and remember our shipmates, "Their cause will live."

As long as we honor and remember our shipmates, and their service to our Nation, "Our Nation will live

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and be free.”

Freedom is not free.

The cost is eternal vigilance and a willingness to pay the price. Our departed shipmates paid the price, some with their life, some with their health, and others with their service.

They all, in their time, joined together to give us the great gift of freedom.

As we continue this service and call the roll, let us as we hear the names, not remember our shipmates with tears in our eyes, but rather with joy in our hearts. The joy that free men in a free nation can appreciate and understand.

My buddy Bobby was KIA at CuChi in 1967. Bobby's mother told me she has never cried over Bobby's death, because she never thought of Bobby as a son she has lost. She remembers Bobby as the son she had and has.

The shipmates we honor today are not shipmates we have lost. They are shipmates we have.



WELCOME MAT

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

Richard Block (1950-54) BM3
PO Box 2435
Gillette, WY 82717
307-660-6463

Carl Grebe (1955-58) BT3
630 S Maple Ave Sp 55
Montebello, CA 90640
323-720-9186

Leroy Pacheco (1962) MM3
P O Box 517
Story, WY 82842
307-683-3070

CDR James Abesilla USN (Ret)
748 Wisteria Ln
Santa Paula, CA 93060
805-525-1880

Gene Anderson (1943-35) GM3
PO Box 194
Saluda, NC 28773
828-749-9635

Donald Ransom QMSN
5203 Chrysler Dr Apt. 503
Detroit, MI 48202-4159



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.

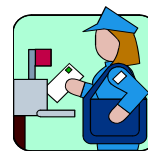
Kenneth Harding
(1943-45) RM3/c C Div
Irving, NY
Date of death not known

Bobby Brundge
(1953-55) SN 1st Div
Pelzer, SC
Died September 13, 2002

Jack Rinker
(1943-45) S1/c
Mount Jackson, VA
Died April 2, 2002

Chief Joe Booza QMC
Date of death not known

Anyone knowing of, or learning of the death of a shipmate, please notify the Powell Post, at ML &RS, Inc. The date of death doesn't matter, we want to recognize the former crewman by listing his name in the Powell Post and by placing his name on the Halsey Powell Honor Roll.



MAIL CALL

RED'S JOKE CORNER

Submitted by Red Belden

An old farmer had owned a large farm for several years. He had a large pond in the back forty, had it fixed up nice; picnic tables, horse-shoe courts, basketball court, etc. The pond was fixed for swimming when it was built.

One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end of the pond.

One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man replied, "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim or make you get out of the pond, I only came to feed my alligators."

Old age and treachery will triumph over youth and skill every time.

SENIOR MOMENT

An elderly couple who were childhood sweethearts had married and settled down in their old neighborhood and are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

They walk down the street to their old school. There they hold hands as they find the old desk they'd shared and where he had carved, "I love you, Sally."

On their way back home, a bag of money falls out of an armored car practically at their feet. She quickly picks it up, but they don't know what

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to do with it so they take it home. There she counts the money, and it's fifty-thousand dollars.

The husband says, "We've got to give it back."

She says, "Finder keepers." And she puts the money back in the bag and hides it up in their attic.

The next day, two FBI men are going door-to-door in the neighborhood looking for the money and show up at their home. They say, 'Pardon me, but did either of you find any money that fell out of an armored car yesterday?'

She says, "No."

The husband says, " She's lying. She hid it up in the attic."

She says, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile."

But the agents sit the man down and begin to question him. One says, "Tell us the story from the beginning."

The old man says, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday...."

The FBI guy looks at his partner and says, "Let's get out of here."

Keep smiling!

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*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"

2002 REUNION ATTENDEES

- Cornell & Charlotte Anton
- Anthony Areias & Ginny York
- Michael & Ruth Baker
- Warren & Ardith Belden
- Richard Block
- Kenneth & Beverly Coggins
- James & Colleen Combs
- Donald & Marlene Connell
- Francesco Costagliola
- Luciano & Janie De La Cruz
- Alden & Emily Deal
- Erwin Dillard
- Joseph & Marie Doughty
- Jerry & Colette Dywasuk
- Glen & Shirley Hanne
- Stuart & Dona Lee Hoffman
- Robert Jones
- Robert & Carolyn Sue Justis
- Jackie Kimbrough
- Gilbert & Elvira Lege
- Clarence & Penny Martin
- Mike McCartney & Mildred Tadlock
- Ralph & Judy Miller
- Robert Miller & Barbara Kurtz
- Stanley & Joan Miller
- Gary & Phyllis Mootry
- Marvin & Doris Muck
- Stewart & Arlene Nephew
- Willard & Dot Owen
- Cecil & Shirley Parker
- Gerard & Romaine Pistor
- Leon (Pat) & Jeannette Reese
- Felipe & Celina Salazar
- Gladys Schmidt & Ruby Juergens
- Howard & Bobbie Tant
- Roy & Rose Wagner
- Sanford & Dorothy Whitehurst
- James & Fredda Winnefeld
- James & Joyce Wyatt

