

SCUTTLEBUTT

A Quarterly Newsletter

April 2013



Olaf H Emblem AM 1/c



Olaf with his Mom, sister & nephew.

We received an e-mail from Eric Emblem who sent these pictures of his Dad, one taken in Hawaii and the other when he came home and was awarded his Purple Heart.

In the book “The Men of the Gambier Bay” several stories are written about Olaf which were given to the author by his good friend Tony Potochniak.

Eric is interested in supporting the work of the USS Gambier Bay/VC-10 Association to keep the memory alive. He is hoping to make it to this years reunion in Tucson.

If you have any stories about his Dad you can e-mail him at emblem@gmail.com.

President's Corner

Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing everyone in Tucson, Arizona on October 23-27, 2013! Our reunion committee has some great things planned for us. If you are interested in participating on the committee, please contact Marlene Hughes.

We will have a lot of business to conduct this year during our reunion. In addition to the yearly Board meeting, the Association will have its bi-annual membership meeting. The agenda will include the election of our 2013-2015 officers and governors. If you are interested in serving on our Board, please contact me or our Vice President, Chris Stammen (cstammen@embarqmail.com). We will pass along your name to our nominating committee who then will contact you regarding your interest. Once a slate of officers and governors has been determined, the nominating committee will present it at the Board meeting and then at the Membership meeting for your vote/approval. Just a reminder to vote on any Association business your membership must be current!

Another item on the agenda will be our 2014 reunion, which is the 70th anniversary of the sinking of the USS Gambier Bay. Our reunion committee is busy working on location sites and details. The destination of this historical reunion will be announced at our 2013 Membership meeting. (The site has been decided-it will be in San Diego-now we are working out the details)

We still have in stock the NRA Life of Duty DVD featuring Norm St. Germain and Fred Grabos. If you are interested in a copy or need more copies to give to your family and friends, please see the order form inside.

Remember to check out all of our items in our ship store. We have some fabulous memorabilia items in stock such as, mugs, mouse pads, hats, lapel pins, note cards, shirts for him and remember for our ladies we have available (by special order) the USS Gambier Bay BLING shirt, and we have the Freedom's Cost lithograph by Richard Moore.

For those of you who have been searching for a copy of The Men of the USS Gambier Bay Hardcover, we now have them back in stock! We are currently researching the possibility of getting the books republished.

Please see the ship store order form inside if you are interested in purchasing any merchandise.

All proceeds from the sale of merchandise benefits the Association in keeping the honor and memory alive of all those who served on the USS Gambier Bay. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or any one of our Board members.

Paula LaRocco Grond

SCUTTLEBUTT PUBLICATION EMAIL OPTION

The Association is offering you the option of having your Scuttlebutt newsletter **emailed directly to you**. This feature will allow you to receive your publication in a more efficient and timely manner. The email option will help the Association to also “go green” and it will be more cost-effective for our finances.

If you would like to receive your Scuttlebutt newsletter via email, please send your request to Marlene at mahhome@cox.net(that way she will have your current email address).

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS - SCUTTLEBUTT DONATIONS

Lifetime membership for survivors and widows is offered at no charge. As many of you know our membership application fees and our Scuttlebutt donations help tremendously with all the costs associated with the publication.

We would love to see our many, many second & third generation family members become part of the USS Gambier membership! Please help us support not only the publication of the Scuttlebutt but the Association as well by sending in your membership application today! \$15 or \$100 Lifetime.

SHIP'S STORE

Please check out all of our fabulous USS Gambier Bay merchandise and memorabilia in our ship's store. All merchandise prices include the shipping cost. We now have in stock a limited number of The Men of the USS Gambier Bay books, as well as The Last Tin Can Sailor book, note cards, computer mouse pads, I Love the Men of the USS Gambier Bay button pins, Life of Duty (NRA documentary DVD), and copies of the Freedom's Cost lithograph. Plus, our newest item - - which is just for the ladies the **USS Gambier Bay black BLING shirt**.

