

SCUTTLEBUTT

A Quarterly Newsletter

December 2014



AARON SHELSMAN



CLETE RING



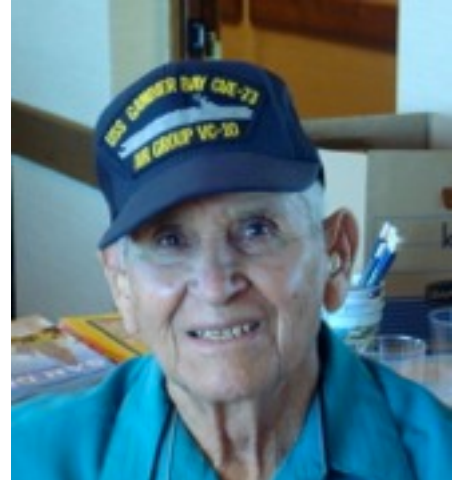
DARRELL BENNETT



FRED GRABOS



NORM ST GERMAIN



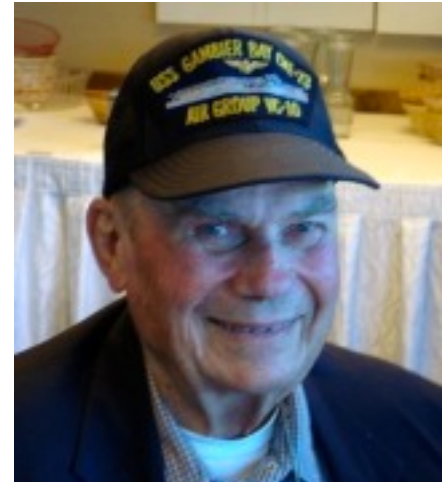
GEORGE FELIZ



DEAN MOEL



NORM LOATS



OWEN WHEELER

CROSSED THE BAR 10/28/14

Presidents Corner

Hello Gambier Bay Family!

I just wanted to thank everyone who **LIKE** and follow us on FACEBOOK, and for those of you who have visited our website and left comments. We have had quite a few new lifetime memberships because of our outreach of the website and FACEBOOK. If you would like to join the Association, please fill out the application inside and mail to Marlene. It is amazing how social media has helped us to locate and reconnect with survivors and new second and third generation family members, as well as to continue to remember and honor our sailors. We update our website regularly – www.ussgambierbay.org – and I am always asking for photos of survivors in their uniforms for our Sailors of the Gambier Bay page and photos of our survivors lives for the Lives of Our Sailors page (i.e.: family photos, work photos, wedding photos, etc.). Please send your photos to me at pk_grond@yahoo.com in a jpeg format. Also, be sure to check out our Survivor/Family Reflections pages are growing and multiplying tremendously! We have two full pages and a third page is underway. Our website is a team effort and I would like to thank and recognize those who have helped us develop this fabulous site - - Bob Cox for his contributions, Mr. Moore for allowing us to use the Freedom's Cost as our header page, Nicholas Grond for developing the website, and Mike Pyzdrowski for his continuous contributions and knowledge.

Taffy III 70th Anniversary Reunion in San Diego, California. **WOW**, what a fabulous event. Not only did we have 55 survivors represented (**Gambier Bay survivors in attendance were: Norm Loats, Fred Grabos, Clete Ring, Darrell Bennett, Owen Wheeler, Norm St. Germain, George Feliz, Aaron Shlesman, and Dean Moel**), we had family, friends, and the community of San Diego come to support us. The welcome reception was held poolside at the hotel on Wednesday and was attended by over 200 people. Thursday there was standing room only when the midshipmen were interviewing the survivors. On Friday there were close to 300 people attending Fort Rosecrans for a short service and the viewing of our memorials. Our dinner banquet had 400 attending and we had to stretch out into three rooms, the main banquet room, the atrium outside of the banquet room, and then the overflow area in the hospitality room. Our guest speakers were Dave Smith, CEO of San Diego Honor Flight Network, Captain Steven B. Shephard, Naval Air Forces Senior Intelligence Officer, and musical entertainment was provided by JP Hunten. The USS Midway was host to our memorial service on Saturday, **October 25, 2014**, and survivors, family, friends, and the community of San Diego attended to show their respect and support by coming out to honor the survivors of Taffy III, bringing the attendance close to 600. Our guest speaker was James Zobel, Archivist from the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation. Music was provided by young vocalist Sam Santiago. And, as a special honor of recognition to the survivors in attendance – Quilts of Valor presented them with a personalize handmade quilt. Please go to our Links page to check out this wonderful non-profit organization. Our special guest and speaker for the memorial service luncheon was our friend and dedicated supporter, James Hornfischer, author of The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors.

