



Radars Picket Ships YAGRGRAM #45

Summer 2007

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YAGR'S to be in the Newport, RI area in 2008.

This YAGRGRAM is going out later than I wanted it to. I held it up in the hopes that I would have more information to pass along in regard to the 2008 reunion, but it did not work out as I had hoped.

Our 13th reunion will be held in the Newport, RI area as voted on at the DC reunion. Actual location and dates are not set at this time, but as usual we will try to hold the reunion from mid May to early June. More information will be available when the next YAGRGRAM is sent out.

Washington, DC reunion.

We had 145 men and 129 spouses/guests for a total of 274, 166 of which came in early to take advantage of our pre-tours to do a little sight-seeing before the official reunion started.



Tuesday we dedicated a plaque at the U.S. Navy Memorial with 125 in attendance. As a footnote, the plaque is being revised. The original plaque dedicated listed the 16 picket ships, but did not include the YR-23 and the YR-65. The Navy Memorial has agreed to revise the plaque at no extra cost. Tom Chaffin (YR-65) made a donation to the Memorial to help offset the cost.

Shown below is the new plaque that will be on display. YAGR'S thanks Lee Doyle (AGR-15) for donating the funds for the plaque.



Some of the 67 crewmen who attended the Plaque dedication.

RADRON SQUADRONS 1&2

NORAD and DEW Line Radar Picket Ships 1955-1965

In Honor of all our shipmates who so ably served

USS PICKET AGR-7	USS VIGIL AGR-12
USS TRACER AGR-15	USS GUARDIAN AGR-1
USS SCANNER AGR-5	USS LOOKOUT AGR-2
USS LOCATOR AGR-6	USS SEARCHER AGR-4
USS WATCHMAN AGR-16	USS OUTPOST AGR-10
USS INTERCEPTOR AGR-8	USS PROTECTOR AGR-11
USS INTERDICTOR AGR-13	USS SKYWATCHER AGR-3
USS INTERPRETER AGR-14	USS INVESTIGATOR AGR-9
	YR-23 and YR-65

YAGRS REUNION ASSOCIATION

Annapolis tour guide with a some of our reunion attendees.

On Wednesday we had 166 people take a tour of Annapolis, MD and the Naval Academy. On the way to Annapolis we were delayed by the Washington traffic which had us arrive over one hour later than our planned arrival time. The tour company graciously added an extra hour to the tour at no extra charge, so that we did get the full tour that was planned.

Friday 271 of us took in the sights of Washington, DC. For many of us visiting the World War II Memorial was the highlight of the trip. We also visited the Korean War Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Lincoln Memorial and the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial.



At Saturday morning's mens meeting we had 141 men in attendance. Various reports were given in regard to the status of YAGR'S. Joe Jackson (AGR-14) was presented with a ships plaque for being the first to sign up for the reunion. Fran Thorley (AGR-1) won the room raffle (3 room nights paid for at the hotel) and Jack Floyd (AGR-11, YR-65) won a book, "Liberty Ship That V The War" that was donated to YAGR'S by Don Baldwin (AGR-4).

As noted on page one, a vote was taken for the location of our 2008 reunion. The Newport RI area was chosen by a wide margin. The plan for the reunion is to re-dedicate our (YAGR'S) exhibit on the Battleship Massachusetts. The exhibit should be completed by the reunion date.

Philip Caswell (AGR-10) has made a \$5,000 donation to the YAGR'S Exhibit. This is the second \$5,000 from him. YAGR'S cannot say enough to thank him. At the meeting he was given a standing ovation by the members present to show their appreciation.

We also passed a hat around to help augment the YAGR'S donation to the Battleship Massachusetts. We collected \$1,090. With this money and \$510 YAGR'S is kicking in, our donation to the ship this year will be \$1,600.

Also a vote was taken for the reunion location for 2009. San Diego, CA was the top vote getter. Another thing that will be worked on in regard to reunion locations is the possibility of a 3 or 4 day cruise on a ship for our 2010 reunion. Information (cost, ports, length of cruise) about the cruise will be presented at next year's reunion. This possibility is being mentioned now so that you can give it some thought.



A thank you goes to Tom and Kathy Chaffin (YR-65) who were the local contacts for this year's reunion.



We had 274 people attending our Saturday night banquet that closed out our Washington, DC reunion.

The evening started with cocktails before we moved into the banquet room for our meal, after which we had a DJ to help us burn off the extra calories we had just taken in. As a note, we had a person fall down during the banquet. She is okay. I mention this as I have had people asking how she made out.

We plan on adding more pictures to the YAGR'S web site, so check it out.



Spouses and Guests

As usual the spouses/guests breakfast was a success at this year's reunion.

