

THE MESSENGER

Volume 10 Issue 4

April 2003



Special Points of Interest

- We welcome 48 newly located shipmate in **WEL-COME MAT** on page three. Hopefully there's a long lost buddy of yours on the list.
- We have lost six of our crewmembers. They are remembered with honor on page three under **TAPS**.
- **MAIL CALL** on page four has a request for information on a former shipmate. If you can help, contact the family. They would greatly appreciate it.
- How do you feel about the Hollywood protests against the war? See what **Charlie Daniels** thinks of them on page four.
- What is an American? Read the article on page five and see if you agree.

THE SOLDIER AND SAILOR

I want you to close your eyes and picture in your mind the soldier at Valley Forge, as he holds his musket in his bloody hands. He stands barefoot in the snow, starved from lack of food, wounded from months of battle and emotionally scarred from the eternity away from his family surrounded by nothing but death and carnage of war. He stands though, with fire in his eyes and victory on his breath. He looks at us now in anger and disgust and tells us this:

I gave you a birthright of freedom born in the Constitution and now your children graduate too illiterate to read it.

I fought in the snow

barefoot to give you freedom to vote and you stay at home because it rains.

I left my family destitute to give you the freedom of speech and you remain silent on critical issues, because it might be bad for business.

I orphaned my children to give you a government to serve you and it has stolen democracy from the people.

It's the soldier and sailor, not the reporter, who gives you the freedom of the press.

It's the soldier and sailor, not the poet, who gives you the freedom of speech.

It's the soldier and sailor, not the campus organizer, who allows you to demonstrate.

It's the soldier and sailor who salutes the flag, serves the flag, whose coffin is draped with the flag that allows the protester to burn the flag!!!

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen."

When you read this, please stop for a moment and say a prayer for our U.S. ground troops in Afghanistan, Iraq AND all over the world. This can be very powerful. Of all the gifts you could give a U.S. soldier, prayer is the very best one.

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

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.

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 you stories and suggestions.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ON LINE

The Newsletter for the MCAAN group 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 MCAAN. 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 MCAAN 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 MCAAN E-mail Roster please send an e-mail to SubscribeMLRS@aol.com, put the phrase **SUBSCRIBE MCAAN** 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.

Dina Coffey

**MCAAN REUNION
MAY 1-4, 2003
JACKSONVILLE, FL
HOLIDAY INN AIRPORT**



WELCOME MAT

The MCAAN Group proudly welcomes these recently located shipmates. Due to the large number of new names, space will not allow us to print the address of each individual. However, if you see the name of an old buddy and you would like to have his address, just let ML&RS know by phone, mail or e-mail and we will be glad to give you the address. (Our address is on page two.)

If you are receiving the MCAAN Messenger for the first time, welcome aboard. We hope you enjoy your first issue and will contribute not only financially, but also with your stories and anecdotes about life aboard your ship.

USS ARCADIA

Herm Kugler (1952-56)
Edward Humphrey (1954-57)
Richard Howell (1952-54)
Paul Rupert
Harry Willis

USS AMPHION

Wendell Napper
William McDaniels
Victor Bolduc (1955) BT1
Wally Brown (1960-63) YN2
Charles Gerren (1947-48) SN
Lawrence Mossis (1959) SF1
David Stanski (1970-71)
Edward Horde (1952-53) PNA3
Norman Rose SF3/SF2
Donald Elliott (1961-63)
Wayne Dukes
Ebon Hill, Jr. (1951-55) MM3
Randall Hoke
Paul Tate (1968-70) MR3
Richard Stockman (1950-52) MM2
Alve Morgan
William Nemitz (1969-70) E-5
George Feeley (1946-49) ME3
Curtis Marion (1946-47) SA/FA
Terry Swank (1960) SFP3
Buddy Bardwell (1969-71) MR2
Ron Grube (1951-52) RMSN

USS CADMUS

Ted Brassard (1968-69)
William Collins (1954-58)
Emery Patterson
Charles Wolfe (1959-62) IC2
Jay Trifry, Jr. (1968-70)
John Enney (1945-49)
Stewart Jacklis (1946-48)
Gerhard Waclena

USS MARIAS

Otis Hornish
Bob Myers (1957-58) MM
Ralph Castaneda (1971) MMC
Coleman Matthews (1943-47) QM2
John Wedig (1968-70)
Fred McVey
William Kramer (1962-64)
Terry Thompson (1965-66) SFP3
Douglas Lather (1962-66) Cook
Ritchie York (1968-70) Gunnery

