

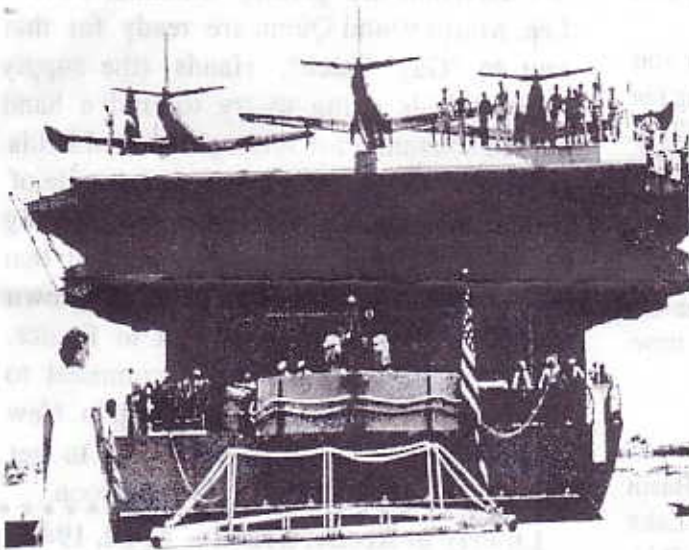


# Tripolitan



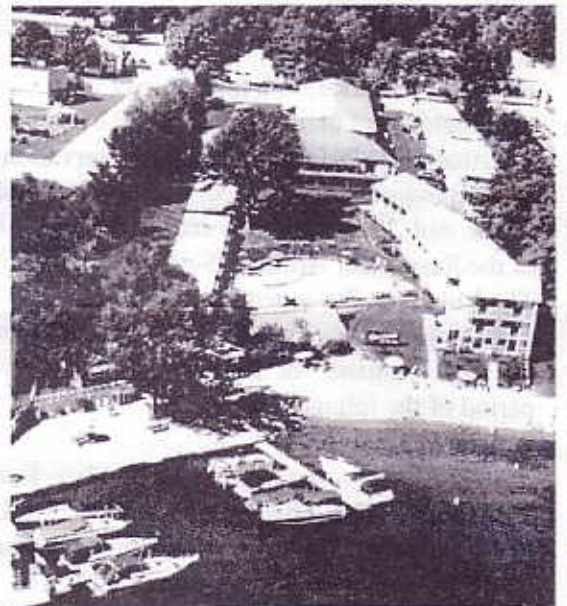
NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1999



## Mobile was Home to the "T" during much of the '50's

The above photo shows a fantail view of the Tripoli at Brookley Field, in Mobile Alabama, in the early '50's. Mobile served as a home away from home for the "T" shipmates during that time period, and was the final resting place for the ship prior to her final DE-Commissioning in 1958. Brookley Air Force Base, located in Mobile Bay, provided a convenient place to load aircraft for transportation to the various Tripoli destinations around the world. The Base was opened in 1941 and closed in 1969. Memories of liberty included the beautiful Azalea Gardens, and watching football games at Ladd Memorial Stadium. Also, some still remember the good times at Joe Palooka's.



## SURFSIDE ON LAKE GEORGE

**AWAITS TRIPOLI SHIPMATES**  
"The Surfside", on beautiful Lake George in upstate New York, with its' own private beach and a view of magnificent mountain scenery, will provide the setting for the Annual Tripoli Reunion in September. The Surfside is within a short distance of all the area's attractions and amusements----- Historic Fort William Henry, and Fort Ticonderoga, Revolutionary War Battle Grounds at Saratoga, President Grant's Cottage at Mount McGregor, golf courses and much more. More details in this issue.

**TRIPOLI REUNION -- 9/30 to 10/2/99**

Lake George, N.Y. --Thur., Sept. 30th to Sat., Oct. 2, 1999  
 Surfside Motel, 400 Canada St., Lake George, N.Y., 12845  
 Reservations--- 800-342-9795 or 518-668-2442

Total price for 3 nights accommodations, 3 Breakfast Buffets, Banquet Dinner, Luncheon Cruise, taxes & gratuities is \$139.20 Per Person / Double Occupancy, and \$175.00 Per Person / Single Occupancy. Additional Nights = \$21.40 Per Person / Double Occupancy. Mention that you are with the Tripoli Group when calling. A Reservation will require only one nights Room Deposit. You can cancel up to 10 days before the scheduled dates without penalty. We have also scheduled a Bus Tour to Fort Ticonderoga, with a stop at Basin Harbor Club, on Lake Champlain, in Vergennes Vermont, for a Buffet Luncheon. The cost for this trip is \$47.00 Per Person, which includes the bus fare, Admission and Guided Tour of Fort Ticonderoga,, and the Luncheon Buffet.