A special thanks to the reunion committee, Don (survivor) and Louise Kurtze representing the USS Fanshaw Bay, Chris and Matt Kennedy, representing the USS Kitkun Bay, Warren and Bridget Stirling, representing the USS Johnston/USS Hoel, JoAnn Sosa, representing the St. Lo, and Marlene, Jan and Bob Loomis, and myself, representing the USS Gambier Bay. The Association would like to acknowledge, thank, and recognize the media arts students from San Diego High School: Bill, Iran, and Erik, along with their instructor, Daren Sparks for donating their time to video tape the memorial service and pull together a most memorable DVD. If you would like to order a Taffy III memorial service DVD please fill out the enclosed order form and mail to Marlene. The cost per DVD is \$15. **SURVIVORS WILL BE PROVIDED A FREE COPY – PLEASE CONTACT MARLENE OR PAULA TO REQUEST YOUR COPY.**



Presidents Corner continued

We are scouting locations for our 2015 reunion so continue to check out our website and FACEBOOK for the announcement. During 2015 reunion we will hold our membership meeting and its time again to elect our officers and governors. If you are interested in a position, please let me know and I can forward your name onto our nominating committee members. We will have other business on the agenda and would like to get input from our membership – more info on those items as we get closer to the reunion.

This year we will be updating our merchandise in our Ships Store. We will be retiring a few items (Pewter lapel pin, luggage tags, 65th Anniversary button pin, note cards, and memo writing pads). We will be adding a few new items, the first being a personalize laser granite tile (see order form inside). We will have additional info on other new items in the next Scuttlebutt and on display at the reunion. We will still continue to offer the Freedom's Cost lithograph, Men of the Gambier Bay hardcover book, Life of Duty DVD (featuring Norm St. Germain and Fred Grabos), hats, mouse pads, Polo shirts, Women's Bling shirts, our framed Gambier Bay postage stamp, coffee mugs, and I Love the Men of the Gambier Bay button pin. Special order items will be The Last of the Tin Can Sailors book and some of our "new" merchandise.

As many of you know our Scuttlebutt is published quarterly and along with handling the ships store and being our Treasurer, Marlene has also been the Scuttlebutt editor. It is a tremendous task for just one person to pull together and we are looking for a volunteer who may be interested in taking over as editor. Please contact either Marlene or myself if you would like more information on how you can help.



< Norm St Germain & Paula Grond

> A wreath up at Fort Rosecrans donated by a local vet group. They donated for each ship.



> 55 quilts made by Quilts of Valor given to each of our Veterans.

If you would like a Quilt of Valor let Marlene know and she can arrange it. They are made for any Veteran.



An International Tribute to Those Who Did Not Return

Pictured below is Al (Chick/Frosty) Zuckerman, USS Gambier Bay Survivor, and Ms Mary Ann Ousyos, and employee at the Los Angeles Jewish Home where Chick resides. Chick was unable to make the reunion journey this year to San Diego but he wanted to honor, recognize, and remember all who did not make it home. Chick has arranged for the sign below (made by Mr. Marciano Jumaquio, also an employee at the Los Angeles Jewish Home, to be sent to Ms Dorothy Anselment (daughter of Mary Ann). Dorothy resides in the Philippines and she will take the sign to the statue of General MacArthur and take a photo. Then Chick has arranged with Dorothy to have her place the sign and a wreath of fresh into the ocean in the Philippines to honor, recognize, and remember all of our shipmates who did not make it back home.



PHOTOS FROM THE REUNION



<Our Memorial Service program

<Marlene tolling the Bell



^ USS Midway

Below is Fred Grabos



Up above is George Feliz & daughter Valerie

Below on left is Maureen Dugan & Lucille Gutzwiler



Below on right is Dean Moel & his sister Billie Schowengerdt



PHOTOS FROM THE REUNION



TO THE RIGHT SAM SANTIAGO IS SINGING GOD BLESS AMERICA AT THE MEMORIAL SERVICE. HE IS ONLY 12 YEARS OLD AND HAS SUCH A VOICE.