If you are interested in your very own women's USS Gambier Bay BLING shirt,
please see the order form (and photo) inside.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NEEDED TO CONTINUE OUR ASSOCIATION AND PUBLICATION. PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN!!

SURVIVORS DO NOT OWE DUES

THE DUES ARE \$15.00 ANNUALLY OR \$100.00 FOR A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP.

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE OF THE NUMBERED OPTIONS BELOW.

1. ENCLOSED IS \$15.00 FOR A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE SCUTTLEBUTT.
2. ENCLOSED IS \$100.00 FOR A LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP.
3. I CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY FOR A SUBSCRIPTION AT THIS TIME. PLEASE KEEP ME ON THE MAILING LIST.
4. YOUR SHIPMATE OR SQUADRON MATE HAS PASSED AWAY. PLEASE KEEP ME ON THE MAILING LIST.
5. PLEASE REMOVE MY NAME FROM YOUR MAILING LIST.
6. PLEASE *E-MAIL THE SCUTTLEBUTT TO ME (INCLUDE E-MAIL BELOW) TO SAVE \$\$*

NAME _____ \$ _____ CK# _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

ST _____ ZIP _____ PHONE# _____ FAX# _____

RANK/RATE _____ DIV _____ E-MAIL _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

PLEASE SEND TO:

MARLENE HUGHES, TREASURER
USS GAMBIER BAY/VC-10 ASSOCIATION
2228 E GREENLEE RD
TUCSON, AZ 85719-2012

ANY ADDITIONAL MONEY WILL BE CONSIDERED A DONATION AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!!



In Memoriam

Shipmates who have crossed the Bar

Walter (Duke) Leonard Stowe Passed away on February 22, 2013



Services were held on March 5, 2013 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL.

There was no obituary.

Pictured to the left is Duke and his wife Linda. His nephew John Long let us know of his passing.

Rest in Peace.

Morris Montgomery April 28, 1918- March 7, 2013

Montgomery, Morris "Monty" Lt. Cmdr, [US Navy](#) (Ret) CHULA VISTA



Born in Houston, Texas in 1918, Morris was adopted at birth by Mattie and Charles Montgomery. Morris joined the Merchant Marine at age 15, and then the Navy at age 17. In 1941, Monty married Maybell Leacy Elizabeth Montgomery. They shared the happiest of marriages, and would be parted only by death 65 years later. In WWII, Monty survived the sinking of carrier USS Gambier Bay in the Battle Off Samar. Later, as a pioneer in helicopter rescue, he saved the lives of many downed American pilots in the waters off Korea. Monty was commissioned an officer in 1960, and retired from the Navy in 1970 after 35 years of service.

Monty was a proud member of the USS Gambier Bay/VC-10 Association. Monty was pre-deceased by his wife Leacy, and is survived by his only child Elizabeth; her children Brian (Jocelyn) and Shannon (John) and her daughter Leacy -- Monty's great-grandchild; second wife Helene and family.

Services will be held at the Little Chapel of the Roses at Glen Abbey Mortuary, 3838 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA 91902, 619-498-4600. Visitation is 5-9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12. Funeral service at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 13, reception following.

www. dignitymemorial.com /glen-abbey-mortuary.

*(I was very fond of Morris since he held my uncle who was fatally wounded until he died on October 26, 1944. I was unable to attend his funeral but sent a eulogy to be read at the service. My volunteering to help the association is due to Morris and my Uncle.)
God Bless and Rest in Peace.*

In Memoriam

John Crawford

June 7, 1925-April 8, 2013

John Alyn Crawford, age 87, formally of Fairfield passed away April 8, 2013 at Solon Care Center, Solon, Iowa.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 am, Friday, April 12, 2013 at Behner Funeral Home, Fairfield, Iowa with Pastor Stacy Grau officiating. Burial with military rites will be at Evergreen Cemetery, Fairfield, Iowa.

Visitation for family and friends will be 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Thursday, April 11 at Behner Funeral Home.

