

HUNTINGTON HERALD

Volume 12, Issue 4

August 2002

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS HUNTINGTON



Special Points of Interest

- *Find out some things about the Naval Station in Norfolk in our cover story.*
- *Page two lists the ships which are home ported in Norfolk.*
- *The Coordinator's Corner is on page two. He wants to urge everyone to attend the reunion.*
- *MAIL CALL starts on page three. In one letter we learn that a request for info was successful; in another you might be reminded of an incident of revenge for pouring the mop water over board.*
- *"This Says It All" on page four, may be controversial. What do you think?*

NAVAL STATION IN NORFOLK

Naval Station Norfolk occupies about 3,400 acres of Hampton Roads real estate in a peninsula known as Sewells Point. It is the world's largest Naval Station; in fact, based on supported military population, it is the largest military station in the world. When the 78 ships and 133 aircraft homeports here are not at sea, they are along side one of the 14 piers or inside one of 15 aircraft hangars for repair, refit, training and to provide the ship's or squadron's crew an opportunity to be with their families. Naval Station is homeport to aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, large amphibious ships, submarines, a variety of

supply and logistics ships, C-2, C-9, C-12 and E-2 fixed wing aircraft, and H-3, H-6, H-53, and H-60 helicopters.

Port Services controls more than 3,100 ships' movements annually as they arrive and depart their berths. Port facilities extend more than four miles along the waterfront and include some seven miles of pier and wharf space.

Air Operations conducts over 100,000 flight operations each year, an average of 275 flights per day or one every six minutes. Over 150,000 passengers and 264,000 tons of mail and cargo depart annually on Air Mobility Command (AMC) aircraft

and other chartered flights from our airfield. It is the hub for Navy logistics going to the European and Central Command theaters of operations, and to the Caribbean.

Naval Station's Nimitz Hall is a major stopping-off point for people destined for ships, aircraft squadrons, and stations overseas. Nearly 9,000 people are processed through the Transient Personnel Unit annually en route to their destinations.

On February 5, 1999, the merger of separate Naval Station and Naval Air Station (which were directly adjacent to each

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 other) was complete. This single installation is called Naval Station Norfolk.

HOMEPORT: NORFOLK, VA

- USS SEATTLE AOE 3
- USS LEYTE GULF CG 55
- USS SAN JACINTO CG56
- USS NORMANDY CG 60
- USS MONTEREY CG 61
- USS ANZIO CG 68
- USS CAPE ST. GEORGE CG 71
- USS VELLA GULF CG 72
- USS ENTERPRISE CVN 65
- USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER CVN 69
- USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT CVN 71
- USS GEORGE WASHINGTON CVN 73
- USS HARRY S. TRUMAN CVN 75
- USS ARTHUR W. RADFORD DD 968
- USS PETERSON DD 969
- USS BRISCOE DD 977
- USS STUMP DD 978
- USS NICHOLSON DD 98A2
- USS THORN DD 988
- USS DEYO DD 989
- USS HAYLER DD 997
- USS ARLEIGH BURKE DDG 51
- USS BARRY DDG 52
- USS STOUT DDG 55
- USS MITSCHER DDG 57
- USS LABOON DDG 58
- USS RAMAGE DDG 61
- USS GONZALEZ DDG 66
- USS COLE DDG 67
- USS ROSS DDG 71
- USS MAHAN DDG 72
- USS MC FAUL DDG 74
- USS DONALD COOK DDG 75
- USS PORTER DDG 78
- USS OSCAR AUSTIN DDG 79
- USS WINSTON S. CHURCHILL DDG 81
- USS BULKELEY DDG 84
- USS NICHOLAS FFG 47
- USS CARR FFG 52
- USS HAWES FFG 53
- USS ELROD FFG 55
- USS KAUFFMAN FFG 59
- USS MOUNT WHITNEY LCC 20
- USS SAIPAN LHA 2
- USS NASSAU LHA 4
- USS WASP LHD 1
- USS KEARSARGE LHD 3
- USS BATAAN LHD 5
- USS IWO JIMA LHD 7
- USS AUSTIN LPD 4
- USS TRENTON LPD 14
- USS PONCE LPD 15

- USS SHREVEPORT LPD 12
- USS NASHVILLE LPD 13
- USS JACKSONVILLE SSN 699
- USS MINNEAPOLIS-SAINT PAUL SSN 708
- USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER SSN 709
- USS SAN FRANCISCO SSN 711
- USS NORFOLK SSN 714
- USS OKLAHOMA CITY SSN 723
- USS NEWPORT NEWS SSN 750
- USS ALBANY SSN 753
- USS SCRANTON SSN 756
- USS BOISE SSN 764
- USS MONPELIER SSN 765
- USS HAMPTON SSN 767

MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND SHIPS HOMEPORTED AT NAVAL STATION NORFOLK

- USS BIG HORN T AO 198
- USS JOHN LENTHALL T AO 189
- USS KANAWHA T AO 196
- USS LARAMIE T AO 203
- USS LEROY GRUMMAN T AO 195
- USS PATUXENT T AO 201
- USS SATURN T AFS 10
- USS SIRIUS T AFS 8
- USS SPICA T AFS 9
- USS ZEUS T ARC 7

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Our reunion dates are set, the location is picked, sights to see have been selected and invitation packets have been mailed. Oh, let's see what's left—oh, yeah—your registration to come. We can't enjoy your company if you don't attend and of course, you will miss all the fun of being in Norfolk. So pack up the old duffel bag and come. I am not going to lecture you on why you should come, but I will say one thing is that I believe that we have a unique situation—maybe, not especially to only our group—but we are an extended family just doing our annual get-together to talk and share our good and bad experiences of the past year. We are like brothers and sisters sharing a common love—the USS Huntington.

