

Official Newsletter of
The DESTROYER USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSOCIATION

Robert Orleck-Editor

October, 2005

SCUTTLEBUTT

BOB DOLE HONORS LT JOE ORLECK AT ARLINGTON MEMORIAL SERVICE

September 10, 2004

Bob Dole Speaking at Lt. Joseph Orleck's Memorial Service, Ft. Myer Chapel, Arlington, Virginia.

"Thank you very much. There are a lot of WWII Veterans coming to Washington these days and as a matter of fact there are 300 that I am going to see here in a few minutes, from the 85th Infantry and the 337th Regiment I believe. They are being brought here by their sons and daughters and family members to see the World War II Memorial. And if you haven't been there, I think most of you have, don't leave home without it. Don't leave town without going by and seeing the World War II Memorial.

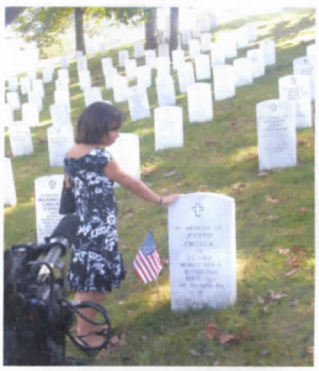


Senator Bob Dole

As the Chairman of that, I had the honor of being Chairman of that effort to raise money. I can tell you that most of the things in Washington are built with tax dollars. The World War II Memorial, 94% of the money for the World War II Memorial came from people like you. We didn't ask the government, except money to start out and to dedicate it. They helped us in the beginning and they helped us in the end.

But on May 29 of this year there were a hundred and some thousand seated people, the largest seated and ticketed crowd ever in Washington DC, to be there for the dedication of the Memorial to honor the memory of thousands upon

(Continued on page 4-Bob Dole)



Stephanie Orleck

USS ORLECK SAILOR, STEVE WINTERS REPORTS FROM IRAQ!

Bob Orleck and I have sent a few notes back and forth over the past 8 months or so while I've been deployed to Iraq and he mentioned that he thought an article about my experiences over here, and about what I've been doing for the past 30 years since leaving ORLECK, might be interesting. I hope that's the case.

I served aboard ORLECK as a GMG2 in the 1970's from the time she replaced BRINKLEY BASS as a USNR Training ship in Tacoma, WA, until I

(Continued on page 5-Iraq Report)



Steve Winters in Mozul, Iraq

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL ISSUE

Inside this issue:

Henderson Mini-Reunion	2
Arlington Memorial Photos	6-7+
I Like the Navy! (Author unknown)	14
Deck Logs-Great Reading in Them	16
Gifts in Honor of:	25
Chaplain's Corner-Remembering Bob	37
Remember & Respect-USS CRAIG	38

ORLECK Points of INTEREST

- *Wilmington Visitor Information is found on page 36 and gives a overview about the site of June 22-25, 2006 ORLECK REUNION.*
- *Donations to EPIC* & USS DESTROYER USS ORLECK ASSN on pages 39-40.*
- *Information & Forms for 2006 Wilmington Reunion-Pages 44-46.*

A GREAT WAY TO RAISE MONEY FOR EPIC RESULTS IN FUN AND PROFIT FOR DD 886 AND HER PEOPLE!

USS ORLECK MINI-REUNION
SEPTEMBER 3-6, 2004
HENDERSON, KENTUCKY

Hello Bob:

Seeing as to the fact that I 'm now 78+ years old, don't drive much anymore, and not too great of health, and if I did get down to the ship for a Field Day, I would just be in the way. After reading your "101 Ways To Raise Money for EPIC", I came up with this idea. A few of us guys from the 50's have gotten together three times before and it is always a great time. So I gathered 80 names from the roster and made up a letter. (The letter was sent to 80 people that lived close to Henderson, Kentucky and set forth the plans for the event including the hotel, the rates and what was in store for fun and profit for USS ORLECK) I got back several but managed to track down most of them. I had 2 deaths confirmed: Ed Burkhead died Feb. 03, Tom Risner died in March of this year and Joe Long is in doctor's care. A lot of other folks plan for a family get together over labor day weekend and other personal reasons got in the way for some... Most of our regulars and 3 newcomers made 20 in all on one day.... I would not have pulled it off at all without the help of my good friend, my Lady, Wilma Angle. She was a Girl Scout Leader for 36 years and good at planning. We found 9 new shipmate members and gathered a few bucks for EPIC and all had a real great time.



FUNDRAISING BOX FOR SHIP

(Continued on page 10-Henderson Mini-Reunion))

Donations in the honor of (not memory) of Arthur Easley

Silently and with no request for recognition, Arthur Easley shows up at Field Days and works on his beloved ship, the USS ORLECK. He attended the reunion in Orange in 2002, but he really didn't care about the festivities. What he wanted to do was to do work at the Field Days that preceded it. **Give him a project and a place to sleep on the ship and let him go and he is a happy man.**

He not only wants to put his hands on the ship and make her better he wants others to do so as well. He also wants others to contribute money to do so and has created an unusual and wonderful way to support his ship. He told me that when Christmas comes around he really doesn't want any gifts. He has enough shirts and socks. What he really would like is for people to send donations to help restore USS ORLECK. Not just in words but in deeds this was put into action. EPIC* has received many donations from many people to honor Art and now we are receiving checks from people honoring Art's wife Helen. She has now requested her family to "send donations to help restore the 'Orleck' in the honor (not memory) of her husband Arthur Easley." These gifts come as Christmas gifts, birthday gifts and for other occasions as well.

Now the giving has gone to a new level. By March of this year EPIC had received 4 checks for gifts for Arthur. Then on March 3, I went to the post office to pick up mail for EPIC* and found a thick en-

(Continued on page 9-In Honor)

RUSSELL FRYE GIVES US A LOT TO THINK ABOUT!

Dear Bob & Barbara:

Here is my check for $30.00 for the year 2005 to cover dues and expenses. I just recently looked at the deck logs on the ORLECK website. Many of these peoples names and events were outlined that I personally knew both enlisted and officers. The people that transcribed the deck logs did a great job.

I'm not hearing a lot from the group in Orange, TX. All reports have stopped some time ago. I sincerely hope they are all well.

If we have a reunion in the fall of 2005 we hope to attend. Many of the guys from 1945 thru 1960 are no longer with us. I am 73 going on 74 in June of 2005. I served in the Korean War. Those years are slipping by fast. George Waddle passed on in 2000. Fred Worthen in Oct of 2002. Each and every time that we see each other we realize that its another act of mercy of grace by our Creator. I held Fred's hand 24 to 48 house before he passed away in Albq. N.M. in 2002. He was quite a man and well liked and respected. At the 2002 ORLECK reunion a man that I served with said to me. "I come to see the guys one more time." Very touching!

The very best to you and your family,

Russell S. Frye EM1 1952-55

Words from our President Gene Everson

Greetings Fellow Shipmates and Association Members.

The purpose of the USS Orleck Association is to serve its membership. It was determined that that would be accomplished when; 1) The membership roster was developed and maintained with current updates. 2) A newsletter is published semiannually. (The Scuttlebutt) 3)A reunion is held at least every two years on the dates and places voted on. 4) Special events are provided as needed such as the Home-coming Event when the ship returned to Orange and the Arlington Memorial Service in Virginia.

Now that the ship is back, the Southeast Texas War Memorial and Historical Foundation desperately needs our help in restoring the ship. USS ORLECK sailors and EPIC* have responded by conducting salvage operations (ship strips) in many locations in states such as Nevada, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington and Virginia. We have delivered truck and trailer loads of equipment and material they need to restore the ship in

(Continued on page 20-Everson)

Words from Bob Orleck

Most of you know that I wear several hats for our organizations. I am the Executive Director of USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION and Reunion Coordinator as well as Treasurer, SCUTTLEBUTT Editor and Publisher. I am also President of EPIC* but want to share some words primarily from my role with the SCUTTLEBUTT and Reunions. I know how much you enjoy getting SCUTTLEBUTT newsletters and I know you would like to get them more regularly and more often. I can only assure you that I do the best I can given the constraints on my time. I thought this edition would be out in July but it just didn't come together that quickly. I do plan (this is not a guarantee) to have a SCUTTLEBUTT to you every 6 months now if we continue with the level of funding that permits it. I also want to let you know that I am sorry if something you expected to see in this SCUTTLEBUTT does not appear. It could be that I have not had a chance to consider it, had no room for it, or maybe never have received it. If you are disappointed that something you wished to appear did not, let me know and give me the details. I can tell you that I already have 10 pages filled for the next edition that could not fit into this one so maybe it is there. Information in the SCUTTLEBUTT gives first priority to items received by mail and not items appearing on our website. I have to make choices. On the website your stuff is seen by some but if I ignore mailed items their stuff would not be seen at all. I am not a professional when it comes to this but I do care. The joy that reuniting brings to the sailors and their families is real and is made possible by our newsletter and our reunions.

I also know that we are losing many of our WW II guys, Korean guys and some of our Vietnam guys and with that I feel a pressure to get a product out so I won't miss anyone. I also feel a need to find as many past USS ORLECK sailors because, just like Harold (Howdy) House, I know what it means to them. I don't want them to miss what so many of you have ex-

(Continued on page 22-Bob O.)

EVERYTHING I NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT THE NAVY I LEARNED ON USS ORLECK!

BY Gene Houkos

At the time I reported aboard the Orleck I had been out of boot camp almost two years. My last duty station was a Hospital and we do not have gangways to cross each day as we come to work. So as I approached the gangway and wondered do I salute the flag first or the Officer Of the Deck? I'll just watch a couple of guys as they go aboard to see how they do it. Ok flag first then the OOD.

That was the beginning of my introduction to the real Navy. My time aboard was short, only two years, but during that time I was taught everything I would need to know in order to succeed in my Navy career.

First there was the terminology: Port, Starboard, Forward, Aft. Deck, Overhead, Bulkhead, Head and the list goes on. Then the abbreviations: CO, XO, CDO, OOD, CIC, GQ, CPO, and many more. How about the alphabet: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo, Foxtrot and so on. What is that set condition X-ray, Yoke, and Circle William all about? Then there is the lesson of how do I find the space I'm looking for. The learning of how to read Compartments and Deck Numbers. It is like looking at a map of the ship. A compartment labeled 3-75-4-M would be found on the Third deck, the Forward boundary is on or immediately aft of frame 75, it is the Second compartment outboard of the centerline to port, and it was an Ammunition compartment. On the Orleck it was hard to get lost and you could find most spaces quickly. This little bit of knowledge really paid off for me when I was assigned to the aircraft carrier Enterprise.

Watch's to stand. Bridge and Signal Watch, Damage Control Watch, Gyro Watch, After Lookout Watch, Quartermaster of the Watch, Radioman of the Watch, and of course the watch we all stood at least once. The Mail Buoy Watch.

The things that really stayed with me were the lessons taught with teamwork, leadership, and discipline. No one person or rate was more important than the other. Everyone lent a hand when we took on fuel, food,

(Continued on page 21-Thanks DD 886)

(Continued from page 1-Bob Dole)
thousands of those who lost their lives, and hundred of thousands more who were disabled for life and had changed lives, in order to honor all those of our generation.

Tom Brokaw referred to our generation as the "greatest generation". Well, we accept that with some reservation. That was before the Iraq conflict and the war in Afghanistan. I think the greatest generations now are our sons and daughters, nieces and nephews that are fighting in that global war against terrorism.

If you visit the WWII Memorial it pretty much ties in with the Memorial Service today for Joe.

I have always admired those in the Navy with clean sheets and hot coffee every night. Being an infantryman myself, I was always trying to get into the Navy. But I had a color blindness problem. I couldn't tell one color from another and they didn't think I would be a very good person to be in the Navy. But it wasn't that bad to keep you from the infantry so I went to OCS and became a 2nd Lieutenant because they needed 2nd Lieutenants.

I hope that you maybe leave the Memorial with the same thought I had. I invited all the sitting members of Congress who were World War II veterans and there were once three hundred and some but now there are fourteen. And these are the old timers, partisan Democrats and Republicans like Frank Lautenberg, Ted Stevens of Alaska, Dan Inouye of Hawaii, all friends of mine. But without exception when they walked in and saw this magnificent memorial, this tribute to men and women who sacrificed their lives and their futures, were all wiping their eyes. Maybe they were remembering things when they were young or where they were in WWII and what assignment they had. Whether combat or non-combat, it really doesn't make that much difference.

The Memorial is really a tribute to generations. Someone had to stay home, raise the crops, teach the children, and keep the shops open so those of us, about 1 out of 10 in those days, could do what we were asked to do to bring ultimate victory.

And I read the story of Joe Orleck, a great hero he was and the fact that his death was kept from his mother. The fact that we are here today. means to me that we don't forget the men and women who served and put their lives on the line every day so the rest of us can enjoy freedom and liberty.

As we were growing up, and I see a few WW II vets here, widows and other friends, we looked upon our heroes as not just politicians. When we were growing up we all had heroes and mine, I probably had a couple of heroes. One was FDR who was our Commander and Chief and the Supreme Commander in WW II. I admired him not just for his leadership in WWII, but remember we didn't just rush into WW II. We waited and waited and waited and if it hadn't been for the President I am not certain what the world would look like today. But when we did after the attack on Pearl Harbor we did it with all our strength, all our faith and with all of our might and everyone united and largely because of FDR's leadership and the fireside chats. But even after that we'd come back as a veteran and have a disability problem or whatever and we'd look at FDR and the leadership as a disabled person and he gave you a lot of hope and faith for the future.

My other hero was Eisenhower and most of us growing up and serving knew about Eisenhower. Growing up and serving with Eisenhower, I was particularly proud because he was from Abilene, Kansas and I was from the big city of Russell, Kansas, one hundred miles apart. We had a lot in common. We both lived in Kansas. We were both officers. I was a 2nd Lieutenant and he was a 5 Star General. (laughter) We both worked for cream and egg station. I worked for my Dad giving farmers cream and eggs and chickens. He did the same in Abilene. He ran for President and won and I ran for President and lost. (more laughter) So you can see we had a lot in common. He was my hero.

Maybe somebody in this audience was there on D-day, who was there on June 6, 1944. Who was there because thousands and thousands of Americans and our allies in a 24 hour period and somebody had to make that decision. Somebody had to make the decision what we were going to do because the weather was terrible. We couldn't see, we couldn't land, and we couldn't navigate. It was end of May, 1944 then June 1, then the 2nd then the 3rd then the 4th and every day they were saying "we can't do it today", "we can't do it today". The meteorologist said "no way". The story goes on. June the 5th they were told the skies were going to open enough for us to proceed with the operation. And Eisenhower had to make this momentous decision. It wasn't about what we could do or have a meeting. He was making a decision that would send to death thousands of men, who would take their last breath, to never return home. He had to make this decision because if we succeeded it meant the end the war, the end of death and bloodshed and would bring freedom to the world.

I listened to General Goodpastor, some ninety years of age, who was here for the dedication and he told the story of Eisenhower that before he made the decision he put his head in his hand for about 2 minutes and he probably thought about a lot of things but he also prayed that he would make the right decision because he understood the enormity of it from the standpoint of what I mentioned about ending the war. So he made the decision and he made the announcement and sent out the famous communiqué that evening that the GIs got the next morning. And even after he made the decision he prayed that he had made the right decision. And he still wasn't certain. There was no certainty that we were going to win the war at that point. It was looking good but much depended on this invasion and many other important battles the Navy fought in the Pacific and in other areas. But on this particular day, this was the big one and by all the forces.

Eisenhower went back to his little tent and wrote in long hand and I

(Continued on page 17-Bob Dole)

(Continued from page 1-Iraq Report)
got off active duty in March of 1975. I stayed in the reserves and served aboard Orleck as a reservist for another couple of years as well.

After getting off of active duty I bought a Tractor Trailer and ran the West Coast for a couple of years, then in 1977 decided to sell out and get a job where I could spend more time at home with my wife and kids. For those that knew me on the Orleck, Stephanie and I are still married (will be 36 years in November), both of our kids are raised (our son is a Navy veteran now, too), and we have 2 granddaughters and a grandson.

After selling my truck I took a job at McChord Air Force Base near Tacoma, and, after working there for a short time, I transferred to a job with the Army at Ft. Lewis, where I worked until late 1984. I was then offered a job by the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command as a Logistics Assistance Representative and have been in this field ever since. I now work for the Army Material Command in the same field. The various commands such as Tank-Automotive, Communications and Electronics, etc. are like pieces of a pie, and the complete pie is the Army Material Command. Our job in the field is to provide technical and supply assistance to Army units, and we're assigned to a unit, train with them, deploy with them, etc. I've been assigned all over the world, including 5 years in Europe, 2 years in Egypt, and 6-month to one-year tours throughout Central and South America and the Middle East. I initially supported Army Engineer (construction) units but later branched out to Combat Vehicles such as Abrams tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and so on.

In my present job I'm the Deputy (basically the XO) of a team of Army Civilian technicians, and we're attached to the 1st Brigade 25th Infantry Division, which is the second of the Army's new Stryker Brigades. The Stryker Brigade uses an armored, wheeled (vs. tracked) vehicle that has basically the same chassis as the Marine Corps' LAV, but the comparison ends there. The engine and drive train are different, and we have electronics in all of our vehicles, Tactical Operations Centers (similar to CIC) and so on that gather multitudes of data from a wide variety of sources, puts it all together, and provides the vehicle crew a clear picture of the battlefield or city right down to identification of friendly and enemy forces. Our Team Commander is a senior Warrant Officer and refers to us as the dream team because of our combined skills. I truly believe that we have the best team you could ask for and am proud to be part of it. There are several of us with Navy backgrounds, a guy that was Coast Guard, a couple of retired Army maintenance Warrants, some former Non-Commissioned Officers, and a couple of former Air Force. We live and dress the same as the soldiers and no matter how tuff it gets these guys (and one gal) all pull together and make things happen. Here in Mosul we took some old ramshackle concrete buildings and in our off time have fixed them up into a decent place to live and work. Trust me, when the mortars are dropping there's nothing like being surrounded by concrete! Our buildings have taken several hits and we've been blessed with having had no injuries. Things quieted down after the elections back in December and we're no longer being attacked as we were at first, and I hope it stays that way. As for me, I don't think a day goes by that I don't use the technical, management, and other skills I learned in the Navy and I'm grateful for what the Navy taught me.

This is my third tour in Iraq and I'm afraid they're going to want me to change my residence to here if I don't get out of here pretty soon. Fortunately, my Brigade is scheduled to be replaced in a couple of months, so I'll finally get to go home for awhile. I got the word the other day that my team is being moved to Germany late next Spring, so I guess that's where I'll wind up my career just over three years from now. So much for making it to another Orleck reunion for awhile!

We're seeing 116 to 120 degree weather right now and on a cool night it gets down to the upper 90's for an overnight low. About every day there are several explosions in the city and pillars of smoke from a car bomb or from one of our vehicles that took a hit from an Improvised Explosive Device. What you don't hear about are the ones that our Explosive Ordnance Disposal Teams clear or "reduce" (blow in place). I'd guess at least two or three for each one they set off against us. Many of the ones they set off miss their mark, too. We've also armored our vehicles, so when they are hit a lot of times it's just a matter of a flat tire, and you'd be amazed how well a 6X6 truck continues on in a situation like that!

