

PATROL GUNBOAT ASSOCIATION

GUNBOAT RIDERS

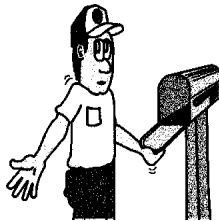
VOLUME 1 - NUMBER 2

SUMMER EDITION

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"PEORIA SURVEY"

When I mailed out the March 1998 Newsletter, I included all the necessary information and forms for registering for the 1998 Peoria Reunion. I also included a survey form for you to return to me. This form is intended for planning purposes only, a way for the staff at Armed Forces Reunions INC and myself to estimate how many people would be attending the reunion. We use the numbers from this survey to anticipate how many busses to reserve, how many rooms to block at the hotel, how many reservations to anticipate for the restaurants and how big the reception area and banquet halls will have to be for the buffet and banquet dinners. This same information package is mailed out along with the newsletter to every new contact made since March. The response has been fair, however, many folks haven't returned them yet. If you still have not returned your survey form, please do so as soon as possible.



"PEORIA BALLCAPS"

I have ordered 250 ballcaps from Eagle Crest INC in Jacksonville, FL. These are custom embroidered, "Made In America" Ballcaps identical in quality to the ones ordered for ships and shore commands by the Navy Exchange. These hats will be available free with the purchase of \$20.00 in raffle tickets for the Saturday Night Raffle Drawing. Ballcaps can also be purchased for \$15.00 dollars each. After the reunion, any remaining hats will be available for sale for \$15.00 each plus shipping. I am also having Special Commemorative Coffee Mugs as well as a small souvenir made to be given out at the reunion for every crewmember in attendance.



REUNION CUT-OFF DATES

Remember, the cut-off for reservations at the Holiday Inn City Centre is July 1, 1998. Rooms cancelled less than 24 hours prior to arrival and no shows will be charged. Make your hotel reservations directly with the hotel. The phone number for the Holiday Inn City Centre is (800) 474-2501. All reservations and payments for scheduled activities at the reunion must be received by Armed Forces Reunions INC on or before July 1, 1998. Full refunds will be sent for all activities if cancellation is received by July 20, 1998 (less a \$3.00 processing fee).

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

As soon as you finish checking in to the hotel, your first stop should be at the Hospitality Room for check-in. There you will be able to purchase raffle tickets, additional 50 - 50 tickets, get your coffee mug and Peoria souvenir, and a chance to get a Peoria Patrol Gunboat Reunion Ballcap. Next, you will register with the Armed Forces Representative and receive your tour and meal tickets, and seating assignments for the Banquet Dinner.

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Patrol Gunboat Association

ATTIRE FOR BUFFET AND BANQUET DINNERS

It seems that no matter how well one plans things, if it can go wrong, or in this case, if it can be forgotten, then it will be forgotten. I have already received numerous inquiries concerning the attire for the Friday Night Buffet and Saturday Night Banquet Dinners. Forgive me, I never mentioned it. Comfortable casual attire is appropriate for the Friday Night Buffet. A sport coat and tie would be appropriate for the Saturday Night Banquet Dinner.

HELP OUT A PG FAN

I received a letter from COL Kenneth E. Chudy, (USMC-R) in early April. It seems the Colonel is building a 1/35 scale of the USS ASHEVILLE (PG-84) and is looking for some detailed photographs of the ASHEVILLE or any of the ASHEVILLE Class ships. He is particularly interested in any modifications to the ships during tours in Viet Nam. Colonel Chudy would also like any detailed photographs of the deck layout and cabins. You can contact Colonel Chudy at 510 Comice Lane, El Paso, TX 79912, or by calling him at (915) 585-9724.

THE MOST ASKED QUESTION

The most frequently asked question from our crewmembers is one that I haven't been able to answer. Does anyone have documentation to support an answer to the question:

WHAT HAPPENED TO PG-91?

I would really appreciate it if someone could tell me.

THE TEST FOR GUTS

The heads of the four armed services were sitting around bragging about their respective branches of service. First, they went into the field where Army Tank Crews were training. The Army General got on the radio and told one of the Privates to jump under a moving tank. He did, he died. The General said, "Now that guy had guts."

The Air Force General insisted that was nonsense, so they went to the airfield where pilots were training. The general got on the radio and directed one of the pilots to crash his plane. He did, he died. The General said, "Now that guy had guts."

The Marine General claimed that was foolish. So next they went to a Marine shooting range. He directed one of the Marines to jump in front of one of the targets. He did, he got shot, he died. The General said, "Now that guy had guts."

Finally, the Navy Admiral said that they hadn't seen anything. They went to an Aircraft Carrier that was in port. Noticing a sailor at the top of the mast working on a radar antenna, the Admiral shouted at the sailor, directing him to jump off the antenna platform. Shocked, the sailor said, "What!" The Admiral repeated himself. Flipping the Admiral a "One Finger Salute", the sailor shouted back "SCREW YOU!". "Now that guy has guts!" replied the Admiral.

