

LST 534 Newsletter

January/February/March 2006

Volume 9 , Issue 1

Listen Up: Very Important

As we move into the new year, it is a perfect time to get together with your family and friends and discuss the LST 534 Time Capsule.

You can explain to your children and grandchildren the importance of the event and perhaps even begin plans to attend the sealing ceremony. This time capsule is yours—it is for your offspring to keep the memories of WWII and the LST 534 alive. Have your family help gather the items you are going to put in the time capsule. Make a list of your donations and give a copy to each person. Explain how important it will be for them to make the journey to Evansville Indiana on June 6th, 2044 for the opening of the time capsule. Discuss with your family what to do with the items after the opening.

What will be going on in their lives at the point? Will they be married with children? This will be how your legacy will live on. Through your great-grandchildren.

We will leave instructions for that generation. We will show

them our love; our love for country; our fears, our joys.

So think about this as you decide what to contribute to the LST 534 time capsule.

Here is what I am planning to contribute:

- ◆ A copy of the documentary "Onto Rugged Shores: Voyage of LST 534."
- ◆ Print-outs of each interview I did with some of you.
- ◆ My dad's picture in the Navy and then later in life.
- ◆ A copy of each reunion video.
- ◆ A copy of the LST 534 deck logs.

That's what I have gathered so far. I'm sure I will add to this list as I find things that I think the future generations will learn from.

Remember: I MUST HAVE YOUR ITEMS BEFORE MARCH 1, 2006. Also, please be sure to send items by a traceable method to:

Linda Alvers
250 West 49th Street, Suite 401
New York, NY 10019

I also want to tell you that all articles will be inventoried and photographed. Once I have the items, I will know how big of a time capsule to buy. When we seal the time capsule on June 6th in Evansville, Indiana, those of you in attendance will be given your items back for you to personally place in the time capsule. You will have your picture taken with you placing your items inside the time capsule. And one standing by it with your family.

I am contacting the Evansville Convention and Visitors Bureau for hotel information. Stay tuned for details of the event.

NEWS:



August 14, 2005: Times Square

This past August 14th in New York City, it was around 105 degrees with 85% humidity. The radio reported we should stay inside unless we had to get out. So, of course, I ventured out. But for a very good reason. It was the 60th anniversary of the famous celebration in Times Square of V-J Day. And to

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commemorate the victory, the sailor and the nurse who made the famous Pulitzer Prize winning Photo of "The Kiss" came back to Times Square.

Edith Shain was the nurse in the picture and Carl Muscarello was the Navy man. There is a sculpture entitled, "Unconditional Surrender," created by artist Seward Johnson that depicts the picture of the famous kiss. It was on display too.

On August 14th, 1945 there was an estimated 2,000,000 people gathered in Times Square. The place was buzzing with excitement and hope. At 7:03 PM, the words finally blazed across the news zipper on Times Tower: "Official- Truman Announces Japanese Surrender." Times Square exploded in a collective cry of joy and relief, a generation uniting to celebrate the conclusion of the 20th Century's most devastating conflict and express their love of life and belief in the future.

It was during this celebration that Lt. Victor Jorgenson snapped the picture of a young Navy Sailor dipping a young nurse for a kiss. That Navy Sailor, Carl Muscarello, became a New York City Police Detective.

The story Edith shares goes like this: I was a nurse at Doctor's Hospital and a student at NYU in 1945 when I got off a subway in Times Square with a friend to celebrate the end of WWII and

was randomly kissed by a sailor. Life Magazine bought the picture and it was circulated around the world.

Life Magazine photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt confirmed the identity of the nurse in the famous photo some 20 years later. Although Edith has traveled the country since her discovery, the 60th Anniversary of V-J Day was the first time Edith Shain had returned to Times Square.

She was visibly emotional. As was Carl Muscarello, who only recently has been confirmed as the sailor.

I wouldn't have missed this anniversary celebration for anything in the world. You guys risked your lives for the freedom we have today. What was a little heat wave, right?

(Parts reprinted from Times Square Alliance Foundation)

VA to Provide Hearing Aids to Purple Heart Recipients

Beginning July 16, 2004, Purple Heart recipients will be eligible for the Department of Veterans Affairs sensorineural aid benefit that includes hearing aids. Congress changed the law to allow veterans awarded the Purple Heart the same priority of care as former prisoners of war under the VA enrollment system. As a result, the VA changed its hearing aid policy.

For more information, contact Ingrida Lusic, ASHA's Director of Healthcare Regulatory Advocacy via email at ilusic@asha.org or by phone at 800-498-2071, ext. 4482.