TO THE LEFT ARE THE SURVIVORS AFTER THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AND LUNCHEON.



<TO THE LEFT IS THE MEMORIAL WREATH DONATED BY SAN DIEGO INBOUND TOURS



TO THE RIGHT IS OUR OWN CLETE RING ACCEPTING HIS QUILT OF VALOR FROM ONE OF THE MIDSHIPMEN.



THE HONOR GUARD DOING THE FLAG FOLDING CEREMONY.



SHIRLEY TURNER AND OWEN WHEELER SHARING STORIES AFTER THE LUNCHEON

In Memoriam

Shipmates who have crossed the Bar



Clyde Gunsallus 4/16/1924- 7/21/14 S 1/c

Clyde gunsallus, age 90 passed away at Amery Regional Medical Center on July 21, after a brief hospital stay. He was born April 16, 1924 to Paul and Freda Gunsallus in Lake Lynn, PA. He joined the Navy at a young age and served in World War II. He was aboard the escort carrier USS Gambier Bay when it was sunk in the Battle of Leyte off the Phillipine Islands on October 25, 1944. He was among the 800 survivors who were resscued from the sea after spending over two days in the water. During this recuperation, he met a pretty young WAC named Winfred (Harrington) Gense from Ellsworth, WI who was serving her country at a military hospital in Colorado. They married in December, 1946 and were married nearly 50 years before Winniw preceded him in death in 1996. He was also preceded in death by his youngest daughter, Sue Bylander and two sisters- Lois D'Amore and Shirley Ellett.

In his younger years, Clyde was an avid fisherman and spent many a day fishing on Bass Lake, and other lakes "up north". He lived in the River Falls area for much of his life. He and Winnie has a small truck garden in the summer and were regular vendors at the River Falls Farmer's market for many years. He moved to Clear Lake, WI about 15 years ago. He loved to play blackjack (claimed he'd been playing since his Navy days) and made regular runs to the casinó at Turtle Lake to try his luck.

He is survived by his children: Dan (Beth)Gunsallus-Somerset, WI, Sheryl Brown (Dave Guise)-Hudson, WI, Shirley Schrantz-River Falls, Wi, and step-daughter Linda (Gense) Neuman of Pepin, WI. Also survived by 9 grandchildren- Paul (Amy) Gunnsallus, Cathy Gunsallus (Jeff Donnoan), Jenny Gunsallus, Jason (Liz) Brown, Nick Brown, Willy (Katie) Schrantz, Jessie Bylander, Andy Bylander and Tony Bylander, twelve great-grandchildren, and a sister Janet Allen.

Arrangements were handled by Cashman-Hill Funeral Home with visitation held on Thursday, July 24 from 4pm-6pm., with a brief memorial service following the visitation. Private interment at St Bridget's Cemetery in River Falls, WI.

(Rest in Peace Clyde)



Robert G. Kehlenbeck 4/5/1926- 7/4/2014 S 1/c

Robert was born on April 5, 1926 to Clarence and Jennise Kehlenbeck in Shelton, Conn.

He is survived by two of his five siblings, Janet and Tom; stepchildren, Kathy(Tom) Nowak, Michael(Maureen) Matusewic, Jeannie(John) Endrizzi, and Fred(Donna) and Dave (Linda) Matusewic: and grandchildren.

Robert joined the U. S. Navy in April of 1943, when he was 17. In 1944, he was on the USS Gambier Bay in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, off Samar in the Phillipines when it became the only American carrier to be sunk by enemy shellfire. Bob received the Purple Heart for his injuries. He often wore a WWII vet hat and would humbly, sadly share his memories of this battle. Bob was a patriot to the end, who died on the 4th of July.

After the war, he married Maria and had two girls, Yvonne and Linda. After their divorce. Bob lost contact with his girls. He spoke of the them the week before he died.

In the late 1970's, Bob put a personal ad in the newspaper and met Lorainne Ciatti Matusewic, who became his loving wife of 33 years until her death in 2012. He kept the original personal ad that had brought them together close to him until his death. Bob and Lori enjoyed their life and love very much. They lived in Florida and WI, he working as a security guard and truck driver and she as a nurse. When they retired, Bob and Lori travelled the U.S. with their cats in the campers they called Thumper "1" and Thumper "2". They brought a lot of laughs to people who knew them. Bob missed his Lori very much the past year and a half. He especially enjoyed reading mystery novels, watching the Detroit Tigers, and spending time with family. He was a thoughtful, caring man who kept a picture of his parents, Lori and the Gambier Bay on his buttetin board.