WE ARE ON THE INTERNET

I have put together an Internet Web Site / Home Page for the Patrol Gunboat Reunion Association. The Internet Address is:

<http://members.visi.net/~macs/index.html>

If you are like me and have difficulty with the Internet, you can also find the Web Site by using a search engine and searching for "Patrol Gunboat Reunion". I have placed a separate page for each ship, as well as Squadron Staff's and the Graham County on the Web Site. There is also a muster list of crewmembers that I have located as well as a missing persons page. After the reunion, I plan to include a photo album using photographs taken in Peoria. If you have any pictures of the ships that you think would look good on the internet, please send them to me in either GIF, JPEG or original format.

GOLF IN PEORIA

I have made arrangements with the hotel staff at the Holiday Inn City Centre for golf on Wednesday. One of our shipmates is an avid golfer and has agreed to act as the coordinator for all who would like to play golf. If you would like to spend some time on the golf course, please contact Paul McGurgan at (800) 477-6111 (X5773) and he will assist in making arrangements for you. He will schedule tee times for those that want to play as a group as well as arrange for golf carts and other equipment if you desire. Paul was an Electronics Technician onboard USS CROCKETT (PG-88) in the early 1970's and arrived in Guam about the same time as I did. He now resides in Carlsbad, CA. For those of you that do not play golf, remember, the Hospitality room will open at noon on Wednesday.



MEMORIAL SERVICE

Along with the festivities at the Peoria Reunion, I would like to take a few moments to remember those that are with us in spirit only. I know that GALLUP and CANON were involved in significant combat during the Viet Nam War and that there is a possibility that there were casualties as a result. While I do not want to cause undue stress on those who wish to forget, I feel that it is appropriate to acknowledge those crewmembers that made the ultimate sacrifice for our country while serving on a Patrol Gunboat. If you know the names and rates of any of these sailors, please advise me so that we may pay appropriate respects at the Memorial Service. I have also started including a Supreme Commander section to the newsletter for those that are identified as having passed away since.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES

I have been working on putting together this first reunion since June, 1997. When I started, I had only four names of former crewmembers. As the list grew, some folks told me that they really didn't want their phone numbers published for fear of winding up on commercial mailing lists. I have honored this request and I will continue to do so. I have had many requests for addresses and phone numbers from other crewmembers and as a matter of policy, I have advised them that I will forward mail if they so desire. That has gotten to be quite a chore. I have now modified my data file to include a "Release Address" field. When I contact a former shipmate and mail him my data file worksheet, there is now a field for him to give me permission to release his address to former shipmates. Those of you that I had made contact with prior to May, 1998, have that field left blank in my data file. As I talk to these shipmates, I will try to update that field. In the meantime, if you correspond with me in the future, please advise me if you have any objection to my releasing your address to other former crewmembers. I will also try to collect information from those crewmembers attending the Peoria reunion in August.

"PHOTO'S, PLAQUES, STUFF"

I have received numerous photographs, plaques, magazine articles and other items from former crewmembers since I started putting together the Patrol Gunboat Reunion. At some point, I would like for someone to volunteer to be the Patrol Gunboat Reunion Association Historian and take control of these items so that they may be placed on display at future reunions. I also plan to put an association photograph album on the Web Site following the Peoria Reunion. If you have items that you feel would be of interest, you can bring them to the reunion. If you will not be attending this year, you can send items of interest to me and I will take them to Peoria for display in the Hospitality Room during the reunion. Make sure that you identify who these items belong to, so that I can return them. If you don't want these items back, I will give them to the Association Historian once we have one identified. I am also looking for additional photographs of the ships that I can download onto the internet. Original pictures are fine or you can scan them onto a disk and send them to me in JPEG or GIF format.

Patrol Gunboat Association

As of June 1, 1998 the following people have been contacted and are in my data file with a valid address.

USS Antelope (PG-86)

