

HUNTINGTON HERALD

Volume 12, Issue 2

February 2002

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS HUNTINGTON



Special Points of Interest

- See what's available to see and do in today's Norfolk! Read the preview on pages one, two and three.
- Page four has a funny story in MAIL CALL about the Marine's initiation in Italy. You won't want to miss this one!
- Finally a story about a memorable character! See if anyone recognizes the mystery person described in the story on page five.
- If you remember a shipmate named Perry Buck, you may be able to help settle a problem. See details on page five.
- Please fill out the survey on page six and return it promptly.

PREVIEW 2002 REUNION IN NORFOLK

The 2002 reunion of the former crewmen of the USS HUNTINGTON will be on September 19-22 at the Norfolk Airport Hilton in Norfolk, VA. Norfolk is the perfect place for a Navy reunion, since so much of Norfolk's history has been connected to the Navy. If you haven't been there since your service days, you won't recognize most of it! Time has brought change—mostly for the good. As usual, we at ML&RS will give you a preview of what there is to see and do in the Norfolk area and then ask you to choose which attractions you will be most interested in seeing. Read over the preview of attractions in

Norfolk and then make your choices on the survey on page six. See what Norfolk has to offer:

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 in-

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(Continued from page 1)

scriptions, 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 :

Depending on the state of security at the time, we will try to arrange a riding tour of Norfolk Naval Base. Access will be solely the call of the Commander of the base and we have no control of the decision. Hopefully, by the time of the reunion, we will be able to visit the base. It is 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. Opened on April 16, 2001 is the Battleship Wisconsin, which is now permanently berthed on the downtown Norfolk waterfront.

Harbor Cruises:

Cruise Hampton Roads harbor from downtown Norfolk aboard either a luxury cruise ship, 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 gal-

lery 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 that you have read what Norfolk has to offer in the way of attractions, turn to page six and fill out the survey so we can finalize the reunion plans according to your wishes. Please let us hear from you so you will be eager to come to Norfolk to see and do the things your chose. We hope to see many of you there on September 19-22, 2002.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance on hand after 11/01 issue **\$538.60**

Funds received since 11/01 issue **\$285.50**

Funds available for 02/02 issue **\$824.10**

Funds expended 02/02 issue **\$227.29**

Ending Balance 02/02 **\$596.81**

CONTRIBUTORS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Donald Amareld, Sr	\$22.00
Charles Berg	\$20.50
Robert Bolton	\$10.00
Ira Chaffin	\$5.00
James Clegg	\$5.00
Rheta Cooley	\$20.00
Sheldon Ferriss	\$20.00
Eve Conaway- Perry Buck	\$25.00
Richard Haswell	\$20.00
Adolph Huinker	\$32.00
Walter Kramer	\$20.00
James Nelson	\$10.00
Robert Patton	\$22.00
Walt Rungaitis	\$5.00
Eugene Volcik	\$25.00
Willard Winkley	\$20.00
John Zappacosta	\$4.00

Total \$285.50

Thank you to all who contributed. Your generosity keeps the Herald going.

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

The Herald is the official publication of the USS HUNTINGTON Association. From now on it will be published quarterly in February, May, August and November, *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 HUNTINGTON. A financial statement appears in each issue of the newsletter. In the event there is insufficient funding for a regularly scheduled issue, all funds received will accumulate until the next regularly scheduled quarterly issue. Out of sequence issues will not be published merely to "catch-up."

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially 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 will not be published. 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 and grammar.

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

*Published by
Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc
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Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To.



TAPS

The Herald was informed of the deaths of the following former crewmembers since the last newsletter. The entire crew extends our deepest sympathy to the widows, families and friends of the deceased.

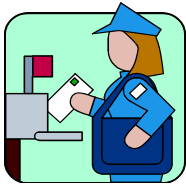
*A.D. Powell
Died 2000*

*Charles Dwyer, Sr.
Died November 29, 2001*

*Raymond Beatty, Jr.
Date of death not known*

*Perry Buck
Date of death not known*

Anyone learning of the death of a former crewmember is requested to notify the Herald so their passing can be acknowledged in TAPS and also on the Honor Roll at the reunion memorial service.



