

THE MESSENGER

Volume 15 Issue 1

January 2008

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS MARIAS, USS CADMUS, USS AMPHION, USS ARCADIA, USS NANTAHALA



USS MARIAS



USS CADMUS



USS AMPHION



USS ARCADIA



USS NANTAHALA

Special Points of Interest

- **More responses to "How Did the Navy Benefit Your Life?" make up the cover article. We hope you all enjoyed reading the answers. It's not too late to send yours in.**
- **Twenty-one new names for Welcome Mat! Let's hope some of the new shipmates will be at the reunion to share in the fun!**
- **Smokey tells us about 3 of his favorite reunions. Which was YOUR favorite? Let us hear from you about that.**
- **Make your plans now for the April 24-27, 2008 MCAAN Reunion which will take place in Mobile, AL at the Ashbury Hotel and Suites. You'll have a great time with old friends and make many new ones.**

HOW THE NAVY BENEFITED MY LIFE

We continue with the responses to the question, "How did being in the Navy benefit your life?" Thank you so much to all who returned their answer.

Richard Nay:

As a young man of 18, just graduating from high school, I was raised by foster parents without much hope of future success. The Navy encouraged me to become more disciplined and to take the chip off of my shoulder. I began taking college correspondence courses right from the ship. I got to make use of the ship library and began a journey of looking forward to the future instead of looking backward. Eventually I became an executive in a Fortune 100 company

and a chair of a college board. Today I own my own business.

Richard Moeser:

The Navy made me grow up fast and be a responsible adult. I joined the Navy out of high school and ended up doing 30 years. Most of my life has been a sailor, of which I am very proud. I served through two wars during those years, aboard submarines to an aircraft carrier, plus several shore stations in between. I owe the Navy for who I am today and what I have. Thank you for your service.

James Wilson:

I believe the Navy allowed me to grow as an

individual, to accept responsibility and to communicate with people of all races and nationalities.

Jerry Carroll:

After completing the School of Naval Justice and Court Reporter school, I expected to be assigned to a large command to utilize my newly acquired skills. Somewhat disappointed, I reported aboard the USS Marias in 1956 as a YN2. But as I recall, there were seven special court-martials within just a few months—not a happy ship for some. These were trying times for a court reporter also; especially with obsolete equipment—a cranky old man-

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ual typewriter, an equally cranky tape recorder and then throw in a couple of contentious officers for good measure. However, fortunes were soon to change. While performing the mundane task of filing instructions in the ship's office, one in particular caught my interest. BuPers was looking for qualified YNs to receive training and change rating to Machine Accountant (later named Data Processing Technician). I applied, was accepted and transferred to New York City for training. Not only did I find the vocation that I enjoyed for the remainder of my work years, but I met my bride to be. Having spent 47 wonderful years together, we still enjoy a happy marriage. I retired from the Navy as a Senior Chief Data Processing Tech-

nician and later took a civil service position as a GS-11 Computer Systems Analyst within the Department of the Navy. I retired as a GS-13 at age 55. This was more than this Arkansas farm boy expected when I enlisted. We moved several times after retirement and found that living in northeast Tennessee was very satisfying for us. We are living the good life here because I took upon myself to file a backlog of instructions aboard the USS Marias long ago. I often think back on how such an insignificant event can result in a life changing event. Thanks, US Navy, for the opportunities.

Wayne Boiteau:

I grew up as a tough street kid in the 50s. I quit school and got into

several brushes with the law. I was told by the judge that if I didn't go into the service I was heading down the road to destruction. Five of my friends were choosing the Navy, so I followed. My uncle was in the submarine service in WW2, and I looked up to him, so I went in. I got into several minor scrapes in the Navy and three days in the brig. I went to several welding schools and also learned how to drive a tractor trailer. It also taught me discipline and to be responsible for my own actions. I have a lot of good stories about being in the Navy. It made me grow up and take responsibility. It was the best teacher I could have had.



WELCOME MAT

The MCAAN Group proudly welcomes these recently located shipmates. Welcome aboard! We hope you will become an active member in the association by contributing both financially and with stories for the newsletter. We look forward to seeing you at a reunion.