Memorials can be made to 1st Lutheran Church, University of Iowa Foundation or Mercy Hospital Foundation. Cards and Memorials can be sent to Phil Lundquist, 910 Elizabeth Court, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858.

John Crawford was born June 7, 1925, the son of Byron C. Crawford and Mabel Elizabeth Lundquist Crawford in Fairfield, Iowa.



John proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946. He attended Signal School in San Diego, before being transferred as a signalman to Pearl Harbor, to serve on the USS Gambier Bay. The USS Gambier Bay was deployed in the South Pacific. In 1944, John's ship and four other U.S. Ships met up with the Japanese Fleet in Laite Gulf. The five U.S. Ships were sunk within two hours, leaving 3000 men in the water. They floated for 45 hours before being rescued. John served the rest of his Navy time in Bremerton, Washington.

Upon returning to Iowa, John attended the University of Iowa, graduating in 1950 with a Bachelor of Science degree. After graduation, he lived in Chicago nine years where he was employed by Chicago Title and Trust, as well as Advanced Mortgage Corporation.

He returned to Iowa City in 1960 to take a position as an accountant in the University of Iowa Business Office. He retired from there in 1988.

John's philanthropic nature was well known to his family, friends and the community. He supported Mercy Hospital Foundation, establishing the Crawford Cancer Teaching Conference, which meets weekly and helps to assist oncologists with cancer treatment decisions. He has also been a great supporter and friend to the University of Iowa Foundation, the Iowa City Public Library, and the Lutheran Church in Fairfield, Iowa. John is survived by many cousins, nieces and nephews, a sister-in-law: Mrs. Joyce Cathey of Davenport, IA and many close friends.

John was predeceased by his parents and Mr. and Mrs. Louis J Schmitt from Nichols, Iowa.



Survivors at the 2012 Reunion in Milwaukee after the memorial svc.

In Memoriam

Bobbie Jean Runnels May 22,1931-December 19,2012



Bobbie Jean Runnels, 81, of Ocean Springs, MS passed away Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at her home.

Born May 22, 1931 in Magee, MS, Mrs. Runnels was the oldest daughter of Exvie and Alene Kennedy. She was a long time member of the First Baptist Church of Pascagoula, MS. Her greatest joys included her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, gardening, reading, sharing the harvest from her citrus trees, and hosting friends and family.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 51 years, Fred A. Runnels Sr.

She is survived by her children: Brenda Gulley of Pascagoula, MS, Fred Allen Runnels Jr. and his wife Kathy of Lorton, VA and Marie Harkey of Moss Point, MS; her sisters: Julia Jones of Mendenhall, MS and Charlie Nell Bashor of Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania; her grandchildren: Kimberly (Gulley) Estabrook and husband Reed of Pascagoula, MS, Kelley (Runnels) Schuerhoff and husband Todd of Alexandria, VA, Scott Runnels and wife Amanda of Alexandria, VA, and Kyle Runnels and wife Kaori of Tokyo, Japan; great-grandchildren: James Bailey and Julia Reed Estabrook; Noah Holden, Lara Elisabeth, and Cate Emmeline Schuerhoff; Helena Jane and Koyuki Runnels.

Additionally, she very much cherished the loving friendship of her neighbors and friends, whom she considered an extension of her family.

Visitation will be Saturday, December 22, 2012 from 5-6pm at O'Bryant-O'Keefe Funeral Home in Pascagoula. A celebration of Mrs. Runnels' life will begin at 6pm in the funeral home chapel.

Interment will be at Goodwater Baptist Church Cemetery in Magee, MS on Sunday, December 23, 2012 at 2pm.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.obryantokeefe.com

The family requests that individuals desiring to make a charitable donation in Bobbie's memory support the affected families of Newtown, Connecticut by contributing to the United Way of Western Connecticut, which has created a Sandy Hook School Support Fund. To enable the family to express their appreciation, please notify O'Byant-O'Keefe funeral home of donations.