We had 12 participants in the "This Is My Country" hat contest. Thanks to everyone who participated. We know you put a lot of thought and time into the making of your hat. Cheri Nosworthy was the prize winner with a hat depicting all 50 states.

The raffle was a great success again. Each year the prizes get better than the year before and this year was no exception.

The next newsletter will have more information on next year's contest.

See you in the Newport area in 2008.



Cheri Nosworthy this year's hat contest winner.



For Your Information

If you received an information request form along with this YAGRGRAM, **PLEASE RETURN IT!!!**

We are in the process of cutting our mailing list to help keep cost down. If it is not returned, I will assume you no longer wish to receive the YAGRGRAM.



Returned Mail

After each mailing of the YAGRGRAM, a number of them are returned by the post office as undeliverable.

If you will be moving or have just recently moved, make sure you get your **new address and phone number to me.**



YAGR'S Exhibit

Battleship Massachusetts

As noted earlier the funding for the exhibit has been greatly increased. This influx of funds will enable us to meet our needs to have the exhibit ready for the 2008 reunion.

Most of the major projects are now done or very near completion with the exception of a memorial plaque that is being planned and a few small displays and signs that we still have to make. As in any building project these can be time consuming and a pain in the butt to complete.

We have 3 men who work almost every Wednesday on the exhibit and 4 or 5 others who come in when we have a work weekend. The work weekends are usually held every 3 or 4 months. If you would like to volunteer your time, please get in touch with me. You do not have to be skilled in any building trades.

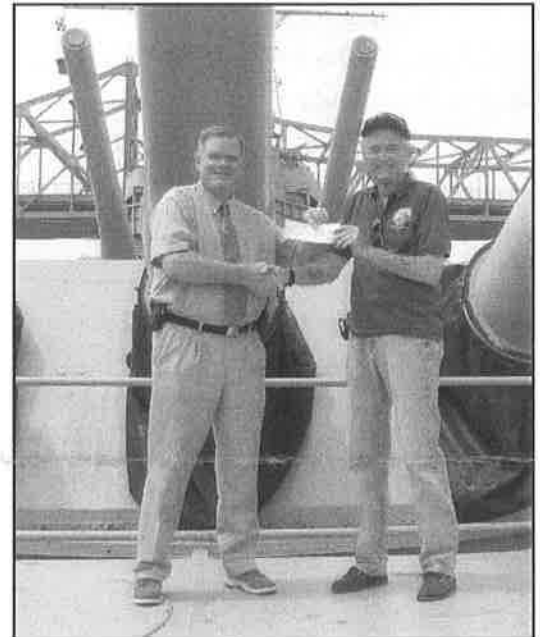


On Thursday June 28, Roland Cote, John Hemminger and Harry Miller presented Captain John "Jack" Casey, the Battleship's Operations Officer, with three checks-- two checks from Philip Caswell (AGR-10) for \$5,000 and the third for \$1,600 from YAGR'S.

We were asked by Phil to present the two \$5,000 checks to the ship as he was unable to do so himself. One check is for the Battleship's use and the other is set aside for YAGR'S and is to be used for our exhibit. The third check for \$1,600 was from YAGR'S as a donation to the ship.



John Hemminger (AGR-2) and Roland Cote (AGR-10) presenting Capt. Jack Casey the 2 checks.



Harry Miller (AGR-11, YR-65) presenting Capt. Casey the check from YAGR'S.

The Exhibit

With the reunion taking up most of our time, not too much has been accomplished workwise. We were able, however, to set up the lighting for the displays that will be shown in the existing peacoat lockers. At this time we have 3 light fixtures set up which might change if we feel the display set up needs more lighting.



YAGR'S Web Page.

www.yagrs.org

YAGR'S Webmaster, Frank Pulaski (AGR-4)

If you haven't checked out our web page in a while, you have missed a lot. Frank is adding to it all the time. The guest book has proven to be a good recruiting tool. We have found over 25 former crewmen because of it.

We will be adding pictures of the Washington, DC reunion to our web page.

YAGR'S Dues Now \$17.00 Per Year!!!!

As per a vote at the 2007 reunion meeting, dues are now \$17.00. When writing your check, make it out to YAGR'S and send it to me, Harry Miller (address on page #1).

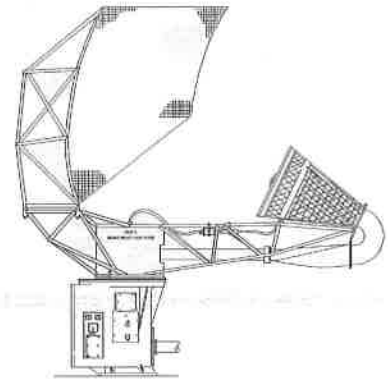
If you have paid your June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2008 dues and did not receive your membership card and the latest crewmen list that is sent with the card, please let me know.

