



USS Muliphen AKA-61

Number 19 Vol. 1

May 2014



Message from the Helm:

Ahoy Shipmates!

Fort Pierce was a great reunion. Considering it's not a tourist destination and doesn't have all the Disney stuff, the Hutchenson Resort had a very nice outdoor pool overlooking the beautiful beach. It was wonderful, even the weather cooperated with the reunion.

On Wednesday as the shipmates and their friends and family began checking in to the hotel, they were met by Dina Coffey of Premier Reunions at the Hospitality room, along with the "early reunion arrivals".

The hospitality room was small, but well managed. The Wednesday evening pizza, wings and soft drinks were just what everyone needed after a long day of travel.

On Thursday after breakfast at the hotel, we all got on the new bus and headed to the UDT/SEAL Museum. We were escorted and provided a narration through the museum by Andy Brady, supplemented by our own shipmate and former SEAL

James Finley. Former Navy Chief Yeoman attached to Seal Team 6, Ken Corona met up with us during the



tour. Chief Corona would be our

Saturday banquet guest speaker. Special interest at the museum was the actual lifeboat from the Maersk Alabama seized by the Semolina's holding Captain Phillips.



Off to lunch at Mulligan's on the beach, Afterwards to the St. Lucie County Historical Center (known by

our shipmates as the Muliphen Museum). The Florida weather was threatening, It held back for our Memorial Ceremony held in the Memorial Garden dedicated to the men and women of the sites former amphibious training center. A black ceramic plaque was present to the representative of the Museum, Mr. Harry Quatraro. The memorial ceremony with shipmate John Ellas ringing the bell was held reciting, all the names of 2013-2014 deceased shipmates. Behind the attendees, was a Higgins Boat. After the ceremony,



everyone toured the Museum. We were all proud to see our Muliphen artifacts, prominently displayed in the main display area. Later the professionally crafted, miniature replica of the USS



Muliphen AKA-61 was placed on loan to the Museum, by shipmate Rudy Szabo. Rudy has spent many

hours of the last few years, carefully crafting the scale model of the Muliphen. Thank you Rudy, for the wonderful job. Rudy has advised me that a list of all known Muliphen crewmembers has been placed in the hull of the model.

Later that evening we all boarded the St. Lucie County Trolley for a short trip to the Cobb Restaurant for a "Florida Fish Fry". Dress was Florida casual. The food was great.

On Friday after breakfast, we boarded the new bus and headed to Cape Kennedy/NASA for our Space Center tour. I've been on the tour many times and was sorry to say that I was disappointed. Most of the standard visit was cut short due to a Astronaut Hall Of Fame induction ceremony. Due to 9-11 most of the working sites have been placed off-limits to visitors. Returning back to the hotel, the remaining time in the evening was dedicated to visiting with old friends in the hospitality room.



On Saturday, most of the day was a "on-your-own" day. At 4:00 pm we had our annual "Business Meeting" highlighted by a good discussion about the 2015 reunion's, date and location. It was decided that Spring was best and after a close vote, Nashville would hold the venue. Because the number of attendees grew this year, we will not be joining with the USS Rankin. (It was noted that they could join us, if they like).

The Saturday evening banquet was Florida Casual. I think everyone liked "Casual", so next year in Nashville, TN it will be "Country Casual". Although acceptable, there will No pressure to bring suits or formal dresses.

(Former uniforms encouraged, if they fit.) We took the Trolley to the Cobb Restaurant for the banquet, it would have been much quieter if not for the running of the Kentucky Derby that evening. Our guest speaker, Retired Chief Corona, did an excellent job, considering the noise. Chief Corona was presented with a Muliphen Cap and made an Honorary Shipmate.

Sunday after breakfast was all "Hugs and Kisses" goodbye, until next Spring in Nashville, TN.