USS NANTAHALA

Paul Neveu (1968-69) ET2
Jerry Harrison (1962-66) BM2 1st D
Marshall Rosen (1961-65) SN

MESSENGER AVAILABLE ONLY ON LINE

Again, this March issue will be available only on line due to insufficient funds in the newsletter account. Please take a look at the Financial Report for details. Please send contributions to MLRS at the address on page two. Be sure to state that it is for the MCAAN Messenger. If you know someone who cannot receive this newsletter by e-mail, please let him know why he did not receive it in the mail. Encourage him to contribute. We are losing touch with many of your former shipmates because they are not receiving the Messenger regularly. As you can see, we have fewer letters in MAIL CALL from shipmates than usual because fewer members are receiving the issues. The cost of mailing the newsletter to all members is over \$1300 per issue. Your support is vital. Please contribute and encourage others to do so as well.



TAPS

The Messenger learned of the following shipmates' deaths since the last newsletter. The deaths may not have been recent, but we just learned of them. Every member of the Association sends his heartfelt sympathy to the widows, families, and friends of the deceased. If we missed anyone, please accept our apology. Let us know and it will be published in the next issue.

Harry Hazewinkel
USS Arcadia (1954-58) SN O Div
Died May 16, 2001

Walter Wistberg USS Cadmus
Date of death not known

Gary Morris USS Nantahala
Died July 23, 2002

Walter Kessler
USS Arcadia (1951-52) M, R Div
Date of death not known

Bob Randall
USS Amphion (1946) CPO
Date of death not known

Robert Grube
USS Amphion (1950-51)
Date of death not known

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance from 01/03 **\$254.05**

Funds received since 01/03 issue
\$121.00

Funds available for 03/03 issue
\$375.05

Funds expended for 03/03 issue
\$43.00

Balance remaining for 07/03 issue
\$332.05



MAIL CALL

Greetings,

I had an uncle who served on the USS NANTAHALA we think in 1946, but it could have been in 1945. The family used to have a picture of him on a ship with a Japanese Flag in the background. I believe the ship was either the USS NANTAHALA or the USS VULCAN (AR-5). This picture, along with others, were destroyed in a house fire many years ago. I am trying to find out as much as I can for an only daughter of my uncle's who lives in Semi Valley, CA, who was 6 years old when her father passed away of cancer.

From a paper we have of his, we know he took his training in Great Lakes, IL. He was also stationed on the USS VULCAN (AR-5) either in 1945 or 1946. We just don't know which ship he served on first. The USS VULCAN which is listed first on a paper we have of his and the USS NANTAHALA (AO-60) is listed last. So we are thinking he served on the USS VULCAN first and then the USS NANTAHALA. We do know he served on both ships in the span from 2/2/1945 to 8/18/46.

Any info or others you might be able to put me in contact with from that era of time period would be greatly appreciated. I'm trying to come up with a snap shot photo of the USS NANTAHALA, maybe someone has a ship's roster of the ship's crew or crew pictures during those years (1945-46) or any other information from that time period. I don't know if the ships had Cruise Books back then or not. When I was in the U.S. Navy in the early/mid 1960s there were some Cruise books of some ships. I look forward to hearing back from you or any information that might help me in my search. Thank you and I have listed my uncle's information below.

His info:

Name: Rolla Eugene Wilber

Place of Birth: Bloomington, IN/
Monroe County
Place of Rest: Bloomington, IN/
Monroe County/Vallhalla Cemetery
Cause of Death: Cancer
Rank: Seaman First Class
SSN#: 293-96-63
DOB: 1/09/1928
DOD: 7/31/1953

Warm Regards,
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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HOLLYWOOD BUNCH

*Submitted by Richard Ginnan
USS Arcadia*

OK, let's just say for a moment you bunch of pampered, overpaid, unrealistic children had your way and the U.S.A. didn't go into Iraq.

Let's say that you really get your way and we destroy all our nuclear weapons and stick daisies in our gun barrels and sit around with some white wine and cheese and pat ourselves on the back, so proud of what we've done for world peace.

Let's say that we cut the military bases all over the world and bring the troops home, increase our foreign aid and drop all the trade sanctions against everybody.