MSSA Thomas A. Aiello, 10/30/97
SMSA Hubbard C. Atchison, 08/25/97
ET-2 Frederick L. Barber, 12/26/97
George Bishop, 05/04/98
LTJG Leroy W. Blankenship, 08/12/97
GMG-3 James F. Bomar, 09/13/97
LT James L. Burke, 07/24/97
FTG-2 Courtney L. Cain, 09/30/97
BMSN Ronald F. Currie, 12/29/97
ETR-2 Danny M. Daniels, 02/27/98
Ken Dietrich, 09/10/97
LT James P. Euliss, 05/15/98
EM-3 Duane M. Fredendall, 09/15/97
LT Jon J. Gershon, 08/12/97
SK-1 John R. Haggerty, 01/10/98
EN-2 Glen B. Havens, 12/22/97
RD-2 Albert J. Havranek, 11/05/97
RD-1 Enrique Hermosillo, 02/12/98
EN-3 Richard V. Johannsen, 08/08/97
SM-3 Michael M. Kaprielian, 02/27/98
FTG-2 Robert E. Klias, 08/03/97
FTG-1 Thomas F. Kryder, 11/03/97
LCDR Frank J. Lugo, 08/31/97
EN-2 Alfred Marinelli, 12/03/97
OS-2 Vernon McFadden, 03/04/98
FTG-2 Darrel R. McFarlane, 08/03/97
SMSN Brian D. Menoni, 08/09/97
FTG-2 William L. Mitchell, 01/22/98
R. Steve Moor, 06/03/97
ICFA Anthony James O'Donnell, 09/22/97
EN-1 John R. Perrigo, 11/24/97
BMC James T. Prather, //
LT Rodney P. Rempt, 07/07/97
LT Thomas R. Rich, 03/31/98
ENC Wesley L. Ronk, 05/20/98
LTJG Henry Sanford, 03/31/98
ENS Andrew J. Schilling, 03/27/98
OS-1 James F. Showalter, 03/01/98
EM-3 Richard F. Smoktunowicz, 11/06/97
EN-3 Randall E. Tanton, 08/30/97
ENS Henry D. Thomas, 10/29/97
LTJG Dale E. Todd, 10/29/97
YN-1 Raleigh J. Totten, 01/11/98
FA Jesse T. Troy, 11/30/97
EM-2 Mark A. Via, 09/09/97
FTG-2 Lewis A. Volk, 02/28/98
GMGC Russell J. Wellman, 02/27/98
ENC Gary Wentworth, 07/29/97
EN-3 Kenneth R. Wilson, 12/22/97
FTGSA Eddie L. Wright, 06/11/97
HM-1 Michael E. Zealor, 01/10/98
USS Asheville (PG-84)
RM-1 John R. Best, 09/18/97
YN-2 Anthony T. Constantini, 10/26/97
Martin J. Cronk, 11/08/97
FTG-1 Noel P. Grantham, 05/20/98
FTG-2 Jon B. Jacques, 12/23/97
LT Neal Kozlowski, 03/22/98
ENC Jerry L. Larkin, 10/17/97
FCCM Michael McFarland, 03/27/98
FTG-2) Harry McGee, 11/12/97
ETR-2 Daniel C. McGowan, 12/29/97
FN Robert W. Mitchell, 09/05/97
ENS Robert Nead, 03/24/98
ET-3 Thomas A. Ny, 10/29/97
FN Charles Perkins, 10/20/97
FTGC Frank Phelps, 05/20/98
LTJG Barrie Prejean, 04/04/98
GMG-1 Eugene Randall, 09/16/97
SK-1 Donald A. Richards, 09/03/97
QMC Vernon L. Roe, 09/11/97

EM-1 Arnold E. Shutz, 11/30/97
SK-3 Bill J. Strickland, 10/02/97
EN-1 James S. Thomas, 09/16/97
ETN-3 John C. Vann, 11/30/97
ET-2 Gerald Weiss, 10/06/97

USS Beacon (PG-99)

ETSN Larry S. Dahl, 10/02/97
HM-1 Robert Flewell, 02/11/98
FA Robert A. Guilford, 10/01/97
Tim S. Kovarik, 02/16/98
BMC James T. Prather
USS Benicia (PG-96)
ENFN Hunter H. Boyce, 09/28/97
GMG-1 Robert W. Buttice, 11/08/97
RD-2 Wallace H. Corey, 11/08/97
SN Robert J. Crawley, 11/05/97
CS-2 Jessie R. Hopper, 11/07/97
SA Steven L. Kopp, 11/10/97
FTG-2 Charles D. Pate, 04/13/98
ENC Robert W. Robb, 11/08/97
ENS Raul B. Saona, 11/08/97
SM-3 John P. Turek, 11/06/97
LT James L. Turnbull, 11/09/97
LTJG David Van Saun, 11/27/97
LTJG Robert D. Wakefield, 12/02/97

USS Canon (PG-90)

ENC Donald L. Beckham, 12/13/97
EN-3 Jan P. BCanon 07/23/97
ETR-3 Walter H. Brady, 11/05/97
EN-3 Charles E. Burpee, 12/15/97
GMGC Robert Burris, 10/29/97
BMC Charles H. Cusack, 09/30/97
ENFA Richard M. Espinosa, 06/18/97
YN-3 Gerald J. Ferrick, 10/01/97
GMG-2 Joseph M. Foster, 02/13/98
RMSN William O. Getchell, 09/10/97
ENS Robert S. Herbert, 10/03/97
EM-1 John W. Honeycutt, 04/07/98
RM-1 Stacy N. Kelsey, 09/07/97
LT Stephen G. Kmetz, 12/13/97
J. L. MacMichael, 10/01/97
ET-3 Terry Wayne McManuels, 04/01/97
YN-2 James R. Mitchell, 05/27/97
LTJG Dale H. Moses, 09/12/97
GMG-1 Charles P. Murphrey, 08/09/97
David J. Nekola, 10/02/97
CS-2 Albert L. Onyika, 04/14/98
FTG-1 Charles D. Pate, 04/13/98
FTG-3 Stanley R. Ray, 04/14/98
SN Pat Robertazzi, 12/22/97
QMC Ronald L. Roberts, 04/03/98
LCDR David B. Robinson, 09/05/97
LTJG H. Warren Rohlfs, 04/20/97
Michael R. Scholl, 03/23/98
LT Martin G. Schoonderwoerd, 12/13/97
YN-3 William R. Senchuk, 12/13/97
EJohn H. Tregoning, 09/22/97
SMSN Leonard L. Vidlack, 10/02/97
SA Danny L. Watson, 10/01/97
HM-1 David L. Wheeler, 11/13/97
SN Fred Woolworth, 04/09/98
RM-2 Dale M. Worcester, 04/29/98
USS Chehalis (PG-94)
CS-2 Freddie Robert Cano, 07/07/97
OS-3 Thomas Dixon, 12/26/97
FTG-1 Ron Morlan, 12/26/97
Ernest G. Patterson, 09/09/97
Ken M. Wayman, 07/02/97
James R. Williams, 09/12/97
USS Crockett (PG-88)
SK-1 Rodolfo G. Arguilla, 11/03/97
RMSN Earl E. Banks, 02/10/98