For more information visit <https://newtown.uwwesternct.org/>. *(We were all glad to see Bobbie in 2010 in St St Louis-God Bless and Rest in Peace)*



Taffy 3 Monuments by the USS Midway in San Diego.

Board of Governors & Officers 2011-2013

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3. Marlene Hughes, Treasurer
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12. Mark Heintl, Governor
217 Eastview Dr
Coldwater, OH 45828-1506
Telephone: 419-678-8168
E-Mail: heintl_22@hotmail.com

In Appreciation

Thank you to all the names listed for your donation, buying from the ship's store, subscription or lifetime membership. All of this helps the association spread the word about that fateful day on October 25, 1944.

**Mrs Fred Keller
Jean Parrish
Jeanette Hall
Rudolph Biller
Thomas Buss
Nancy Shelsman Poncer
Susan Bagen
Herman Privette Sr.
Paula Grond
Marlene Hughes
Mark Richie
Barbara Tanaka**



Picture to the left is Herman Privette, Sr.

Susan Bagen took the picture while visiting Herman in CA>

Looking good Herman!!

SHIP'S STORE

WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN OUR INVENTORY:

PRINTS OF FREEDOM'S COST	\$55.00 w/shipping
LIFE OF DUTY (NRA documentary DVD) of Norm St Germain	\$10.00w/shipping
USS GAMBIER BAY Hats (12 in Navy)	\$25.00 w/shipping
USS GAMBIER BAY Pewter Lapel Pin (12)	\$8.00 w/shipping
USS GAMBIER BAY 2009 Button Pin (see below) (14)	\$2.00 w/shipping
USS GAMBIER BAY Mouse Pad (see below) (24)	\$10.00 w/shipping
USS GAMBIER BAY Luggage Tag (see below) (20)	\$7.00 w/shipping
USS GAMBIER BAY Coffee Mug (see below)	\$10.00 w/shipping
USS Gambier BAY Polo Shirt (see below) (5)	\$30.00 w/shipping

The polo shirts are embroidered and come in Men's & Ladies sizes S,M,L,XL-XXL is \$1.50 more Color is Navy Blue with Yellow Embroidery. These take couple of weeks to get in once ordered.



I Love the Men Of the Gambier Bay Button (37 left)

2 1/4 inches in circumference

\$3.00 each includes shipping

SHIP'S STORE CONTINUED:



I was able to order more of these t-shirts which are pre-shrunk. However they are charcoal color with the name of the ship & October 25, 1944, Battle of Leyte Gulf on the left sleeve.

Price is \$20 w/shipping

2- XL 2- Large left

New items in ship's store:



USS Gambier Bay Note Cards

These are blank note cards come w/envelopes.

They measure 5 1/2 X 4 1/4 inches.

Package of 12 for \$10.50 includes shipping

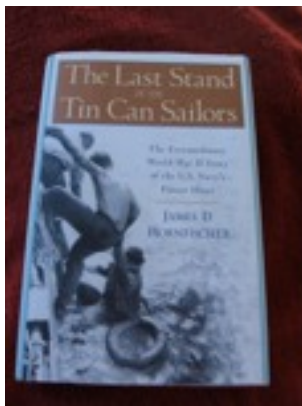
They feature "Freedom's Cost"

USS Gambier Bay Memo Pads

These memo pads have the name of the association along with our website name.

They measure 5 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches

Package of 5 for \$1.50 includes shipping



We have one last book of The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors- \$25 w/ shipping

We were able to get 19 hardback books of "The Men of the Gambier Bay" which have the crew list printed inside. They are new and wrapped.

\$40.00 w/shipping

Buy now because the cost of postage is going up!!

SHIP'S STORE CONTINUED:

Ladies, thanks to Paula we can order a USS Gambier Bay bling shirt. They come short sleeved with either a scoop neck or a crew neck.