Having worked with the Army for so long I've been able to see how things have improved over the years. The soldiers receive far better training than they used to, and there's no comparison in the equipment.

In 3 years I'll be eligible for retirement and will likely take it. At 52, this setting up tents, filling sand bags, and so on isn't getting any easier. Besides, I want to settle down and raise some beef, spend time with my kids and grandkids, and so on. This has been a great job, but there's a lot to be said for settling down. You all know what I mean, I'm sure!

I stopped by and visited the Orleck about a year ago when I had just finished a training exercise at Ft. Polk, LA. She's really looking good. I have a photo that I took of her during the 1991 Gulf War while she was still in use with the Turkish Navy and though it was great to see her still sailing, I sure like having her back home where she belongs.

I hope to see you all at some work parties once I retire!

Don't hesitate to e-mail if you'd like to swinters@msn.com. I always answer!

Steve Winters

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL PHOTOS











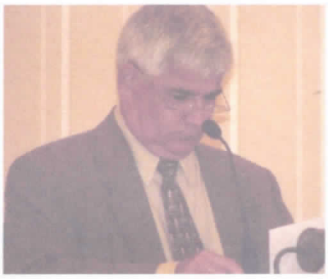


SPECIAL THANKS
to Debbie Pfledderer who took the photos of others and organized them into the presentation you see on pages 6-7, 12-13, 18-19, 30-31 & 42.

A very special thanks to Senator Bob Dole for honoring Lt. Joseph Orleck.

And especially thanks to all of you who came and experienced the remembering of a grateful nation that showed why it is the greatest country in the world!















Lt. Joe Orleck Arlington Memorial Photos











70's Group Photo



Orleck Family at grave site.



Lone Sailor



P. King at WWII Memorial



Ron Rierson at USN Memorial



S. Davis - Arlington close up



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

















Its all about HEROES!

For those of you in the Association that missed the reunion and memorial for Joseph Orleck, it would be worth your time to read the comments on the Guest Book on this event. (see www.ussorleck.com)

The timing was perfect with not only the honors given to Lt. Orleck, but the activities and feelings that surrounded all of us as we attended the Arlington ceremonies and toured the Washington area. 9/11 was on everyone's mind and everything seemed to dovetail together with the reason we were there.

To me it was about "heroes". My wife Gail and I visited the "Punch Bowl" last spring in Hawaii (National Memorial of the Pacific). Taking pictures, I walked center of the mall area for a better shot and happened to look down. The surface tombstone said, "Edwin Hill, Chief Bosun mate, died December 7, 1941 .... Medal of Honor...! It floored me for a moment to think of the events that led to this man's death. Attending the memorial last weekend in Arlington, I found myself thinking of Joseph Orleck, hero, namesake of my ship on this weekend that we honor the heroes of 9/11. Firemen, Policemen, and everyday citizens that stepped forward in sacrifice in a time of need or battle. Where do we get these men and women? In our case, there was a large group of them attending the activities to honor Joseph Orleck.

Thanks Bob, for the great presentation and work that went into the Washington reunion.

And "God Bless the United States of America"!

Bill Bluhm FT1 1956-57

Dear Bob, April 6, 2004

Enclosed is a money order for my 2004 dues to the USS ORLECK DD886 Association. The balance is for the USS ORLECK DD886 Association for whatever need.

I received the to Scuttlebutts the last part of February 2004 Your Hawaii reunion sounds like you all had a great time. Everything looked so great. Dennis Gange
1963-1967

My Fellow Ship
mates, families and friends,

Without a doubt the Joe Orleck Memorial Service was perhaps the most impressive and meaningful event that many of us in attendance have ever personally experienced.

Diana and I are so very thankful we were able to attend. It was truly a once in a lifetime experience and a memory to cherish forever. Although I was unable to hear many of the words of Senator Bob Dole, because my hearing is going, it was obvious to me that the Senator has the utmost respect and admiration for all those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the continuation of freedom for all nations.

Its true that war is costly, witness all those headstones at Arlington. Its costly because freedom is so very precious. And it is because freedom is so precious that it is so very appropriate to honor our fallen heroes with such precision and respect as only the Navy Band, The Drill Team and Memorial Detail can provide.

On behalf of The USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION I wish to thank Mr. Robert Orleck, The entire Orleck Family, Senator Bob Dole and all those in attendance that helped make the event such a wonderful success.

Thank you,
Gene and Diana Everson

Best Reunion/Vacation

Thank you Barb and Bob for the best reunion/vacation I have every had. It was my first time to go to Hawaii. Enclosed are some of our snapshots.

Jan Bandor
Spouse-Randy Bandor
SO3 1957-59



Hi Bob, Wow, what a reunion! Our entire family enjoyed every minute of it. The trip to Pearl Harbor was wonderful as was the Luau and the dinner cruise. You did a great job in the planning. We spent a lot of time together with the Orleck group but also had time to see some sights on our own. We will remember this one for a long time as will our children and grandchildren. Thanks for all of your hard work. Hope to see you in Orange in 2005.

Bob and Janice VanDevender
GM3 1951-54

Dear Bob, April 6, 2004

Enclosed is a money order for my 2004 dues to the USS ORLECK DD886 Association. The balance is for the USS ORLECK DD886 Association for whatever need.

I received the to Scuttlebutts the last part of February 2004 Your Hawaii reunion sounds like you all had a great time. Everything looked so great. Dennis Gange
1963-1967

July 4, 2005

Here is my dues and a little extra for 05 and 06. I thought I sent my dues for 04 but I sent it to EPIC instead which is OK by me. Keep up the good work. I enjoy SCUTTLEBUTT very much....

Paul Beadle MMFN 1949-50

EDITOR'S NOTE: Most are aware but it is good to point out again that EPIC* and DESTROYER USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSN are different and gifts to one are not considered gifts to the other.

USS FORREST SHERMAN DD 931 FOUNDATION, INC. announced the official commissioning of the USS FORREST SHERMAN DDG-98 at Pensacola, Florida, Saturday, December 19, 2005 and in addition it appears that the Congress will likely vote to require the Navy to donate the DD 931 to Baltimore as a museum display vessel. **Congratulations!!!**

If you presently hold office and wish to continue in such office in either of the two organizations, DESTROYER USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSOCIATION and EPIC*, you need to send a notice to the office at P.O. Box 213, Randolph, VT 05060 and P.O. Box 886, Randolph Center, VT. 05061 respectively, by 1 January 2006.

ORLECK ON FRONT PAGE OF TIN CAN SAILOR MAGAZINE

Dear Bob Feb. 25, 2004

Enclosed please find my check for $20 for 2004 dues and a small donation. I imagine by now that you have seen the photo and article on ORLECK on the first page of TIN CAN SAILOR. I really enjoyed reading it since I knew some of those "Asiatic Fleet" sailors. Those were good days in ORLECK and Japan.

Steve L. Corl YN3 1962-64

Dear Bob & Barb 1/26/04

Enclosed is my check for $25 to cover my 2004 dues, and use the rest where it is best needed.

Thanks Bob for keeping us all informed about the USS ORLECK DD 886 improvements and also about our ORLECK shipmates, friends and families, that have been ill and need prayers for their health.

I am sure sorry Bob that I haven't been to Orange, Texas to help work on the ORLECK. I would love to help to get the diesel engines running. It is getting harder for Betty and myself to get around. Betty is having a hip replacement February 16. Please say some Prayers for her. I will have to have a knee replacement sometime after Betty is all healed up.

We really enjoyed the Hawaii Reunion. It was really GREAT. Thanks again for everything Bob and Barb.

God Bless
Bob & Betty Saxbury
EN2 1949-52

SUPPORT AND JOIN TIN CAN SAILORS THEY SUPPORT OUR SHIP!

(Continued from page 2-In Honor)

velope. Inside were 8 checks totaling $340 to EPIC* honoring both Helen Easley and Arthur Easley by various family members. This made me smile and pleased me very much. I cannot imagine how much it must have pleased Mr. And Mrs. Easley. Since then more such gifts have been given to the ship in their honor.

This is a great example of unselfish giving that if all would try to mimic would lead to a preserved and restored USS ORLECK within a short period of time. For more details on the giving look to the special section of "Gifts in Honor Of" found on Page 24 of this newsletter.

Thanks to all.
Bob Orleck

GO, GO, GO ARTHUR!

Hi Bob 3/1/04

Everything went well at the Orange Field Days in February. A lot of work was done in crew's mess. The food the women fixed was great as ever.

Well, I'm off to Honolulu Feb. 28, for a Tiger Cruise on Carrier USS PELILU to San Diego. My Grandson (A Marine) is coming home from Iraq. Go, Go, Go, that's me"

Art Easley SK3 1950-52

$1 per year to honor their USS ORLECK sailor Father on Father's Day Can you think of a better way to honor a Dad?

This is a donation in support of USS ORLECK DD 886 Restoration in lieu of a traditional Father's Day gift. Art Easley (SK3 1950-52) has requested from his family to send donations to help restore the "ORLECK". Please accept this donation of $45.00 in honor of my dad being able to put up with me for forty-five years so far, and always being there for his entire family.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY DAD

Patricia & Jimmy Ferguson
and
Rachel Ergas.

Hi Bob: I'm also including my father's day gift (for Arthur Easley) along with my sister's. However, since her check was $1 per year, I had to void my $40 check and write a new one for my 47 years.

To Bob Orleck 4/25/04
From J.J. Caskey Lt. 1953-55

Bob, I was in Orange today visiting the ORLECK with my family. My oldest son from Denver was in Houston over the weekend to celebrate his fiftieth birthday and his one desire was to visit the ORLECK. He was born while I served on the ORLECK and visited the ship as a baby.

The ship is looking much better ...

Good Luck
Jack

SCUTTLEBUTT Jogs Memory

From Frank Gavin, Chief, USN. Ret.
1964-66 & 1968-70

I was just setting here reading the SCUTTLEBUTT and it dawned on me that I have not been paying my dues! So find enclosed dues for 03, 04 & 05. Use remainder for whatever. I do hope to get to Orange this summer to meet some of the Great People that are taking care of our ship and may be even able to help a little myself.

Ray Redman locates a shipmate.

Robert June 15, 2004

I spoke to Ray Redman and he gave me your name for the USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSOCIATION. I served on the USS ORLECK during 1967 and 1968 as a Radioman 3rd Class. Please add me to your distribution list.

Bernie M. Brennan
40977 Crabtree Lane
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-420-0250
bbren16752@aol.com

Maybe? We sure hope so! We miss you!

Dear Bob 6/2/04

Just a fond hello and congratulations on your efforts and success in bringing the ship back to shipshape glory.

I'm 86 now and not in good enough shape to take part in ship restoration. I enjoy the news about the progress.

I've been doctoring for this and that. If all goes well hope to be at the next reunion-maybe?

Best of luck Robert
Steady Steaming
George Cramer
MMC 1949-51

Editor Note: Thanks for the donation to EPIC, George. We need these donations to get to the point where she will be in shipshape. Right now she needs a lot of work, a lot of caring, a lot of people coming to the ship to work and lots of funding from many sources. For those who are reading this, please assess your involvement.

She helped build USS ORLECK in 1940s and is now helping to restore her in 2004 and honors her husband!.

Hi Bob 2/11/04

I would like to join the USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION and add a small donation. Thank you for inviting me to your reunion in Orange in 2002. I met a great group of people. I'm glad I had a small part in the building of the USS ORLECK.

Estelle Young

P.S. I'm also glad to have a chance to help in her restoration as a museum. Thanks for all your hard work.

5/17/04

Please accept this check to use anyway you need in all the work you do for the USS ORLECK. It is the first of four installments which will be made monthly; the total which will be about half of the incurred fuel bill on April 28, 29th and May 1st. (for transport of 96 5" shells and 11 torpedoes from Reno Nevada that were donated by the Gyrodyne Foundation). I made this commitment as a memorial to my deceased husband who would have been 90 years old today. He died January 12, 1980 as a direct result of WWII. He was a Tank Commander in the 744th Light Tank Battalion, lost his tank in the Battle of St. Lo, France and was 100% service-connected disabled at the time of his death and for many, many years prior.

I thank you for all your hard work.

Estelle Young
1702 W. Hunt
Sherman, TX 75092

HENDERSON MINI REUNION SUMMARY

(Continued from page 2-Henderson Mini-Reunion))

In Ray's letter to Bob he said: "Going back 50 years rekindles the spirit we all had and shared at that time serving on the USS ORLECK. Now to show care for the Old Girl, there will be a drop box at the registration desk for strictly volunteer personal donations, and donations from the horse racing and casino winnings. Strictly volunteer, I challenge you each and all with the spirit of 50 years ago to do as I do. I personally donated $20.00 and I pledge all my horse racing and casino winnings to EPIC. "

Editor's Comments: Ray challenged the group by saying that their mini-reunion "will be sent for editorial in The Scuttlebutt, hoping other shipmates can gather in mini-reunions as we have and help raise funds to complete full-dress for the USS ORLECK." Ray not only challenges with his words, but with his actions. He has sent a check to EPIC each month for the last 58 months. His dedication to his ship is unwavering. He has worked on this mini-reunion only to arrange for a get together with his former shipmates but to encourage them and others to support the effort to restore USS ORLECK or as he would for "dress up".*

Thanks to all who participated and through their efforts a total $477.10 was raised for the ship. Thanks so much Ray for your faithfulness in making it happen.

Bob Orleck

P.S. For any out there who would like to put together a mini-reunion, I can and have put together lists of USS ORLECK sailors in your area. Just ask and I will do it. There have been others in the past who have done mini-reunions and I encourage you strongly to do it yourself. It will pay many dividends and bring a lot of joy to others.



HENDERSON MINI-REUNION
Seated-Sandy Stotler, Samuel Stotler, Wilma Angle, Ray K. Redman, Robert Hawkins. Stand is Betty Pinner, Kenneth Pinner, DeDe Bahr, Leroy Bahr, Donald Ivey, Kathy Lovins, Dean Lovins, Eugene Gillam, Carol Gillam, Elizabeth Lovins and Gerald Lovins. Not present in the photo but at the mini-reunion were Carroll Keller, Gerald Moser, Hazel Moser and Janice Ivey.

For purposes of preparing for the business meeting at the next USS ORLECK reunion, all persons holding positions in either the DESTROYER USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSOCIATION or EPIC* need to drop a line to the office address at P.O. Box 213, Randolph, VT 05060 & P.O. Box 886, Randolph Center, VT 05061 respectively by Jan 1, 2006 indicating whether you wish to remain in the position you now hold or if you are interested in any other position. Any other people interested in leadership positions should do the same.

HONORING A HERO!

On September 10, 2004, my wife and I had the Honor and Privilege to be in the Fort Meyer Chapel at Arlington National Cemetery to Honor a True American Hero, Lt. Joseph Orleck.

He was a Sailor's Sailor. The safety of his men and the men around him came first. His safety was secondary.

I will always remember Our Colors, the Honor Guard, the Caisson with six white horses. The Firing Squad and the Young Wave who played Taps. The Honor Guard with their Precision Team work stands out in my mind and my being there will never leave me.

The playing of the Navy Hymn ended the Cemetery Tribute to a True Navy Man.

The Placing of the Wreath and Taps at the Lone Sailor Memorial is another lasting Memory!

It would have been an Honor for me to have served under him. God truly has blessed America, by sending men like Lt. Orleck to us. May he Rest in Peace now.

God Bless America
Art Easley SK3 / 1950-1952

BOB JULIUSON WAS MANY THINGS TO MANY PEOPLE!

Bob was a dedicated Christian who loved the Lord and who practiced what he believed and preached.

Bob was a son, a husband and a father.

Bob ministered to those in prisons.

Bob was a USS ORLECK sailor.

Bob was the Chaplain of DESTROYER USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION.

Bob was a trusted advisor. I was always buoyed by his calls. He would never end them without a spoken prayer first.

Bob was my dear friend who I miss a lot!

Bob is now with the Lord in Heaven!

Bob Orleck

Bob, March 10, 2004

A quick note to let you know that I rcvd both scuttlebutts & the hard hat. The hat has already taken a place of pride next to my original Orleck coffee mug and ships hat. Please let me know when the next strip ship in my region will be. I enjoyed myself tremendously. Although on the first day, Dennis Ferguson and I tended to spend most of it gathering up and dismantling Radio. But then what can you expect when two radiomen who served together start stripping a ship. We made a bee line for Radio Central.

Thanks again, sorry about taking so long to get back to you, but my computer was down for a while, and now I'm buying a house and working an extra job. Take care, and I hope to meet you at the reunion in Orange. (That's the plan so far, anyway)

Brian Lange RM 1978-81

John Barrios June 4, 2004

Sir: Thank you for the information on the "Deck Logs". Enclosed is a check for the restoration of the USS ORLECK.

I am sorry the ship is not here on the West Coast hopefully at Mare Island. I served part of my apprenticeship as an Ordinance Machinist at the Yard.

Ken Dean
P.O. Box 1192
Canyonville, OR 97417

Editor's Note: *See letter from Mr. Dean, an Army guy, in Feb. 19 SCUTTLEBUTT on page 10. He had a really interesting experience aboard USS ORLECK What follows, is John Barrios's reply to Mr. Dean.*

Dear Ken:

Thank you for your generous donation to the USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION. I will forward it onto Bob Orleck, Executive Director, who will ensure that it is used as you requested.

I too wish the ship was a little closer, and agree that Mare Island would be nice especially since Vallejo is only about an hour drive from my house. However, like so many of us who served aboard this fine ship, we're very grateful to have her Stateside, and still afloat.

Again, THANK YOU!!!!

Sincerely,
John Barrios

John also send him information on the Deck Log Project that is worthy of repeating.

Dear Mr. Dean:

This letter is in reference to your February 19, 2003 letter regarding your experience aboard the USS ORLECK (DD 886). Your letter was included in the February 2004 USS ORLECK Association Newsletter.

I thought I'd drop you a line to pass along some information you may not be aware of. There are a number of us working on transcribing the ORLECK's deck logs. After transcribing and editing, they are posted to the USS ORLECK Association's website to be viewed by anyone interested. When I read you letter, I remembered seeing the log with entries relating to those events you described.

When you have the opportunity, please go to the Association's website www.ussorleck.com. Go to the right side of the main page and click on "Deck logs." Then go down the list of logs and click on "May 1948." If you look down the entries and find May 4, 1948, you will see that you were logged in at 1040, during the 0800-1200 watch. You might enjoy reading the subsequent entries.