LT Paul L. Bennett, 04/02/98
YN-3 John W. Berry, 10/21/97
ETN-2 Doyle D. Bowman, 02/04/98
Douglas J. Brayman, 01/21/98
QMC James R. Burnside, 09/30/97
GMGC Charles L. Chupco, 10/22/97
FTG-3 Michael Corrigan, 04/22/98
EN-2 Jerry R. Dalke, 09/25/97
SN John Davies, 04/22/98
LT Donald E. Dietz, 05/04/98
ENC Hal R. Fonner, 03/10/98
LT Michael Freeman, 09/25/97
EN-1 G. W. Frost, 03/14/98
William K. Gautier, 05/06/98
Peter E. Hamre, 04/09/98
FN Jim Handcock, 01/05/98
LTJG Thomas Hartrick, 10/22/97
GMG-2 Ralph M. Heaxt, 08/14/97
John E. Helbling, 08/26/97
QMC Daniel C. Huboly, 10/01/97
BMC George Ingram, 01/27/98
SN Otha H. Inman, 11/27/97
ENC Wayne Jackson, 07/29/97
LTJG Paul W. Jards, 09/25/97
LTJG Michael J. Kenslow, 09/05/97
FTG-2 Joseph P. Kerzic, 11/08/97
LT John D. Kidd, 02/11/98
SKC Warren J. Knight, 11/24/97
FA Richard A. Koski, 09/10/97
LT Glendel D. Love, 03/18/98
Carl A. Maggio, 08/14/97
ETN-3 Paul L. McGurgan, 08/10/97
MSSR Henry Joseph Morillo, 03/02/98
LTJG Robert K. Peters, 05/02/98
Clark E. Pickard, 04/12/98
SN John M. Pletsch, 09/04/97
ET-2 Eugene T. Poturalski, 10/13/97
BM-3 Michael Powers, 04/22/98
LT George S. Rhodes, 05/03/98
Larry R. Sample, 08/19/97
SA Ron P. Sebert, 07/07/97
YN-2 James R. Sheffler, 03/18/98
William B. Smith, 01/08/98
LTJG John W. Stillwell, 09/30/97
GMG-3 Barry Stinson, 04/16/98
BM-2 Laurin Suiter, 09/25/97
ENS Steven P. Swinton, 09/30/97
LCDR Frank H. Tryon, 10/06/97
RM-3 James VanLanaan, 11/30/97
RM-1 Howard J. Wick, 10/02/97
James J. Zimmerman, 09/21/97
USS Defiance (PG-95)
EN-2 Norman L. Coy, 12/31/97
SN Elvis L. Franklin, 05/14/98
ENS Joseph W. Julius, 10/22/97
QM-1 Thomas B. Kief, 01/01/98
LT John J. Kieley, 11/24/97
LT John G. Kost, 10/06/97
LTJG Robert A. LaChance, 10/22/97
EM-1 Valentin Monsale, 12/31/97
ETN-2 James R. Moxon, 01/01/98
FTGSN Gary Paramore, 04/04/98
EMFN Dale A. Westby, 10/29/97
USS Douglas (PG-100)
LT. Lawrence C. Dearth, 08/11/97
ETR-2 David L. Eddy, 08/15/97
ENC Douglas S. Fay, 09/06/97
YN-1 Roger D. Feltman, 08/29/97
SK-1 Jason E. Harran, 09/03/97
SA Tim E. Jensen, 05/30/98
GMG-3 Peter A. Lonnevik, 09/29/97
BMCS Robert L. Maples, 04/08/98