Total Members:	39
Guests:	34
 GRAND TOTAL:	 73

NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE ON LINE

The Newsletter for the USS HALSEY POWELL reunion is available now to download from the Military Locator & Reunion Service Inc web site.

If you are able to visit our web site and download the Newsletter, and therefore do not need a paper copy mailed to you, please let us know.

Please visit our web site at www.mlrsinc.com, then follow the link labeled Reunions, then scroll down until you see the listing for the USS HALSEY POWELL. Click on the button labeled Newsletters, and in a few minutes the newsletter should appear on your screen. (As a side note - it took about 4 minutes on my computer). This will only work if you have Adobe Reader 4.0 or higher. You can also download this viewer for free from our web site.

If this works for you and you would like to receive all future mailings from us in this method, please send me an e-mail requesting to subscribe to the HALSEY POWELL E-mail Roster. Each time something new is available, we will send you an e-mail informing you something new is available on the web site.

Please let us know if your e-mail address changes so you don't miss any important information.

To subscribe to the HALSEY POWELL E-mail Roster please send an e-mail to SubscribeMLRS@aol.com, put the phrase **SUBSCRIBE HALSEY POWELL in the Subject line and type your name and e-mail address in the body of your e-mail. You will be placed in the e-mail roster.**

Your name and postal mailing address will remain in our computers and will appear on all mailing lists, etc distributed to other members of your group.

If you have any question regarding this, do not hesitate to ask!

Dina Coffey

NEWSLETTER FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The cost of the December issue of the Powell Post is \$355.67

PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED IN THE U.S. NAVY

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| John F. Kennedy | Jimmy Carter |
| Lyndon B. Johnson | George Bush |
| Richard M. Nixon | |
| Gerald R. Ford | |

2003 REUNION IN NORFOLK OCT. 2—5

The 200 Reunion of the USS Halsey Powell will be held on Oct. 2-5, at the Norfolk Airport Hilton in Norfolk, VA. Norfolk is a great choice for your reunion because it has something to offer for everyone—military sites, historic sites, entertainment and shopping! We will tell you a little about the city and its attractions and then ask you to choose which ones you would be most interested in seeing during your reunion. We will then plan your agenda according to the surveys and your coordinators input. Please read over the following capsule of Norfolk and what it has to offer you, and then return the survey which follows to us as soon as possible.

ABOUT NORFOLK

Earliest evidence of native people in Virginia dates back to 9500 BC. The Chesapeake Indians ruled the area. Their town was called SKICOA, the site of which is now Norfolk. The Scicoaks were gone by the time the English colonists reached the site of Norfolk, having been wiped out by Chief Powhatan. One of Powhatan's advisors went to the Chief, telling him of a dream about the Powhatan Confederacy being destroyed by strangers from the east. Powhatan misunderstood this to mean the Scicoaks and so he eliminated this peaceful people before they could turn against him. Later, of course, strangers from the east, across the Atlantic, DID come, and so the soothsayer's dream was fulfilled.

In 1861 Virginia seceded from the Union. Richmond became the Capital of the Confederacy. This same year, slaves fled from Norfolk to Fortress Monroe and Union General Benjamin Butler labeled them as "contraband". Norfolk voters instructed their delegate to vote for ratification of the Ordinance of Secession. Vessels at Norfolk Navy Yard, including the Merrimac, were

burned and scuttled. The first local encounter of the Civil War took place at Sewell's Point.

In 1917 the U.S. Naval Operating Base and Training Station was established on the old Jamestown Exposition grounds. 1400 sailors from St. Helena Training Station in Berkley marched to the new base. The base has been and continues to be a major contributor to the Hampton Roads economy.

Norfolk is not the Norfolk of WWII days and subsequent years. A complete revitalization of East Main and Granby streets make it unrecognizable to "old-timers." Legend has it that the ladies who once worked on Granby Street now own it.

Norfolk is packed with galleries, museums, a variety of shopping options, and a wealth of Military History! Theater, opera, ballet and rock-n-roll are also on the agenda. Norfolk sits at the center of the East Coast at the base of the historic Chesapeake Bay.