Best regards

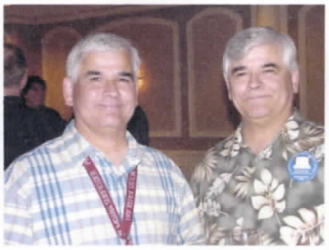
John Barrios

USS ORLECK 1970-73

Editor's Note: You too might be able to find something about yourself on the almost complete 37 years of Deck Logs on line at http://www.ussorleck.com





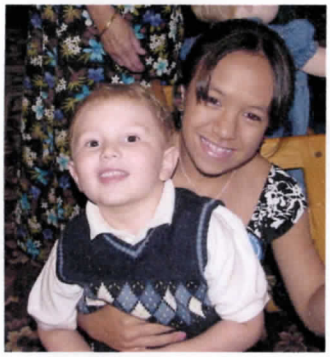

















Lt. Joe Orleck Arlington Memorial Photos









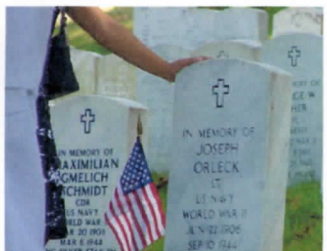




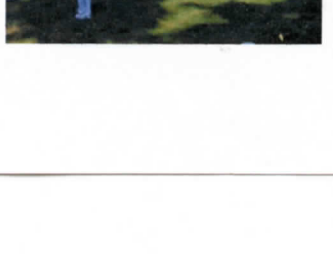
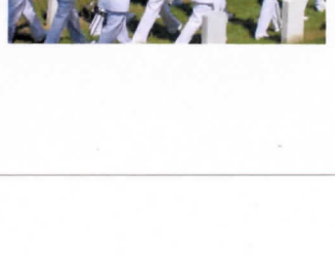










OTHER STRIP TRIP NEWS

BEING ABOARD SHIP WITH HIS GRANDFATHER GAVE NEW DIMENSION TO WAR STORIES HE LOVED TO HEAR.

Dear Robert 3/3/2004

First off I want to apologize for taking so long to write back to you. I can't remember the last time I mailed a letter that wasn't a bill. I'll blame the generation gap instead of myself. Thank you for the hard hat, it's a perfect memento. I also want to thank you for the experience. As you saw, our family is very close. That being said as I've gotten older, I don't spend as much time with my grandfather as I used to and I had a great time. It was also a pleasure to meet you and the others who participated. I definitely feel honored. I've heard a lot of my grandfather's war stories and have enjoyed them immensely. Being on and working on the ship definitely added a new dimension to these stories. I would love to participate the next time you come to Philly, so please don't hesitate to ask (I'm sure my grandfather won't). I'm looking forward to the opening of USS ORLECK in its new capacity and would be proud to be at the opening ceremonies. Thanks again for the correspondence. I hope you and your family are well.

Sincerely

John Agnew
895 Belfry Dr.
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Editor's Note: *John and his father John and 3 Wayne Agnews joined in the first strip trip done at Philadelphia for USS ORLECK in April 2003. Thank you John. That was a learning trip and a very productive one as well. It set the stage for future trips and showed us that we could do it.*

Bob Orleck

Bob,
I thought everyone would enjoy reading this in the next Scuttlebutt. It all rings true & takes you back to the time spent aboard the best ship in the navy, the USS Orleck.

Don Miller SN 1951-54

For All Sailors, past, present, and future
(Author Unknown)
I LIKE THE NAVY

I like the Navy. I like standing on the bridge wing at sunrise, with salt spray in my face, and clean ocean winds whipping in from the four quarters of the globe - the ship beneath me feeling like a living thing as her engines drive her through the sea.

I like the sounds of the Navy - the piercing trill of the bosn's pipe, the syncopated clangor of the ship's bell on the quarterdeck, the harsh squawk of the 1MC and the strong language and laughter of sailors at work.

I like the vessels of the Navy - nervous darting destroyers, plodding fleet auxiliaries, sleek submarines and steady solid carriers. I like the proud sonorous names of Navy capital ships: Midway, Lexington, Saratoga, Coral Sea - memorials of great battles won. I like the lean angular names of Navy "tin-cans": Barney, Dahlgren, Mullinix, McCloy - mementos of heroes who went before us.

I like the tempo of a Navy band blaring through the topside speakers, as we pull away from the oiler after refueling at sea.

I like liberty call and the spicy scent of a foreign port. I even like all-hands working parties as my ship fills herself with the multitude of supplies, both mundane and exotic, which she needs to cut her ties to the land and carry out her mission anywhere on the globe, where there is water to float her.

I like sailors, men from all parts of the land, farms of the mid-west, small towns of New England, from the cities, the mountains and the prairies, from all walks of life. I trust and depend on them as they trust and depend on me - for professional competence, for comradeship, for courage. In a word, they are "Shipmates."

I like the surge of adventure in my heart when the word is passed, "Now station the special sea and anchor detail - all hands to quarters for leaving port." I like the infectious thrill of sighting home again, with the waving hands of welcome from family and friends waiting pier side. The work is hard and dangerous, the going rough at times, the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust Navy laughter, the "all for one and one for all" philosophy of the sea is ever present.

I like the serenity of the sea after a day of hard ship's work, as flying fish flit across the wave tops, and sunset gives way to night. I like the feel of the Navy in darkness, the mast head lights, the red and green navigation lights and stern light, the pulsating phosphorescence of radar repeaters as they cut through the dusk and join with the mirror of stars overhead. I like the drifting off to sleep lulled by the myriad noises large and small that tell me that my ship is alive and well, and that my shipmates on watch will keep me safe. I like quiet mid-watches with the aroma of strong coffee - the lifeblood of the Navy - permeating everywhere. And I like hectic watches when the exacting minuet of haze-gray shapes racing at flank speed, keeps all hands on a razor edge of alertness.

I like the sudden electricity of, "General quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations" followed by the hurried clamor of running feet on ladders and decks, and the resounding "thump" of watertight doors as the ship transforms herself in a few brief seconds, from a peaceful work place to a weapon of war - ready for anything. And I like the sight of space age equipment manned by youngsters clad in dungarees and sound-powered phones that their grandfathers would still recognize.

I like the traditions of the Navy, and the men and women who made them. I like the proud names of Navy heroes, Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut, John Paul Jones.

(Continued on page 15-Navy)

(Continued from page 14-Navy)

A sailor can find much in the Navy: comrades-in-arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman's trade. An adolescent can find adulthood.

In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea, they will still remember with fondness and respect, the ocean in all it's moods, the impossible shimmering mirror calm and the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow. And then there will come again, a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom, and chief's quarters and the messdecks. Gone ashore for good, they will grow wistful about their Navy days, when the seas belonged to them and a new port-of-call was ever over the horizon. Remembering this, they will stand taller and say:

"I WAS A SAILOR. I WAS PART OF THE NAVY AND THE NAVY WILL ALWAYS BE PART OF ME !!"

HERE'S WHAT ITS ALL ABOUT!

Hi Bob Aug. 23, 2005

We are definitely planning on attending the reunion next summer. We are thinking about plans and wondered when the activities actually begin and close. We would appreciate any information that you might have. Thanks

Also a very wonderful event happened last week. My husband Steve was reading e-mails and I noticed he had tears in his eyes and not being a real emotional sort, I thought that something was wrong. He had just received a message from a fellow Orleck shipmate from 30 years ago. They have exchanged messages and have also talked on the phone since. It was such a wonderful visit for both guys. The register has proven to be a success. Thanks

Steve Miller (Wendy)
SH2 1971-72

Editor's Note—*You made my day. I don't get too emotional myself but .... These are the things that drive me and other volunteers and make it worthwhile.*

Donation in support of USS ORLECK RESTORATION

In lieu of a traditional Anniversary gift, Art and Helen Easley (SK 3 1950-52) have requested from their family to send donations to help restore the 'ORLECK". Please accept the donation of $48.00 in honor of mom and dad being married for forty-eight years.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DAD AND MOM
Patricia & Jimmy Ferguson, and Rachel Ergas.

What Better Way to Celebrate a Special Time.

To EPIC
From Art & Helen Easley

To Celebrate our 48th Anniversary for 2004 we are bypassing gifts to each other and sending the enclosed check for USS ORLECK–

Go Navy!

Art and Helen Easley

Sam Briggins shares his past with his 3 sons aboard USS ORLECK.

Hi Bob

Sorry my dues are late getting in, but we have had medical problems. I have had to have a heart cauterization and now I am on more medicine. My wife has a brain tumor and is going to have surgery.

I took all 3 of my sons down to the ORLECK a year ago and showed then all through the ship—the gun mount I was assigned to and also the sleeping compartment where my rack was. We all enjoyed the trip and also seeing the ORLECK. And they all walked the deck that their Dad did 50 years ago.

We are planning to come to Orange for the reunion next year, and I believe that some of my sons are coming with us.

Sam Bridgins
TMSN 1951-52

Leo Lachowicz coming to Reunion!

Dear Bob: June 30, 2005

I'm a little late with my dues etc. Been in and out of the hospital for various reasons. The latest was for two new knees. Still not 100%! Had it done March 5. I'm planning to attend the 2006 Reunion in N.C.

Was sorry to see a few of my shipmates in the Memorial Roster of the latest SCUTTLEBUTT. Hope you and Barb are doing fine. So far I'm hanging in there.

As always
Leo (Ski) Lachowicz
EMC 1949-54

We found another shipmate!

Dear Bob: 12-14-2004

I was in the 107th Seabee Battalion U.S. Navy prior to being assigned to the USS ORLECK. The ship left Charleston, SC (1945) and went through the Panama Canal to San Diego. I left the ship there for home since I then had earned enough points to get out of the Navy.

I look forward to receiving some of the newsletters and to other activities.

John Milton Mills Blake
MME2 1945

Bob. 3-4-2004

Thanks for the SCUTTLEBUTT and 2/04 newsletter. Enclosed find $15.00 each for 2003 and 2004 dues plus $100.00 to keep up the good work.

The throw run/cover I received on December 2003 is great and occupies a place of honor in our house.

John E. Lewis
Ens SC/LTJG
10/58 thru 1959

HIGHLY RECOMMENDS BRANSON AS A REUNION LOCATION!

Dear Bob, 3-31-04

I highly recommend Branson as a reunion location. In Sept – Oct 1998 Isabel and I attended reunion of the Richard B. Anderson DD 786 (which I served on during the Korean War, 50-52) at the Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. We made a side trip, by bus, to Branson, Missouri and enjoyed it very much. See enclosed information from my files. You may want to consider a side trip to Eureka Springs from Branson. Of very special interest is the 'Great Passion Play', a must see, a must do item if you are in the vicinity.

A must see, must do item in Branson would be to see one or maybe two of the shows. They are fantastic!

I would recommend a 4 to 4 ½ day reunion in Branson. There are many, many attraction in Branson and vicinity to visit. Most of the better travel agencies in this area have tours to Branson on their schedules. It is a popular vacation travel destination.

I'm sorry to say that because of Isabel's health, we do not anticipate being able to attend the 2007 Branson Reunion.

.

With best wishes
Lou Jagucki
ENS 45-46, Plank Owner

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: *I am preparing for that reunion in 2007 now. At the Hawaii reunion it was strongly voted on that we hold such a reunion in Branson in 2007. I have been there once and I just know that all who attend will have a wonderful and patriotic time.*

Dear Bob March 14, 2004

I am sending Pete's dues for 2004 and I have enclosed an additional $10.00 to be used for postage.

We received the (2) SCUTTLEBUTTS and want you to know how much we enjoy them.....what a lot of work you put into them.....we thank you!!

Things are going quite well for us now.....we both have our share of health problems but we are working on regaining our health ..... not any easy task at our age.

We have had so many adjustments to make since my Mother's death. She had lived with us since December of 1982 until she fell and broke her leg after that she was in a Nursing Home right here in our home town. I went 2 to 3 times a day to visit her and done all of her laundry along with bringing her home for a few hours when she was well enough to come.

Still have regrets about missing Hawaii but it was simply not meant to be for us.

Sincerely

Pete & Jeanette Long
BG2 1951-55

Title
ONE THING LEADS TO THE OTHER!

Dear Bob: July 8, 2005

Looked up the website and it is great. Junior has already heard from shipmate Russ Frye. I am sending a roster correction form along with dues for 2004, 2005 & 2006. Sometimes I have to be reminded that the dues haven't been paid so when Junior doesn't see his name he lets me know. Sorry for the oversight.

Yours Truly

Jerry Oakes
William Oakes FTSN 1952-56

Title—website helps find old friend
Title-oops I owe dues---this is why we post or should I say that. Also link with letter from Paul Beadle.

PAUL PAYNE IS ALIVE AND WELL

Bob, 8-4-98

I reported aboard ORLECK in June 1970 as a Machinery Repairman Third Class. My memories of the time I spent aboard ORLECK are some of my best. I don't recall that any particularly big event took place while I was aboard, but I do remember a great ship that had a great crew of officers and men. CDR Raymond Hine was the skipper, LCDR George Elliott was XO at the time (a great guy), my Division Officer was LTFG Bob Ulmer (another great guy) and CHENG (Chief Engineer) was Lt Menke. All were super.

From June 70 to about mid December, as I recall, we were in San Diego, mostly local operations and in port for upkeep. In December we left for a six months overhaul at Mare Island Naval Shipyard. My one clear memory is that just before we left I was on the beach with some of the guys in R Division and we were celebrating the coming holidays in true sailor fashion. We were finishing off the celebratory sprits on the pier at 32nd Street Naval Station when we were collared by the Shore Patrol, written up and unceremoniously deposited back aboard ORLECK. She was outboard of a destroyer tender at the time, I think it was the Samuel Gompers. Anyway nothing much happened or was said and I thought that maybe the whole thing had been forgotten. Well after we were settled in at Mare Island, high and dry on blocks in the drydock, Captain Hine held captains mast. Myself and the other three guys I was with were the stars of the production. After a good dressing down Captain Hine fined everyone $25 dollars, except for me, I got hit for $50 since I was senior and as the skipper told me I should have known better.

The yard period was pretty uneventful, hard work, long days, all we wanted to do was get the ship put together and get the h—l out of there. I recall that after we left Mare Island we went to Vancouver B.C. for a port visit. Man those Canadi-

(Continued on page 47-alive & well)

DECK LOGS: HAVE SOME GREAT READING IN THEM!

January 1, 1946 0000-0400 Watch

Moored to the BRINKLEY BASS on our starboard side,
The USS KEARNY on our port does ride.
At Pier Dog Six Charleston Navy Yard,
The O.D. does think he is quite a bard.

Fresh water and salt, electricity and steam,
Are services given this Navy team.
Com. Six Nav. Dist. is SOPA,
About us various ships of Lant Flt lay.

Entered and initialed are the weather reports,
Tis rather chilly in this southern port.
Thus we of the watch greet the New Year,
Sober, quite, unimaginative we fear.

No giggles, no girls, no dancing, no dodging
Of traffic from club to place of our lodging.
Now a wish for happiness to all we decide,
From Schweitzer, Nero, and Whiteside.

W. T. Schweitzer, LTJG, USNR

January 1, 1956 0000-0400 Watch

It's a bright moonlight night in the South China Sea,
Old man '55 has just been set free;
The Task Group is steaming on course two three five,
Our speed is twelve knots - we are hardly alive;

Formation is forty with concentric screen closed,
We're in screen station three - a mite indisposed;
Six stations we have, on screen circle four,
With station one empty and waiting for more;

The main body ships, number but two,
The Kearsarge is there and Bennington too;
The guide is in Kearsarge - he bears two six one,
At five thousand yards don't we have fun;

The Task Group we're in - seven seven point four,
Has been doing type-training and we're in for some more;
The Task Group Commander - ComCarDiv One,
is embarked in the Bennington - he's the big gun;

ComDesDiv One Thirty Two is in charge of the screen,
Embarked in O'Brien - he hasn't been mean;
The Perkins is joining to take station one,
On picket she's been and it hasn't been fun;

Boilers one and four we've now on the line,
With number one generator, everything's fine;
The ship is all lighted - Condition is IV,
And Baker is set, so who can be sore;

At zero two thirteen the Perkins steamed in,
She took station one and filled out the screen;
That's all for this watch, but never you fear,
There'll be plenty more 'ere we close out this year.

C. P. Sinfield, LT, USN

(Continued from page 4-Bob Dole)

have a copy of this in my proud possessions, a four sentence statement. I don't remember it word for word but it was to be handed out to the press if the landing failed. And the little note said something like this. "Our landing has failed and we have withdrawn the troops. We acted upon the best advice we could have received. The troops, Army, Navy, Marines and Air force, all did all devotion and duty that was called for. If there was any failure in the attempt, it was mine alone."

That is the decision Joe Orleck made. Eisenhower understood and he made the decision . He could have blamed the weather. He could have blamed Montgomery. He could have blamed a multitude of things. Whether he learned from his mother (Joe's mother never knew), whether he learned from his brother, whether he learned at West Point, he understood accountability. You make a decision! If it's a success everyone wants a piece of the action. If it's a failure as Present Kennedy said "its an orphan". Eisenhower understood responsibility and leadership go together. There are probably men and women here who have made those kinds of decisions. I do not know everybody in the audience. But if you have you had to put men and women in harms way.

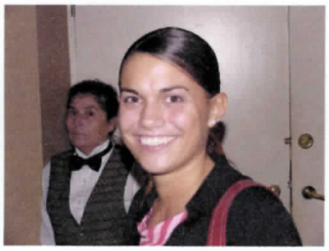
And the rest is history. Even though a little chaotic I read in Steve Ambrose and some of the books about D-Day that we landed in the wrong place at the wrong time, primarily because of the weather and not because of the planning. But the rest is history. The invasion was successful. It shortened the war. It reduced the number of deaths. It brought victory and peace.

We had a relatively long period of peace because the men and women, like Joe, who understand that sometime in your life you may be called upon to make the sacrifice for your country to preserve liberty and freedom. We don't know when that will be. Some of them are doing that now in Iraq and Afghanistan. My own division, the 10th Mountain Division is in Afghanistan and probably your outfit, Navy, Marines, Army, or whatever are doing many good things in these two countries. And as a result 50,000,000 people now have a little taste of freedom because Americans were willing to serve and have been since the revolution.

There have always been enough men and more recently men and women who were willing to risk their lives, and step up to the plate to preserve liberty and freedom. Nobody can exemplify that any better or make any better comparison than the man we memorialize today. So I'm very proud to be a part of this ceremony. Like all of you, I didn't know Joe Orleck. In 1944 I was somewhere else in Italy and there were a lot of people, a lot of men as I said who never had a chance to join a labor union, to be in business, to be in politics or do certain things. because their country came first. I think that's pretty much the way its always been and I am very positive it will always be that way.

We did not ask to be the world leaders. Whether it is spiritual leader, or technology, whether its military or economic, its the role we have or the burden we have to bear as Americans. It is because we are the one Superpower remaining in the world. We are never seeking territory. Conquest is not the American way. Liberating is the American Way as many of you did in WW II. As many like Joe gave their lives in World War II.

So I say on behalf of all of Joe's family and other friends and all of you who served in any conflicts and those who stayed at home to help us make us successful, thank you for your service and God Bless America.































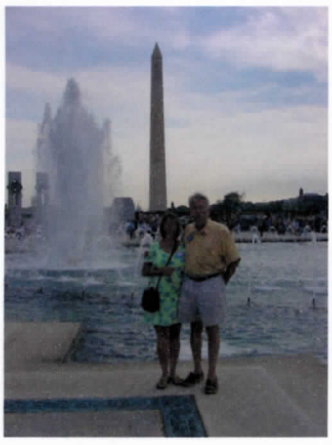
















GENE EVERSON & NEPHEW DAVID ARE A CHORE TO KEEP UP WITH.

