

Nov. 2006-1

U.S.S. LOWNDES – APA154

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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e mail: redlabelbuddha@comcast.net

At the business meeting in Seattle, WA it was voted to have our Nineteenth Reunion in St. Louis, MO (Show me state) during October 2007. Details & dates, etc. to follow in future issues of the newsletter as they become available From Jan Trober & Angela Turin who have handled previous reunions very successfully. Please note the change in your editor's e mail address.

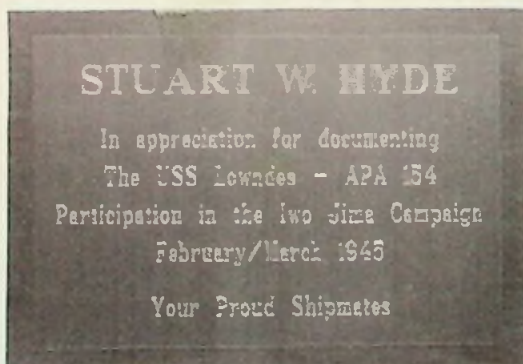
St. Louis, MO has been known throughout history as the "Gateway to the West". Denoted by the 17,00 ton 630 foot stainless steel arch. Founded by the French in 1764 as a fur trading post. Missouri means "Town of the Large Canoe" Originated as a territory June 4, 1812 and entered the Union August 10, 1821. Jefferson City is the state Capital. Of special interest the peace treat with Japan was officially signed On the Battleship Missouri - BB 63 on September 2, 1945. Incidentally, your editor's birthday. Also home of the St. Louis Cardinal baseball and St Louis Rams football teams. Known as the birth place of Harry S. Truman our 33rd president. On a historical aspect regarding Missouri it has been noted that from 1875 to 1882 Jesse & frank James, outlaws made the state a wee bit notorious for their numerous bank robberies and train hold ups.



Stuart Hyde

Well, Bud, you really surprised me! When I went to the banquet, my hopes were to share some good stories with shipmates, enjoy seeing everyone duded up, have a good meal and, if there was an opportunity that wouldn't interfere with the event, ask if anyone wanted to order a copy of "Operation Detachment." I spent a lot of time listening to sea stories told by my table mates, some of which really blew me away – like the one about how the below decks gang regularly raided the officers' pantry of shrimp, steaks, ice cream and other delicacies THEN, you got up and shocked the heck out of me with the award and plaque. I was left almost speechless and my comments were rather scattered and ill-phrased, but I was deeply moved. I write this to thank you for your generous remarks and what a pleasure it was to finally meet you face to face after 62 years. If I as a Johnny-come-lately added anything to what you, David Brinkman, and many others have recorded. Many contributions to the preservation of a ship that lived but a few years. Her active life, from commissioning until decommissioning, numbered only 453 days-less than a 1-1/2 years, but those days left their mark on some 550 enlisted men and officers for life; and, after the war, another thousand or more relatives, including parents, siblings, wives, children, and now grandchildren, I have been touched and in some ways, changed, because of the Lowndes' experiences communicated to them through the newsletters, websites, and the reunions. Allie and I enjoyed meeting your family; those girls are somethin' else! I hope you had a pleasant trip home. See page 3 for book.

Ed. Note: You can tell that Stuart has a teacher's way with words. Thank you.



Pam Hennessey

The reason behind the bracelets I gave the men is that several people I know working for the phone companies started raising money to send care packages to soldiers in Iraq/Afghanistan. I admired the bracelet one of them was wearing. I don't know if they started out knowing all the service people they send to or how they choose them, but the money they raise selling the red, white, and blue bracelets Passed out the men basically goes toward the postage to send their care packages. The pink ones I purchased are to honor those who have suffered from breast cancer and the proceeds goes toward breast cancer research.

Ed. Note: Thank you Pam for your dedication to worthwhile causes.

Leo O'Brien

We enjoyed our reunion in Seattle, WA very much. Even though it was small it was good to see our shipmates and wives and two new members to the reunion. It makes you proud to be a part of the "Greatest Generation." As usual Jan and Perry and Angela did a marvelous job, Jan was able to handle any problem that came up and she did it with a smile. It was a pleasant surprise to have Dr. Dunbar's son and grandson make an appearance at the banquet. It was interesting to talk to Stuart Hyde on the boat ride and to get a slant on some of his experiences on the Lowndes. Margaret and I were glad to have our sons, Neil and Gerry present at the banquet along with Gerry's wife, Alanna. I think they got a good feeling for some of what we experienced on board ship. Also was happy to get some more input from David and Odess Brinkman about the Lowndes. And as usual, we missed some of our old friends from previous reunions. We hope all is well with Jean, She looked good coming and going, but it was the in between that did her in. See you all in St. Louis, the good Lord willing.