Have I paid my dues?

Check the mailing label on the envelope that this YAGRGRAM came in. If you have paid your dues, a date will be above your name and address.

We will be taking orders for hats and shirts with this YAGRGRAM. Keep in mind that we only take orders for hats and shirts twice a year.

Also as a reminder, these hats and shirts are custom made (made just to fill your order) and that we do not keep extra hats and shirts on hand.



575x12 antenna (3x616)



We are still trying to locate information, pictures, etc. for possible inclusion in the YAGR'S book we are putting together. If you have any information you think will be of use, please get it to me.

At this time we are in the process of proof-reading the book. Once this is done, it will be ready to be published.



1958 Ship Commissionings

In 1958 three radar picket ships were commissioned. The ships listed by date of commissioning were:

April 7,	1958	USS Interdictor AGR-13
September 28,	1958	USS Interpreter AGR-14
October 16,	1958	USS Tracer AGR-15



U.S.S. INTERDICTOR (AGR-13)

LIBERTY SHIP: SS EDWIN H. DUFF

BUILT BY:	J.A. JONES CONSTRUCTION CO., PANAMA CITY, FL
KEEL LAID:	18 MAY 1945 (HULL #3142)
LAUNCHED:	29 JUNE 1945
SPONSORED BY:	MRS. EDWIN H. DUFF
PLACED IN SERVICE:	27 JULY 1945
PLACED IN RESERVE FLEET:	17 OCTOBER 1945

U.S.S. INTERDICTOR (AGR-13)

CONVERTED:	10 MAY 1957 AT CHARLESTON, SC
COMMISSIONED:	07 APRIL 1958 AS YAGR-13 AT CHARLESTON, SC
HOMEPORT:	13 AUGUST 1958 AT SAN FRANCISCO, CA
RECLASSIFIED:	28 SEPTEMBER 1958 AS AGR-13
DECOMMISSIONED:	05 AUGUST 1965
DISPOSITION:	13 JUNE 1974 SOLD AS SCRAP FOR \$226,679.97

Interdictor's mission, as a unit of RADRON ONE, was to detect and provide early warning of enemy aircraft approaching the west coast of the United States. She would then control the interceptors that were sent out to engage these aircraft.

Note: All orders must reach me by August 20, 2007. This is when all orders will be placed with our suppliers. It can take up to six weeks after that for you to receive your order.



Hat/Lapel Pins.

All of the ships emblems are in color and are approx. 1" in diameter. We have 2 new pins:

- USS VIGIL AGR-12
- USS WATCHMAN AGR-16

Hat Devices.

BM, BT, DC, DK, GM, EN, ET, HM, MM, MR, MS, QM, RD, SH, SK, SM, are on hand, but in a limited quantity.

Denim Shirts.

Harvard Square 7oz. long sleeve denim shirt with double needle tailoring, button down collar, seven wood tone buttons and a left chest pocket. It has a silhouette of a radar picket ship with your ships name and hull number embroidered on it.



ITEM	EACH		QUANTITY		SUB TOTAL
HAT HULL # _____	\$20.00	X		=	
DENIM SHIRT HULL # _____ SIZE _____ SIZE _____	S,M, L,XL \$34.00 XXL \$36.00	X X		= =	
ALL HAT/LAPEL PINS LISTED BELOW ARE \$4.75 EACH OR ANY TWO FOR \$8.50					
YAGR'S LOGO		X		=	
RADRON ONE		X		=	
RADRON TWO		X		=	
YAGR DIVISION 21		X		=	
USS GUARDIAN AGR-1		X		=	
USS LOOKOUT AGR-2		X		=	
USS SKYWATCHER AGR-3		X		=	
USS SCANNER AGR-5		X		=	
USS LOCATOR YAGR-6		X		=	
USS INTERCEPTOR AGR-8		X		=	
USS OUTPOST AGR-10		X		=	
USS PROTECTOR AGR-11		X		=	
USS VIGIL AGR-12		X		=	
USS INTERDICTOR AGR-13		X		=	
USS TRACER AGR-15		X		=	
USS WATCHMAN AGR-16		X		=	
COST FOR ITEMS BELOW ARE AS LISTED					
PO1, PO3 CROW FOR HAT PO _____ WANTED	\$4.65	X		=	
HAT SPECIALITY DEVICE SPECIFY DEVICE _____	\$4.90	X		=	
COFFEE CUP WITH YAGR'S LOGO	\$15.50	X		=	
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO YAGRS	TOTAL				
YOUR NAME					