Dear Bob March 22, 2004

As I was reading the SCUTTLEBUTTs I just received I was reminded that I had not yet sent in my dues for 2004. I am enclosing a check for the dues plus a little to help defray the costs of the SCUTTLEBUTT. I did enjoy reading the news and marvel how you find time to put those things together and get them out on a regular basis.

I spent a couple of days in Orange at the February Field Days and worked harder than I would have for any paying job. Trying to keep up with Gene Everson and his nephew was quite a chore.

...

I am enclosing the Branson reunion survey. We have been to Branson once and enjoyed our stay there. I think it will be a good place to hold a reunion. As for us, Florida for the following reunion sounds good to me. Have no desire to visit Disney World or other theme parks, but getting together with shipmates in a pretty locale is always nice. Remember that summer time in Florida is not much better than Houston when it comes to heat and humidity.

Newt Ward
LTJG 1957-60

FULFILLING DREAM!

Dear Bob: 3/16/04

Sorry I have not been in touch in awhile. Life and all its demands and before you know another year has gone by. Received the latest SCUTTLEBUTT. Glad all had a good trip to Hawaii. I was in Tahiti 2 years ago fulfilling a 40 year dream.

Two years ago while on vacation I stopped in Orange and visited the ORLECK... Enclosed is a check for $100.00. Please bring my dues up to date and use the rest for the Association or EPIC. God willing I will be at the next reunion.

Norm Waldron YN2 1956-59

Dear Bob: 1 July 2005

.... I have lost track of the years I have paid/not paid organization dues-but think I was paid up through 2003. Enclosed is check for 04, 05 and 06. Whatever is over the amount is for organization costs for ORLECK. Juanita is doing great. I would like to turn in my back and left shoulder for new but am otherwise doing OK also. We plan on attending the 06 reunion barring any unforeseen events.

Patrick & Juanta Ranger
CWO4 1949-52

A request from an ORLECK sailor's wife

Sirs:

I thought some of the members might remember my husband Frank P. Pryor, who served on the ORLECK from 11/1949 to 2/1952. He retired as a LtCdr in 1959. He passed away 1999. He had a lot of fond memories of the ORLECK and those friends who served with him. I am so sorry Frank didn't live to attend the convention, as he wanted to get together with the gang.

Mrs. Frank Prior
307 Windhorst Road
Brandon, FL 33510-2527

Dear Bob 4-5-04

The enclosed check is to cover the cost of my dues and any other items that you can use the money to cover... Good luck with the restoration of Orleck and I look forward to visiting when the ship has its reunion in Orange. I know for those that have not seen the ship since having left her will find the visit quite nostalgic.

Thank you for keeping the Orleck extended family together.

Paul Romilly,
DCCS (ret) 1965-67

(Continued from page 3-Everson)

Orange. We also have organized and held a number of Field Day Events that brought volunteers with the expertise and elbow grease needed to help achieve the restoration. Our accomplishments are considerable and I wish to share some examples with you.

EPIC* has responded to grants to aid in their utilities, insurance, and the costs in bringing the 440 volt electrical service on board. EPIC* responded to a grant that enabled SETWM&HF to purchase the Crows Nest (the dock side ships store building). We found 16 M-44 torpedoes, about 100 5" projectiles and arranged and paid for the transportation of them to the ship during a field day so the appropriate people were there to supervise their storage aboard ship. All this has been possible because of your generous contributions to EPIC*. and also your valuable physical assistance given to the Field Days activities. The field days are no picnic; the local druggist claims that after each event the consumption of Ibuprophen and Ben Gay went up considerably.

People have been very creative in supporting the Orleck restoration project. While many invested their time, sweat and money, others have done what they can in any way they can. One Orleck Sailor from the San Francisco Bay Area told his family that all future gifts, birthday, fathers day, Christmas, whatever be donations in his name to EPIC*. for the restoration of the Orleck.

Some are physically restricted but have sponsored friends and/or relatives to attend the field days. I have seen Orleck Sailors with their sons, daughters, and grandchildren chipping paint, painting, turning nuts and bolts, laughing and joking with each other like they were on a picnic. If you were to look up," quality time shared" in the dictionary, it would show a picture of that work detail. Let me be honest with you as a witness to that work detail I got a lump in my throat and a tear in my eye because I know that that family will remember their field day with fondness for years. Long after these old Salts have sailed off into the sunset you can bet there

(Continued on page 28-Everson)

(Continued from page 3 Thanks DD 886)
and ammo. The CO drove, the XO was cutting wire bands on the ammo and everyone carried something somewhere. Now when food was being handled not all the packages made it to the storeroom. I am sure each of us has a story to tell about when some of the stores was damaged or misplaced.

As a young sailor I watched the officers and chiefs' work and I thought they had it pretty easy. So I set a goal to become one, after all my dad did not own a farm and I did not want to work in a meat-packing house. I understood that rank has its privileges but I did not understand its responsibilities. As I moved up the ranks understood the responsibility of being a leader. While aboard the Orleck I saw good and bad leaders and took something from both. I saw things that I would never do to my sailors and other things that I made sure was always done for my sailors.

Discipline I learned first hand. Upon my return to the ship after a brief period of unauthorized absence, I experienced Captains Mast first hand. At my hearing I witnessed what leadership and responsibility is really about. The chief spoke well of me but he also said I needed to be taught a lesson. Thirty days of restriction to the ship should do. In those days that was in port days only. What I took away from that experience was that the skipper and chief weren't really mad at me for taking a little extra liberty, but for not letting them know where I was. They were concerned about my welfare. A lesson we all learn as leaders or as parents. From that time on I always made my phone number available to my sailors and asked them to call me anytime they had a problem no matter what time it was.

I found that being a good will ambassador was better than being an ugly American. It was surprising how well you would be treated if all you did were smile, act friendly and try to learn a few simple words of the local language. Please, Thank You, Hello, and Good Bye would open doors into the local culture and customs that you could not find in the G.I. bars. When it comes to being offered local fare of food and drink, I found it best not to ask what was in it. If you knew you may not eat it. For the most part it always tasted good besides it would be an insult to your host if you did not partake. We also became international bankers. We would research ways to get the most Yen, Pesos, Hong Kong dollars possible for the good old American green back.

Naval Customs and Ceremonies held aboard the Orleck taught me why the Navy did things the way they did them. From Burial at sea, rendering honors to the USS Arizona to Ceremonies such as Awards, Retirement, and Reenlistments. There was a purpose of how such things were to be done. One of the most time honored ceremonies was when we crossed the equator. The transition from pollywog to shellback goes back to the day of wooden ships and men of steel. It connected us with every sailor that ever crossed the line. As we made the transition we met many interesting people; Davy Jones and his locker, King Neptune and the Royal court and who will ever forget kissing the Royal Babies belly.

Life aboard the U.S.S. Orleck gave me an education that would shape me as a sailor and an American. It was the first step of my Navy career and I could not have been luckier than to have the Orleck experience as a foundation. For those of you that served aboard the Orleck during my learning experience thank you for your part in making me a better shipmate. Gene Haukoos

HM3 1970-72

USS CRAIG TO PARTICIPATE IN ORLECK RESTORATION?

Rex,

I spent a week in Galveston, Texas, last January, to warm up from the Minnesota winter. While there I went to Orange Texas to see the Orleck. I had heard it was there as the sole survivor of our squadron. I met three Orleck crewmen, Jerry Hernke, David Murphree and Gene Everson, who were aboard the same time I was on the Craig, 56-58. I had spent a week or so aboard the Orleck in 57 or 58 on TAD.

Anyway, the Orleck is owned by The Southwest Texas War Memorial & Heritage Foundation in Orange, Steve "Stretch" Phillips, President, which is overseeing it's restoration and have it open to visitors. The Orleck and many other ship were built in Orange during "the war."

The Destroyer USS Orleck DD886 Association, Bob Orleck (Executive Director), is participating fully in this effort with frequent field days dedicated to the restoration effort.

Touring the ship last January I saw the results of their work and discussed their efforts to date. They are inviting the Parks, Perkins and Craig associations to participate in the restoration work and also inviting each to set up an individual compartment display. One display is already in place. The Foundation has stated "We would love to have the picture of the USS Craig to hang in the wardroom."

The Orleck Association invites the Craig association to work with them on the restoration project. Apparently there was some interface in the past that did not work out well. But, I am assured that new leadership in place that has only the "... the good of the ship..." and that of the squadron ".. at heart."

Rex, as President of the USS John R. Craig Reunion Association I wish to propose to you that this issue, Support and participation of the Orleck restoration project, be placed on the executive committe's agenda at our reunion in September for discussion. I plan on returning to Galveston and Orange in January and could do some on-site coordination and fact finding. I have become aware that the Perkins has scheduled a reunion in Orange, September 29th-October 2nd, they may be already involved in the restoration. Dan Jackson, Sr. is the contact.

Please advise,

Don Hamilton
USS John R.Craig, 1956-1958

Editor's Note: See Page 38 for more on the USS CRAIG, sister ship of USS ORLECK.

(Continued from page 3-Bob O.)

perienced. Yes, each reunion might be our last one and so I would encourage you to come. I know you will have a wonderful time. I have structured The Wilmington Reunion so you will have a great deal of time to spend with your friends. We are not going to run ourselves ragged trying to get in as much as we can. It will be a quality reunion and a time for remembrance and fun. I know that travel costs are increasing but most of us waste a lot on things that matter little. I hope you consider the value of these reunions to the quality of your life and commit yourself to come to Wilmington in spite of the added cost. Registration has been a bit slow and I want to encourage you to register now and let me know you will be there. It truly helps me with the planning and keeps me from worrying that we are losing our touch. So please get the reunion registration in and I will extend the early registration until January 1, 2006 so you can save some money that you can spend on gasoline if necessary. We had originally planned a reunion in October 2005 in Orange but the situation there with lack of quality hotels and sufficient hotel space as well as other matters made planning such an event next to impossible. I hope to be addressing in a bit more detail in the next SCUTTLEBUTT. Issues surrounding our ship, reunions at our ship and things that you may have only heard rumor of or you had just wondered about. Gene Everson's report indicates the need for much support for the good people who are trying hard in Orange to preserve the USS ORLECK. We and many of you do what can be done through EPIC* but we will be talking to you more in the future about what else you can do. Over the five years the USS ORLECK was in Orange, the leadership there at that time wasted many opportunities, discouraged many volunteers and alienated many people including the City officials. In addition, it has become apparent to me that the City of Orange does not have the vision that they need to help make the USS ORLECK museum project a success. Such a museum would be a boost to their economy

(Continued on page 40-Bob O.)



Mike Cooper Ohio Car License Number

"I just bought a new car for my wife. it's in my name so I can get Vietnam Vet plates for it. Some other Orleck sailor from the buckeye State must have DD 886 so I got the next best thing. I hope you enjoy the attachment which is a photo of the new plates. Cooper"

THANKS FOR HELPING WITH THE MEMORIES. ITS REALLY BEEN WONDERFUL.

Hi Bob,

I located a roll of microfilm in the Ohio Historical Society archives in Columbus Ohio, that should have the two-part article on your uncle and the ship, from October of 1967 (newspaper is no longer in publication, it was The Sentinel, from Wellston, OH). I located it on the Ohio Historical Society web site, and have asked a local library to obtain it through the Inter-Library Loan program. As soon as I can get copies of the articles, I'll send a set to you.

My father has really enjoyed the emails and birthday wishes from former shipmates, thank you for that. He had really put his service out of his thoughts for so many decades, as so many do, and the reminiscing has been good for him. One thing my father did remember was the story of your uncle and how the ship came to be named after him. The men thought highly of your uncle and his actions, and were so proud to be on that ship. They considered the man and the ship to be one and the same, and actually felt protected by that.

Dad also remembers an incident on his first tour at sea off the coast of Japan when they rode out a typhoon, and lost a man overboard for a while, eventually recovered him but not until the anchor had knocked him on the head (must have been a hard head!).

He remembers being on night watch at the sonar station and he and the other guys in the ASW room would raid the spud locker for potatoes and onions, and the galley for butter, and make potato soup in a coffee pot.

He also remembers when the Orleck was in the movie "An American Guerilla In The Philippines", starring Tyrone Powers, when they were in port at Subic Bay Naval Station in the Philippines. He said the ship played the part of a Japanese destroyer in the movie, and actually flew a Japanese flag. I'm going to have to get that movie and watch it!

Thanks again for helping with the memories, it really has been wonderful. Someday soon I know my father would like to go down and see the ship, as would I.

Sincerely, John House
Son of Harold (Howdy) House

USS ORLECK loses another of her original crew-Landrum Dean Fowler

Dear Bob: 6/21/2005

With sadness in my heart, I hereby must inform you that my dear husband and plank owner, LANDRUM DEAN FOWLER passed away at home on the 2nd of June 2005.

Respectfully
Margie Fowler
3153 Avon Place
Hemet, CA 92545



One of 2 plaques given to USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION and to EPIC* (THE ORLECK STRIPPERS) for work done for USS ORLECK to gain materiel and do Field Days. Given by SETWM&HF

USS ORLECK DD 886

INFORMATION PAGE

This form is to be used for reunion registration, survey replies or any other reason for which you are contacting the Destroyer USS ORLECK ASSN. This form can be used with registration or information requests on page 45 or to include when you write a letter or make any other inquiry of any kind. By filling this out it will help in keeping information straight and enable us to get a quick response to you.
If you need more name space please photocopy this page and use that as well.

Names and address of those attending. (If you need more name space, photocopy this page and use the copy)

1. _____ _____, _____, _____, _____
Name Address City State Zip Code

_____ _____, _____, _____
Adult or Child Phone Number e-mail (please print twice to make sure I can read it. Thanks

2. _____ _____, _____, _____, _____
Name Address City State Zip Code

_____ _____, _____, _____
Adult or Child Phone Number e-mail (please print twice to make sure I can read it. Thanks

3. _____ _____, _____, _____, _____
Name Address City State Zip Code

_____ _____, _____, _____
Adult or Child Phone Number e-mail (please print twice to make sure I can read it. Thanks

4. _____ _____, _____, _____, _____
Name Address City State Zip Code

_____ _____, _____, _____
Adult or Child Phone Number e-mail (please print twice to make sure I can read it. Thanks

****

If you are a USS ORLECK sailor please provide the following information:

1. Last Rate/Rank held when you served aboard USS ORLECK_____
2. Total years served in Navy _____
3. Specific Years served aboard USS ORLECK (i.e.. 1948-51) _____

****

The following request recognizes that the majority of you who are filling out this form are either a USS ORLECK sailor, a friend of one, family or friend. We would like to know. Use the number to relate to the registration number above.
ie.. 1) shipmate or USS ORLECK sailor 2) spouse, son, daughter, and so forth . If 2 above is wife enter spouse next to 2)
1)_____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____

****

Mail form to:

USS ORLECK DD886 ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 213, RANDOLPH, VT 05060

For more information call 802-728-9806 or send e-mail to bob@ussorleck.com
Check our website at www.ussorleck.com

GIFTS IN HONOR OF. . .

Some people wish to give gifts to honor someone living or who has died. They might want to do this on that person's birthday, anniversary, father's day or just to have that person remembered at any time. Some might want to request that gifts be given to EPIC in lieu of flowers when they pass. Others might want to honor a group of people on a special occasion such as September 11th or Memorial Day. This page will be dedicated to presenting those wishes and allowing people to honor their loved ones, living or dead. This can be a wonderful opportunity to not only say "I love you" in the living years but to do something meaningful to save the ship that means so much to him and others.

Who	Donation	In Honor of...
Rachel Ergas	$30 to EPIC	Merry Christmas to Art Easley
Nancy Kronander	$40.00 to EPIC	Happy Birthday Art Easley
Helen Easley	$75.00 to EPIC	Happy 75th Birthday to Art
Mike & Kathleen Lineberry	$100.00 TO EPIC	Merry Christmas to Art Easley



To: EPIC (USS ORLECK)
From: Art & Helen Easley

To Celebrate our "49th" Anniversary for "2004" we are by-passing gifts to each other and sending the enclosed check for the USS Orleck - Go Navy!

Art & Helen

Continued on P. 25

Gifts In Honor Of (continued from page 24)

Who	Donation	In Honor of...
Robert Orleck	$109.09 to EPIC	In Memory of Gertrude Orleck Mother
Shirley Orleck	$109.09 to EPIC	In Memory of Gertrude Orleck Mother
Art & Helen Easley May, 2004	$48.00 to EPIC	Celebration of 48th Anniversary.
Alice Collini, Melinda Moore, Cecil Jeffrey Moore	$100.00 to EPIC	To our Father Cecil W. Moore Jr., Store Keeper 2nd Class USS ORLECK 1951-52
Patricia & Jimmy Ferguson & Rachel Ergas June 20, 2004	$48.00 to EPIC	Happy Anniversary Dad and Mom to Art and Helen Easley USS ORLECK (SK3 1950-52)
Cora E. Ray June 24, 2004	$50.00 to EPIC	In Memory of Clyde Ray USS ORLECK Passed away 5/10/2004
Patricia & Jimmy Ferguson & Rachel Ergas June 20, 2004	$45.00 to EPIC	Happy Father's Day to Arthur Easley USS ORLECK (SK3 1950-52)
Linda and William Robinson June 20, 2004	$47.00 to EPIC	Happy Father's Day to Arthur Easley USS ORLECK (SK3 1950-52)
Helen Easley June 2004	$48.00 to EPIC	Happy Father's Day to Arthur Easley USS ORLECK (SK3 1950-52)

Continued on Page 26

Gifts In Honor Of (continued from page 25)

Who	Donation	In Honor of...
Richard Speaker	$500.00 to EPIC	This is a matching Gift from Richard's Employer.
Estelle Young May 17, 2004	$118.00 to EPIC to help pay for fuel costs for the transfer paid by EPIC	To my deceased husband who would have been 90 years old today.
Connie & Larry Hegre	$30.00	In honor of Arthur Easley
Don Miller	$50.00	In Memorial to USS ORLECK Sailor Ivo Drees
Robert Saxbury	$10.00	In Memorial to USS ORLECK Sailor Ivo Drees
Glenn Whitehead	$50.00	In Memorial to USS ORLECK Sailor Ivo Drees
Bob & Barbara Orleck	$500.00	In Honor of USS ORLECK On her 60th Birthday
Steve & Carmen Norris	$40.00	Happy Birthday from Brother and Sister-In-Law
The Diaz Clan Family #2	$40.00	In Honor of Arthur Easley 76th Birthday 1/25/05

Continued on Page 27

Gifts In Honor Of (continued from page 26)

Who	Donation	In Honor of...
Robert Van Devender	$225.00	In Support of USS ORLECK and In Memory of Ivo B. Drees
Patricia, Jimmy & Rachel Ferguson 2005	$50.00	In lieu of a traditional Christmas and Birthday gift, my Dad and Jimmy & Rachel's Grandpa, Art Easley (SK3 1950-52 has requested family send donations to restore the USS ORLECK
Daniel J. Lawrie	$25.00	In Memory of Vito A. Crabtree
William & Jeanette Lawrie	$25.00	In Memory of Vito A. Crabtree
Patricia A. Crabtree	$100.00	In Memory of Vito A. Crabtree
Helen Easley	$30.00	Happy Father's Day 2005 To Art Easley
Helen Easley	$49.00	Represents 49 years of Marriage as of May 15, 2005 to Arthur Easley
David M. & Cynthia Drees	$20.00	In Memory of IVO B. DREES

Continued on Page 34

PHILLY STRIP TRIP RECOLLECTIONS by Joe Moran

I am proud to relate some of my experiences from STRIP TRIP III in Philadelphia on April 12, 2004. The 12th arrived as a cold, gray, damp, windy day with the promise of rain in the afternoon. I waited inside the Inactive Ships office for the Monday Strip Trip crew of Bob Orleck, Gene Everson, and Mark Gallagher to arrive and start the day. Once we assembled and were assign our escort, Dujaun, we made our way over to the USS OLIVER HAZARD PERRY FFG-7. While not exactly the vintage of the ORLECK, I hoped that she might have some goodies that we could use, since she had just been removed off the museum hold list and was in good shape. This is a class of ship that I am very familiar with and found the old memories coming back as soon as I came aboard. With the teams permission I kinda took the position of bloodhound/ferret and started to scrounge the ship for goodies. This is my third trip and the one thing I have discovered on these trips is to look everywhere - open all doors, lockers, drawers, file cabinets, and boxes, crates etc. We made our way down to the engineering section of the ship and found some tools & wrenches of use for ORLECK. While looking around we found the machine shop and was able to tag a drill press for disconnect and removal later that day. Working our way aft we found some lifelines etc that were tagged for us. We then proceeded to work our way forward to the "OLD GOATS LOCKER" (Chief Petty Officer's living and sleeping quarters). While Mark was removing various items there, Bob and Gene went to the wardroom and found the toaster and milk machine we needed. I continued to search about looking for that one or two rare finds that make this all worth it. As I came up to the ship's store I came to the ship's vault. The door was unlocked so I pulled open the door and my eyes popped out of my head. All kind of goodies/treasure were inside. I quickly closed the door and ran for Bob & Gene back aft. When I came up to Bob I had a huge smile on my face and said something to the effect of "BOB!!!! YOU GOT TO COME WITH ME NOW!!!!!!!!!! YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT I FOUND, BUT I HAVED EARNED MY KEEP FOR THE DAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Both Bob & Gene dropped what they were doing and followed me back to the ship's vault. I pulled open the door and both Bob & Gene's eyes grew wide with excitement and the three of us started to act like kids on Christmas morning after we found that Santa had been there. Inside the vault were all kinds of treasure. We spent the rest of the morning cataloging and taking inventory to get Inactive Ship's blessing to remove the items. After our lunch break we started the process of loading our treasure into Gene's truck. The rest of the day was anti-climatic but I was proud of the accomplishments of the ORLECK Strip team that day. I am ready & willing for Strip Trip IV this October. Joe Moran

(Continued from page 20-Everson)

will be conversations over the dinner table or at a family picnic about the time they helped Grandpa fix up the Orleck.