USS ARCADIA

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(Continued on page 3)

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Russ Williams (1966)

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Alan Porterfield (1965-67)

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Springfield, MO 65807
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Jerome Parker

(1954-55) PF2-E-5 Pipe Shop
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616-868-0023

Alfred Towers

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Odis Stephens

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USS MARIAS**Clayton Parcher**

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**TAPS**

The Messenger learned of the following shipmates' deaths since the last newsletter. The death may not have been recent, but we just learned of it. Every member of the Association sends his heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased.

Lawrence Hicks

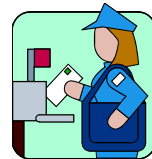
(USS Amphion) LCDR Repair Officer
Date of death not reported

Noel Dailey

(USS Arcadia) 1964-66 SF2 Repair
Died March 9, 2007

Thomas O'Rielley

(USS Cadmus) 1956-59 EMFN R3
Died November 8, 2007

**MAIL CALL**

Dear Dina,

This is Thomas T. Milliken. I am writing you to let you know that first I was on board the Arcadia somewhere around 1959 to 1962. I made 3rd class Quartermaster, then was transferred to shore duty in Beeville, TX. I have not had the opportunity to be at one of your get-togethers yet. I will try one day. Nothing ever happened on board, except we made one four month cruise in or around 1960, I think. Well, so long for now.

Thomas T. Milliken

Editor Messenger,

I just received the Messenger (October 2007). The letters about How the Navy Benefited My Life were great! I wish I had a story to tell, but my life in the Navy was great. Nothing special. I liked it. I only can say that I am sorry I didn't stay in for 20.

Also the letter from Smokey—I wear my Amphion hat all the time. I have met people from other ships that were tied up to the Amphion. I also had a tee shirt made with the Amphion logo (the octopus) and name. If you don't have a hat with your ship's name, just get one with US Navy on it. You will meet a lot of ex-Navy men. I even had some young people thank me for serving. It made me feel good. So do not be afraid to show off a little. Be proud of your service.

Albert Kuiper

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MY FAVORITE REUNION

In response to which reunion was my best, three come to mind.

Metairie, LA 1998—going thru the bayou, the meals and a good visit with an old shipmate, Dr. Glasser

Nashville, TN 1996—Grand Ole Opry

San Antonio, TX 2002—we voted to go to the West Coast, but someone said it was too FAR. So I said okay, let's go half way. Someone said it would be HOT. Someone from Texas got up and said that the best time would be the end of April. That was the largest turnout I have gone to in the last 13 years.

Let's have a good turnout for Mobile, AL in April.

Smokey

FACTS ABOUT MOBILE, AL

- Mobile's quality of life won the 74th spot in Money Magazine's "100 Best Places to Live" annual survey in 1997.
 - Tourism is on the rise in the Mobile area, where popular sites such as Bellingrath Gardens and Battleship Park are being joined by a growing list of cultural attractions.
 - More than 20 private and public golf courses helped Mobile birdie the No. 10 spot in Golf Digest's "Best Places to Golf."
 - With the world's largest forest products terminal, the Port of Mobile ranks 1st in the nation for wood pulp exports and 2nd in the nation for forest products.
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STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

The Messenger is the official publication of the MCAAN Association. From now on it will be published quarterly in January, April, July, October, *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 Messenger*. A financial statement appears in each issue of the newsletter.

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.

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

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.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance from 10/07 **\$1703.58**

Funds received since 10/07
\$354.00

Funds available for 01/08 **\$2057.58**

Funds expended for 01/08 **\$229.86**

Balance remaining for 04/08
\$1827.72

The Messenger is being mailed by USPS only to contributors and reunion attendees who do not have e-mail. All other contributors and reunion attendees will receive it by e-mail, so be sure we have your current e-mail address. You are considered a contributor if you have donated money within the last calendar year from the time of the current newsletter. Please continue to support the newsletter. Send contributions to ML&RS, Inc. at the address to the right.

MCAAN REUNION

APRIL 24-27, 2008

MOBILE, AL

ASHBURY HOTEL AND SUITES

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