

HUNTINGTON HERALD

Volume 14, Issue 1

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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS HUNTINGTON



Special Points of Interest

- *The Albuquerque reunion was great fun. Read all about it in the cover story.*
- *See who you missed if you couldn't attend the reunion. A list of attendees is on page two.*
- *Gene Volcik tells about the reunion in his column on page two.*
- *Only one new member is listed in the WELCOME MAT. Let's get busy and find more!*
- *A preview of the attractions awaiting you in Nashville, as well as the survey, are on page four. Please take the time to help plan your reunion by filling out the survey and returning it promptly.*

GOOD TIMES IN ALBUQUERQUE!

Albuquerque, NM was the host city for the USS Huntington's 2003 reunion on September 11-14. Eighteen former sailors and fourteen of their guests enjoyed the hospitality of the Best Western Rio Grande Inn for their reunion. With registration opening at noon on Thursday, refreshments in the hospitality room awaited the attendees as they finished registering and getting settled in their rooms. At 5:00 PM everyone gathered together for the first time for a welcome reception. Welcoming remarks were made by Gene Volcik, reunion chairman, and introductions were made. The evening was a relaxed one with everyone choosing

where they would like to have dinner with their friends. The hospitality room became a popular place to gather and start telling all those "sailor tales." One group took off to a local casino and left their money there. The Indian Reservation really appreciated their visit! One of the group was the 90+ year old friend of Donald Amareld, Tom Mohnkern. This was Tom's first visit to a casino and word is that he thoroughly enjoyed it. The first stop on Friday's tour was to the National Atomic Museum, a truly fascinating place! After following the atomic age's progress, the museum allows one to explore how nuclear science

continues to influence our world. This was a favorite tour for many in the group. After the visit to the museum, the next stop was the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial Park, dedicated to all veterans. Here the Memorial Service was held to remember those from the USS Huntington who have passed away. A stop was made for lunch and the guide gave a running commentary on Albuquerque as the bus made its way to the various locations of the tour. The group returned to the hotel after lunch and had some free time before dinner. At 6:00 PM everyone gathered again for

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the social hour to enjoy a drink and more conversation. Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. It consisted of a delicious "New Mexico" style Chuck Wagon dinner buffet. The business meeting was held after the meal, with Gene Volcik leading the discussions. Gene was chosen to continue his role as coordinator for the group and Nashville, TN was chosen as the reunion site for 2004. USS Huntington shipmate, William George, has a daughter who is a gospel singer in the Nashville area, and hopefully she will be able to be there for the reunion.

Saturday was "Discover Santa Fe Day." Along the Turquoise Trail, the group was told the history of the mining towns of Golden, Madrid and Cerrillos. Upon arriving in Santa Fe, many took a guided walking tour and others explored on their own. The many nice restaurants in the area gave everyone a good choice for lunch. After spending time in Santa Fe, it was time to board the bus and go back to the hotel and get ready for the main event of the reunion—the USS Huntington banquet. The festivities began at 6:00 PM with a pre-dinner cocktail hour and photo session, followed at 7:00 PM by the banquet. Gene Volcik again welcomed the group and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie with their tablemates. Story telling abounded as each table seemed to liven up as the evening wore on. It was a great evening of good food, good fellowship and good fun.

Sunday morning's breakfast buffet was the last official activity of the reunion. After breakfast many lingered just a bit, not wanting the good times to come to a close. But everyone can be together again next year in Nashville for a great time. Hope you will be one of them.

2003 REUNION ATTENDEES

Donald Amareld & Tom Mohnkern
 Robert Bond
 Gerald & Phyllis Brooks
 Sheldon & Adele Ferriss
 William & Linda George
 Richard Haswell
 Edward & Myrna Hauenberger
 Jack & Marie Kelty
 Robert Patton
 Edmund & Nickie Pendleton
 William & Marlene Phillips
 Laudice & Lillian Price
 Alfred Rosenthal
 Eugene & Vi Volcik
 Carl & Beverly Walker
 William & Margaret Wildhagen
 Harry Wilson, Cheryl & Ryan Shannon
 Odell & Dorman Yancey

Total Members:	18
Guests:	14
GRAND TOTAL:	32

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Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To.