I believe that this is a positive trend for this project's future. After all, the purpose of a museum's existence is to educate future generations. And it is well documented that involvement is one of the best methods to educate. When there is hands-on involvement the retention of the lesson lives on forever.

So what is the Orleck's future? How are we doing? What are the pressing needs? We need a team with full time volunteer supervisors who are dependable and qualified to recruit, motivate and retain a volunteer work force. We need to do more in the way of fundraising even if it becomes necessary to retain a professional fundraising firm. We need to prepare and deliver presentations around the nation through our members and through the technology of CDs, DVDs and Power Point presentations. We need to get the message out. What does all this mean? It

(Continued on page 29-Everson)

Hi Bob ---

Just wanted to let you know that my copy of the Scuttlebutt arrived on Saturday. I was glad to get the update on the Ship's roster. I noticed some new names in there of former shipmates that I had wondered where they were. My registration for the reunion will be going out in the mail within the next few days.

Even though it's a workday,

(Continued on page 43-Davis)

4TH OF JULY SEE USS ORLECK DD 886 FIVE INCH GUNS IN ACTION!

"My name is Keith Bowsher. I'm an ordinance man on the USS ORLECK DD 886 berthed in Orange, Texas. I restored the after 5 inch gun mount, twin mount, 5 inch 38. What I want to do on July 4, 2005 I want to fire a 2-gun salvo. It will be the first 2-gun salvo fired from a Gearing Class Destroyer or any other class of destroyer used as a museum in the United States. I want this to be a Texas first. I want no credit for nothing. I want everything to go to the USS ORLECK. I would like to have write-ups in the Tin Can Sailors. I would like to have write-ups in the Gunners Mates of America magazines. The ORLECK needs all this recognition. It's the only Gearing Class Destroyer than can or will fire one round out of the left barrel, the right barrel, the left barrel, the right barrel and then the last salvo will be a 2 gun salvo coming out of Mount 52. This will be an absolute first for any destroyer being used as a museum ship and I want the USS ORLECK to get all the credit for this. I want all the publicity to go to the USS ORLECK."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Keith is one great guy who has worked tirelessly to restore Mount 52. All he wants is to see published that USS ORLECK had a 2 gun salvo fired and he wanted the pictures shown as well. If you have such a photo send it and I will print it next edition.



Keith Bowsher

Hi Bob,

No problem about the newsletters, Dad did get them and he has been reading them. His health isn't too good, he's had several cancer surgeries and has little energy most days. He's been a little slow in responding to all the nice letters sent to him, and I know he wants to email you and ask about the membership and what constitutes a dues-paying member's privileges. I'm sure he'll get around to all that soon.

You are welcome to publish anything I have written to you. Dad really has enjoyed hearing from you and the shipmates. He would be thrilled to have a mention in the Scuttlebutt.

I wish I could help you out with the web site. I know something about web technical issues and such, I am a computer programmer by trade and work for the Treasury Department, Bureau of the Public Debt, where I produce web applications for anyone who invests with the U.S. Government. It is a narrow scope of responsibilities, and I've never published anything on the Internet for private companies or individuals. I also have little time I could dedicate to it, but if there is anything I can do to help, I'd be glad to try.

I am working on that newspaper article, I've got the county library doing an Inter Library Loan for the microfilm from the Ohio Historical Society that should have those articles, it will take a few weeks.

We had a wonderful birthday party for Dad, I was able to procure an Orleck hat from the Texas association, they also sent a hat pin and some brochures. We took pictures of him wearing the hat and holding his Navy medals, and let me tell you he was a proud papa. As soon as I can, I'll email some of those pictures to you.

Attached is a picture of Dad, taken when he was on a cruise on the Orleck, he thinks it was taken in Hawaii.

Thanks again for everything.

John House



Bob 6-10-05

First of all I want to thank you for all that you have done for me and for all of the ex-crew of the USS ORLECK DD 886. I think that we are all proud to have been on the ORLECK. If it hadn't been for you and the others who have worked with you I would still not have any idea of our ship and shipmates were still afloat. God bless you!

There are a couple of things that I would like to be enlightened about. I would like to know what the dues are for our membership. I'm sending a check for $25 which I hope will cover my dues for 2005 and maybe more. I also would like to know if there is a printed list of all of the members of our band. If these are available I would appreciate it if you could send them to me.

My wife and I hopefully will be attending the 2006 reunion in Wilmington. I'm really looking forward to that. I don't suppose there are too many of my old shipmates still around. As my son told you I hit 75 this last June 10 and the old guy ain't what he use to be.

I believe I've already spotted one of my ex sonar mates. We had SO1 come aboard by the name of Salazar when they called in the reserves during the Korean conflict. I just saw a letter from Carlos Salazar in one of the Scuttlebutts and I'm wondering if that could be our man.

Well I'll close for now, and again thank you for everything.

With regards,
Howard (Howdy) House
SO2 5714330

Editor's Note: *To answer your questions publicly, if you are a USS ORLECK sailor you are a lifetime member. As for dues they are voluntary and we suggest $15 per year. Some give over and above that as you did and that helps to defray costs since some do not contribute. We have a roster that is printed and one was just sent to you.*

(Continued from page 28-Everson)

means that we will have to continue our field days with renewed enthusiasm and effort. It means more frequent field days and more volunteers from the association and from the surrounding area.

The population within a hundred miles of the ship is huge and our experience with the local residences has been very positive especially since we have new management at STWM&HF. We have found that there is a general lack of knowledge of the desperate need for volunteers by the residents in the surrounding communities. Those who did volunteer in the past were not provided a consistent motivating environment to work in. So human nature being what it is, the volunteers that were disappointed just discovered more satisfying endeavors to lose themselves in. I wish I could say this some other way but our financial needs are Huge!! Like our volunteering problem our financial obstacle does appear to be overwhelming. However it to can be overcome.

Never in the history of mankind has a worthwhile project or objective failed to be achieved because of a lack of funds. You can bet the farm on it. What's the catch? There is no catch the answer is "The Message". In any worthwhile project or objective there must be a Mission Statement that's so compelling and/or motivating that when related to the right person or persons enough times by enough people all obstacles become minor details. It's a law of nature just as gravity causes things to fall down, why water freezes at 32 degrees F and boils at 212 degrees F. It's God's way, His rule of law.

Many times I have read the bumper sticker on my car and on some of your cars and trucks: It reads, "From Birth to Final Berth". This was the rallying cry that was so effective in bringing the Orleck back to Orange. Now that she is secured to the banks of her birth the Orleck has a new duty station, a monument to her past and a living inspiration for future generations. The USS ORLECK (DD886) is becoming a Texas Historical Museum. I believe that now is the time we should add to the slogan, "From Birth to Final Berth" this addition "Let Her Legacy Continue"

(Continued on page 40-Everson)



















Holiday Inn
GEORGETOWN



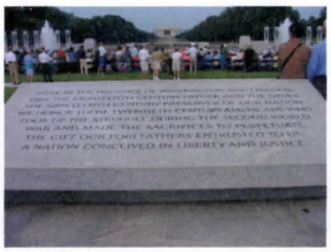


























Band march









Bob Dole



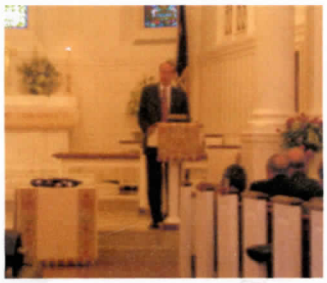












Speaker

THEY SHALL MEET AGAIN

The above named article appeared in the Summer 2005 edition of TRNews. The author is Ron Cohen, Vice President of Sales. I subscribe to their Reunion Network News. Their magazine provides me with numerous resources which helps me and thus the DESTROYER USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION in being able to put on quality reunions around the United States. I was moved by Mr. Cohen's article and asked and received his permission to reprint it in its entirety in our SCUTTLEBUTT.

They first met as young kids. They came from all walks of life. They came from very different religious backgrounds, diverse ethnic affiliations and social standings. Some were rich and some were not as fortunate; some were educated and some were not. There were born leaders and there were the followers. Most left behind families when they went off to war...mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, wives, husbands, children (some children they would never get to know, hold and love). Some would never return from strange, far away lands and those who did return would later be known as "the band of brothers."

There is a unique link between those who did not live and those that did. Those who did not live died with honor, and all who served fought in defense of freedom. Today, those that were privileged to be spared still weep for those who lost their lives and remain steadfast in their belief of liberty and freedom. It is that untenable thread of conscience that holds the two together.

Whenever the flag passes by in a parade or patriotic event, whenever we hear the majestic strains of our National Anthem, mostly it is the WW II veteran who stands out in the crowd. He stands tallest, he stands proudest and he stands with dignity because he knows the meaning of war and the sacrifices that must be made in the defense of freedom. In some sense, everyone that has served has been touched by the loss of a fallen brother-in-arms. He has lived silently and grieved in his own fashion for more than 60 years and knows full well that they shall meet again in a time and place that will provide eternal peace.

Sadly, the ranks of WW II veterans dwindle daily and soon the details of the smallest encounters will fade into oblivion, and major combat events will be footnotes in world history.

More than 400,000 men and women died in service to their country during WW II with some 93,000 buried in foreign soil. Their remains have been interred near where they fell, far from their loved ones, far from their comrades but never far from their minds or hearts.

They shall meet again in Heaven for surely they did serve in Hell! They came face-to-face with the enemy on foreign soil and looked fear in the eye for days on end on the ground, on the sea and in the air. They talked tough, worked with little sleep under the roughest conditions. They were not heroes but people just doing a job that had to be done. There were those that served Stateside with less trepidation and less apprehension but whose service was just as honorable.

Most certainly, "War is hell." How interesting that the statement was made not by a civilian but rather by William Tecumseh Sherman, one of the foremost generals of the Northern Army during the Civil War. As he addressed a group of military students upon their graduation, he made this statement, "I've been where you are now and I know just how you feel....that some day you can use the skill you have acquired here. Suppress it! You don't know the horrible aspects of war. I've been through two wars.... I have seen cities and homes in ashes. I've seen thousands of men lying on the ground, their dead faces looking up at the skies. I tell you, war is hell."

Many think of war as a glorious way to die. Personally, I think of it as a tragic way to die. Eternal, enduring fame may be gained in far better fashion. The waste of a life with an unknown future is the single most tragic aspect of war.

Too few today know or understand the gratitude we owe to all who served in WW II and still survive and to all those who have passed on. Those who served were not special men and women and were not performing any special acts. What they did was defined by the virtues of duty, courage, honor, service and love of country. They were brave individuals who answered "the call." They succeeded in battle despite great odds and a late start and defeated two of the most powerful and ruthless military machines ever assembled.

Those who remain with us even now do so in quiet modesty. To a man, they do not discuss what their lives may have been or what they may have missed. They served on ships, flew in planes and embarked on some of the most ferocious and significant battles in the history of mankind. All who served were willing to make the supreme sacrifice to secure this country and all future generations.

The men and women of this great generation are in the twilight of their magnificent years. Looking back is no longer an option. For most, the future holds but a few more years for them. They have come to revere what little time they have left, knowing they served their country with honor.

There is no disgrace in weeping for a fallen comrade with whom one has served. It is a tribute of the highest order to shed a tear for one who has pledged to give up his life so that yours may be spared. All veterans have the unique pleasure of knowing that "they shall meet again" in a time and a place for a cause for which they gave their "last full measure of devotion", understanding they did not die in vain, neither in peace nor war.

RECORDED MEMORIES

(some lost-some not)

July 13, 2005

Here is my check for $50.00 for payment of two years newsletters. Thanks for the copy of February 2004 letter. Particularly the article of John Hathaway's memoirs brought back memories of some events I had forgotten. I had kept an almost daily log from when I joined ORLECK in February '52 to August '53. That log got "washed out" when sewers backed up in our new house. Fortunately, I did salvage most of the photos and movie film put on CD and DVD which I have already sent to the Association. Many memories of shipmates but names in the photos were lost.

I have researched on the internet and have found references to many of the events of that "Summer Cruise." In the near future I will send an article. If your printer can take Microsoft Word documents (.doc or .txt) from a floppy disk, you wouldn't have to retype. Let me know.

Sorry I cannot attend the reunions or help with the work, but my congratulations and best wishes to all those who do.

Lawrence Gabriel DK3 1952-53

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: *I read this letter with sadness that such a treasure as a daily log was lost to water damage from a sewer backup. But it appears that Lawrence has a good memory and plans to write some of it down for us to use. I have emphasized before that the SCUTTLEBUTT and the history of our ship depends on you and communication. I need to hear your stories and I need to see it in writing. Pictures also tell a 1000 words and even though I do not want your originals, I would love to have copies. If you can make a CD or DVD or floppy disc copy of you photos, I would love to have them for future use.*

This brings me to another issue. In reading the letter from Lawrence he said he has already sent copies of the photos to the "Association". I spoke to Lawrence and he said he had sent this information to Orange, Texas and not to the USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSOCIATION. There have been many people confused about who is who and who they are sending things to and asking things of. There has been a leadership change in the group from Orange, Texas and that is positive, but there were many things that were not done right and that included handling things and information that came to them. We would like to track down the items and information including photos and stories that you sent to Orange, Texas. If you kept correspondence that would be the best thing. But try to remember what you sent and who you sent it to and approximately when. Send your information to USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION, P.O. Box 213, Randolph, VT 05060.

AHOY MATES!

I've been our of circulation for while getting a hip replaced so I can't remember if I'm behind in my pledge. Here's $20.00 for now. I still hope to visit the old girl in the next year or so when my wife quits working. God do I wish enough volunteer help has been found to at least keep the outer hull and upper decks looking good. It was a pretty good 3 ½ years aboard her and I still wonder if all those ID brass tags I put on every valve that didn't have any were replaced with Greek letters. I spent hours stamping those brass nametags. A couple of times, it was mentioned about the ORLECK being FRAMed. What is FRAMing? Was it a cutting of the frame and lengthening the ship? An article in the next newsletter could clear this up for me.

I hope my old shipmates are in good health. Thank you for all the hard work you people have put in without compensation.

Thanks again

William (Bucky) Halaska
M.Mate after Engine room.1952-59

EDITOR'S COMMENTS*: That's a very good question!*

In 1994 I wrote a book of sorts about the USS ORLECK. (now out of print) On pages 166-68 I wrote an account entitled, "Honest Officer, I was FRAMed". Kind of a play on words. In that article that you can find on our website at http://www.ussorleck.com by clicking on "Sea Stories" you can read a fairly detailed account of FRAMing. Basically it was a change of configuration that allowed for the addition of more modern weapons such as ASROC and DASH systems. The changes were made to USS ORLECK beginning in December 1962, about 3 years after you left the ship. The ship was not cut and the it was not lengthened. The upper superstructure of steel was removed down to the main deck and a new superstructure was built of lightweight aluminum and the new weapons added that gave it both anti-aircraft and anti-submarine capabilities.

After FRAMing, USS ORLECK (DD 886) was basically a new ship. The intent was to give it another 8 years but as you see it lasted much longer. Some have expressed doubt that this is the same ship that they served on because it looks different. The truth is that both configurations are the USS ORLECK and they are both beautiful and they both served their purpose.

With that in mind I would also encourage you to read the article I wrote in the May 2002 edition of SCUTTLEBUTT entitled "You're not the man who served aboard USS ORLECK!". If you don't have that copy we would be glad to mail you a copy on request or you can again read it in the "Sea Stories" section of our website.

Bob Orleck

Dear Bob: 3-18-04

Alton received the SCUTTLEBUTT on March 10. We both enjoyed the news, especially about the Aloha reunion. Wished we could have made it. Hope to attend the next one. Hope all is well with you.

Clair Wilson
Alton Wilson 44-46

Gifts In Honor Of (continued from page 27)

Who	Donation	In Honor of...
Jeffrey C. Drees	$75.00	In Memory of IVO B. DREES
Patricia M. Ferguson	$25.00	Happy Father's Day for ARTHUR EASLEY
Margie Fowler	$20.00	In Memory of LANDRUM DEAN FOWLER
Linda & Wm Robinson	$50.00	We love ARTHUR EASLEY
Jackie Thase	$50.00	In Memory of IVO B DREES
Linda & Wm. Robinson	$40.00	Happy Birthday Dad
Marie Gieseke	$50.00 & in past gave $100.00	Willard C. Gieseke Died Jan. 12, 1990 Was an Ensign USS ORLECK 1947 but retired as a Captain

Vito Crabtree's Dues are Paid in Full

Dear Bob:

I was cleaning off my desk the other day and ran across this envelope that I thought had gone out long ago.