On a Navy's Facebook page, Bob's Grandson, Eric Matusewic, gave a tribute to Bob upon his death. In a fitting send off, more than 600 "shellbacks" wished Bob safe travel, citing this poem: "Recalled to Duty- The Enternal Voyage!" Bon Voyage to those who've set sail. We bid them farewell as we man the rail. Let us be joyous and let us not weep, for those who have now crossed over the deep. When a sailor's last roll call is made, his final embarking shant be delayed. So lower the colors, let them be furled, each time a sailor disembarks this world. ...And when he's weighed anchor the the last time, We 'll honor his memory so sublime. We'll all reminisce and hoist a brew in a toast of honor to the crew. Rest easy, warrior brother, we have the watch.
(Rest in Peace Bob)

A gravedite memorial with a veteran's send off was held in September at St Mary's Cemetery in Hurly.

In Memoriam continued



Darlene J. Petitt 6/20/1933-8/8/2014

Darlene June Petitt, the daughter of Walter and Carrie (Hagedon) Walstrom was born on June 20, 1933 on a farm near Royal, Iowa in Clay County. She was a graduate of the Greenville Rossi High School. Darlene worked as a secretary for 25 years for the Clay County Fair in Spencer, Iowa. On June 8, 1974, she was united in marriage to Grover "Bud" C. Petitt in Royal, Iowa and the couple made their home in Sheldon, Iowa.

Darlene was the Chamber Director for the Sheldon Chamber and Development Corp. for 10 years before she retired in 1991. She moved to Sanford Senior Care in Sheldon in the spring of 2014 where she passed away on August 8, 2014 reaching the age of 81 years, one month and 19 days.

While living near Royal she was an active member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and served as the organist and choir director for 23 years. Upon moving to Sheldon where she

became a member of the St Paul Lutheran Church, she also served as the churches organist and choir director for many years. She was a member of the Ladies Aid and was the contact person for the Ladies Work Group for many years. She also enjoyed singing.

Left to cherish her memory is her husband of 40 years, G.C. "Bud" Petitt; and his 4 sons and their spouses, Gary & Donna Petitt of Sheldon, IA; Ed & Rhonda Petitt of Boyden, IA; Scott & Natasha Petitt of Sutherland, IA; Keith & Tiffany Petitt of Sheldon, IA; 11 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, 2 sisters, Charlotte Peterson and Marjorie Frad both of Spencer IA, two sisters-in-law, Beverly Walstrom of Sioux City, IA and Eleanor McDuffy of Des Moines, IA; and a brother-in-law and his wife, Paul & Mitzi Petitt of Gillette, WY; also other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Vernard and Virgil Walstrom. The funeral was held on August 12, 2014 at St Paul Lutheran Church in Sheldon, IA with her final resting place in the St Paul Lutheran Cemetery.

(We all in the Gambier Bay Family will miss your sweet and smiling face at the reunions as well as your beautiful voice-RIP)



Arthur F. Jennings 1/18/924- 9/18/2014 AMM 1/c

Arthur F. Jennings, 90, of Rhinebeck, passed away September 18, 2014 at Whittier Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Center in Ghent, NY. Born on January 18, 1924 in Hudson, NY, he was the son of the late Fed H. and Sophie (Spath) Jennings.

Art graduated from Hudson High School in 1942. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII with the rank of Aviation Machinist's Mate 1/c as a turret gunner on the escort carrier USS Gambier Bay, in the Pacific. He was awarded 5 air medals, the Asiatic Pacific Ribbon (3 stars) the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, American Theater Ribbon, the Victory Ribbon, and the Good Conduct Medal, along with the Conspicuous Service Cross. After active service he served with the NY State National Guard.

Arthur retired from Niagara Mohawk as a chief tree trimmer with over 20 years of service. He was a life member of the Becraft Pumper Company #2 and a life member of the Hudson Elks

Lodge #787.