I suppose that in your fantasy world this would create a utopian world where everybody would live in peace. After all, the great monster, the United States of America, the cause of all the world's trouble would have disbanded its horrible military and certainly all the other countries of the world would follow suit. After all, they only arm themselves to defend their countries from the mean old U.S.A.

Why you bunch of pitiful, hypocritical, idiotic, spoiled mugwumps. Get you head out of the sand and smell the Trade Towers burning.

Do you think that a trip to Iraq by Sean Penn did anything but encourage a wanton murderer to think that the people of the U.S.A. didn't have the nerve or the guts to fight him?

Barbara Streisand's fanatical and hateful rankings about George Bush makes about as much sense as Michael Jackson hanging a baby over a railing.

You people need to get out of Hollywood once in a while and get out into the real world. You'd be surprised at the hostility you would find out here.

Stop in at a truck stop and tell an overworked, long distance truck driver that you don't think Saddam Hussein is doing anything wrong. Tell a farmer with a couple of sons in the military that you think the United States has no right to defend itself. Go down to Baxley, Georgia and hold an anti-war rally and see what the folks down there think about you. Please visit Clarksville, Tennessee and the 101st Airborne and talk that S____, please visit those Real Americans.

You people are some of the most disgusting examples of a waste of protoplasm I've ever had the displeasure to hear about. Sean Penn, you're a traitor to the United States of America, You gave aid and comfort to the enemy. How many American lives will your little, "fact finding trip" to Iraq cost? You encouraged Saddam to think that we didn't have the stomach for war. You people protect one of the most evil men on the face of this earth and won't lift a finger to save the life of an unborn baby.

Freedom of choice you say?

Well, I'm going to exercise some freedom of choice of my own. If I see any of your names on a marquee, I'm going to boycott the movie. I will completely stop going to movies if I have to. In most cases it certainly wouldn't be much of a loss.

You scoff at our military whose boots you're not even worthy to shine. They go to battle and risk their lives so ingrates like you can live in luxury.

(Continued on page 5)

The day of reckoning is coming when you will be faced with the undeniable truth that the war against Saddam Hussein is the war on terrorism.

America is in imminent danger. You're either for her or against her. There is no middle ground. I think we all know where you stand. I will stand with the soldiers, airmen, and sailors. The hard working men and women of this great country. Not the overpaid, pansy, Hollywood wimp wanna-be's, and has beens, who can't hold a candle to real Americans, the middle class blue collar workers.

What do you think? Boycott any Hollywood types that protest against the USA.

God Bless America
Charlie Daniels

JACKSONVILLE FACTS

- Population: 1,000,000+ (56th largest in U.S.)
- Area: 840 sq. miles (largest in 48 states)
- Jean Ribault discovered the mouth of the St. John's River in 1562.
- Ft. Caroline founded in 1564 by French Huguenots.
- Ft. Caroline captured by Spanish leader Don Pedro Menendez in 1565.
- First settled as Cowford, the city was renamed for Andrew Jackson, Florida's first Military Governor in 1822 after Florida became a U.S. Territory.
- Florida became a state in 1845.
- Henry Flagler builds railroad trestle across St. John's River in 1890.
- The Great Fire destroyed half of down town in 1901.
- First Gator Bowl played: U. South Carolina vs. Wake Forest, in 1946.
- First Jaguar NFL football game played in 1995.
- Jacksonville is the most populous city in the state.

AN AMERICAN

*Submitted to ML&RS by
Larry DiPasquale,
USS Purdy DD-734*

You probably missed it in the rush of last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American. So I just thought I would write to let them know what an American is, so they would know when they found one.

An American is English, French, Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Australian, Iranian, Asian, Arab, Pakistani, or Afghan. An American may also be a Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, or one of the many other tribes known as Native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses. An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American is from the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God-given right of each man and woman to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need. When Afghanistan was overrun by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country. As of the morning of September 11, Americans had

given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan. The best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes.

Americans welcome the best, but they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them were working in the Twin Towers in the morning of September 11, earning a better life for their families. (I've been told that the people in the Towers were from at least 30, and maybe more, other countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.)

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the history of the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.

So look around you. You may find more Americans in your land than you thought were there. One day they will rise up and overthrow the old, ignorant, tired tyrants that trouble too many lands. Then those lands, too, will join the community of free and prosperous nations. And America will welcome them!

THE PEACE SYMBOL

The peace symbol that became popular in the 1960s is the combination of semaphore symbols for "N" and "D"—for nuclear disarmament. The symbol was popularized by British pacifists.