See you in Norfolk.

Gene Volcik

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance on hand after 05/02 issue
\$499.02

Funds received since 05/02 issue
\$190.00

Funds available for 08/02 issue
\$689.02

Funds expended 08/02 issue
\$181.38

Ending Balance for 11/02 **\$507.64**

CONTRIBUTORS SINCE LAST ISSUE

Gib Billmeyer	\$25.00
Leo Dennis	\$50.00
Joseph Mongun	\$25.00
Shirley Robey	\$25.00
Vito Vessia	\$20.00
Eugene Volcik	\$25.00
Willard Winkley	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$190.00

USS HUNTINGTON REUNION SEPT. 19-22, 2002

NORFOLK AIRPORT HILTON HOTEL

NORFOLK, VA

*Published by
 Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc
 PO Drawer 11399
 Hickory, NC 28603-6402*

*828-256-6008 (voice)
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WWW.MLRsINC.COM (Web site)

Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To.

WELCOME MAT



The USS HUNTINGTON takes great pleasure in announcing that the following shipmate has recently been located. Welcome Aboard! We hope to see you at the next reunion in Norfolk and that you will become an active member of the association.

Grady Veasey
305 Wellington Dr
Durham, NC 27704
919-477-6793



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 families and friends of the deceased.

Harry Coulter
Died May 14, 2002

Floyd David Chick
Died 2001

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.

Until 1796, there was a U.S. state called Franklin. That state was renamed Tennessee.



MAIL CALL

Dear Editor,

I want to thank you for running my request for information on the ports of the USS Huntington before I was transferred off and into Vice Admiral Bernard Beiri's flag who was the Commander of the Navy in the Mediterranean.

So far I have received four letters with the dates and on one, even the maps showing the routes taken from 1948 through the end of the service of the USS Huntington, sometimes called the "Happy Hogan", all was very professional and nice material. In compiling the dates, I decided to just type all the dates of the Huntington in case other former members of the ship would want a copy.

Between the letters and dates, I believe there was only one (1) day different for one port and that was outstanding record keeping, a well deserved "E" to each of them!

I am enclosing a copy for you too!

Very sincerely,
Robert M. Ruble
Former Marine Crewman
33224 E. Lake Holm Dr. SE
Auburn, WA 98092-5959
253-939-7857

Editor's Note: I want to thank Mr. Ruble for sending this list to ML&RS and thank all the men who answered Mr. Ruble's request for the information. If anyone else would like a copy, please let us know at the address on page two, and I will send you a copy.

Locators,

I want to thank you for sending me the USS Huntington newsletters. I was aboard the ship during its commissioning and on the shake

down cruise. I was a radio operator 3/C. Just wondering if anyone out there was in the radio shack during this period. I would enjoy hearing from them.

For you deck hands with good memories, I was the guy you caught throwing the radio shack's mop water over the side. You guys put me over the side on a boatswain seat and made me clean that portion of the ship. I don't know how much cleaning I got done since I was hanging on for dear life with both hands. Do remember seeing a lot of sailors laughing when they pulled me back up.

Gib Billmeyer
3023 Deerwood Cir.
Dubuque, IA 52003-5224

Dear Sirs:

Enjoy the newsletter as always. Don't know if you care to print "This Says It All", rather lengthy. Also, my e-mail is as follows if you are collecting: [oneolsalt @webtv.net](mailto:oneolsalt@webtv.net).

Regards,
Willard Winkley
690 State St
Masonic Home Bretz Hall # 8
Franklin, IN 46131-2553

Here is the article Mr. Winkley referred to in his letter.

It was an Editorial written by an American citizen, published in a Tampa newspaper.

THIS SAYS IT ALL

IMMIGRANTS, NOT AMERICANS, MUST ADAPT

I am tired of this nation worrying about whether we are offending some individual or their culture. Since the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, we have experienced a surge of patriotism by the majority of Americans. However, the dust from the attacks had barely settled when the "politically correct" crowd began

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complaining about the possibility that our patriotism was offending others. I am not against immigration, nor do I hold a grudge against anyone who is seeking a better life by coming to America. Our population is almost entirely comprised of descendants of immigrants. However, there are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some born here, need to understand. This idea of America being a multicultural community has served only to dilute our sovereignty and our national identity. As Americans, we have our own culture, our own society, our own language and our own lifestyle. This culture has been developed over centuries of struggles, trials, and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom. We speak ENGLISH, not Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society, learn our language!

"In God We Trust" is our national motto. This is not some Christian, right wing, political slogan. We adopted this motto because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation, and this is clearly documented. It is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools. If God offends you, then I suggest you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is part of our culture. If Stars and Stripes offend you, or you don't like Uncle Sam, then you should seriously consider a move to another part of this planet. We are happy with our culture and have no desire to change, and we really don't care how you did things where you came from. This is OUR COUNTRY, our land, and our lifestyle.

Our first Amendment gives every citizen the right to express his opinion and we will allow you every opportunity to do so. But, once you are done complaining, whining, and griping about our flag, our pledge, our national motto, or our way of life, I highly encourage you to take advantage of one other great American freedom, THE RIGHT TO LEAVE.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ON LINE

The Newsletter for the USS HUNTINGTON reunion is available 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 HUNTINGTON. 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 HUNTINGTON 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 HUNTINGTON E-mail Roster please send an e-mail to SubscribeMLRS@aol.com, put the phrase SUBSCRIBE HUNTINGTON 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

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.