



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Another reunion has come and gone. The 2011 reunion was held in Charleston, S.C. and was hosted by Rufus Ornduff and Ben Bowden. On behalf of the USS John R Pierce DD-753 Sailors' Organization it is my pleasure to say thank you for a JOB WELL DONE. The memorial service was outstanding, with our own Jack Pierce on the bagpipes playing the Navy Hymn and Amazing Grace. His rendition of these perennial favorites certainly brought tears to my eyes. We are indeed fortunate to have him as a member of the organization.

The following are the attendees of the 2011 reunion. For those of you that were unable to attend the reunion, as you scan the list take note of those you know and make plans to see them next year, as each and every one of them raised their hand indicating they would be at next years reunion. Even if you don't recognize any names "come on down" and meet some of the nicest folks on this planet.

REUNION ATTENDEES

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Ashby
Mr. Ben Bowden
 Ms Helen Amerson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Brennan
 Mr. Dustin Giertz
 Ms Laurie Giertz
 Ms Tina Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Cox
Mr. William Crumpler
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Foster
Mr. William Jahnke
Mr. Dennis Hovermale
 Ms. Dorothy Benson
Mr. & Mrs. Al Maturo
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Miller
Mr. Robert "Doc" Olsen
Mr. Jack Pierce
Mr. & Mrs. David Reed
Mr. Richard Shiavi
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Simon
Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Thompson
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl Smith
Mr. Robert Wallace
Mr. Robert Wilno
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Yablonsky
Ms. Carol Chambers

Mr. Gary Bohnsack
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Brauer
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Cleasby
Mr. Frank DePaola
 Ms Mary Spencer
 Ms Judi Boardman
 Ms Gail Morreale
Mr. Curtis Cronin
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Dempski
Mr. Gallagher, Robert MM2
 Ms. Marge Martz
Mr. & Mrs. Al Lawson
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Lose
 Mr. Dennis Maturo
Mr. Ray Mylan
Mr. Rufus Ornduff
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Piper
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Ryder
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Sigler
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Tharp
Ms. Beverly Waite
Ms. Myrna Grady
Mr. Frank Weiland
 Ms. Peggy Robinson
Mr. Michael Ross

SPECIAL THANKS

I wish to thank all those that attended the 20th year reunion with the John R. Family in Charleston, SC.

I was sailing high knowing that you enjoyed Charleston & all the comradely shared with the members & families of our shipmates in the beautiful city. We had such a great time, telling our stories & sharing our memories. I know it was difficult for some to attend. Frank DePaola & his 3 beautiful daughters traveled 22 hours on a train from Fall River, MA. Thank you ladies for bringing Frank to us. There was Al and Audie Lawson, for those of you that do not know Audie; she was a Navy Wave PHM 3/C. Let's not forget Doc Olsen, David Reed & the entire over 90+ year olds that came with smiles, laughter, joy and wisdom. Thank you for making our reunion more enjoyable.

I know there are those who think hosting a reunion is a chore but with great help from Ben Bowden & my officer manager Buttons Smith it was a joy & pleasure. Looking forward to our 21st.

Your Shipmate

Rufus Ornduff

2012 REUNION

The 2012 reunion will be held in the Orlando area, and will be hosted by Myrna Grady, Jimmy and Sandra Sigler. The dates for the 2012 reunion are September 11, 12, 13 and 14. More info will be forth coming as soon as avail. The 2013 reunion will be held in Lexington, NC and will be hosted by Keith and Nancy Brauer.

DUES

At the general meeting a motion was made and approved (majority vote) to lower the age to 75 for those who pay their dues annually. In other words, once you reach age 75 you would not longer be required to pay dues. In reviewing this, along with the executive boards input, I do not believe this is in the best interest of the organization. One reason is a number of members (who are above age 75) have paid their dues for this year plus some have paid for several years and it would not be fair to them. We will revisit this at the 2012 reunion.

If you pay your dues annually then please continue to do so. Only those who are 85 or older are exempt from paying dues. The 2011-2012 dues are now due. Please send in to Carl Cox, 4610 Hominy Ridge Road, Springfield OH 45502.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Good News Bad News – The good news is there were enough volunteers to fill all the executive board positions. The bad news is you will have to put up with me for another 2 years. Since no one wanted to be a board member the entire current board volunteered to stay on for another term. Our motivation is to keep the organization going for as long as we can. Help us by ATTENDING THE REUNIONS.

NEWS LETTER

After 3 years of publishing the news letter, I felt it was time to find a new editor. Luckily Keith Brauer volunteered to take over. FOR THIS I THANK HIM. If you would like to have something published in the news letter you can send it to him at (email) kdbrauer@embarqmail.com or via U.S. Mail at Keith Brauer, 2480 Ether Road, Star NC 27356

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

As President it is my pleasure, on behalf of the entire executive board, to say we hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, as Americans we have so much to be thankful for. What a wonderful time of the year.