Patrol Gunboat Association

RM-3 Daniel L. Martucci, 09/13/97
Anthony A. Molinaro, 04/20/98
ENS Clemence J. Rachel, 08/28/97
LT Thomas G. Russel, 09/11/97
LTJG Douglas A. Smartt, 09/10/97
EN-3 Samuel W. Sumrall, 01/18/98
SN Jerry M. Thompson, 12/05/97
OS-2 Gordon Zernich, 10/06/97
USS Gallup (PG-85)
EN-1 Eliot H. Butterfield, 09/01/97
LT. Paul E. Carr, 02/10/98
BM-1 Norman L. Eskridge, 09/06/97
LTJG Jack Fischer, 09/11/97
Richard J. Hayes, 07/29/97
EM-1 Garne O. Healey, 12/05/97
YN-1 Randy Knight, 01/05/98
LTJG John M. Larson, 10/10/97
YN-2 Mark J. McGahan, 01/21/98
IC-3 Jim O. McGranahan, 04/16/98
ENC Melvin Moon, 03/30/98
Servando Pardo, 10/07/97
Thomas H. Picotte, 12/25/97
GMG-3 Roger L. Smith, 11/12/97
LT William T. Spane, 08/09/97
Robert C. Terry, 01/12/98
USS Grand Rapids (PG-98)
YN-1 Robert A. Allaire, //
Andrew A. Armstrong, 04/07/98
ENS Larry Ashim, 04/07/98
SA Michael J. Bouslog, 09/25/97
LTJG Hugh N. Dinwiddie, 11/23/97
IC-2 Jim Dopp, 01/13/98
EN-2 Thomas J. Dunn, 10/07/97
GMGSA Donald W. Eitner, 10/30/97
HM-2 John D. Faulls, 06/02/97
RM-2 Edward J. Fauss, 11/05/97
SK-2 Francisco S. Fillalan, 09/05/97
LTJG Bill Funk, 11/28/97
LT Bruce E. Holdt, 11/24/97
FTG-1 Dennis E. Ingraham, 03/01/98
Richard S. Lamonte, 09/14/97
W. James Legates, //
SK-2 Terry Manning, 04/08/98
EM-2 Phillip Mohler, 04/07/98
OS-3 David D. Pickel, 09/14/97
GMG-1 Eugene Randall, 09/16/97
LT Gordon H. Rheinstrom, 08/11/97
Roy W. Russell, 10/06/97
LTJG Lloyd Swift, 09/11/97
FTGSA Gene Thompson, 12/05/97
LT Charles F. Votava, 08/10/97
EM-1 Charles Wells, 04/08/98
USS Green Bay (PG-101)
ENC Frank W. Collyer, 09/05/97
YN-2 Frank B. Dunn, 03/19/98
LT Morris C. Foote, 03/31/98
GMG-2 David F. Griffith, 01/18/98
LT Thomas O. Kerley, 10/06/97
FTG-1 Bill Lydon, 06/12/97
BMC Charles R. Moran, 08/07/97
FTGC Frank Phelps, 05/20/98
Michael Riddlespurger, 08/31/97
MS-2 Eddy W. Spencer, 01/30/98
SN John Torek, 03/30/98
BM-3 Stan Zalinka, 02/22/98
USS Marathon (PG-89)
ENC Jerry L. Larkin, 10/17/97
LTJG Douglas R. Bower, 03/13/98
Albert J. Butler, 03/30/98
BMCS Eugene F. Dixon, 11/27/97
EN-2 Jewel T. Etheridge, 11/26/97
LT Jeffrey A. Finley, 12/23/97
SN Bruce G. Goertzen, 12/30/97
ET-1 Bruce T. Gugler, 11/24/97
GMG-2 Nollan L. Harwood, 01/10/98
Thomas Hayden, 07/22/97