NOTE FROM PAT MILLER

What a fun time in New Mexico. Hope everyone returned home safe and sound. Start planning your trip south to the Country Music Capital. You are such a warm and charming group of people.

Love,
 Pat Miller
 ML&RS site manager

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

How many times have you heard and enjoyed the same song played over and over but by different musical groups? Well, that's sorta like our reunions. We always enjoy them and they are all a little different at different locations. Albuquerque was great—the hotel people were hospitable, our tour guide and bus driver were wonderful and the people at the museum were very informative. But, most of all, our extended family, the USS Huntington, were terrific.

On the arrival day, we spent time visiting and some going to a local casino. Everyone seemed to survive the casino since there were no great losses or wins.

On Friday our first stop was the National Atomic Museum which gave us an insight into the nuclear way of life. At the peak of this nuclear escapade was an explanation of this first visions and building of the atomic bomb and the use of such bomb. Next we went to the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial Park which is being built and dedicated to all veterans. Our memorial church service was held at this memorial park. That afternoon we held our meeting to decide on our next year's location. After a close election, Nashville was our selection. So get ready to go Country and Western.

The next day we spent traveling and sight-seeing along the way to Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico. An interesting structure is this state capitol, which is round, so it is said that this prevents any politicians from being backed into a corner!

Again, our banquet was a time for pictures, toasts, remembrances of those missing in action and a very delicious meal.

None of this could have been possible without the expertise of our Military Locator personnel—Pat and Phyllis, who assisted Pat.

Start making plans for Nashville—you can't find a better bargain or deal than a USS Huntington Reunion.

From Gene Volcik

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 and that you will become an active member of the association.

Wayne McIntosh
2369 Manzano Loop NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144



TAPS

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

Morgan Searles
Died June 30, 2003

Louis Voorhees
Died September 3, 1989

Verle Hansen
Died September 4, 2003

John "Derby" Durback, Jr.
(1948-Decomm)
Fireman Tech, Boiler Room
Died June 26, 2003

Marianne Gerard
(Wife of Gary Gerard)
Died June 2, 2003

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

USS Huntington Crewmen:

I just found the USS Huntington site and the Huntington Herald. Many thanks for publishing it.

My father, Louis Voorhees, served on the Huntington in the late '40s, when Arleigh Burke was its captain. Unfortunately, he died some time ago, on September 3, 1989.

If anyone has tales to tell about my dad, I would very much like to hear them.

Jim Voorhees
11219 Orleans Way
Kensington, MD 20895
301-946-4674
voorhees@bellatlantic.net

Huntington Shipmates,

We would like to thank all our friends who were in Albuquerque for their loving concern. Ed had to be taken to the emergency room by paramedics after four hours of nose bleeding. The doctor inserted a "rhino-rocket" into his nostril to stop the bleeding. We had to stay an extra night at the hotel and returned to Long Beach on Monday. Ed saw a specialist on Tuesday and two days later, the "rhino-rocket" was removed. He is doing better now.

We look forward to seeing all of you again in Nashville next year. The USS Huntington has made us a family.

Thank you all again and see you in Nashville, Tennessee.

Sincerely,
Ed & Nickie Pendleton

Gentlemen:

My husband, John A. Durback, Jr., passed away June 26, 2003. Although we never had the oppor-

tunity to go to any of the reunions, my husband still always enjoyed receiving your Huntington Herald. He always would tell his children and grandchildren how proud he was at being able to serve aboard the Huntington.

Sincerely,
Mrs. John A Durback
1621 SW 33rd St Apt. B
Allentown, PA 18103

Military Locator,

This year was not very good at our house, as I lost Marianne after 54 and 1/2 years. It is still hard to understand why. Hope to see all soon.