Ed note: Thanks, Leo for your concern. All is well now. Too bad we had to move to three different rooms before getting settled.

Nov. 2006-3

Lorene Stratton

We hope you had a good reunion in Seattle. Sorry we had to miss the reunion. I was doing real well with my new hip, but a couple of weeks ago I slipped in the kitchen and hurt my back. Thank God I did not break anything. The last time we were in South Carolina I called David Brinkman. He and his family came out to eat with us. We enjoy the newsletter. I leave it on the counter and I see Dallas reading it from time to time, it keeps him informed Dallas plays softball twice a week in Ocala. He's going to play this fall – after that I don't know. He is 83 years old. We had our 63rd anniversary August 4th. Trust all are doing OK.

Sterling L. Hornsby

My Welma's health prevents us from traveling and as you can see, don't write very well either. I do enjoy the newsletter and, enjoyed Mr. Hyde's book and was amazed at the pin point accuracy in locating the Beach Parties and boat landing s on Iwo Jima. I wish all smooth sailing into the sunset.

Joe & Loreta Freitas

We were sorry to hear about Ed. King, Joe and I took him to his first reunion in San Diego and was glad to have him with us. He was a very nice person, too bad he had to have the old habit of smoking.

Bill Robinson

Just a note to say thanks for the U.S.S. Lowndes newsletter. I've enjoyed reading it. I'm enclosing a check to help cover a little of the expenses. My wife and I were able to attend some reunions in the past and enjoyed them very much. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend now due to health problems. I am currently at my daughter's home so she can give me some help. My thoughts and prayers go with you all. New address & phone:

6271 Union Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601
(330)823-6036

Jenny Teixeira

Just wanted to let everyone know what a wonderful time I had in Seattle with everyone from the Lowndes reunion. It was a treat to experience Seattle in such great company. I appreciate that family is able to be involved in the reunions. I have a tremendous amount of respect and gratitude to everyone who has served our country in times of need. I would also like to thank Jan and Angie for all the hard work in making the reunion what it is....a great success. I hope to see everyone next year.

Ed. note: "Operation Detachment" the book that Stuart Hyde has cited the Lowndes Iwo Jima participation is available from Stuart at a cost of \$17.00 and in my opinion is well worth the price. I highly recommend it. Contact him at:

<stuarthyde@comcast.net>

*Or: 586 Chapman Dr.
Corte Madera, CA 94925
(415)924-9467*

It's been said that he loses money but makes up for it on volume. Go for it.

Have been informed that Arthur Rauseo has USS Lowndes caps available. Cost: \$12.00. He can be contacted at:

<mmrauseo@verizon.net>

*Or: 76 Central St.
Georgetown, MA 01833
(978)352-8252*

Don Furth

We have moved about 100 miles Down East from where we were and live in a family compound with more family members and near other family members, including 3 great-grandchildren. Life is good. New address:

143 Timber Cove Road
Trescott, ME 04652

In 1775 the Continental Congress ordered construction of a naval fleet, thereby launching the Navy.

Nov. 2006-4

Joyce Perdue

New Military Vessel! This bit of news brought out some pretty strong feelings for a lot of folks.....

GOD BLESS AMERICA

USS NEW YORK

With a year to go before it even touches the water, the Navy's amphibious assault ship USS New York has already made history. It was built with 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Center.

USS New York is about 45 percent complete and should be ready for launch in mid-2007. Katrina disrupted construction when it pounded the Gulf Coast last summer, but the 684-foot vessel escaped serious damage, and workers were back at the yard near New Orleans two weeks after the storm.

It is the fifth in a new class of warship – designed for missions that include special operations against terrorists. It will carry a crew of 360 sailors and 700 combat-ready Marines to be delivered ashore by helicopters and assault craft.

"It would be fitting if the first mission this ship would go on is to make sure that bin Laden is taken out, his terrorist organization is taken out," said Glenn Clement, a paint foreman. He came through the back door and knocked our towers down and (the New York) is coming right through the front door, and we want them to know that.