The Navy Log

The US Navy Memorial Foundation hosts a website that contains a log of Navy Veterans. Log onto www.lonesailor.org and contribute your biographical information. Entries are online but also displayed on video screens in the Log Room of the Naval Heritage Center in Washington, DC. Over 260,000 shipmates have entered their military history in this national memorial. The cost is \$25 and is tax-deductible. For those of you who do not have a computer, use the enclosed form for your entry, and mail with a \$25 check to:

US Navy Log
P.O. Box 96570
Washington, DC 20077-2685

HOLIDAYS:

January

- 1 New Years Day
- 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 29 Chinese New Year

February

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 20 President's Day Observed

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22 Washington's Birthday

March

1 Ash Wednesday
17 St. Patrick's Day

IN MEMORIAM



Emmett Cornelius Cull, F2c, aged 79, passed away suddenly on November 28, 2005 in Portola, California.

Emmett, was a fireman, 2nd class, on board LST 534. He enlisted in the US Navy and was trained as an engine worker when he was assigned to the ship.

Emmett and his wife Cecelia raised three children: David, Diane and Don. Diane Cull Tyson informed me of her father's passing. I never met Emmett but had always promised to visit him if I was ever in his neighborhood.

He enjoyed deer hunting, snowmobiling and motorcycles. Diane said his family and friends will remember his common sense, helpful manner, willingness to face a challenge and his sense of humor.

Emmett has joined the crew of the LST 534 in Heaven.

May he rest in peace.



BIRTHDAYs:

January 4

Ed Overstake
2440 World Pkwy Blvd. E, #38
Clearwater, FL 33763

January 14

Frank Frame
PO Box 1017
Jal, NM 88252

February 3

William Dox
443 South Main Street
PO Box 756
Massena, NY 13662

February 13

Captain's son, George Olson, Jr.
786 Seely Avenue
Aromas, CA 95004

March 14

Salvatore Logano
101 High Street
PO Box 144
Portland, CT 06480-1656

March 26

Willie Gunn
105 Bull Street
Swainsboro, GA 30401

April 1

Angelo Cumella
11 Freeport Court
Toms River, NJ 08757

April 14

Alex Fielder
5950 Ambassador Drive
Fairfield, OH 45014



New Museum To Honor Seabees

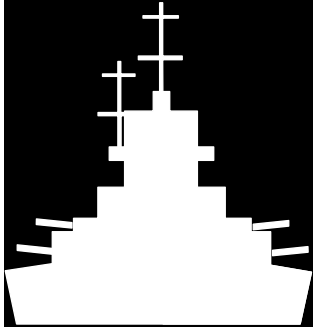
The Seabees, the military construction division of the US Navy that was immortalized by John Wayne in the 1944 movie *The Fighting Seabees*, will be honored by a new 35,000 square foot museum to be built in Port Hueneme, Ca.

The US Navy Civil Engineer Corps (CEC)/Seabee Historical Foundation, a private nonprofit organization based in Gulfport, MS, is mounting a \$12 million fundraising campaign to build the facility, which will replace a smaller museum and a memorial garden, detailing the history and various efforts of the Seabees.

"The new CEC/Seabee museum will acknowledge the efforts of more than 750,000 people who served as Seabees and CEC officers from WWII to the present," William C. Hilderbrand, retired Navy captain and foundation president, said in a statement. "We're proud that such an exciting and dynamic showcase will be created to celebrate their significant contributions in contingency construction, disaster recovery, and humanitarian assistance, throughout history and around the world."

The new museum, which will feature five galleries, builds on the Seabees' motto: "We Build/We Fight."

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New York, New York 10019



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Just for Fun
Is a column
meaning just
that – FUN.

Jim Sarres
has
graciously
volunteered
to keep it
going.

We all know
how Judge
Sarres can
keep us
laughing!

Thanks Jim.

Just for Fun

A teacher asked her class, “What do you want out of life?”

A little girl in the back row raised her hand and said, “All I want out of life is four little animals.”

The teacher asked, “Really and what four little animals would that be, sugar?”

The little girl said, “A mink on my back, a jaguar in the garage, a tiger in bed and a jackass to pay for it all.”

Nautical Terms:

*In memory of James Richard Drew who contributed to this column until his passing.
Contributed by Willie Gunn.*

Charlie: The enemy

Deep Six: To get rid of

Pineapple: serrated hand grenade

Spit Shine: Putting a see-thru gloss on the toes of your dress shoes or boots.

Editor and Comments:
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