Numerous attractions await you in Norfolk. The Waterside Shopping Complex, Nauticus, the USS WISCONSIN, MacArthur Memorial, the Chrysler Center are but a few.

For the shopper, there is MacArthur Mall, Military Circle Mall, Janaf Mall, Antique Alley, and for the retired military, the Norfolk Naval Base Exchange. It may surprise you to learn that the number one shopping attraction at Waterside is the HQ and outlet store of "The Dollar Tree."

There's nothing not to like in Norfolk.

ATTRACTIONS

Visit **MacArthur Memorial** for a glimpse into our country's history. Beautifully landscaped MacArthur Square in downtown Norfolk, Virginia is the site of the four buildings that comprise the General Douglas MacArthur Memorial.

The Memorial's theater contains

several special exhibit galleries and continuously shows a twenty-four minute film on the life and times of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, one of the most colorful and controversial men in American history. The Jean MacArthur Research Center (named after the General's widow) houses the library and archives, an education wing, and the administrative offices for the MacArthur Memorial and the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation. The gift shop displays General MacArthur's 1950 Chrysler Imperial limousine which he used from 1950 to the end of his life.

The museum proper is housed in Norfolk's stately nineteenth century City Hall. A monumental rotunda is the General's final resting place where he lies surrounded by inscriptions, banners, and flags heralding his long and glorious career. Nine separate galleries arranged in two levels circle the rotunda and portray the principal periods of the General's life.

A visit to the MacArthur Memorial provides a unique glimpse into the 20th century and can renew your faith in those American values of Duty-Honor-Country, values which motivated Douglas MacArthur as he served our nation through some of its greatest crises and finest hours.

Norfolk Naval Station Tour

A "must" is a riding tour of Norfolk Naval Base, the largest naval installation in the world, headquarters of the Atlantic Fleet, and homeport to more than 100 ships and 27 aircraft squadrons. Of interest are the historic homes along the "Admiral's Row" which house the Flag Officers, Atlantic Fleet training centers, awe-inspiring aircraft carriers, formidable cruisers and destroyers, versatile amphibious assault vessels and sleek

submarines. Due to the attack on the USS COLE, you will not be able to visit an active duty ship. Scheduled to open April 16, 2001 is the Battleship Wisconsin, which will be permanently berthed on the downtown Norfolk waterfront.

Harbor Cruises:

Cruise Hampton Roads harbor from downtown Norfolk aboard either a luxury cruiseship, a 3-masted topsail schooner or a paddlewheeler. Also available are sightseeing cruises in downtown Hampton and Virginia Beach.

Williamsburg Tour:

Tour the restored area of Colonial Williamsburg with a guide. Visit historic homes, public buildings and 18th century craft shops where costumed hosts recreate the sights and sounds of America 200 years ago. From 1699 to 1780 Williamsburg was the capital of England's oldest, largest, richest and most populous colony and the seat of power in the new nation's most influential state. Named in honor of William III, King of England, and designed by Royal Gov. Francis Nicholson, Williamsburg is one of the country's oldest planned communities. In its shops, taverns, government buildings, homes and streets George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, George Mason and other Virginia patriots established the ideals—liberty, independence and personal freedom—that influenced the founding of our nation and have inspired generations of Americans and others around the world.

Yorktown and Jamestown:

Two American milestones, one historic place... 1607 and 1781, and you are there.... Southeastern Virginia offers one of the best "two-fers" in history.

Two world-changing events that might have happened hundreds of

miles apart took place instead on a single narrow peninsula between Virginia's James and York rivers.

Only a few miles from where America's colonial history began at Jamestown in 1607, colonial America came to an end with the Siege of Yorktown 174 years later, and a new nation began.

Today at Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center, the struggles, adventures and hopes of those momentous early years are brought to life in vivid detail through engaging exhibits and dramatic living history, all within a 20-mile stretch of road.

Virginia Beach Tour:

Visit the Marine Science Museum, see the film in the IMAX theater and enjoy many hands on exhibits. Tour the Old Coast Guard Station with exhibits pertaining to shipwrecks off the Virginia coast, and a special WWII exhibit. Enjoy beautiful views of the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay during narrated riding tour of Virginia Beach.

Hampton & Newport News Tour:

Visit the Air & Space Center, official visitors center for NASA Langley. See exhibits relating to history of flight and space travel and film in IMAX theater. Ride through historic downtown Hampton. Tour the War Memorial Museum, Fort Monroe, and the Casemate Museum.