Steel from the World Trade Center was melted down in a foundry in Amite, LA to cast the ship's bow section. When it was poured into the molds on Sept. 9, 2003, "those big rough steelworkers treated it with total reverence, 'recalled navy Capt. Kevin Wenseng, who was there. "It was a spiritual moment for everybody there."

Junior Chavers, foundry operations manager, said that when the Trade Center

steel first arrived, he touched it with his hand and the "hair on my neck stood up." It had a big meaning to it all for us," he said. "They knocked us down. They can't keep us down. We're going to be back.

Ed. note: I have received much information from Charles G. Perdue regarding his Dad, Our Captain and his experiences. I will insert that info in newsletters from time to time.

John Vernale

Mary and I returned from Sicily several weeks ago, believe me, it took two weeks to feel normal again. We were having dinner at 9, 10 & 11 at night, it'ds the custom out there to eat late. The way they drive a car is really crazy. We had a wonderful time in Seattle, hope to see all in St. Louis, MO.

Thanks, John for that Euro dollar I asked you to bring back for me. I won't be able to spend it, but did have plans for it. Will clue you in on that later.

It was great having the son and grandson of Lt. Dunbar pay us a visit at our banquet. Grandson was wearing the dog tags Lt. wore while serving in WWII on the Lowndes.

As reported in the Georgetown Record:

"Rauseo honored by Light Department."

When people say that Arthur Rauseo lights up a room, they mean it literally.

Long Georgetown resident was recently awarded the Commissioners Award for his 15 years of service as commissioner. He also served with the Central Fire Company for 50 years, with every fire chiefs. He survived a heart attack, and decided to continue as light commissioner. Over the last 15 years, he participated in the completion of the overhead electric system of the town, two new substations, an office building for the Light Department and construction of the department's equipment.

Way to go Arthur, Congratulations.

Jan Trober

I am so happy that I was able to coordinate another successful reunion for the members, family and friends of the USS LOWNDES. It has been my pleasure to be able to do this for my Father and his shipmates. It has brought great joy to me personally to meet and visit with all that attend and have over the years. Seattle is a wonderful city with its busy waterfront and market place. The weather was absolutely beautiful for our stay. I can see why so many people have moved there. The climate of 40 to 90 degrees all year around is very attractive. I'm not sure I understand the thinking of the builders in the city. Building on a hillside where you need retainer walls to keep the homes from sliding to the waters' edge is a bit odd. But I have to say some of those homes we saw on the bus tour were almost as breath taking as the mountains we saw off Puget Sound when we took the boat tour. And seeing the salmon was unbelievable. I never realized they were that big of a fish. They are actually the size of the tall fish tales I always hear. And speaking of wildlife, I am not sure if any others knew this about our stay in Seattle but there was a "bear scare" and a "cougar relocation" while we were there. Now that doesn't happen everyday where I come from, in fact it doesn't happen at all. While in Seattle, we purchased Rainer Beer, the local area brew. My Dad said he remembers it very well and he said that with a devilish smile. He said it was the beer served at any establishment when you were on shore leave. He got a big kick out of me calling it "Reindeer Beer". I am looking forward to next year's reunion when we meet in St Louis. I have already started my internet search for the sights and sounds of the area of the country I call home. I know by the time 2007 rolls around I would have found interesting things that are unique to St. Louis and its surrounding area to share with all.

Ed. Note: I'm sure Jan and Angela will do another bang up job in 2007. Will be looking forward to it. In 1989 we had our very first reunion in St. Louis. Many interesting sights to be seen in the area.

Angela Turin

Bud, I have some pictures I will send you from the boat tour. I am sorry you and Jean missed it but I am happy she is better. When we went on the underground tour of the city it was quite interesting to see how Seattle came about, it sure does have a unique past. The tour by bus was a lot of the same info we got on the underground tour, except the fish hatchery was cool. The most fun for me was the boat view of the city. The train was pretty neat, the food was not so good, I had chicken. I did have a nice time with Stan Dunn, he was my dinner partner, he is a pretty cool guy. I hope this helps and thanks for letting me be a part of this reunion. I am truly honored to be involved in it.

Ed. note: You are always welcome to be part of the Lowndes Reunion group. As most are aware, Angela worked hand in hand with Jan in organizing the Seattle Reunion and did a terrific job too.