Art is survived by his sister, Elizabeth Keeler, a brother-in-law, Christopher J Groll, Sr., and his wife Ellen, two sisters-in-law, Margaret Groll and Mary Lou Groll, and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his first wife of 59 years, Elizabeth Groll Jennings, his second wife of 6 years, Patricia Kane Jennings, and a sister, Arlene Jennings Unson.

Services were held at the Mt Pleasant Church in Greenport, NY and the burial at the Mt Pleasant Cemetery.

(Rest in Peace Art)

Walter V. Vieweg 1934- October 7, 2013 (son of Capt. Vieweg)

Patricia J. Feldmeyer 2/23/1924- 3/23/2014 (2nd husband was Warren C. Feldmeyer)

Erwin Richard Kenyon crossed the bar December 2004

Irene Irwin Privette born in St Louis 2/4/1925, married to Herman W Privette Sr.

April 20, 1945, mother of Herman Jr, Dorian, Daryl, wife Betsy and sons,

Spencer 19 and Toby 15 lost her 15 year hard fought battle against

ALZ Sunday, August 30, 2014. *(Rest in Peace Irene)*



In Memoriam continued



Owen E. Wheeler 11/12/1920- 10/28/2014

LCDR Owen Edward “Wheels” Wheeler, US Navy, Ret., 93, of Columbia, died Tuesday, October 28, 2014. Born November 12, 1920, in Huntington, WV, he was a son of the late Owen and Irma Louise Hatten Wheeler. Owen served his country as U.S. Navy Pilot, enlisting soon after the start of WWII. Almost exactly 70 years ago, the ship on which he was serving, the escort carrier USS Gambier Bay, was hit by enemy fire during the Battle of Leyte Gulf. He jumped from the sinking ship into the Pacific Ocean, where he remained adrift with hundreds of other shipmates for almost two days. After his rescue, he joined a re-formed squadron and served the remainder of the war aboard the USS Fanshaw Bay. In 1945, Owen flew the official surrender papers of the Japanese Imperial Navy, North Pacific Fleet, from Mutsu Bay to Yokohama, Japan. In September 1947, he was aboard the USS Missouri, bringing President Truman home from the Inter-American Conference in Rio de Janeiro. Owen remained in the military, serving as a pilot in the U.S. Navy, until

1963, when he retired and settled in South Carolina, the birthplace of his wife, Bonnie Beamguard Wheeler. The Wheelers, who married in 1949, continued to call South Carolina “home” for the rest of their lives. They traveled extensively and appreciated the people, geography, and cuisines of every place they visited. Owen never wanted to visit the same place twice. His life-list of places visited includes more than 120 past and current countries of the globe. After his retirement from Champion International Paper (formerly U.S. Plywood), Owen volunteered at the Soup Cellar, preparing meals for the homeless, and at Meals on Wheels, delivering meals to home-bound clients until he was in his 90s and thereafter working to pack meals for delivery. He also volunteered for the Red Cross, working in the pharmacy at Moncrief Army Community Hospital on Fort Jackson. He continued to volunteer faithfully until his death. In addition to his regular volunteer work, Owen was active in his church, Incarnation Lutheran Church. At home, he loved to cook and to experiment in the kitchen. He was most proud of his service to his country, which manifested in many ways, from his career in the U.S. Navy to his commitment to his jobs, employers, and employees in civilian life, to his love of and devotion to his family, and his voluntary service to church and charity. Owen died shortly after returning from a military reunion in San Diego, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Leyte Gulf. There, he met many old friends and shared his personal stories with midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy. Owen died at home.

He is survived by his daughter, Jennifer A. Wheeler, of Vernon, CT, by Barry Chernoff, of Middletown, CT, and by his sister, Donna Jean Ball of Kenova, WV. Owen was preceded in death by his wife, Bonnie Beamguard Wheeler; and brothers, Frank and James Wheeler.

A memorial service for Owen was held on Friday, October 31st, at Incarnation Lutheran Church, with The Rev. Dr. Mary W. Anderson, The Rev. Dr. James C. Parham IV, and The Rev. Dr. David A. Donges officiating. Mr. Wheeler will be buried at Ft. Jackson National Cemetery with full military honors, during a private family service.

Memorials may be made to Incarnation Lutheran Church’s Memorial Fund, 3005 Devine St, Columbia, SC 29205; Meals on Wheels, c/o Senior Resources, 2817 Millwood Ave, Columbia, SC 29205; or to the Red Cross, 2751 Bull St, Columbia, SC 29202. Memories and condolences may be shared at ShivesFuneralHome.com.