LTJG Robert M. Hinton, 04/04/98
LTJG William Idsinga, 11/08/97
RM-3 Jerome M. Jedynek, 11/27/97
LCDR Carl F. Kauffman, 11/24/97
SN David L. Luth, 12/29/97
J. L. MacMichael, 10/01/97
Leonard Pecotte, 10/30/97
FTGC Frank Phelps, 05/20/98
GMG-1 Donald Pommerer, 11/26/97
SN Lenny L. Revoir, 11/24/97
GMG-3 Mike Searcy, 04/04/98
RD-2 Steven K. Sears, 11/25/97
LTJG Dennis A. Slocumb, 11/24/97
Wayne Swayngim, 12/31/97
RM-2 John G. Thayer, 10/06/97
GMG-1 Oran F. Treat, 11/24/97
LT Larry W. Waterman, 10/21/97
ENS Linton Wells, 10/06/97
LTJG James W. White, 04/12/98
QMC Glenn D. Witting, 05/20/98
LTJG Alfred E. Yudes, 01/29/98
YN-3 Salvador Zubia, 03/20/98
USS Ready (PG-87)
EN-2 Walter F. Aldridge, 09/06/97
QM-1 Daniel Barrs, 08/25/97
MSSN Charles Borowsky, 11/30/97
EN-1 Hunter H. Boyce, 09/28/97
GMG-1 Robert W. Buttice, 11/08/97
FTG-2 Courtney L. Cain, 09/30/97
LT Rex A. Downing, 07/24/97
LT Andrew C. Durham, 12/23/97
EN-1 Lloyd M. Dykes, 12/14/97
EN-2 Larry D. Escamilla, 08/18/97
ENC Monte L. Flack, 08/18/97
LTJG Warren L. Foy, 12/22/97
EN-1 William E. Frerich, 07/31/97
QMC Charles L. Gould, 09/07/97
GMG-2 Bruce F. Graham, 04/07/98
EM-2 Paul V. Ingram, 11/27/97
ENC Warren T. Jones, 12/14/97
William W. King, 12/29/97
Anthony L. Koza, 07/21/97
BMC Robert D. Krell, 04/13/98
SN Mark J. Lacy, 08/05/97
FTGSN Craig M. Landin, 09/14/97
LT Peter D. Leibundguth, 07/31/97
IC-3 James E. Letellier, 08/21/97
ENS Robert J. Mason, 09/03/97
YNSN Robert A. McElney, 12/23/97
LT. Fred H. Naeve, 09/01/97
FTG-1 Terrence L. Pankowski, 12/14/97
QMC Joseph A. Patton, 09/12/97
LT Joe Perrotta, 08/04/97
LCDR David B. Robinson, 09/05/97
SN Jesse B. Sellers, 12/23/97
LT Paul T. Souval, 11/10/97
LTJG David Arthur Spriggs, 07/07/97
ENC Frank G. Struse, 07/17/97
BM-1 Richard NMN Urban, 08/08/97
LT Edward M. Vacin, 07/24/97
Paul V. Yockey, 07/22/97
USS Surprise (PG-97)
ENC James L. Brotemarkle, 05/16/98
Richard C. Eriksson, 08/12/97
Paul T. Fortino, 05/16/98
LTJG Daniel J. Harmon, 05/31/98
SN Richard W. Ranson, 08/13/97
ENC Wesley L. Ronk, 05/20/98
LT William Shiffer, 10/06/97
BM Bobby Strozier, 05/12/98
ENS James W. Tufts, 05/16/98
USS Tacoma (PG-92)
RM-2 Kenneth L. Barnett, 09/04/97
Michael B. Browning, 03/20/98
FTG-3 James M. Bumbarger, 12/22/97
Fred Carino, 04/09/98
FA David G. Clyde, 08/17/97

LTJG Bruce D. Copper, 08/14/97
SA Terrence L. Eccleston, 07/30/97
ENS Victor A. Edelmann, 08/13/97
LT Lawrence K. Ewan, 08/12/97
ENS Wayne K. Frey, 08/21/97
LT Gary R. Henry, 08/14/97
ENS Thomas D. Holman, 08/13/97
FTG-1 Larry R. Isaacson, 12/22/97
SK-2 James R. Killingsworth, 05/28/98
Donald E. Koester, 12/29/97
Ted Koopman, 08/17/97
LT Royal S. Magnus, 08/20/97
LTJG Randall K. Maroney, 09/03/97
LTJG George Marvin, 08/21/97
ET-1 Albert L. Minzer, 09/09/97
ENS Comer C. Morrison, 08/19/97
GMG-1 Karl O. Morton, 08/25/97
EN-3 Michael T. Nail, 08/16/97
MS-2 Timoteo O. Noveno, 08/20/97
QMC Joseph A. Patton, 09/12/97
EM-2 Jim J. Paxton, 08/16/97
EN-3 Jon W. Pernell, 08/16/97
Steve M. Perry, 08/16/97
SN Gary D. Plum, 08/17/97
Kevin M. Pryor, 01/13/98
GMG-1 Ronald K. Richie, 12/22/97
GMGSN John M. Sapp, 11/11/97
SN Jack H. Sawdye, 09/07/97
OS-2 Terrance L. Schachterle, 12/24/97
LTJG Larry C. Stoddard, 08/16/97
SN Joseph A. Tammariello, 08/16/97
ENC Terry M. Tanner, 08/26/97
YN-1 Larry E. Tatman, 08/14/97
MS-1 Ruben F. D. Thomas, 08/28/97
FA Joseph A. Traver, 09/29/97
Ray Wicker, 01/10/98
James R. Williams, 09/12/97
USS Welch (PG-93)
LTJG Daniel R. Bowler, 05/29/98
EN-2 Gerald Chiusano, 09/03/97
ENC Orville W. Clemmons, 04/09/98
David W. Davis, 12/22/97
EN-3 Harry Dunham, 03/31/98
RMSN Bill Frost, 05/24/98
LT. Francis P. Grause, 08/19/97
RM-2 Dale W. Harrington, 08/06/97
FTC John R. Kemmerer, 03/16/98
Paul R. Lumadue, 05/11/98
Robert Nolan, 03/26/98
John L. Peterson, 09/15/97
SK-1 John Pritzkau, 04/24/98
EM-3 Sanford C. Schultz, 01/02/98
William B. Smith, 01/08/98
RD-2 Michael P. Verkest, 09/15/97
EN-1 Charles Wells, 04/08/98
Coastal Squadron Three
LTJG Garry Karsner, 09/10/97
RMC John F. Butler, 08/13/97
LTJG David B. Donaldson, 08/11/97
RMSN Bill Frost, 05/24/98
CAPT. Charles F. Horne, 01/23/98
LCDR Jerold F. Skaggs, 08/14/97
CWO-2 Billy F. Walden, 07/30/97
HMC Leroy R. Ward, 04/20/98
Coastal River Division Twenty One
LCDR James R. Johnston, 11/03/97
Patrol Division Twenty One
HM-2 John D. Faulls, 06/02/97
USS Graham County (AGP-1176)
EN-3 Carmine Baccari, 08/04/97
RMSN Robert A. Gede, 10/08/97
GMGSN Albert Guzzo, 08/03/97
LCDR Harry G. Henderson, 08/13/97
ETN-3 Timothy C. Johnson, 07/30/97
LCDR Peter L. McCammon, 08/29/97
Richard F. Sherman, 01/28/98

Patrol Gunboat Association

REMEMBER TINIAN...