2014 Fort Pierce Reunion Attendees



- Alan & Laura Bieler, (63-66) Medford, NY
- Robert Casey (62-65) & Karen Robertson, St. Louis, MO
- William & Alice Christoffersen (61-63), Holiday, FL
- John & Neva Ellas (59-62), Hilliard, OH
- James & Billie Jo Finley (57-62), Hertford, NC
- George & Rachel Hollins (66-68), Bumpass, VA
- Richard & Margaret Hooley (54-56), Englewood, FL
- Richard & Faith Markley (63-65), Millington, TN
- Edward & Louise Martin (61-64), Birch Run, MI
- Edward & Theresa McCaffrey (63-66), Vero Beach, FL
- Richard & Ginny Schroeder (49-52), Hatboro, PA

- James & Linda Sharp III (63-66), Milford, OH
- Rudy & Ruby Szabo (60-62), Erlanger, KY (Note: Special Guests Bill & Reba Jean Whittymore)
- Gerald & Elizabeth Wotherspoon (64-65), Dover, FL

Memorial Services



The 2014 USS Muliphen Memorial Services held at the St. Lucie County Historical Center on May 3rd. honored the lives and memories of the following by reading their name and tolling the bell.

- James Poffinbarger, Bristol, VA
- Thomas Glenn Shay, Mose Lake, WA
- James F. Dominesey, Chesapeake, VA
- Hubert H. Benjamin, East Hampton, CT
- Harvey E. Housel, Altoona, PA
- Charles Edgar Howell, Washington, GA
- Norman J. Gressman, Rossford, OH
- Robert J. Welkner, Brooklyn, NY
- Edwin Calhoun, Warminster, PA
- Patrick Joseph Paradis, Yarmouth Port, MA
- Joseph Clinton Blake, Jr., Selma, AL
- Stanton R. Price, Bridgewater, NJ
- Richard Louis Carles, North Baltimore, OH

- Aloysius V. "Al" Trejchel, Erie, PA

USS Muliphen Memorial Plaque

A USS Muliphen AKA-61 black ceramic plaque was dedicated



and left for display at the St. Lucie County Historical Center in the care of Mr. Harry Quatraro.

Ship's Store News

Our Storekeeper, Retired Chief Yeoman George Hollins (66-68) has decided to retire from his post



as Storekeeper for health reasons. George has operated the Ship's Store for as long as I can remember. Although, I've joked with George about his pencil and ledger procedure vs. computer. George has always provided an honest and accurate accounting of the ship's store items. His integrity for fast and complete orders, his faithfulness in bringing a large sampling of store items to each reunion, has been amazing. Since we have heard of no volunteers to take over as Storekeeper, George will stay on and sell through On-Line Web sales only. Lugging the boxes from home to reunion is too much of a physical burden.

If any shipmate would be willing to take-over and learn the Store

Keepers duties, please let George or me know. My number is: 813-685-9477 George will help in the transition of duties.

Name Tags

I have to apologize for the mix-up. In preparing for the reunion, I forgot to tell Premier Reunions to add the "Name Tags" and "City Tags" to the reunion application. As a result, I will have a City Tag (Fort Pierce, FL) made at no cost for each attendee of the 2014 reunion.

For anyone not in possession of a Name Tag. The cost is still \$3.50 for shipmate and \$3.00 for Spouse.

Please contact:

Mr. John Minton at LaserOneFL
4045 Moores Lake Rd. Dover, FL
33527-4006. Phone (813)766-4210
or e-mail: jdmlaser@aol.com
for details of information needed for the Name Tag.



Treasures Report

Starting balance 2014 = \$5736.89
Received: + \$1435.00
Spent -\$2035.50
Ending balance October 2014 = \$5136.39

The expenses include:

- Postage (Newsletter & Misc. communications)
- Envelopes & Paper
- Printing for Newsletter
- FL Reunion Transportation
- Website

The received include:

- Shipmate donations

USS Muliphen News

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The USS Muliphen Reunion Association is a non-profit 501(c)19 veterans' organization. Incorporated in Delaware. Donations to the Association qualify as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purpose.

Members of the Executive Board

President: Gerald Wotherspoon

Vice President: Richard Markley

Secretary: Louise Martin

Treasure: Linda Sharp

Storekeeper: George Hollins

Galley Officer: John Ellas

Chaplain: Herman Autry

Historian: Fred Rodriguez

Members Officer: Joan Wiant

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Note: *The Ship's Store is a separate account and all its profits, are used for Gifts and replenishing the Store supplies No salaries are paid to any person involved with the Muliphen Association..*

Donations to our 501c19 Not-for-Profit Group

Enclosed is a self addressed donation envelope for the 2014 donations. **Paypal** online donations can be made. (we are a **no dues** association). Donations are only requested and all donation go towards the running of the association. No salaries are paid to our volunteer staff. Only reimbursement for out of pocket expenses for the association.