(We enjoyed seeing Owen at the the Reunion since he had not been since 2007, he told me at the end of the luncheon on Saturday how happy and grateful he was to have made it to the Reunion. Rest in Peace Owen-you will be missed)



Stanley Lucien Wildes 6/5/1923 - 7/5/2013

Stanley Lucien Wildes, 90, of Naples, FL passed way peacefully on 7/5/2013 at Avow Hospice. Bron on 6/5/1923 in Kennebunk, ME to the late Fred H. and Lillian (Ladd) Wildes, Stan proudly served in the U.S. Navy during WWII as an aviation machinist, earning a purple and several prestigious medals and stars, for his bravery, good conduct and contributions. Upon his retirement as an educator in the aerospace industry, Stan relocated to Naples with his loving wife of 40 years, Nancy Patricia (Malin).

His hobbies included shipbuilding and geneology, and he served as President of his Home-owner’s Association for many years.

Stan was predeceased by his son, Spencer Wildes and stepson, Ken Smith.

He is survived by his beloved wife Nancy; children, Stan Wildes, Steve Wildes, Susan Clussen, Brad Wildes and Glenn Wildes; as well as many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

(Rest in Peace Stan)

In Memoriam continued

Emil (Joseph) Jarcik 1924 to 12/4/2014

Passed away peacefully at home at the age of 90. Born in Saginaw, Michigan on April 18. He joined the Navy during WWII and served aboard the U.S.S. Gambier Bay. After the war he settled in Marin County, and raised his family in Corte Madera. He was preceded in death by his dear wife Ruby and Grandson Wesley. Survived by his sister Esther Knoblich, sons Terry (Erlene), Blair (Judy) and daughter Dawn Goodman (Ron). Five grandchildren, Katie, Jay, Brent, Christopher and Dustin, three great grandchildren, Sean, Samuel and Emily. Joe was a great man and had a heart of gold. He will be deeply missed by his family and many friends. He was a long-time member of the Marin YMCA in the Cardiac Heart Members Program for 25 years. Memorial services will be held Thursday, December 4, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Tamalpais Mortuary Chapel, 2500 Fifth Avenue, San Rafael, CA. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice by the Bay, 17 East Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Larkspur, CA 94939 or Marin YMCA, 1500 Los Gamos Drive, San Rafael, CA, 94903.

(Rest in Peace Joe-)



G.C. "Bud" Petitt May 3, 1925 - December 20, 2014

Bud Petitt, age 89, of Sheldon, Iowa, who passed away on Saturday, December 20, 2014 at the Sanford Sheldon Senior Care in Sheldon, Iowa. His service will be at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, December 23, 2014 at the St Paul Lutheran Church in Sheldon with Rev. Craig Nissen officiating. Burial will be in the St Paul Lutheran Cemetery in Sheldon. Visitation will be after 3:00pm on Monday, December 22, 2014, with the family present from 5:00-7:pm at the Vander Ploeg Funeral Home in Sheldon.

(Bud will be missed by his Gambier Bay family. The last reunion Bud and Darlene attended was in St Louis in 2010). Rest in Peace Bud-God Bless



Lucille Kleinhenz Heric of Maria Stein, OH | 07/13/1927 - 12/22/2014

Lucille Kleinhenz Heric age 87 of Maria Stein, Ohio died at 4:45 AM on Monday, December 22, 2014 at her home in Maria Stein. She was born on July 13, 1927 in Dayton, Ohio to the late Urban & Rose (Wendeln) Menker. She married Joseph Kleinhenz on July 5, 1952 and he preceded her in death on March 29, 1994. She married Edward "Don" Heric on December 28, 1998 and he preceded her in death on December 20, 2011. She is survived by Children: Steve & Denise Kleinhenz of Wilmington, OH, Susan Kleinhenz of Cincinnati, OH, David & Terri Kleinhenz of Maria Stein, OH, Donald & Peg Kleinhenz of Powell, OH, Joann & Linton Medlin of Dallas, TX, Mary & Marty Herrera of Portland, OR, Sara & Jim Busse of Springboro, OH, and Fred & Denise Kleinhenz of Maria Stein, OH, 15 grandchildren: Craig, Heidi, Eric, Nicole, Emily, Konrad, Nathan, Sophia, Rachel, Aundrea, Brian, Jacob, Anna, Ella, Isabel, 2 great grandchildren, Cadel & Briella, as well as two sisters Rita Heintl of Maria Stein, OH and Ruth Stammen of New Weston, OH, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Mary Heitbrink, Kate Broering, Harold and Virginia Kleinhenz,