\$35.00 includes shipping-sizes are small-med-large-x-large

**** 2x & 3x large will be **\$38.00w/shipping******



They have to be made to order so will take approximately 2 weeks.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Size _____ circle---scoop or crew neck

Please send orders w/check or money order for items in the ship store to

USS Gambier Bay/vc-10 Assoc. E-mail-mahhome@cox.net

c/o Marlene Hughes

520-326-0747

Treasurer

2228 E Greenlee Rd

Tucson, AZ 85719-2012

For those who are interested in a print of the "Final Hour" here is the information.

http://www.militaryissue.com/product_info.po?ID=18969

USS Gambier Bay (CVE-73) "The Final Hour"



Price is \$24.95 Plus Shipping of \$7.95

The website is www.militaryissue.com
check under Art>Air>Ships

2013 Reunion in Tucson

Hilton Tucson East Hotel

OCTOBER 23-27th CALL 1-800-445-8667 TO MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW.

Specify the Group code USSGB or USS Gamber Bay/VC-10 Association



Hilton Tucson East Hotel

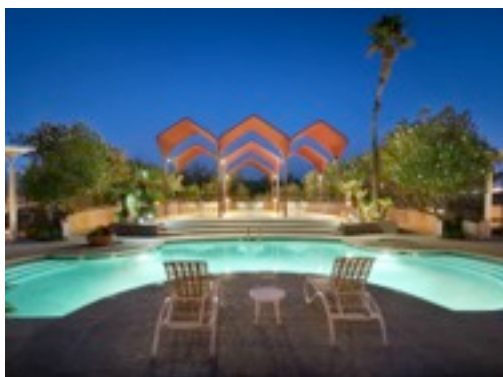
- Hilton Honors
- Casual dining at Vistas Bar & Grill
- Smoke Free Hotel
- Check in 3PM Check out 12PM
- Rates are good Oct 20-29th 2013

Guest Room Features



- Hilton Serenity Beds/2 queens or 1 king
- 232 rooms with free high speed WiFi internet, 32" TV, coffee maker, iron/ironing board, and hairdryer.
- All rooms on Executive Level-includes deluxe continental breakfast and Manager's Reception
- The rate for a standard room is \$89 & 13.10% + 2.00 bed tax=\$102.65

Shuttle Service



- Complimentary Shuttle service within 3 miles of hotel
- Complimentary Parking
- Located one mile to the Park Place Mall.
- Precor Fitness Pool & Center
- Complimentary Hospitality Room
- The cut-off date is September 23, 2013

Make your reservations early and you also can book on our own Hilton web page.
I will be sending the link via e-mail.

Shuttle Service

The Hotel is 13 miles from the airport. The hotel does not have a free shuttle however I found the cheapest and best shuttle service.



GROUP NAME: USS Gambier Bay/VC10 Association
ARRIVAL: October 22 – 27, 2013

After claiming your luggage at the lower level, please check in with Arizona Stagecoach located between Carousel's #4 & #5.

HOTEL: Hilton East
Payment type: SELF PAY
Airport Trans RATES: 1 person \$ 35 one way/\$ 59 round trip

Each additional person with same itinerary/traveling together on same van:
\$4 one way/ \$8 round trip

****EXCLUSIVE SERVICE**** No waiting/No stops-Direct Nonstop one way—Additional \$30 per van

We await your arrival and look forward to providing superior customer service, professional, courteous drivers and a friendly smile.

*Passenger(s) required to confirm pick up/departure from hotel, etc., day prior even if paid.
To confirm: (520) 889-1000 #1 >>>>> Unconfirmed pick up may not be scheduled.*

Drivers wait outside, in front, up to 7 minutes and do not knock or go into hotel lobby.
Excess wait time fee at \$10 + may be charged over 7 minutes.

Excess baggage fee for more than 2 checked bags: Minimum charge \$10 per bag(see rules on website www.azstagecoach.com)

Call 520-889-1000 #1, to make, change or cancel your airport reservation.

THEY ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER OR AMEX

Here is another option, I am renting a mini van and will be picking up a few people on Tues 10/22 in the afternoon. If you plan on coming in then just let me know your arrival time. I might be able to make another run on Wed 10/23. So please call me or e-mail to see if I can pick you up.