MAIL CALL

Editor's note: This letter was actually sent in to be published in the USS FARGO newsletter, but since it deals with the USS HUNTINGTON also, I decided you might enjoy reading it too.

Dear Editor,

I ran across something that you might want. It is self explanatory and although it may be too long for putting in the newsletter, I thought you might like it anyhow.

Even though I am one of those Marines, somehow I must have missed the initiation but we paid our

dues just the same.

When we went on the flag, we replaced three other Marines, whose names I did not know, but they were only at the Villa as Security Guards. We were also stationed on the ship, which at that time was the USS Grand Canyon (AD-28), and was Vice Admiral Bieri's port office—but at night he returned to the Villa Emma.

That was great for the Grand Canyon Marines as we had open gate liberty cards (white) and when we were not on duty we were on liberty. That meant every night, pretty good duty, huh? But when we were at the villa we had a lot more duty to stand, around the clock.

I hope that I can make the reunion in Newport, RI (*site of Fargo reunion*) as it has been a long time since I was there. I wish I could make more reunions but it is a long way to go to most of them from up here in the north woods.

I set up one for the USS HUNTINGTON Marine Detachment here in the Seattle area last year and have had several in and near Las Vegas in the past.

It would be nice also if you would state when a person is a Marine as it is assumed that most are in the Navy. I was with both of the Detachments on the Fargo as well as being a plank owner on the USS HUNTINGTON.

All my best to all the guys, be they Marines or Navy. Before I came into the Marines I was a Ship fitter at the Mare Island Navy Yard, Shop 11 and worked on a lot of ships from WWII.

Well, I'll close for now.

Robert M. (Bob) Ruble
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Here is the article Mr. Ruble sent in:

THE INITIATION OF THE VILLA EMMA MARINES

There is a story that has been told to new sea-going Marines coming into the Mediterranean area. It is about the initiation of the Flag Ma-

rines standing for the Commander of the Navy in the Mediterranean whose shore base of operations was at the Villa Emma, in Banoli, Italy. The Villa overlooks the Bay of Naples in a very prestigious section of town right next to the Villa of the very late Bonito Mussolini.

It wasn't enough for a Marine to have to stand at attention for eight hours a day, drive the jeep every other day for four hours a day, and in their spare time spit shine their shoes and polish the buttons on their dress blues, they also had to pass the initiation which consisted of drinking a bottle of Cognac straight down without their usual chaser of Peroni Beer, catch and kill a bear with their bare hands, and lastly, molest an Italian maiden, (in Naples)? Well, this all had to be accomplished in a 24 hour period.

The Villa Emma Marines did not know about this initiation because Baron and Baroness Borocco were on a cruise so the Marines were told upon their return.

It seems Lady Hamilton and Lord Nelson initiated this back from the original occupation of the Villa. Lord Nelson used Hibernians (pure Irish blood) as his guards.

Now, being good Marines, we were not to be outdone by the Hibernian guards. Each Marine was given a bottle of Cognac and had no problem drinking it down without stopping. So they took off to kill the bear which were located in the bushy hunting area of the Villa. This area was walled off with high walls, consisting of about five acres, topped with broken bottles embedded in the concrete. The Baron brought in five bears from Albania for the initiation. Several of our Marines were from the north-western states, (bear country) and were used to hunting bears. Some were used to drinking and some were not.

The next morning two Marines came down the road licking their chops and wanted another go at it because in their words, "This was

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fun.” They were scratched up a little, but were ready to go at it again. The other two also had no problem. One Marine came down the road all scratched to hell, beat out, clothes all torn up, drunk as hell and said, “All right, where is that Italian maiden you wanted me to kill?”

MY FAVORITE CHARACTER ON THE HUNTINGTON

This individual enlisted in the US Navy at the age of 16, which was under the legal age. He completed his active duty, was honorably discharged and immediately enlisted in the Naval Reserve. He served in the Reserve and attained the rank of Chief Warrant Officer with a specialty in Cryptology.