Martha Kleinhenz, Tom Kleinhenz, Andrew and Betty Kleinhenz. She was also survived by step-children Steve & Jean Heric, Waukeshi, WI, Denise Shattuck, Newport News, VA, Cinda O'Laughlin, Galesburg, MI & 7 step-grandchildren & 8 step-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by sisters Irene Kleinhenz, MaryAnn Menker, Alice Menker, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Paul Kleinhenz, Charles Heintl, Lawrence Stammen, Walter Kleinhenz, Adeline Kleinhenz, Stanley Kleinhenz, Cornelius Heitbrink, Andrew Broering. She was a member of St John the Baptist Catholic Church, Maria Stein, St Anne Rosary Altar Sodality, church choir and the Maria Stein American Legion Auxiliary. She worked at Menker/Heintl Grocery for her parents when young then later worked in the cafeteria at Marion local Schools and cleaned at St Henry Bank. She also volunteered at the Relic Chapel and Spiritual Center both in Maria Stein. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 Saturday, December 27, 2014 at St John the Baptist Catholic Church with Rev. Gene Schnipke celebrant. Burial will take place in St John Cemetery. Friends may call at the Hogenkamp Funeral Home, Coldwater from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Friday, December 26, 2014 and from 9:00 to 9:45 AM on Saturday, December 27, 2014. Memorial contributions may be made to the State of the Heart Hospice. Condolences may be made at www.hogenkampfh.com.

(Lucille was such a lovely person and the Gambier Bay Family sends it blessings to the family. Rest in Peace)

Mail Call

Sent from Laurie Bacastow 11/7/2014

Hello Marlene,

My Dad (Jack Bacastow) said you'd like to have some photos of Sam Santiago, our awesome reunion vocalist. These are from the luncheon. I'll send them one by one as I'm working off thumbnails on my phone so it's easier to see what I'm sending. Stay tuned for more. :)

Thank you so very much for the great job you did coordinating the Taffy 3 reunion. It was a wonderful and memorable event and I'm so happy I was able to attend.

My dad said you thought that next year's reunion would likely be around the weekend of 10/24. As I think he may have mentioned to you, I had to put in for my vacation request for 2015 already. (Crazy, I know!). I went ahead and made the request as if the reunion were to be about that time frame. If you wouldn't mind, I'd love to be in the loop regarding any reunion plans.

I will send more pictures of Sam shortly. Wasn't he just amazing??

Again, thank you for your hard work on the reunion. I'll treasure the memories!

Sincerely,

Laurie Bacastow *(Laurie's Dad is part of the USS Kitkun Bay and will be joining us for our 2015 reunion)*

As your Editor I received a number of letters and e-mails too numerous to put in the newsletter but suffice it to say I am glad everyone had a good time at the reunion. It was a lot of work but the outcome was great.

This Scuttlebutt is going out late due to my having a pinched nerve in my back since October 1st. The pinch nerve came about from sitting at the computer too long doing spreadsheets for the reunion. So I had to take my time doing it along with all the necessary Christmas things like decorating, shopping and baking. Hope everyone had a great Holiday season. All the best for a Healthy and Happy New Year, Marlene



<The Clete Ring family

> Pictured is Sam Santiago with his parents Donnie & Carmina



On the left below are our Gambier Bay Survivors at the Memorial Service



Below on are some of the hats worn by the 55 survivors who attended the reunion



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2013-2015

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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.

*Barbara Schlaff
Linda Stow
Tom Westbrook
Robert P. Sables
Tom & Ann Holland
Sharon Schilling
Phil Young
Don Johnson
Debbie Bayer
Bill Klein
Tricia Koutavas
Jim Hongola
Linda Shimerda
Mike Moel
Nancy Pope
Marlene Hughes
Steve Lanier
James West*

*Norm St Germain
Chris Kennedy
Gary Epping
Chris Shelvik
Jeannette Hall
Sheryl Brown
John Bennett
Delia Avenenti
Lupe Berlanga
Susan Satterly
Charles Drott
Majorie Murray
Maurice Weymiller
Don Kurtze
Norm Loats
Billie Schowengerdt
Stacie Maurer
Ken McClintock*



< Statue of the iconic photo near the USS Midway

Below is the Banner presented to us from Anheuser Busch which welcomed everyone at the reception and then hung in the Hospitality Room.