As you know, Vito had been in ill health since contacting Guillian Barre (an auto-immune disease) seven years ago.

On February 23rd, Vito's immune system started going down again and he bounced back and forth to and from the hospital for a month. They could charge the ole battery up, but they just couldn't keep it running and he died on May 29th. He was in great spirits right up until the end and never lost that good sense of humor. He remarked that he was waiting for the Pope to go first to pave the way. (The Pope died May 31st).

Vic was cremated and we held a memorial service to his life on April 1. (He would have loved that date too.) What a celebration! Vic had left his mark on so many people in so many different walks of life. So, his memorial included stories by people from his childhood, his Chiropractic days, his theatrical days and his Navy days (Bill Vaughn spoke). I am still getting feedback from people who attended saying that it was the best funeral they had ever been to (no sorrow, no regrets was how Vic looked at life).

Here is something you might find humor in. I took my children with me to make final plans. We all had a part in the planning. The urn I picked out was so pretty we decided not to bury it, but to bring it home. The kids got to laughing and said that they would each take him on their vacation. They would call it his farewell tour. We have also discussed burial at sea as a final destination. I don't know how feasible this is or what requirements are needed. Being a Navy man you might be able to tell me. Until then I shall keep him around as a constant reminder of a wonderful life-mate (45 years), friend and my constant cheerleader.

Please accept the small donation that people made to the USS ORLECK. I wish I would have expressed "no flowers" and instead requested only donations to the ORLECK and Guillian Barre, but too many decisions have to be made too quickly and sometimes you aren't thinking straight.

Bob, Vic really enjoyed the razing about his late dues. He loved growing up on the ORLECK. (She made a lot of boys into men). I will fondly remember the 3 reunions we did attend and what a great bunch of friends we made. I will think of you all often.

God Bless
Patricia A. Crabtree
10015 W. 49th St.
Shawnee Mission, KS 66203

Joe Orleck signed book found by Tom Sellers and presented to Bob Orleck.

Tom Sellers contacted Bob Orleck and advised him that he had a Spanish Book that Lt. Joseph Orleck had signed and he wanted to present that to Bob. Not knowing exactly how or where it came from, Tom was asked to save the book until the Field Days in Orange. At the last Field Days, Tom presented the book to Bob Orleck, who was very please since there are very few personal items belonging to his uncle who was lost at sea during World War II.

James Allison looking back!

I just found a copy of the first "SCUTTLEBUTT", volume 1, issue 1, September 1, 1991, in my files, it was 8 pages long, and printed on pages 5 1/2 inches by 8 ½ inches. The letters were small, so we could put more information on each small page. Since Bob Orleck and I were paying for these first editions out of our pockets, we thought that was a way to keep cost down. Those first copies were mailed to about 125 people, and we kept a few extras so we could send out to new shipmates as we found them. Those days seem so long ago, Bob takes issue with me on the number of men on the roster when we started our drive to find shipmates. I say 39, Bob says twice that number. Whatever the number, the numbers have increased considerably since 1991?

We never envisioned SCUTTLEBUTT being a quality 50 page magazine like it is today, we also never envisioned having our ship ORLECK in Orange Texas. We've come a long way since 1991.

James Allison
RD3 1958-59

Enclosed find $50.00 for dues for 2004 & 2005 – the extra $20.00 is for a gallon of paint for the old girl. I wonder if the Everson that donates so much time and money is the same MR that let me use the lathe in the MR room on the starboard side forward of our MM sleeping compartment. I took a couple of the 5" shell casings and cut base off for ash trays.

I get a kick seeing Lester Horne and Arnold Schmidts name in the news letter. They probably wouldn't remember me as I was not aboard too long when they were discharged. Lester used to pester Schmidty by putting his arm around him just horsing around, it would drive him crazy.

I was disappointed not to see William Rossfeld and Leroy Orville Bahr's name on the roster. The last time I saw Leroy, (we called him Lube Oil) he had transferred to #7 (the Wilkinson a destroyer leader). I guess they carried about 1000 # steam pressure but had a lot of problems with leaks. The last I knew Leroy Bahr was living around Missouri or Arkansas and Bill Rossfeld was living at PO Box 640634, Beverly Hills, FL 34464-0634. His cell phone was 352-257-8769. Keep up the good work and thank you Bob Orleck for all the huge amount of time and effort to honor your Uncle.

God Bless
William (Bucky) Halaska
MM2 Aug 55 to March 2 1959

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: *Well, lets see if Gene Everson remembers that and even if he reads this account. I'll let you know if he replies.*

I haven't heard much from Lester Horne or Arnold Schmidt. Arnold gave me a beautiful wooden remembrance of 9-11 that I display with pride in my home. As for William Rossfeld and Leroy Bahr, they are both on our roster and you can look them up from the last SCUTTLEBUTT. If you cannot locate them, let me know.

A PROUD PLANK OWNER
(and rightfully so)

Bob, February 25, 2005

Enclosed is the program we received the day the ORLECK was commissioned in 1945. If you do not want it maybe it could go to the ORLECK's museum or you might know someone else who would like to have it.

Thanks for sending me the Plank Owner's Certificate – its really neat and looks great framed and hanging on our rec room wall.

I'm sorry I couldn't help with getting the ORLECK back in shape but I'm 83 years old, had a knee replacement and can't get going like I would like.

Hope this note finds you well and in good health.

God Bless
Leroy Hook MM1 1945

EDITOR'S COMMENT: One of these days when things can be securely exhibited in Orange, Texas, this item of yours and many other items I personally own will be put aboard the ship. Right now the ship is not ready for much of what we have to offer but we must keep trying to get to that point..

PLANK OWNER FOUND LOVE OF HIS LIFE BECAUSE OF USS ORLECK

Dear Bob, 3-31-04

...I hope before I take that journey to the great beyond I can get to Orange to see her and touch her. If I had not been assigned to her as a plank owner I probably would not have met my dear wife, Isabel, during our shakedown cruise. We met at Cuban Anglo American Club in Santiago, Cuba. (Cuba USO). We were married on 11-29-47, 56 ½ years of wedded bliss so far!

Sincerely
With our best wishes
Lou and Isabel Jagucki
ENS 45-46, Plank Owner

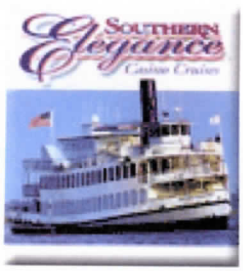
Visitor Information

Wilmington is a beautiful city. If you have been there you would agree. We will be staying at the Hilton Hotel, located right on the banks of the Cape Fear River overlooking the USS NORTH CAROLINA BATTLESHIP. If you are a Civil War buff you will know that Wilmington was a key city at the end of the war and there are many great and educational exhibits.

Within walking distance of the Hilton Hotel are many fabulous restaurants, scenic boardwalk, and many things to do. We will not have to leave the area. This will insure you have all the time you want with shipmates and friends and you will not get cramped and worn out by a long bus ride to an event and yet you will never be bored. The events are right in town. I believe they have the best horsedrawn carriage tourist ride anywhere. There are classic chocolate and ice cream stores you can enjoy as you decide whether to visit one of the historic houses of Wilmington. This concentrated historic area has many museums including a Railroad Museum and the most excellent Cape Fear Museum. As part of your paid reservation you will get a ticket and you can choose what event you want to attend. You will not have to choose until you see the things available and then just turn in the ticket and you can participate in that event. Even better, you do not have to walk to that event even though you could.

We have rented a Trolley that during free time will go around the city and stop at the key places. There will be a trolley every 30 minutes so you will not need a car. You can save on money and parking charges this way. If flying into Wilmington there is no need to rent a car. The airport is only 4 miles from town and the Hilton Hotel will provide a free ride for you and your luggage.

The HENRIETTA III Riverboat is docked almost directly in front of the hotel. I have arranged for what they call an "Elegant Dinner" aboard with horsdoeuvres and a speaking tour of the River area by the boat's captain. We have rented the whole boat so it is ours for the evening. We will have entertainment on both decks as well. Then on the opening night we will have a fine meal at the Hilton Hotel. Admiral Bepko, a former USS ORLECK sailor, will be our guest speaker. I am very excited about having him come and speak to us in a way that only an ORLECK sailor can do. We will also have entertainment that night. The final banquet will be aboard the USS NORTH CAROLINA BATTLESHIP. You can come early and tour the ship and we have our own water taxi to take us to and from the hotel to the ship. We will also provide alternate transportation to and from and onto the ship for those who have special needs. Couple all of this with full breakfasts, a moving Memorial and Church services led by our own Chaplain, Joe Correia, a Hospitality Room with Pizza served for lunch on Thursday and what more could you ask. Those of you who have attended our reunions will know what I mean when I tell you will more than get your moneys worth and you will also have a great keeper name badge as a memory maker. Register now see pages 45 & 46. Hotel rooms are limited so call today (see page 44)



CAPT. J.N. MAFFITT Sightseeing Cruise
Riverfront Park, Foot of Market St., Wilmington

Hilton has a newsletter on the web at www.wilmingtonhilton.com



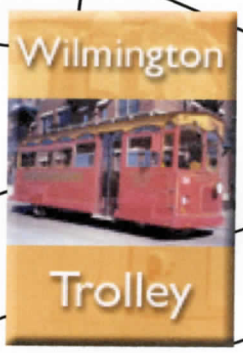
Chandler's Wharf
225 S. Water St., Wilmington
(910) 343-9896

Burgwin-Wright House and Garden
224 Market St., Wilmington
(910) 762-0570

Cape Fear Serpentarium
20 Orange St., Wilmington
(910) 762-1669

Horse-Drawn Trolley & Carriage Tours
Market St. between Water and Front Sts., Wilmington

Ghost Walk of Old Wilmington
Market St. at the Riverfront, Wilmington



Cape Fear Museum
814 Market St., Wilmington
(910) 341-4350
www.capefearmuseum.com

Bellamy Mansion Museum
503 Market St., Wilmington
(910) 251-3700



Battleship NORTH CAROLINA
Cape Fear River, Wilmington
(910) 251-5797
www.battleshipnc.com

cape fear museum of history & science

Cape Fear Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau, 24 N. Third Street, (910) 341-4030, in the 1892 courthouse building

For weather, details of events and so much more if you have a computer on the internet go to http://www.insiders.com/wilmington/

Reflections from the Chaplain's Corner:

In Rememberance: Chaplain Bob Juliuson

"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face;...",
1Corinthians 13:12







I first met Chaplain Bob Juliuson at the 1995 Orleck Reunion in San Diego, California. I was impressed with his witty humor and how he encouraged everyone present to participate in the Reunion Memorial Service and the Sunday Morning Farewell Service. His laughter and down-home humor was contagious. He invited me and others to assist him with both services.

At the 1997 Orleck Reunion in Charleston, South Carolina, he invited me to join with him in the Chaplaincy of the USS ORLECK DD-886 ASSOCIATION. With Bob Orleck's encouragement, I accepted the role of Associate Chaplain and took over the responsibility of maintaining the Memorial Roster.

I was not able to attend the 1999 Orleck Reunion in Maine, but attended the 2001 in Tacoma, Washington. We worked together on the services and he gave me more of it to do than previously. He was preparing me to take over for him at some point in the future.

In Orange, Texas, for the Homecoming Reunion of 2002, we worked together for the last time. He was not sure if he would be able to make the 2003 Orleck Reunion in Hawaii. He hoped that I would be able to do it on my own.

For the Hawaii Reunion, he put me in touch with the person that produced the Memorial Roster for him. I would be working with Bill Strode of Dallas, Texas, in the future. I sent Bill Strode the Memorial Roster list in preparation for the Hawaii Reunion. Bob Juliuson picked it up from Bill Strode and shipped it to me so that I could take it to Hawaii. Though he was not physically there, his prayers aided me mightily during the reunion services. I sent him an email to report on the events of the reunion. He was glad to hear that all had gone well.

In November 2003, Bob was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He was operated on in January 2004 and was recovering. He continued to do his work as our chaplain via email and phone. The last email that I had from him was in May 2004. I was copied on an email that he had sent to one of our members regarding a wife's illness and that he would be praying for a quick recovery.

He was not able to participate in the Arlington Memorial service due to his health but I knew that he would be praying for all of us who attended.

On November 9, 2004, Bob went home to be with His Lord!

As I reflect over the time that I knew him, I likened him to Elijah of the Bible and how he mentored Elisha until the time that the Lord took Elijah up into heaven. I have pleasant memories of the reunions that we did together and the many ways that he encouraged me and allowed me to help him as chaplain.

I was blessed to have transcribed the USS Orleck Deck Log Book from March 1947. There was an entry for 13 March 1947 which stated that Juliuson, R. E., S2Y (Seaman, 2nd class, Yeoman striker), reported for duty. I have scanned the other deck log books through 1951 and found two more entries with his name: on 9 July 1948 when he departed on annual leave in Kyushu, Japan, and on 15 July 1948 when he returned from annual leave. He was a YN3 (Yeoman, Petty Officer, 3rd Class) at that time. He served aboard until he left sometime in 1949.

I will miss him as will many of you who knew him. I thank God for allowing him to be my mentor as our chaplain. I look forward to following in his footsteps as our chaplain...

"Heavenly Father, thank you for the life of Robert E. Juliuson. You kept him safe during the time he served our country and you blessed him by sending him to serve in the USS Orleck (DD 886). You allowed him to prosper in everything that he did. You led him through his life and blessed him with a wife and family. You watched over him during his career as an accountant. You called him to minister in your church as a deacon and to visit those who were imprisoned. And most of all, for our benefit, You led him to be the Chaplain of the USS Orleck (DD 886) Association. In Your Time, You called him Home after he had completed all that You had set out for him to accomplish in Your Will as a good and faithful servant. His spirit has joined You in the company with our fellow shipmates who have gone before us. Continue to comfort his wife and children until You call them to the Heavenly Reunion. Thank you for Your promise of salvation and redemption that You extend to all of us and Your creation, through Your Son and our Lord Jesus, Amen."

-Joe Correia, FTGSN-FTG2, 1967-1970
Chaplain, USS ORLECK DD-886 ASSOCIATION



Bob Juliuson at
USS ORLECK
Plank Owner
recognition ceremony at
Orange, 2002 Reunion

USS JOHN R. CRAIG DD 885

Keel laid 17 November 1944 (Consolidated Steel-Orange, Texas)
Launched 14 April 1945
Commissioned 30 August 1945

USS ORLECK DD 886 over the years operated with several other ships that were referred to as her "sister ships". As best I know as of this writing all of those ships are gone except the USS ORLECK herself. She is presently being restored as a museum in Orange, Texas. I was reading a copy of a very moving speech by Joe Breslin given at the 2003 San Diego Reunion dinner of the USS CRAIG Association and it gave me an idea that could accomplish several purposes. I plan to contact the Associations of each of her sister ships and ask them for a report to be published in our SCUTTLEBUTT. In that way we can honor that ship's past, her service and that of the men of that ship. In addition we will learn about the ultimate fate of her sister ships. Finally, by sending copies to those Associations, we might find that many of her men might wish to join in the effort to preserve USS ORLECK. In that way they can honor their ship through her. Our mission, as Joe Breslin said so well "is to remember and respect." The following is his speech printed with permission of the USS CRAIG Association.

Bob Orleck

NOBLE MISSION

USS JOHN R. CRAIG DD 885 named appropriately after a WWII submariner, commissioned in 1945, saw action throughout her career of 35 years. Korea, Formosa Patrol, Vietnam, Pueblo are just a few campaigns she saw and served.

My window of service in the "Jolly John R" was just over 6 years. Reported aboard October 1962 as Interior Communication Electrician Apprentice at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. I participated in 5 deployments, various exercises and training periods plus 2 more overhauls.



Commissioning Photo 1945

I departed the CRAIG with orders to SSC NTC San Diego to teach "A" and "C" schools.

Years passed, career advanced, duty stations changed and in the mid-70's while serving with Fleet Training Group SD, I visited the CRAIG again as observer/trainer for REFTRA. Recognized one person, BTC Webb (his second tour on the CRAIG). She was a reserve ship at the time. I did spend some extra time aboard taking her in (after all) 6 years of my life & experience were already invested.

A couple years later while stationed aboard PRAIRIE AD-14. I encountered the USS JOHN R. CRAIG again. On duty as Command Duty Officer, I was tasked with inspecting a ship assigned to PRAIRIE for close-up. For hours I toured & inspected and again took her in in silence. (remembering, reliving and reminiscing). It had been determined by others "She was barely sea worthy".

Approximately 2 years later while serving as Chief Engineer in USS FT FISHER, final contact. FORT FISHER was engaged in fleet exercises off Southern California, West of San Clemente Island. Amphibious Exercises, ASW, Carrier & Aircraft were all involved. USS JOHN R. CRAIG DD 885 was the target. The afternoon of 5 June 1980, the coordinated battle plan engaged CRAIG, surface to surface gunfire, surface to surface missiles, sub to surface torpedoes, aircraft launched missiles & gunfire, all were unleashed on the helpless "Gray Lady." Night fell, firing & exercising weapons continued into the night. I had the 04:00-08:00 O.D. Watch on the bridge on the morning of the 6th of June. Now I didn't give a lot of thought on the condition of the CRAIG when coming on watch. Just as the sun broke the horizon, I could see the outline of the CRAIG, about 1000 years to starboard. Near 5:30 A.M., 6 June 1980, daylight, beautiful day, exercise over. I requested permission (CO) to slow circle the CRAIG at a safe distance. The CO asked why, as most will. I explained that the CRAIG was the first ship I served in, "permission granted".

She had taken all the torture we could throw at her and survived the night. She was low in the water, listing slightly to port. This was her final bow. She lingered about 30 minutes then with a curtsy, dipped her bow below the surface and slipped quietly to her honorable and noble eternal home. Fittingly she still serves, acting as a refuge for sea life. She is at rest now as submariner with her namesake, permanently deployed on her final mission. She is stricken from official records, but not from our hearts and memories. With mixed emotions, I observed quietly reminiscing the good times, the heart felt times and experiences she afforded me and others. She served with integrity and honor, as have those who served in her. Her mission complete, ours is to remember and respect.

Thank you.

See note on Page 21 that speaks of interest by the USS CRAIG in helping restore USS ORLECK. Mention is made of Dan Jackson from the USS PERKINS, another sister ship. Dan silently and continuously works and coordinates activities on the USS ORLECK. He sets a great example that if latched onto by other ships, could result in the needed volunteer base that USS ORLECK must have to survive. I encourage each and every one of you to make those contacts with shipmates from other ships and tell them to come aboard and restore USS ORLECK with us.