I received the following note from Paul McGurgan (Crockett) regarding the island of Tinian. It was in the Honolulu HI paper in April, 1998.

The first major Hotel / Casino in the Northern Mariana Islands will open to the public tomorrow on the Island of Tinian. Officials expect legal gambling to boost tourism and contribute to the commonwealth's economy.

For those of you that were on the East Coast, the Guam based PG's used to do Trust Territory Patrol Inspections (TTPI's) of the Mariana's Islands. These inspections included Hospital Corpsman doing medical checkups on the local natives and making certain that all was well on the islands. Many of us thought that we were there to make sure that the natives hadn't eaten the Peace Corps volunteers. Paul is correct, it sure doesn't sound like the same place.

SGT SLOVER

Dear America:

I am writing this letter to extend thanks to all the American people who still, despite the recent headlines undermining the ethics and morality of the military, understand that our jobs and way of life are necessary to preserve the "American" way of life. I once thought that "America" viewed us as most media portrays us; immoral, unethical, and uncivilized. My recent travels led me to conclude that the opposite is true. You, the American people, that honor and respect what we do, deserve a public "thank you."

Just a few weeks ago, a tragedy embedded itself in the tall evergreen forests at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, LA. As a tank slowly slalomed through the trees after sunset on January 14, 1998, the tank commander fell victim to the inherent danger of the military. SGT(P) Donald Wayne Slover passed away that night as he was guiding his tank through the thickest of trees, fog, and rain. The tank's edge clipped and uprooted a tree, which sent it crashing to the ground. The medics, arriving on site only minutes later, felt SGT(P) Slover's last pulse.

As one of two military escorts, I was required to accompany the remains from the training area to the burial site, ensuring the proper and unimpaired delivery to the next of kin. The obligation required a two day journey from Fort Hood, TX, to Williamsburg, KY, via Fort Polk, LA. Loading, unloading, and transportation of the remains required our physical presence. This particular trip entailed a three hour van ride, a connecting flight in Atlanta in route to Knoxville, and a 1 hour drive to Williamsburg, KY.

Upon boarding our initial flight out of Houston we informed the flight attendant of our duties. After explaining that it was necessary for us to depart the plane first upon landing (so as not to delay the cargo personnel unloading the casket), two gentlemen offered their seats in the first row of the plane for our last row seats. This gesture left me speechless. I'm not so sure they even knew our purpose for having to be first off the plane, but with no questions immediately sacrificed their front row seats.

After arriving in Atlanta, we were escorted by airport personnel off the plane and down to the tarmac. Standing in our dress green uniforms, we watched as

the airline employees carefully unloaded the casket onto the cargo truck. The truck drove off to the departing gate and we made our way back inside the terminal. We met the cargo truck at the departure gate and again were escorted down to the tarmac to supervise the loading of our final flight. Following the loading, we turned and headed back to the terminal. As we made that walk, I noticed that we were being watched by the crowd awaiting the outbound flight. Not thinking much about it at the time, I scurried out of the cold and awaited the boarding call.

We boarded the plane and again informed the flight attendant of our duties and departure requirements. The flight was booked, every seat filled, and she told us that she would make an announcement upon landing that we were to exit the plane first. Having been on full flights before, I was for certain that this announcement would be ignored. Passengers are normally elbow deep in the overhead compartments as soon as the wheels touch the ground. I was 100% positive I would be the last person off that flight. But I took my seat in the back of the plane, my partner 10 rows in front, and with all of my military skills tried to devise a plan that could project me to the front of that plane upon landing. I concluded that even generals would have a rough time planning such an operation.

As the plane touched down in Knoxville, the flight attendant gave the standard "keep your seat-belts fastened until the captain turns off the seat-belt sign" announcement. She then led into the fact that two military escorts were on-board and that everyone must remain in their seats until we departed the plane. The plane parked and to my astonishment, not a soul moved. I'd never witnessed such absolute silence in my life. Many of the passengers turned their heads to the rear of the plane but not a sound was made as myself and the other escort donned our jackets, grabbed our bags, and headed down the aisle. I realized then that all eyes were on us. As we neared the exit an older gentleman leaned toward us and broke the silence with something I will never forget, "God bless you both," he said. I am, sir, most truly blessed. I have been afforded the opportunity to work alongside some of the greatest sons and daughters of our nation. We know and understand that each day presents the possibility of injury and or death and we take all precautions to prevent them. But we sacrifice that possibility because you depend on us. We train through the roughest of conditions, with minimum sleep and limited resources, anywhere at anytime, to ensure we are always ready. We, sir, are most honored that you entrust us to defend your country.