The board also wishes you the most blessed Christmas yet.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

NEW MEMBER

Name	Rate/Rank	Years on Board
Tilden M. Gallagher	FT1	1959-1961

TAPS

NAME	RATE/RANK	YEARS ON BOARD	DATE OF PASSING
RICHARD HEBERT	GM2	1951-1953	JULY 24, 2011
JOHN "BEN" FERRELL	BT3	1951-1955	OCTOBER 6, 2011
CHARLES TWIGG	LTJG	1958-1959	OCTOBER 21, 2011

USS JOHN R PIERCE DD-753 TREASURER REPORT SEP 30, 2011 (ISSUED AT THE CHARLESTON REUNION)

Income:		Expenses:	
Annual Dues:	\$225.00	News Letter:	\$193.39
Interest:	\$3.79	Reunion Refunds:	\$116.00
Reunion:	\$7,223.00	*CD Penalty:	\$47.58
Subtotal:	\$7,451.79		\$356.97

	June 30, 2011	Sep 30, 2011
Checking (1)	\$3,400.49	\$3,400.49
Checking (2)	\$4,415.65	\$11,556.12
CD 1	\$2,454.63	\$2,454.64
CD 2	\$8,562.35	\$8,539.61
CD 3	\$5,462.78	\$5,437.94
Savings	<u>\$5,084.65</u>	<u>\$5,086.57</u>
Total	\$29,380.55	\$36,475.37

*The Wachovia (Wells Fargo) checking account and CD's were closed. The penalty for early termination of all three CD's resulted in a \$47.58 penalty. These moneys were deposited in Incenta Federal Credit Union (our current bank).

2011 USS JOHN R PIERCE DD-753 REUNION REPORT

Income:		Expenses:	
Pre-Registration	\$8,035.00	Bus	\$750.00
Collected at reunion	\$216.00	Dinner Cruise	\$4,550.00
Raffle	\$412.00	Banquet	\$2,622.52
*Ships Store	<u>\$454.00</u>	Hospitality Room	\$682.42
		Refunds	\$348.00
		**Patriots Point	<u>\$1,090.00</u>
Total:	\$9,117.00		\$10,042.94

*The items sold from the ships store were leftovers from when the store closed.

**Patriots Point includes admission fee plus memorial set up and tear down fee.

USS JOHN R PIERCE DD-753 TREASURER REPORT NOV 30, 2011

Income:		Expenses:	
Annual Dues:	\$220.00	Reunion refunds:	\$232.00
Interest:	\$0.72	Reunion:	\$9444.94
Reunion:	\$216.00	NSF Check:	\$247.00
Ships Store	\$454.00	Webmaster:	\$200.00
Raffle	\$412.00		
Subtotal:	\$1,302.72		\$10,123.94

	Sep 30, 2011	Nov 30, 2011
Checking	\$14,956.61	\$6,135.39
Savings	<u>\$21,518.76</u>	<u>\$21,518.76</u>
Total	\$36,475.37	\$27,654.15

LAURENCE CRAPO HONORED

“I had a surprise reception at the Seniorfest Dinner tonight. I was honored as Veteran of the Year by the Women's Chamber of Commerce for my service aboard the USS JOHN R PIERCE during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962. My family was there and I received a certificate from my Texas State Representative with a Texas State Flag and another certificate from Congressman Kenny Marchant and a US flag flown over the Capital in Washington, D.C. A few years back Kevin Costner told of our story in the movie "Thirteen Days". In addition I was given a gift of \$20's.

I was overwhelmed and surprised. After Stopping the MARCULA dead in the water, the folks back home thought this would trigger the nuclear war. We sent a joint boarding party with the USS JOSEPH P. KENNEDY. I was portside of the bridge manning a machine gun. I later got the first reports of the inspection and sent copies to the fleet. We allowed the vessel to proceed to Havana, as they were carrying army trucks. We were sent down to Colon, Panama where we picked up 36 ships coming thru the canal, loaded with Green Berets, Rangers and Marines for an invasion of Cuba. We escorted the ships toward Cuba south. As we closed in, Washington told us to slow down. President Kennedy made an agreement with the Soviets to pull our missiles out of Turkey and the Reds would pull the Missiles out of Cuba. Our ship had a direct line to the White House. As a result our action avoided a catastrophe.

Sometime later, I was transferred to the USS BORIE DD704.”

Laurence was a PN3 (Personnel Man 3rd Class) and was aboard the Pierce 1960-1962.