Pam Hennessey

We had a great time getting together with everyone and thought the tours were very good.

Ed. note: Pam and Jenny sent a lot of photos to take the place of the ones that I was unable to take and they will be inserted into our annual album for viewing at the next reunion in St. Louis, MO., thanks kids.

Bill Fletcher

I'm sending some printing and mailing funds so as hopefully to continue receiving the newsletter. I'm in the 3rd year of efforts to help build an historic park in Angleton, Texas. Those of you from Texas may be interested in our web site: <www.stephen_faustin.org> On November 3rd we will celebrate Stephen F. Austin's 213th birthday at our new visitors center on the park site. All are invited. E mail:

<bkfletcher2000@hotmail.com>
Cell phone: (979)549-1339

Nov. 2006-6

David Brinkman

We had a great time except for losing our baggage and laptop, but they were returned 2 us at 2 AM in the morning on August 22nd. After learning what happened to Ellis Morton, I decided to try another lookup on Ancestry.com and hit the jackpot. Apparently, they just added all the newspaper articles for the WA town where the Mortons lived. Ellis ended up having 10 brothers and sisters with the youngest 53 years old. I think I have the current addresses for three of the brothers. I'm certain about one of them because a 1960's article gave his and his wife's name: Donald G. Morton and his wife Lavonne which I found in the city directory for a town where the family lived during WW II. I will write letters to all that I have addresses and see if I can inform the family of the Lowndes Reunion Group and Web sites. Odess and I saw Flags again and I was right the first time I saw it. The Lowndes boat PA154-21 is shown toward the end of the credits. The movie was even better the second time. Clint Eastwood signed a copy of the Flags movie poster for our little boy (Jeremy). That was in appreciation for the help we are providing from the info on the Lowndes web site which may be used in the Flags DVD. For those that do not know, the APA ships/sets in the Flags movie were designed based on a visit of the Flags movie crew to the USS Gage (APA-168). The movie crew has also been using the Lowndes web site and I just provided them with audio files (from WWII news casts about the Iwo Jima battle) and video we put together from the Bayfield (APA-33) films from Iwo Jima. I've been helping a member (Liz Radley) of Clint's crew get some Iwo Jima live news audio broadcasts which they are hoping to use in some extra features that will be on the "Flags" DVD. Liz offered to send us a poster and I asked her to sign it. She ended up getting Clint to sign it. The Flags crew is in post production now for the second Iwo Jima film titled, "Letters from Iwo Jima". This will be released in February. I really thought I would be disappointed at what Flags would be able to do reproducing this on an Island in Iceland. Instead, I was blown away with the image of

the island and Navy Fleet and the firing onto Mount Suribachi. How about you guys that were there? What did you think of the Iwo scenes? I also heard from Leo O'Brien. He saw the movie and thought the Iwo Jima recreation was very realistic. Jeremy liked the movie. Every time he saw a corpsman, he would ask me if that was grandpa. I recently read that many of the photos (shown during the credits) were used to create the scene with Bradley helping based on a well known photo. I want to see the movie a third time to see if they have a scene similar to the boat21 picture. I might have to wait for the DVD so I can go through it frame by frame.

Ed. note: I only have this to add, David sure has a way with being able to garner so much information that to this poor soul it's absolutely mind boggling. Regarding Ellis Morton, David found out the hard way during our reunion when he visited the grave site. (\$62.00 cab fare). David has been and still is tracking down former crew members, be it by phone or on the computer. He is doing a fantastic job and I'm sure he will keep us informed on the progress.

Jan Trober

A Navy cook gave this recipe to me. thought the guys might remember this meal. He said it was an old standard. I think my Dad had another name for this "old standard" but he wasn't supposed to use it around us girls when I was growing up.

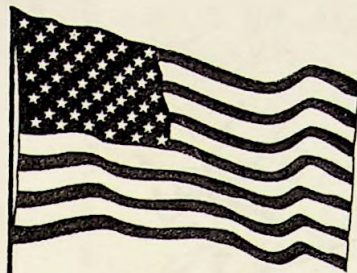
Creamed Slice Dried Beef

7 pounds beef, dried, sliced
5 gallons milk
2 pound of melted fat
2-1/2 pounds flour
1/2 ounce pepper
1/2 ounce salt
100 slices, toasted white bread

Cut beef into small pieces. Heat milk to boiling. Blend in fat & flour to a smooth paste & stir in milk. Cook, stirring constantly until thickened. Add pepper & salt & stir in beef. Simmer 10 min. & serve over toast. Serves 100.