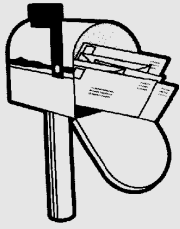
So I'm writing this letter to say thanks. Thank you Delta Airlines, thank you gentlemen for your seats, thank you sir for your blessings, and thank you America for your support. You see, we as soldiers don't expect you to understand the ways in which we live, train, and fight; we just ask for a Thank You from time to time. A little appreciation from the people we're defending weighs more than a chest full of awards and medals.

SGT(P) Donald Wayne Slover gave his life training to defend the very code of morality and ethics he exemplified and believed in. SGT(P) Slover believed in the Army and his country. I worked alongside SGT(P) Slover for over a year. He was good at his job and he loved it. He never complained and always did what was asked of him. SGT(P) Slover always maintained the courage of his convictions. I hope he lied to rest knowing he was appreciated. If not, we failed as a nation and we owe it to him.

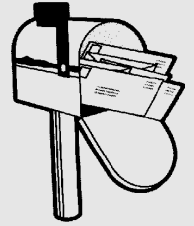
SGT(P) Slover...thank you! You will be missed!

Daniel Ashley
1-10 Cavalry
READY AND FORWARD

Patrol Gunboat Association



FROM THE MAILBAG



On this page, I want to print some of the comments that I have received from shipmates who either call or write to me. Due to space restrictions, I cannot include all of these comments. I will include those for which I have space in the current publishing period.

- ☐ **From Shipmate Lewis Volk {PG-86}**: I almost didn't chose to go this year, but with my wife and daughters prodding, I changed my mind. I will truly be looking forward to the reunion and meeting with many of my old shipmates.
- ☐ **From Shipmate Fred Carino {PG-92}**: I relished the "McHale's Navy" aspect of gunboat duty, especially our unusual underway uniform of cut-off dungarees and shower shoes. As a fresh-caught Ensign, I suppose I was retrained for life....
- ☐ **From Shipmate David L. Wheeler {PG-90}**: Currently, Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Hospital Guam. for all you Guam based PGmates, eat your hearts out! Would love to hear from any of you.
- ☐ **From Shipmate Larry Ashim {PG-98}**: Reading the entries in the guestbook brought back a flood of memories of three good years and lots of wonderful people.
- ☐ **From Shipmate Paul Bennett {PG-88}**: Commanding Crockett was the third best thing that ever happened to me. The first was my wife, Mary and the second was the birth of my son Dan, currently an Ensign on board USS Harry W. Hill (DD-986).
- ☐ **From Doug Faulls {PG-98}**: FINALLY -- a reunion for PG shipmates! Long overdue. Of all my tours and accomplishments during my Naval career, my tour aboard Grand Rapids while she was forward deployed to Naples Italy in the mid to late 70's was my finest. I have never served with finer officers or men.
- ☐ **From George Doktor, USS Rowan and USS Canberra Reunion Associations**: Congratulations of your first reunion... The first Keg is on me. (From the editor; thanks George, see you in Framingham, I'll bring the Acey Ducey Board, hope you have been practicing).
- ☐ **From Shipmate Howard Wick {PG-88}**: The last time we were at Tinian, we were lucky to get out with our hides still in tact. Didn't one of our crew try to get in bed with the governor's daughter.

1998 50/50 DRAWING

In every newsletter that I send out, I include twelve 50 - 50 ticket stubs for those that want to participate in the 50 - 50 drawing that will be held following the Saturday Night Banquet. So far the results have been good. I have received \$516.00 as of 1 June, 1998. This means that as of that date, the drawing will be for \$238.00 for the lucky winner. The winner need not be present to win.

The remaining \$258.00 will be used to help cover some of the expenses for the hospitality room and entertainment for the buffet and banquet dinners. Tickets will continue to be available until shortly before the banquet dinner. At \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00, you can help to **SUPPORT A GROWING REUNION ASSOCIATION**. You can purchase additional 50 - 50 tickets by sending me a check or money order for the desired number along with sufficient address labels for me to place on them. Make your check or money order payable to the Patrol Gunboat Reunion Association. Remember, the winners need not be present at the drawing.

"ROOM UPGRADE"

On 01 June, 1998 Susan Mitchell at Armed Forces Reunions INC held a drawing for the free room upgrade from those reservations received by that date. The winner was Lewis A. Volk, a former USS ANTELOPE (PG-86) crewmember. Lewis will have his room upgraded to a suite at no additional charge.

The Supreme Commander

Following are names of **Patrol Gunboat Shipmates** that have met the Supreme Commander. As this information is made available, I will include it in the following newsletter.

Shipmate:	Ship:	Departed
Edgar Horst	USS Canon	1974
Arnold Goplan	USS Marathon	08/93
Louis Sessa	USS Crockett	12/90