DESTROYER USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION 2004 DUES

AGNEW, WAYNE	$35.00
ALLISON, JAMES	
BARKHURST, BILL	15.00
BARRIOS, JOHN	35.00
BAUGHER, JELYBEAN	
BEGNAL, CHRISTOPHER	10.00
BLEUEL, MIKE	
BOYER, LLOYD	
BRENNEN, BERNARD	
BRIDGINS, WALTER	15.00
BROWN, CLOYDE	15.00
BURCHFIELD, DON	50.00
BYINGTON, A.R. LIFETIME	
CANTWELL, DENNIS	85.00
CARMAN, HENRY	85.00
CASKEY, JAMES	
CHEVALIER, ELMER	
CLARK, E.M.	
CLOWER, TROY	35.00
COKER, GEORGE	10.00
COLWELL, DAVE	
COOK, HAROLD	
CORL, STEPHEN	5.00
CORREIA, JOE	85..00
Crossley, John	10.00
CURTS, JAMES	10.00
DANSON, GEORGE	
DEMSKY, JACK	5.00
DICKRELL, JOSEPH	15.00
DIMARIA, CHARLES	
EADS, CALVIN	
EASLEY, ARTHUR	5.00
EMDE, JOHN	
FADDIS, JAMES	
FEHRING, MICHAEL	
FOWLER, LANDRUM DEAN	
FRANTZ, NORMAN (BUD)	
FRYE, RUSSELL	15.00
GANGE, DENNIS	85.00
GATTIS, JAMES	15.00
GAVIN, FRANCIS	55.00
GREER, BRUCE	
HALASKA, WM	
HANSCOMB, JOHN	
HARRISON, JOHN	35.00
HEPWORTH, CHARLES	
HERRICK, MILT	25.00
HORNE, LESTER	15.00
HOWE, RICHARD	
HUSHION, JOHN	85.00
JAGUCKI, LOUIS	20.00
JENSEN, WALTER	
LABBE, BOB	10.00
LACHOWICZ, LEO	85.00
LANGDON, PALMER	
LATOUR, EDWARD	
LEWIS, JOHN	100.00
LEYENDECKER, CHARLES	
LLAMAS, JOE	70.00
LODER, WILLIAM	
LONG, PETE	10.00
MARSH, GRADY	20..00
MARTIN, ELMO	10.00
MCCONNELL, DAVID	5.00
MCCULLEY, GEORGE	10.00
MCCULLEY, JAY	10.00
MEYERS, WILLIAM	15.00
MICKELSON, ROBT	15.00
MILES, WM	
MOORE, CECILE	60.00
MURRAY, KEITH	20.00
NORRIS, TONY	
OAKES, WILLIAM	
PARKER, CHARLES	
PAUL, GEORGE	$15.00
PINNER, KENNETH	35.00
POWELL, RAYMOND	5.00
RANGER, PATRICK	
REDMAN, RAY	35.00
ROBINSON, HAYDEN	275.00
ROMILLY, PAUL	35.00
ROY, BOB	55.00
SALES, ROBERT	
SAXBURY, ROBERT	10.00
SHEALY, KEITH	
SHEIL, DENNIS	85.00
SHEHAN, JAMES	
SMOTHERMON, DOUG	20.00
SNYDER, HENRY	5.00
SPARROW, RUSSELL	
SPEAKER, RICHARD	
STAPLES, CHARLES	
STEPP, JAMES	
STOKES, ROBERT	
STOVER, JOHN	
SWIFT, MILLARD	20.00
TERRELL, NORMAN	
TEUSCHER, GERALD	10.00
THOMPSON, J.C.	80.00
TOMACHESKI, MICHAEL	20.00
TRENHAM, HERBERT	85.00
UECKERT, HAROLD	
VON KOHN, ALBERT	
VOUGHT, DANIEL	15.00
WALDRON, NORMAN	85.00
WARD, N.E. JR.	35.00
WHITESIDE, NEVIN	25.00
WILHOITE, J.J.	5.00
WILSON, ALTON	35.00
WOODS, LEONARD	65.00
WORTHEN, FRED	25.00
WRIGHT, HARVEY	30.00
YATER, ROY	
YOUNG, ESTELLE	

2005 DUES

ACCORD, RICHARD	$35.00
AGNEW, WAYNE	10.00
BABER, FREDERICK	
BARKER, WINIFRED	10.00
BARSTAD, DOUG	
BEADLE, PAUL	35.00
BEGNAL, CHRISTOPHER	5.00
BONNEY, DON	
BOYER, LLOYD	
BROWN, CLOYDE	
BROWN, JAY	5.00
BURCHFIELD, DON	
BURKHARDT, CHARLES	10.00
BYINGTON, A.R.	
BYRD, ROBERT	10.00
CARROLL, GARY	
CASKEY, JAMES	
CAVEN, TERRY	35.00
COKER, GEORGE	
COLWELL, DAVE	10.00
COOK, HAROLD	15.00
CORL, STEPHEN	5.00
CORREIA, JOE	35.00
CROSSLEY, JOHN	10.00
CURTS, JAMES	10.00
DANSON, GEORGE	
DEAN, KENNETH	
DICKRELL, JOSEPH	20.00
EARTHMAN, EVERETT	
EASLEY, ARTHUR	
EMDE, JOHN	
FADDIS, JAMES	$5.00
FEHRING, MICHAEL	5.00
FRYE, RUSSELL	15.00
GABRIEL, LAWRENCE	35.00
GANGE, DENNIS	85.00
GAVIN, FRANCIS	
GIESEKE, MARIE (WILLARD)	50.00
GOODEN, RICHARD	20.00
HALASKA, WM	
HAMILTON, GEORGE	15.00
HANNAH, GERALD	35.00
HANSCOMB, JOHN	
HERNKE, JERRY	350.00
HERRICK, MILT	30.00
HORNE, LESTER	20.00
HOUSE, HAROLD	10.00
JAGUCKI, LOUIS	5.00
JENSEN, WALTER	
KARNITZ, MELVIN	185.00
KAUFMAN, WAYNE	
KELLER, C.L.	75.00
LABBE, BOB	10.00
LACHOWICZ, LEO	85.00
LANGDON, PALMER	
LATOUR, EDWARD	70.00
LAVINS, PAUL	45.00
LEYENDECKER, CHARLES	55.00
LODER, WILLIAM	
LONG, PETE	10.00
MARSH, GRADY	20.00
McCulley, George	10.00
MCCULLEY, JAY	10.00
MCLAUGHLIN, MAC	10.00
MICKELSON, ROBT	5.00
NORRIS, TONY	30.00
OAKES, WILLIAM	
ORLECK, ROBERT	
PARKER, CHARLES	10.00
PAUL, GEORGE	10.00
PFLUGER, RICHARD	
PINNER, KENNETH	35.00
POWELL, IVAN	
POWELL, RAYMOND	5.00
PROPST, EDWARD	60.00
RANGER, PATRICK	30.00
REDMAN, JOSEPH A.	85.00
REDMAN, RAY	35.00
ROY, BOB	
SALES, ROBERT	55.00
SAXBURY, ROBERT	10.00
SCHLOBOHM, LUVERNE	
SELLERS, TOM	
SCHMIDT, ARNOLD	35.00
SHEHAN, DAN	
SHEHAN, JAMES	
SINFIELD, CHARLES	15.00
SPARROW, RUSSELL	25.00
SPEAKER, RICHARD	
STAPLES, CHARLES	
SULLIVAN, JOHN	50.00
TEUSCHER, GERALD	30.00
TERRELL, NORMAN	55.00
THORNTON, GILBERT	30.00
TRENHAM, HERB	20.00
UECKERT, HAROLD	
VON KOHN, ALBERT	
VOUGHT, DANIEL	
WADDLE, WILLIAM	5.00
WARD, N.E. JR.	35.00
WATTERMAN, DAVID	
WHITESIDE, NEVIN	25.00
WORTHEN, FRED	25.00
YATER, ROY	10.00
YOUNG, ESTELLE	
ZAK, DOUGLAS	35.00

Dues are voluntary and suggested to be $15. Funds used for SCUTTLEBUTT & to support Reunions. Amounts to right of name are gifts over and above the $15. Mail dues to

DESTROYER USS ORLECK ASSN.
P.O. 213, RANDOLPH, VT 05060

EPIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2005

In the June 14, 2005 SCUTTLEBUTT we reported the gifts to EPIC* for 2004. In that edition it was stated that 2005 would appear in this SCUTTLEBUTT and below you will find that giving to date. Remember, your gifts to EPIC* are used directly to help in the restoration and maintenance of USS ORLECK. To help, please send your tax deductible gifts to EPIC*, P.O. Box 886, Randolph Center, Vermont 05061.

Allison, James	$50.00
Alvis, John	$25.00
Apger, Gary	$100.00
Beadle, Paul	$25.00
Bennett, Wm	$50.00
Bishop, David	$50.00
Bleuel, Michael	$25.00
Bonney, Don	$100.00
Burchfield, Don	$120.00
Calvin, Gary	$100.00
Cantu, Richard	$100.00
Caskey, Jack	$100.00
Cernac, Chester	$25.00
Chase, Richard	$100.00
Colwell, David	$50.00
Cooke. Gene	$200.00
Corl, Stephen	$50.00
Correia, Joseph	$700.00
Crabtree, Patricia	$100.00
Delucchi, Ernest	$25.00
Diaz, Jack & Patricia	$25.00
Dowell, Sidney	$30.00
Drees, David or Cynthia	$20.00
Drees, Jeffrey	$75.00
Easley, Arthur	$75.00
Easley, Helen	$79.00
Eppen, Eugene	$50.00
Erickson, Albert	$25.00
Ertel, John	$100.00
Everson, Eugene	$1800.00
Faddis, James	$100.00
Fehring, Michael	$50.00
Ferguson, Patricia	$75.00
Fowler, Margie	$20.00
Gavin, Francis	$50.00
Gettman, Charles	$100.00
Hannah, Gerald	$100.00
Hanscom, John	$25.00
Hansen, Norman	$100.00
Hanson, Tom	$50.00
Harper, Captain Tom	$100.00
Hernke, Gerald	$40.00
Hess, Dennis	$30.00
Homer, Robert	$300.00
Kronander, Nancy	$25.00
Labbe, Robert	$25.00
Lachowicz, Leo	$300.00
Lamm, William	$300.00
Langley, John	$200.00
Lavins, Paul	1,000.00
Lawrie, Daniel	$25.00
Lawrie, William	$25.00
Loder, William	$100.00
Lower, Robert	$20.00
Madway, Hillard	$200.00
McClintick, Lee	$300.00
McCulley, George	$100.00
Meeks, James	$25.00
Mickelson, Robert	$100.00
Miller, Don	$50.00
Moore, Vernon	$160.00
Moseley, William	$100.00
Nebeling, Thomas	$25.00
Nolish, Merton	$25.00
Norris, J. Anthony	$225.00
Norris, Steven & Carmen	$40.00
Olsen, John	$100.00
Orleck, Don & Venus	$100.00
Orleck, Robert	$500.00
Parker, Charles	$100.00
Pinner, Kenneth	$500.00
Redman, Ray	$225.00
Robinson, Linda & William	$90.00
Roy, Bob	$200.00
Saxbury, Robert	$10.00
Schlecht, Al	$250.00
Sellers, Tom	$10.00
Shealy Keith	$50.00
Shehan, James	$200.00
Sinfield, Charles	$50.00
Smothermon, Carl	$25.00
Spitler, Joseph	$25.00
St. Louis, Ben	$25.00
Sullivan, John	$50.00
Tejan, Richard	$100.00
Terrell, Norman	$150.00
Thase, Jackie	$50.00
Thompson, J.C.	$100.00
Thornton, Gilbert	$100.00
Van Devender, Robert	$225.00
Veit, David	$75.00
Vought, Daniel	$30.00
Westberg, Jerome	$50.00
Whitbeck, Franklin	$15.00
Whitehead, Glenn	$50.00
Whiteside, N.W.	$120.00
Wiedemann, Allan	$100.00
Woods, Leonard	$150.00
Yater, Roy	$50.00
Young, Virginia Estelle	$35.00

(Continued from page 29)

May I ask you to remember that years from now the things we will regret will be the things we didn't do. Not the things we did. Thanks for your continued support.
May God Bless You and the United States of America.

Gene Everson, MR2 1956-1959

(Continued from page 22)

and would allow them to capitalize on their history of being a shipbuilding community that added so much to the WWII war effort. I am at a loss to understand their attitude and actions. While our organizations (EPIC* & DESTROYER USS ORLECK ASSN) do not have day to day control of the ship, we have involved ourselves in situations and politics of Orange that we deem appropriate and as it relates to the ship's future. Meetings with key City and other community leaders seem to be productive but when action is expected from them, it just doesn't not seem to happen.

It is very hard to address all the issues surrounding the Museum Project in our newsletter. We are open to discussion on the problems and receptive of your suggestions for solutions. I would like to have your concerns in writing and I promise that I will try to address each one of them personally to you after consulting with other active leaders of our organization. Send your concerns by e-mail to bob@ussorleck.com or to Bob Orleck % EPIC*, P.O. Box 886, Randolph Center, VT 05061.

You may ask what you can do right now. Well you can get involved in your upcoming reunions. We will be doing Wilmington June 22-25, 2006 and in Branson in 2007. For the newsletter you can write your remembrances down and send them to me so I have future material for our SCUTTLEBUTT. For those shipmates not yet identified, you can check that roster you got in June, not only to make sure your information is correct but whether others you know who are ORLECK sailors also appear on it. If they do not, let us know. Financially you can contribute to EPIC* and you can contribute to USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION as well as to SETWM&HF. EPIC* support goes to the ship and supports SETWM&HF in its restoration efforts. USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION donations finance SCUTTLEUBTTS and Reunions. For yourself gain the joy of making contacts with each other as a result of the roster and enjoy the memories of your service. For you and your ship, come to Field Days, Strip Trips or figure out a unique way to help or celebrate our ship and your service. That's what you can do!

Chaplain's Corner

I am not certain if this made a prior SCUTTLEBUTT but even if it did it is worth reading again.
TO LOVE A USS ORLECK SAILOR

October 2, 2002

USS ORLECK DD 886 ASSN.

After a very long illness, my husband Richard P. Conrad, passed away 4-26-2002. Peacefully went to be eternally with our Lord God and Christ our Saviour. As Richard wished, his earthly remains were entrusted to the University of Washington Medical School. Will be buried at Tacoma National Cemetery, Kent, Washington.

As our grandsons say: (Alex 8 years old) Grandpa did not really leave us—he is in our hearts forever and is with God in Heaven—waiting for us. (Marcus 17 years old) I'll never be as tall as grandpa—Grief is the willing price we pay for truly loving some one.

Our daughter Nita is raising wonderful sons. As her Dad always said—My girl can do anything.

Mrs. Arlene K. Conrad
315 South Division Lane
Tacoma, WA 98418

Full Military Honors for USS ORLECK Sailor

Cora Ray, wife of Clyde Ray, USS ORLECK sailor, advised us of his passing on 5/10/04 of cancer. She donated $50 in his name to go to EPIC for USS ORLECK.

"I'm sending this for him. He will be in Busnel Military Cemetery with Full Military Honors on July 2, 2004. Mrs. Cora Ray
100 San Blas Ct.
Kissimmee, FL
34743

KENNETH E. HAMMOND
Lakeview native & USS ORLECK sailor.

Oak Bluffs-Kenneth Earl Hammond, 81 of Oak Bluffs died on Tuesday Feb. 17, 2004 at his home. From February 1943 to December 1945, he was an electronic technicians mate second class in the United States Navy on the USS ORLECK.

His wife still maintains an interest in his service and will continue to receive the SCUTTLEBUTT. Her name is Lillian J. Hammond, P.O. Box 2429, Oak Bluffs, Mass 02557.

USS ORLECK loses one of her PLANK OWNERS

6/17/04

Russell E. Mumme, an original "Plank Owner" of the ORLECK passed away on May 6, of a heart attack. He attended the ORLECK'S homecoming and reunions. He would have been 81 on July 17, 2004.

He loved the reunions and was very proud to have served his country in the US Navy and on the ORLECK.
Terrie Hodgden (daughter)

Dr. Hugh O'Neill really cared for USS ORLECK. Read this article carefully and you will see that is so true!

I regret to inform you that Dr. O'Neill died on December 5, 2003. He enjoyed his tour (1956-58 in the Navy and aboard the ORLECK). A few weeks before he died he had his nephew (Tim Malay) go to the ORLECK from his Texas home to help with renovations.
Joan O'Neill
199 Main Street
West Seneca, NY 14224
P.S. The picture of the ORLECK stays on our family room wall.

Editor's Note: *Dr. Hugh O'Neill was a very accomplished physician and served as a medical officer as a lieutenant in the Navy from 1957 to 1959. We have included his wife Joan on our roster so she will receive future SCUTTLEBUTTS.*

Clyde Ray deceased

Dear Bob 7/7/04

Mr. Ray passed away May 10 of cancer. He had not been well for some time but we did not know it was cancer until they told us after he was gone. I met Clyde when he was on the ORLECK at Vallejo, CA.

We were married 52 years. My daughter and I will be through Orange, Monday 19th and we plan to stop and see the ship.

Cora Ray
for BMI Clyde Ray
100 San Blas Ct.
Kissimmee, FL 34743

The last recording of deceased information was in Feb 2004 SCUTTLEBUTT & that is why you see some notices from 2004 that you have not seen before. Will try to do better in the future by having entries in 2 SCUTTLEBUTTS per year.

Memorial Roster

The June 14, 2005 SCUTTLEBUTT contained the names of those USS ORLECK shipmates who have died who make up our Memorial Roster. Since that publication we have discovered a big mistake as well as having been made aware of the loss other shipmates. The following reflects that corrections and the additions.

Paul Payne MR2 1970-72
IS NOT DECEASED. REPEAT-IS NOT DECEASED-
Our apologies for any distress this has caused anyone. Paul took it quite well and was glad he is still with us.

Carroll, Joseph F 1945
Deceased 8/15/04
Chevalier, Elmer W.
EM3 1953-1955
Deceased 5/24/05
Clausnitzer, Frazer W
ET2 1949-1952
Deceased 2-17-05
Crabtree, Vito
CSSN 1957-1959
Deceased 3/29/05
Crofton, Walter M. Jr.,
Deceased 12/ 2004
Eisenhower, Howard A
F1c 1945-1946
Deceased 12/15/03
Forgione James J.
YN2 1945-1946
Deceased 1-30-04
Fowler, Landrum Dean
CS 1945-1948
Deceased 6-02-05
French, Henry A
LTJGg 1955-1957
Deceased 12/13/03
James A
TM3 1946-1947
Deceased 8-8-00
Markut, Charles J
GM1 1945-1946
Deceased 1-26-04
Risner, Tom
RD2 1952-1956
Deceased 5/9/04
Williams, John D
MMC 1964-1966
Deceased 12-2003



Bob Orleck



Don Orleck





Honor Guard





Enroute



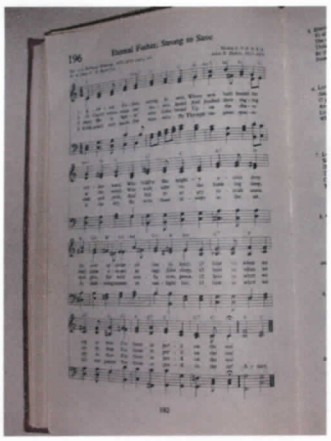




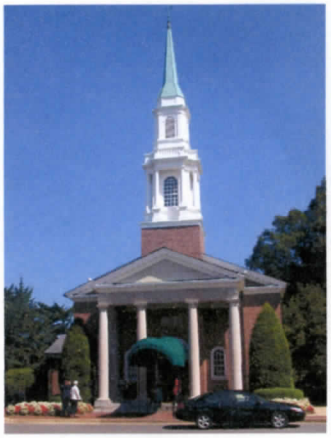




Navy Band



Eternal Father



Chapel



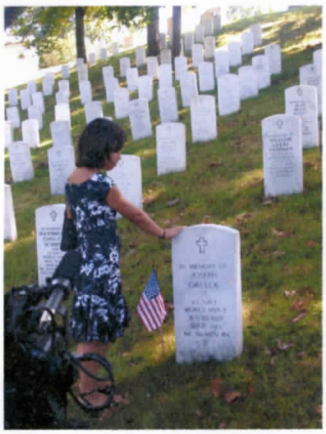


Altar





Chaplain



Flag Fold







11/5/04

Dear Bob:

I don't know if you have this picture or not, so I'm sending it. It was taken by ABC in Sydney, Australia in 1972 when we did a port of call. From Sydney, I believe we then went to Dunenin, New Zealand. My memory isn't as sharp as it used to be what after 4 heart attacks and a stroke, after I retired in 1987. I served aboard ORLECK from 1971-72 then to the CONSTELLATION, YN/A School & lots of others-the list is too long. I hope you can use the picture. Sorry for the tape.