APPLICATION FOR USS GAMBIER BAY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

SURVIVORS/WIDOWS DO NOT PAY DUES

Membership dues are \$15.00 annually or \$100.00 for Lifetime Membership

Both options include a subscription to our newsletter, Scuttlebutt

Membership Application (please check one)

_____ \$15.00 annual dues
_____ \$100.00 lifetime dues

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

**Please indicate if you would like your
Scuttlebutt subscription emailed
or send via the US mail.**

Additional Information

Survivor Name: _____

Crossed the Bar Date: _____

Survivor Rank/Rate: _____ **Division:** _____

Member relationship to survivor: _____

**Please Mail Application and Dues
(payable to USS Gambier Bay Association)
TO
Marlene Hughes
2228 E. Greenlee Road
Tucson, AZ 85719-2012**

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 to our finances. The e-mail copy will have more pictures and information-so get yours now!

If you would like to receive your Scuttlebutt newsletter via email, please send your request to Marlene at mahome@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 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!

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. Pictures were not included in this issue due to space-see it on our website, ussgambierbay.org.



^ The Banquet room where we had seating for 270, we had 70 seats in the Atrium with another 60 in the Hospitality Room.

>Pictured to the right is the gift basket the Gambier Bay donated for the raffle with the help of Paula Grond our President.



SHIPS MERCHANDISE FORM

ALL PRICES INCLUDE SHIPPING COSTS

	QUANTITY	TOTAL COST
Freedom's Cost Lithograph \$75.00	_____	_____
The Men of the USS Gambier Bay Book \$40.00	_____	_____
Taffy III 2014 Memorial Service DVD San Diego, California \$15.00	_____	_____
Tucson 2013 Memorial Service DVD \$10.00	_____	_____
Life of Duty DVD Documentary Featuring Norm St. German/Fred Grabos \$10.00	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Framed Stamp \$5.00 small frame/\$8.00 large frame	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Hat \$25.00	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Mouse Pad \$10.00	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Polo Shirt (mens/womans) (Navy with yellow embroidery) S-M-L-XL - \$30.00 XXL-XXXL - \$35.00 Shipping time is 2 weeks from order	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Womens Bling Shirt Black S-M-L-XL - \$35.00 XXL- XXXL - \$40.00 Shipping time is 2 weeks from order	_____	_____
I Love the Men of the Gambier Bay Button Pin \$3.00	_____	_____
USS Gambier Bay Coffee Mug \$10.00	_____	_____

<u>By Special Order</u> The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors \$25.00	_____	_____

SHIPS MERCHANDISE FORM
ALL PRICES INCLUDE SHIPPING COSTS

	QUANTITY	TOTAL COST
Personalized Laser Etching Tile \$35 Shipping time is 2 weeks from order	_____	_____

OTHER OPTIONS FOR ETCHINGS FOR DESIGN AND WORDING AVAILABLE
SEE SEPARATE ORDER FORM FOR EXAMPLES
(CONTACT PAULA AT pk_grond@yahoo.com for questions/orders)
 Air Craft Carrier
 Lone Sailor
 US Flag

Example: Tin Can Destroyer



Wording for Top Line Inside Circle

Wording for Bottom Line Inside Circle

Wording for Bottom OUTSIDE of Circle

TOTAL ITEMS ORDERED	_____
TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT	_____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Contact Phone _____

Email Address _____

Mail Form and Check (payable to USS Gambier Bay Association) to:
 Marlene Hughes
 USS Gambier Bay Association
 2228 E. Greenlee Road
 Tucson, Arizona 85719

THE LATEST SCOOP FROM AROUND THE
“SCUTTLEBUTT”

RETURNS TO
MARLENE HUGHES
2228 E GREENLEE RD
TUCSON, AZ 85719-2012
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**To you and yours have a Blessed Holiday Season
and a Healthy & Happy New Year**



**Please like us on Facebook-
USS Gambier Bay**