He retired from the Naval Reserve and given credit for combined active and reserve time of 43 years, 2 months and 27 days. I think not bad for someone who left high school in the tenth grade, but did pursue more education later in life.

While he was on the Huntington he was detailed to “G” Division, the Flag Division.

As a collateral duty he was the driver for the Chief of Staff. But, there was no vehicle assigned for the Chief of Staff’s use. This was solved when the Huntington pulled into Trieste. The US Army was still in occupation of that port city and had a base there.

One day, this sailor was driven onto the Army base by the Admiral’s official car. He proceeded to cumshaw an unattended Army Jeep and drove off of the base and proceeded to the pier where the Huntington was docked.

The “Airdales” swung out the crane used to recover the sea-plane and deposited the newly found Jeep into the hangar deck. Shortly another Jeep, being driven by an MP and what could have been an Army Officer in civvies, sped onto the pier. They appeared

to be looking for the lost Jeep. Being unable to locate the lost vehicle, they departed.

In the meantime, Enginemen spray painted the newly found Jeep in the hangar deck Navy Gray, with new inventory numbers on the hood.

The Seaman who found the Jeep was able to drive it in every port that the Huntington visited in every port of call. The Chief of Staff NEVER asked for a ride in his Jeep.

An interesting incident happened to the driver of the Jeep, when the Huntington visited Buenos Aires, Argentina—at the time under the control of Dictator Juan Peron.

As he executed a left turn, the right front brake drum shattered, thus no brakes. The Jeep promptly struck a government vehicle. The Seaman was immediately surrounded by four of the tallest Federal Policemen he ever saw. He was escorted to a nearby Police Station, but rescued by an American Official and released.

The vehicle was repaired and returned to service, and the Seaman continued to enjoy visiting subsequent ports of call in his “Merry Jeep.”

When the Huntington arrived in Philly for decommissioning, it must have driven someone nuts in trying to figure out how the Jeep came into the ship’s inventory.

Submitted by

George Lari
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302-945-8922

STORY IDEA FOR NEXT ISSUE

Do you remember your first days on board a ship when you first joined the Navy? Tell us about your first time at sea. Were you homesick, seasick, overwhelmed, awestruck? I’m sure there are hundreds of stories to tell. Won’t you please consider telling yours. Send to ML&RS at our mailing address or newsletter e-mail address on page three.

YOUR HELP REQUESTED

The law firm of Brookman, Rosenberg, Brown & Sandler is requesting your help in a suit concerning the death of a former shipmate, **Perry Buck**. They would like to hear from anyone who knew and/or worked with Mr. Buck on the USS HUNTINGTON during his 1946-1949 time on board. Below is some information which may help anyone remember Perry Buck:

Enlisted: 1944

Discharged: 1967

Served aboard USS HUNTINGTON, 1946-1949

Phonetic spelling of known Huntington shipmates:

Thomas Boyd
Lewis Brown
Bill Hayes
Victor Jones
Michael Partlow (boiler technician)
John Roxey
Joseph Slade
George Toliver

Other assignments and ships Mr. Buck served aboard:

USS Gyatt, DD712
USS Richard B Anderson DD-786
USS Philippine Sea CV-47
USS Dixie AD-14
USS St. Paul CA-73
USS Perkins DD-877
1963-1965: US Naval Air Facility, Johnsville, PA
1966-1967: Naval Support-Danang-Amphibious Construction Battalion One; Member, Seal Group 1

All replies should be directed to:

EveMarie Conaway, Paralegal
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Philadelphia, PA 19102
1-800-369-0899



PERRY BUCK

2002 REUNION OF USS HUNTINGTON (CL-107) NORFOLK, VA SEPTEMBER 19-22

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 of the reunion? 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 _____ or 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:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MacArthur Memorial | <input type="checkbox"/> Naval Base Norfolk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hampton Roads Harbor Cruise | <input type="checkbox"/> Williamsburg |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yorktown & Jamestown | <input type="checkbox"/> Virginia Marine Science Museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VA Air & Space Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Chrysler Museum of Art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moses Myers House | <input type="checkbox"/> Nauticus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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**