Nauticus:

Journey through the world's oceans at Nauticus, The National Maritime Center, a 120,000-square-foot, multi-level maritime showcase. Featuring more than 150 exhibits including computer and video interactives, commerce and military-related displays, and exotic aquaria, Nauticus offers a fun and exciting educational experience for all ages

Chrysler Museum of Art

Located in downtown Norfolk, the museum is home to one of America's premier art collections, ranging from ancient Egyptian to contemporary

American art. The European collection of paintings, sculpture and drawings includes work by Bernini, Renoir, Matisse and Picasso. The collection is especially rich in Italian and French paintings from the 17th through the early 20th centuries. The Chrysler Museum's collection of American art includes works by Cassatt, Sargent and Hopper, as well as contemporary works by Lichtenstein, Diebenkorn, and Warhol. This group includes an assembly of 19th-century American Neoclassic sculptures, considered one of the most important of its kind. The museum's world-renowned glass collection includes works from the fifth to second centuries BC, as well as carved and blown sculptural works by Tiffany, Galle and Lalique. Additionally, the museum houses a gallery devoted solely to photography. This collection includes images ranging from 19th-century pioneers, such as LeGray and Robinson, to contemporary artists, such as Mann, Close and Lopes. The Chrysler Museum of Art has been called "one of the pleasantest places in the United States to while the day away" (*New York Times*)

Moses Myers House

The late Georgian, early Federal-style house sits amidst the bustle of downtown Norfolk. One of the first red, Flemish-bond brick homes built after the American Revolution, the restored Moses Myers House contains 70 percent of its original furnishings. Built by Moses Myers, a prosperous merchant, the house is the only historic site in the United States to offer visitors a chance to see the historic interpretations of the traditions and lifestyles of early Jewish immigrants. Special tours and ceremonies throughout the year commemorate Jewish religious holidays.

The Virginia Marine Science Museum, one of the Top Ten marine science facilities and aquariums in the country, boasts a

300,000-gallon aquarium, river otter and sea turtle habitats, and outdoor aviary, a salt marsh preserve with nature trails, a harbor seal pool, and the Family Channel IMAX® 3-D Theater.

Just across the harbor is historic Portsmouth Olde Towne, Old Downtown Hampton and Newport News. Each present their own unique attractions including the Children's Museum and Virginia Sports Hall of Fame in Portsmouth, the Virginia Air & Space Museum in Hampton and the Mariners Museum in Newport News.

Take flight to the **Virginia Air & Space Center** in Hampton, the birthplace of America's space program and the visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center. Your imagination will soar as you launch a rocket, pilot a shuttle and try on wings to feel the lift that makes things fly. Come face to face with the Apollo 12 Command Capsule that went to the moon, a moon rock, a Mars meteorite and historic planes. Experience an IMAX film in the giant-screen IMAX Theater...you have to see it to believe it!

Now, hopefully, your appetite is whetted for Norfolk and you will make your plans to join all your former shipmates in Norfolk on October 2-5, 2003. Fill out the survey to the right and return it to ML&RS so we can begin the plans for the reunion right away. Please let us hear from you so we can make your reunion agenda the way you would like it. Hope to see you in Norfolk.

2003 NORFOLK SURVEY USS HALSEY POWELL OCT. 2-5

Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey and return it to ML&RS at the address at the bottom. We will tally your responses and finalize the plans for your reunion according to your wishes.

About the reunion:

Do you prefer a Welcome Reception the first evening ? Yes ___ No ___
 If yes, would you rather have hors d'oeuvres, then dinner on your own _____
 or, a hamburger/hotdog, soup/sandwich (or something similar) supper? ___

Do you prefer breakfast all 3 mornings? ___ or only on Sunday morning? ___

Do you prefer a Friday night dinner on your own _____;
 together in the hotel _____

Do you want entertainment after the banquet? Yes ___ No ___

Please check the attractions you would like to see included in the reunion agenda:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ___ MacArthur Memorial | ___ Naval Base Norfolk |
| ___ Hampton Roads Harbor Cruise | ___ Williamsburg |
| ___ Yorktown & Jamestown | ___ Virginia Marine Science Museum |
| ___ VA Air & Space Center | ___ Chrysler Museum of Art |
| ___ Moses Myers House | ___ Nauticus |
| ___ Hampton, VA—War Memorial Museum, Ft Monroe, Casemate Museum | |

Other comments and suggestions: _____

Return to:

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

or

Fax 828-256-6559

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**FROM THE STAFF AT
ML&RS**