For those that want to rent a car please check out the airport website www.flytucsonairport.com

The website also has information on what airlines come to tucson and the non-stop destinations. If you fly to Phoenix, you can rent a car there but the travel time is at least 2 hours.

It would cost a party of four \$59 for the 1st person and \$8 x 3 (\$24) a piece for round trip or \$83.00 total (\$20.75 a person round trip) Add additional \$30 for exclusive service and it would be \$28.25 each.

****** TUCSON**** TUCSON**** TUCSON******



I will be sending out the registration form for the Tucson Reunion in the middle of July with the tours and food choices. You will have until SEPT 23RD to send in your registration and make your hotel reservations.

The plan is to have the welcome reception at my home on Wednesday, weather permitting

Please let me know if you need help with anything at all. Hotel reservations, car rentals, shuttle reservation or sightseeing information if you plan on staying in Tucson after the October 27th.

The average temperature in October is 86 degrees with a low of around 55, with low humidity and not much rain.

Check out www.visittucson.org for all kinds of information about Tucson.

- . Tucson is the 32nd largest city in the U.S.**
- . Elevation is 2,389 Ft.**
- . Tucson is surrounded by five mountain ranges; the Tucson, Santa Catalina, Rincon, Santa Rita, and the Tortolita mountain ranges**



80E 877 Saguaro with Sunset
Photo by Fred Hood © Metropolitan Tucson Convention & Visitors Bureau

Mail Call

Received from Mrs Fred Keller

12/28/2012

Dear Marlene,

This is to ask you to discontinue my Scuttlebutt Magazine. My husband Fred Keller loved everything about the Gambier Bay.

He never really got over the loss of the ship. He has been gone about 6 years-somewhere he still is loving his ship. This will be the last time I contact you. I will always remember the USS Gambier Bay.

Sincerely,

Mrs Fred Keller

(Mrs Keller sent a check for \$100 in memory of Fred and the Gambier Bay)

Received from Barbara Tanaka

4/9/2013

Dear Marlene,

I hope you still have a DVD available. The paperwork was lost in among others and just found.

Tucson sounds wonderful. This is my first winter back in Michigan. I haven't been warm for months!

Have a great summer. See you in October.

Barbara

(Sent you a DVD and you will love Tucson in October)

Received from Mark Richie (via e-mail)

3/18/13

Hi, my name is Mark Richie. My Dad was Chester M. Richie, a Gambier Bay Survivor. He's gone now but I am interested in a print of R.C. Moore's painting if it's something I can afford. (His Dad's rank was Seaman 2nd class)

4/11/13

Hi, Marlene. I am also interested in the DVD. Also do you have access to any more personal info on the survivors? I would like to know more about what my Dad's job was aboard ship and how long he was on board etc..... Thanks Mark

(I told Mark I would have to check with some of the survivors however he could ask for his personnel records from the Navy since he is a direct relative.)

4/14/18

Thanks so much Marlene. The check is for the print and DVD. I am looking forward to both.

God Bless

Mark

(The print and DVD have been sent and we are hoping you become a member of the Gambier Bay Family)

Received from Jean Parrish

1/6/2013

Please send me a USS Gambier bay hat in Navy \$25.00 the rest is for dues.

At present I have been put on oxygen, I think it is going to help me a lot.

Thank you

Jean Parrish

(Thank you for buying the hat and hope you are doing better on the oxygen)

**USS Gambier Bay/VC-10 Reunion
2013 in Tucson, Arizona**

Save the Date Oct 23-27th 2013

Come join the Gambier Bay Association Commemorate

The 69th anniversary of the sinking of the USS Gambier Bay

Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Let them be aware of the strong history your ship had in WWII.



The Latest Scoop from around the

“ Scuttlebutt”

Return to
Marlene Hughes
2228 E Greenlee Rd
Tucson, AZ 85719-2012
Address Service requested