Jack O. Standley
BM 3/2 1971-72

Editor's Note: Thanks Jack. No I do not have this photo and even with the flaws, it is a beautiful picture and I just had to share it with her men and others. The lines are tape that were put over it to protect it and over the years the tape became apparent on its edges. Still a great picture. Thanks. Bob Orleck

Dear Bob, 12/3/04

It's been a long hard road for me since retiring from the Navy in 1987. I miss the adventure of the sea and all my old friends form the ORLECK. I even miss the misadventures I had when I was on the flight deck during VERTREPS and was playing the roll of ARCOBIRD communicating with STAGEDOOR. Reddog (SN Gadbury) remembers that episode as does SN Rodriquez(sp?).

I've enclosed 2 more pictures to go along with the picture I sent of us entering Sydney harbor. I don't remember where we were tied up at the time in the larger photo but I do remember that FN Brazelton took the picture of me while we were underway in September 1971.

I hope these will be welcomed into your collection of pictures. Looking forward to your next Scuttlebutt newsletter. Keep up the great work. I'm hoping that I can attend the next reunion ....

Jack O Standley
71-72 BM/BM2

(Continued from page 28-Davis)

it's a good thing I work from home. I was so worn out from July 4th events aboard the ship that I wound up sleeping in until noon today. We didn't get back home until 1:00 AM after driving from Orange to Kingwood following the festivities.

Once things calm down later today, I want to post a message on the website about the events. But overall, it was a perfect day for the USS Orleck. The park was all set up with concessions and there was a band playing Cajun, country, and rock & roll music. We ate a picnic lunch of BBQ brisket, potato salad, apple pie, lemonade, and watermelon, and celebrated a good old fashioned Independence Day. There was a light breeze blowing which made for very pleasant weather and also ruffled the flags and pennants aboard the ship. I took part in the firing of Mount 52 and it made quite a sensation with the mass of onlookers in the park, much less, the memories it brought back to this old Gunners Mate. Five short charges were fired altogether. Afterwards, we took our folding chairs aboard the ship and watched a fantastic fireworks display while the Orange Community Orchestra played patriotic music from the ASROC deck. Steve Phillips, Hal and Sharyn Ueckert, Sherwood Buckalew, Keith Bowsher, Buddy Wofford, and everyone else involved with setting up this event did a truly outstanding job and they have earned the right to be very proud of the way the day turned out, It would make you feel very good to have seen the USS Orleck being the centerpiece of such a patriotic ceremony.

I was glad to read that the news about Paul Payne was in error. Although in different departments, Paul and I served aboard USS Orleck at the same time. I had enjoyed reading some of his past comments and recollections in the Scuttlebutt about life aboard the ship during that time period.. Like Mark Twain once commented after reading his own obituary in the newspaper, "I believe the news of my recent death have been grossly exaggerated." Paul now shares that same distinction and his former shipmates are glad to hear that he is still alive and well.

Steve Davis GM2
1967-72

Host Hotel for the Wilmington North Carolina USS ORLECK reunion is the Hilton Riverside Hotel located right on the Cape Fear River overlooking the Battleship North Carolina. The NORTH CAROLINA Battleship is the view you will see from your hotel room. When we have our banquet aboard this fine lady, we will take our river taxi (The Capt. J.N. Maffitt) to and from the ship. Also outside the hotel is the Henrietta III Riverboat that will serve as a tour boat and fine dinner cruise event. The waterway is beautiful with its public access, public docks and parks with benches, fountains, trees and visitor center. Because of the location of this hotel, we will not have to bus people to get to the fun things. They are right there. We will have a special trolley dedicated to our group that will circle the city stopping every half an hour at special venues. YOU WILL NOT NEED A CAR and the associated expense of gas and parking.



Hilton Wilmington Riverside (our reunion home base)

Wilmington International Airport (ILM)
Is located <u>just 4 miles from the hotel</u>.

Hilton Hotel <u>will</u> provide transportation from and to the airport.





USS NORTH CAROLINA-Lt. Joseph Orleck dinner site on Saturday night.

You will need to call the Hilton at the local number there to make your reservation. The National Reservation will probably not be able to book you for 2 days before or 2 days after the reunion at the agreed upon rate. The local registration at the hotel will have the details of our agreement. We have an excellent rate of $109.00 per night for this first class hotel. Because of its location we are actually saving money that would have to be charged for the events because of the money we will save on bus rentals. **Our reunion is scheduled for June 22-25, 2006.** We have been given the right to rent our room at $109.00 from June 19-June 27 as long as there are rooms available. With that being said I would suggest strongly that you call and make your reservation now. There are a total of 274 rooms at this hotel and June is the busy time of the year and availability can become a problem for those waiting. We have blocked 75 rooms on Wednesday the 22nd, 125 rooms on the 22, 23 and 24th and 25 room on the 25th and we will not be able to increase that block. <u>The cutoff date for making reservations is May 7, 2006 in any event.</u> After that date they say prices will increase dramatically.

Reunion dates-June 22-25, 2006

Call 910-763-5900 for Hotel Reservations at the Hilton Hotel in Wilmington, NC.

Mention you are calling to reserve for the USS ORLECK DD 886 REUNION.

The agreed rate is $109.00 per night. If you have any problem making reservations call Bob Orleck at 802-728-9806 and he will work out the problem for you. We have 125 rooms reserved for the main nights and we are guaranteed those nights but the other nights are based on availability.

After you make your reservation with the hotel go to pages 45 or 46 and fill out the events registration and send it to the USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION with your check and the form. If you do so early (before January 1, 2006) you will get a discount from the event rate. Act quickly and let us know so we can do adequate planning. You can read more about the details on pages 45 or 46 as well.

Request for sponsors: We have always relied on people who participate to pay for the entire cost of a Reunion. I just attended a large gathering for another organization and those people had sponsors who paid for most of the program and allowed the money spent by the individuals to go directly for the event. If any of you would like to be an official sponsor, as a person or as a business we would put that information in the next SCUTTLEBUTT. That information will be sent to over 1500 people which includes other ship's organizations. If you have a business that would be great advertising and you could support your ship organization that way. If you want to know more contact Bob Orleck at P.O. Box 213, Randolph, VT 05060 or phone 802-728-9806 or e-mail to bob@ussorleck.com. Since I have a little more room I might suggest this reunion as a great upcoming Christmas present.

FILL OUT THIS FORM, TEAR IT OUT AND MAIL IT TO

DESTROYER USS ORLECK DD886 ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 213, RANDOLPH, VT 05060
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION

Name _____ Rate/Rank _____ Years Served on ORLECK_____
Spouse First Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____
Arrival Date _____ ETA _____ Departure Date _____
Staying at the Hilton Hotel? _____ Elsewhere _____
Names of those attending as you would like their names to appear on their name tag and their age if a child

_____

_____

Comments_____

_____

_____

***Price includes:** 3 banquets (at Hilton Hotel, aboard USS NORTH CAROLINA and a tour and dinner aboard the HENRIETTA III Riverboat. There will be a Sunday Morning sit down breakfast and church service led by our Chaplain Joe Correia. Also includes admission to the USS NORTH CAROLINA museum, entertainment at banquets, boat transportation (water taxi) and bus transportation and much more. (We will probably have a total of 3 breakfasts and 1 lunch (pizza in hospitality room) as well) We will have a great Memorial Service and a business meeting to discuss the next reunion and elect officers, special keeper souvenir name badge and more (See Page 36). Admiral John Bepko (former USS ORLECK sailor) has agreed to be our keynote speaker. The price for adults will be $198 per person for all events if you register early, before January 1, 2006. After early registration the rate will be $225 per person. I will guarantee that you will be more than get your value from that fee. Our reunions are also geared to satisfy the desires of not only the sailors but also their spouses and families. As a result we have 95% participation by spouses. Those registering early can gain the discount and early notice will enable us to better plan. The earlier the better. So for those who register before January 1, 2006 will pay a fee of $198.00, a savings of $27.00. Registration for children 12 years and under will only have to pay $175.00 no matter when registering. Early registration was extended because of the lateness of this SCUTTLEBUTT edition on the reunion and as stated before is January 1, 2006.

There is more detailed information on the city of Wilmington, NC and on the events and dinners in the other parts of this SCUTTLEBUTT. Other communications will be sent to you in the future on the reunion especially to those who register.

If registering after January 1, 2006 pay the following:

Number of 13 and older attending _____ X **$225.00** each _____
Number of 12 and under attending _____ X **$175.00** each _____

If registering between now and January 1, 2006 pay the following:

Number of 13 and older attending _____ X **$198.00** each _____
Number of 12 and under attending _____ X **$175.00** each _____

_____ Total Enclosed _____

FILL OUT THIS FORM, TEAR IT OUT AND MAIL IT TO

DESTROYER USS ORLECK DD886 ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 213, RANDOLPH, VT 05060
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO USS ORLECK ASSOCIATION

Name _____ Rate/Rank _____ Years Served on ORLECK_____
Spouse First Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____
Arrival Date _____ ETA _____ Departure Date _____
Staying at the Hilton Hotel? _____ Elsewhere _____
Names of those attending as you would like their names to appear on their name tag and their age if a child

_____

_____

Comments_____

_____

_____

***Price includes:** 3 banquets (at Hilton Hotel, aboard USS NORTH CAROLINA and a tour and dinner aboard the HENRIETTA III Riverboat. There will be a Sunday Morning sit down breakfast and church service led by our Chaplain Joe Correia. Also includes admission to the USS NORTH CAROLINA museum, entertainment at banquets, boat transportation (water taxi) and bus transportation and much more. (We will probably have a total of 3 breakfasts and 1 lunch (pizza in hospitality room) as well) We will have a great Memorial Service and a business meeting to discuss the next reunion and elect officers, special keeper souvenir name badge and more. (See Page 36). Admiral John Bepko (former USS ORLECK sailor) has agreed to be our keynote speaker. The price for adults will be $198 per person for all events if you register early, before January 1, 2006. After early registration the rate will be $225 per person. I will guarantee that you will be more than get your value from that fee. Our reunions are also geared to satisfy the desires of not only the sailors but also their spouses and families. As a result we have 95% participation by spouses. Those registering early can gain the discount and early notice will enable us to better plan. The earlier the better. So for those who register before January 1, 2006 will pay a fee of $198.00, a savings of $27.00. Registration for children 12 years and under will only have to pay $175.00 no matter when registering. Early registration was extended because of the lateness of this SCUTTLEBUTT edition on the reunion and as stated before is January 1, 2006.

There is more detailed information on the city of Wilmington, NC and on the events and dinners in the other parts of this SCUTTLEBUTT. Other communications will be sent to you in the future on the reunion especially to those who register.

If registering after January 1, 2006 pay the following:

Number of 13 and older attending _____ X **$225.00** each _____
Number of 12 and under attending _____ X **$175.00** each _____

If registering between now and January 1, 2006 pay the following:

Number of 13 and older attending _____ X **$198.00** each _____
Number of 12 and under attending _____ X **$175.00** each _____

Total Enclosed _____

(Continued from page 16)
ans know how to party. After leaving Vancouver we headed south for San Diego however we sustained a minor casualty in the engineering plant and steamed out to San Francisco Bay, at what must have been close to a flank bell. We had a Coast Guard cutter in hot pursuit, I think they wanted to give the skipper a speeding ticket. We just kept heading out under the Golden Gate, turned south and then really kicked her into high gear. I was standing watches in the after engine room and all I remember is how we rolled with those long Pacific swells on the beam.

Next came REFTRA (refresher training) and then deployment in August 1971. We independently steamed to Pearl and left there in company with USS EPPERSON (DD719). Fondly known as the Eppy Maru or the Eppy Bucket, she was my first ship after leaving boot camp in September 1968. We arrived at Subic in early September having traveled by way of Midway Island and Agana Guam. From Subic we went on the gunline up near the DMZ, back to Subic, Yankee Station, Subic, gunline down South, Subic. And they a great upkeep period in Singapore, back on Yankee Station, Subic and then we were on the Hong Kong for Christmas. Somewhere before Singapore we ran into a typhoon, almost had mount 51 knocked off of the forecastle, missed a port visit to Kaoshung and wound up back in Subic for repairs. Anyway, a day out of Hong Kong we got turned around, went to four boiler ops, flank speed, everything she could take. We met up with the USS ENTERPRISE off of Singapore and proceed through the Straits of Mollacca. My mother, sometime later, sent me a clipping of the Eugene Register Guard (Eugene, Oregon) which reported how the USS ENTERPRISE and her escorts made a slow stately passage through the Straits of Mollacca to the Indian Ocean to take station off of city of Dacca. Let me tell you there was nothing slow or stately about it. We were aft of the Big E about 500 yards, there was a can on either beam and a can about 500 yards ahead of her. We steamed through the straits at 27 knots! Freighter, tankers, sampans and junks were going every which way so they wouldn't get run down. The reason we went there was because Indians and Pakistanis were at war, Bangladesh was breaking away, and there were some Americans trapped at the Dacca airport. We spent 30 days in the IO looking at the hind end of ENTERPRISE and keeping an eye on the Russians. I have some great shots, taken through the gun fire director optics of a Kahsin class DDG right in the cross hairs. Bad thing was we spent Christmas and New Years in the IO, good thing was we got two weeks in Singapore on the way out. Next came Subic, one more trip to Yankee station, Subic and then outchop and head home. Since we had gotten aced out of a lot of our planned port visits, Captain Hine got permission to come home by way of Sydney Australia and Dunedin New Zealand. Some of the guys just wanted to get home, but as for me that was absolutely, positively the best trip I ever had on any Navy ship. Crossed the line on the way down and picked up a new XO in Sydney, LCDR Greenberg, he was OK but LtCDR Elliott was a tough act to follow. George left to take command of another can. Had four of the greatest days I've ever had in Sydney, we left and headed for New Zealand, went by New Guinea, stopped at Manus in the Admiralty Islands and headed up Otago Bay to Dunedin NZ. Sydney was great but is paled in comparison to the warmth of the New Zealanders and the beauty of the South Island. If NZ wasn't Paradise then it would do until the real thing came along. After NZ we headed home by way of Pago Pago in company with the USS KING (DLG 5). She kept dropping the load, she has a 1200 pound steam plant and was a basket case. As you know we had a 600 pound plant, we steamed the hell out it and it kept coming back for more. I think all you needed to keep it running was fuel oil, baling wire and chewing gum. Anyway, since the KING kept breaking down this caused some bad blood between the crews that erupted in Pago Pago and then again in Pearl. I think we were 1 and 1 for the series. We left the KING in Pearl (and Captain Hine's palm tree, the tale of the palm tree will require a follow up e-mail to do it justice) and independently steamed for San Diego, was a super homecoming, I never knew how good it was to see SD come up and point the way to the Point Loma and the San Diego channel.

We got back in March 1972 and I left ORLECK and the Navy (for awhile) in early April 1972 as a Machinery Repairman Second Class. I subsequently came back into the Navy in 1976 as Ensign in the Supply Corps, was on active duty until December 1986 and then went into the Naval Reserve. I was selected this year for promotion to Captain in the Supply Corps, will actually put it on it November or December.

So much action, activity and memories were crammed into the twenty two months I spent aboard ORLECK. Typhoons and sunsets, long watches and great liberties, super friends and good times, hard work and a feeling of belonging to a special ship. Writing this has brought back a lot of memories some of which need expansion. Will write again soon.

Hope to see ORLECK soon in Orange.

Best regards,
Paul A. Payne
MR2 1970-72

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: This was a letter that for some reason got filed and never printed. When I realized that Paul had been put improperly (thank God) on the Memorial Roster, I searched frantically for this account he wrote some 7 years ago so I could print it and maybe make it up to him a bit.

DESTROYER USS ORLECK
DD 886 ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 213
Randolph, VT 05060

phone 802-728-9806
e-mail bob@ussorleck.com

Lt. Joseph Orleck-Memorial Service-Arlington

Bulk Rate
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 8
Randolph, VT.
05060

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

We are on the web at www.ussorleck.com

Serving the men who served their country in USS ORLECK DD 886

USS ORLECK
FORESIGHT DD-886 VIGILANCE

USS ORLECK DD 886 VICTIM OF HURRICANE RITA AND A RUNAWAY BARGE



September 24, 2005-Ochiltree Park, Orange, Texas:

USS ORLECK was minding her own business securely moored at her current home on the Sabine River along the banks of Ochiltree Park when Hurricane Rita decided to make a visit. From what we know the eye passed right over the USS ORLECK and winds reached 142 MPH. For USS ORLECK this might have been another storm like others she had endured over her 54 years of service to two nations (U.S.A. and TURKEY), but there was something in store for her that was unexpected. A 300 foot barge with a 300 ton crane apparently broke loose from up river and slammed into the side of our ship tearing out her anchor lines and putting a long scratch on the starboard hull and a four foot gash on the fan-tail. She then was swept around 180 degrees and ended up resting against one barge while another came and pinned her port side. (the picture taken by Gary Stelly, Owner & General Manager of KOGT and printed with his permission shows the one barge but the other had been removed.) (Thanks to Ben Loder for bringing my attention to the photo by KOGT.) She has now been re-floated and is at a local shipyard being repaired. Steve Davis, James Allison, John Little, Mike Snoke, David Murphree, Jerry Hernke and Carroll Keller made an emergency trip to help facilitate the move. With Dan Jackson (Perkins sailor) they boarded USS ORLECK as they had years ago and assisted the Tug Boats in moving USS ORLECK to a pier at Signal Int. Shipyard. Field Days had to be canceled because Orange, Texas was devastated and there is no water, electricity and the food is scarce. The Field Days hopefully will be able to be rescheduled in a month or so. Plan to be there. Your help is needed!

It would be very appropriate to say prayers for the survival of USS ORLECK and prayers for all the people that were adversely affected by the recent gulf storms.
You are encouraged more than ever to support the restoration of the ship by donating as you can to EPIC*, P.O. BOX 886, Randolph Center, VT 05061.

Look for further details in http://www.ussorleck.com in the forum "OPERATION RESCUE-USS ORLECK"

***EPIC is abbreviation for TCG YUCETEPE/USSORLECK EDUCATION PRESERVATION INFORMATION CORPORATION**