Michalski served this in San Antonio, Tx '95 reunion.

TAPS



Edward LeRoy King, Jr.

Harold D. Brunner



Clint Eastwood & Ed. King
"Escape From Alcatraz"



1989 St. Louis, MO Reunion

Born August 26, 1927 at Fort Bragg, CA. Passed away June 7th, 2006. The asbestos poison went to his lungs causing cancer. Memorial services were held at Auburn Trails Clubhouse, a community he lived in and was a part of on July 16, 2006. Survivors include 6 children, 15 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Enlisted in the Navy on April 15, 1944 at San Francisco, CA and boarded the USS Lowndes at Astoria, OR as a coxswain. He was one of the youngest members of the crew and also a Plank Owner. Left the Lowndes February 1946. Last active duty was at Shoemaker, CA February 14, 1946. While serving on the Lowndes his watch station was 40mm gun turret on the bow and G.Q. station on boat #20. As a coxswain he participated in the Iwo Jima landings, also manned the smoke boat off the shore of Okinawa in preparation of the invasion of that island in 1945. In civilian life he spent 5 years as a hard hat diver and loft rigger for the Navy Department at Mare Island Navy Yard in Vallejo, CA. Ferry boat and tug boat captain docking ships and sea going tugs with Crowey Maritime Corp. for 27 years until retiring.

Born in Amazonia, MO November 17, 1919, passed away June 15, 2006, interred with full Military Honors. Also a member of the Masons. Survivors include 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Joined the Navy April 25, 1944 at Fort Leavenworth, KS. Came aboard the Lowndes September 14, 1944 as a Machinists Mate and was a Plank Owner. He stood throttle watch in the engine room. No.3 generator room was his G.Q. station. Last active duty in Norfolk, VA as a MM2c. Leaving the Lowndes on March 4th, 1946, receiving an honorable discharge. As a civilian he worked as a machinists/millwright for Swift & Co in St. Joseph, MO for 28-1/2 years. 12 years night shift/days for contractor laying bricks and blocks. Last 16-1/2 years farmed, working 5 AM 'til 1 PM at Swift & Co., Head millwright in cattle kill department. Farmed 420 acres, St. Joseph plant closed November 1971. Then went into full time farming & feeding 1200 hogs year around, 100 head of stock cattle and registered Herefords, bought feeder cattle and feed out plus calves he raised.

E. Max Cole



TAPS

Born October 21, 1915, at Topeka, Kansas, passed away July 16, 2006 after a short battle with cancer. He was buried with full military honors in his home town of Springfield, Missouri on Friday July 2nd, 2006. Joined the Navy August 1942 at Notre Dame, Terre Haute, Indiana. Then boarded the Lowndes September 14, 1944 as A Lt. jg. Also becoming a Plank Owner on that date. Watch and G.Q . stations in communications. Left the Lowndes October 24, 1945 in San Francisco, CA as a full Lt. Then went into inactive reserves. In civilian life he was a featured actor in Hollywood in 1946. Also in that year was a

-DJ for 9 years on WOV in New York City. '57 to '59 radio station WNYC, '60 to '77 Chief announcer and jazz impresario on station WRVR. His "Just Jazz" and "More Jazz" were very popular programs with the WRVR listening audiences. He also covered the Dr. King's "I have a Dream" speech in 1963. He vividly remembers the day an WRVR reporter was kicked out of a secret KKK meeting for having a tape recorder. Even after the station was sold in 1977, Max continued to serve as producer and voice of the Sunday service heard on WLTW Lite FM, as a one week delayed broadcast at 5 a.m. every Sunday morning.

Rosenberg A. Risa, Jr.

Born July 31, 1926 Del Rio and passed away May 15, 2006 at his residence in Uvalde, Texas. He married Juventina Reyes on June 18, 1950 in Uvalde. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, four daughters, two sons, 17 grandchildren nine great-grandchildren.

Ed. note: No information available regarding his service aboard the Lowndes other than that he boarded the ship September 15, 1944 and left April 17, 1946.

2007 ANNUAL DUES – U.S.S. LOWNDES – APA 154 REUNION GROUP

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: ____ () _____

E(MAIL):(Optional) _____

ENCLOSED: _____

Suggested amount: \$20.00