Gary Gerard
10961 Desert Lawn Dr Spc 73
Calimesa, CA 92320-2237

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance after 08/03 **\$342.41**

Funds received since 08/03
\$215.00

Funds available for 11/03 **\$557.41**

Funds expended 11/03 **\$207.11**

Ending Balance for 02/04 **\$350.30**

Contributors since 08/03

Willard Winkley	\$20.00
John McAlpine	\$20.00
Lyle Back	\$25.00
Bill Wildhagen	\$100.00
Gary Gerard	\$50.00

Total: \$215.00

Send contributions to ML&RS-address is on page two.

NASHVILLE TIME

Nashville is in the Central Standard time zone, November-March; Central Daylight, April—October.

NASHVILLE PREVIEW FOR 2004

“Music City USA” or the “Athens of the South” are two appropriate names for this Southern city, home to over 500,000 people. With so much to see and do in Nashville, the city is a great choice for your reunion. We will attempt to give you a brief preview of some of the attractions in Nashville, and then ask you to choose which ones will be offered in your reunion package. Read over the descriptions and then fill out and return the survey to us. We will use your responses along with your coordinator’s input to design your reunion agenda to those wishes.

ATTRACTIONS

Grand Ole Opry: Take country music’s greatest legends, mix in today’s biggest superstars, add the hottest new voices on the charts, and you have the world-famous Grand Ole Opry. Come to be part of the live performance and share the music and the memories of country’s grandest show—the Grand Ole Opry. (***Saturday nights only.***)*

Country Music Hall of Fame: See live performances, interactive exhibits and rare costumes, instruments and archival films all in one place. The Country Music Hall of Fame is a must-see for all country music fans.

Jack Daniels Distillery: The Jack Daniels Distillery is the oldest registered distillery in the United States and among the most prestigious. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors will receive personally guided tours of the distillery and observe the famous whiskey-making process.

Grand Ole Opry Museum: The museum pays tribute to the longest-running radio show in the country and its yesteryear’s stars with exhibits honoring them and their modern-day counterparts.

Military Branch of the Tennessee State Museum: Located in the War Memorial Building as a tribute to veter-

erans, the museum features exhibits on America’s involvement in foreign wars from the Spanish-American War to World War II. Exhibits showcase the weapons, uniforms and battle histories.

General Jackson Showboat: This \$12 million, four-deck paddle wheeler cruises the Cumberland River as you enjoy strolling the decks and listening to the lively entertainment found throughout the boat. Lunch and dinner cruises are available.

Belle Meade Plantation: Called the “Queen of the Tennessee Plantations” this 1853 Greek Revival mansion was once home to a thoroughbred stud farm and nursery. Today, docents in period costume guide you through the mansion and impart tales of a slower paced society, when plantations were way of life for a few select Southerners.

Tour of the City of Nashville: This fully narrated city tour will give you an overview of the sites around the city, including some of the stars homes, the **Ryman Auditorium** (original home of the Grand Ole Opry), the Parthenon and other places of interest. The tour also includes lunch at **The Hermitage Smorgasbord**, located at the beautifully restored home of President Andrew Jackson. At **The Hermitage** you will see personal belongings and furnishings of the president that reveal Old Hickory’s sophistication and stylish tastes that remain elegant today.

We want your reunion in Nashville to be one you will remember, so please help in the planning by returning the survey to Military Locator & Reunion Service promptly. Then we can begin the process of putting together your reunion package to suit your wishes.

**Since a visit to the Grand Ole Opry is always a top attraction, the banquet is usually held on Friday PM instead of Saturday.*

USS HUNTINGTON 2004 REUNION SURVEY NASHVILLE, TN

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey so we can custom design your reunion to your wishes.

The Reunion

Would you like a Welcome Reception the first evening of the reunion?
Yes ____ No ____

Do you prefer breakfast all three mornings? ____
Or only on Sunday morning? ____

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

Please check the attractions you would like to visit during the reunion.

Grand Ole Opry ____

Country Music Hall of Fame ____

Jack Daniels Distillery ____

Grand Ole Opry Museum ____

Military Branch of the TN State Museum ____

General Jackson Showboat ____

Belle Meade Plantation ____

City Tour (including The Hermitage) ____

Return to:
Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc.
P. O. Drawer 11399
Hickory, NC 28603

Or Fax:
828-256-6559

RETURN BY JANUARY 12, 2004