A form is included, with this issue of the Tripolitan, for you to complete and mail to SURFSIDE MOTEL indicating the information associated with your Reservation, the Bus Trip, your Banquet Menu selections, any special requests or needs, and Transportation required from Albany Airport or the Rensselaer Amtrack Station.

The Motel has requested that we make our Motel and Bus Tour Reservations by June 15, 1999, if possible, due to the high demand for rooms, etc. during this peak time period of the foliage season.

**Activities Summary:**

Thur., Sept. 30 -- Arrivals --- Hospitality Room open

Fri., Oct. 1 -- Bus Trip to Fort Ticonderoga, Lunch at Basin Harbor Club in Vergennes, Vermont, on Lake Champlain, foliage tour---8:45 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
 ----- Evening---Luther's hilarious Gag Gift Auction in the Hospitality Room (bring a Gag Gift for this Auction)

Sat., October 2 -- Luncheon Cruise around Lake George---  
 -----Time to be announced.

-----Evening-----Reunion Banquet.

Sun., Oct. 3 ---Departure

**NOTE:** For those staying in Campers, or at Campgrounds at the Reunion, the cost for meals only will be \$65.00 per person (this includes 3 breakfast buffets, 1 Banquet Dinner, and a Luncheon Cruise.) The cost of \$47.00 per person for the Bus Tour will also apply.

**Top Movies during the "T'S" first year of Operation**

The top movies of 1944 included: "Arsenic & Old Lace", Cary Grant, "Double Indemnity", Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck, "To Have and Have Not", Bogart and Bacall, "Laura", "Lifeboat", "Gaslight", "Meet Me in St. Louis", "Jane Eyre", and "The Uninvited".

**NAN DIVISION NEWS -- May 1, 1953**

by Herbie McDermott

Hodges and Pierce hope to make an extensive tour of Capri during the next liberty call in Italy. Upon returning to the States, we will be losing Vern Kirkens to retirement. We expect the return of Baker, from QM School to fill the vacant billet. Mazza has transferred to the USS Wisconsin. Valentino Hatfield has a perfect record, in checkers, against his big competitor, Glen "Ace" Jordan. Don Poffenbaugh hopes to join "Big Bob" Hodges for some serious spaghetti consumption during our next Neopolitan visit.

**"T" Supply Division News -- July, 1954**

By Moffa

Now that we are nearing France, the boys in S-1 Division are getting "Channel Fever". Lee, Murphy, and Quinn are ready for that tour to "Gay Paree". Hands (the supply office kid) is going to try to find a hand carved souvenir for some girl named Hilda in New York. Although N.Y. is a couple of weeks away, Lou Mercier is already starting to hunt up his stand-bys. Noticed that Neckers, Hands, and Raim have all grown Van Dyke beards for our visit to France. Elliot, the Barber, has just one comment to make regarding our upcoming trip to New York ---"What's taking us so long to get there?" Brotherton, SHSN, retiring soon.

**Liberty in Recife, Brazil -- April, 1944**

The "Tripoli Tripe", the "T" Newspaper in April of 1944, published an article about liberty in Recife, Brazil. A summary of the article follows: ----- It is anticipated that this vessel will arrive at the port of Recife on or about 5 April, 1944. This city is one of the larger cities in Brazil, with a population of half a million people. It is the Headquarters of Admiral Jonas H. Ingram, USN, who is in charge of all of the Naval Activities in South America. Take only Brazilian currency ashore with you. It is a serious offense to be found with any U.S. currency. Transportation is via "Bondes", or "Rubber-Neck Streetcars", which are wide open and used for the nominal fee of three cents. Enjoy the beaches, the restaurants, and your "Post-Prandial Cafezino" (coffee).



Our Reunion, at Lake George, N.Y., in September, is all organized and ready to go, thanks to the efforts of Luther & Jane Royds, Vic & Phyllis Aloisio, Jim & Carol McHenry, and Jim & Sally King. Bob & Marge Terry have completed the arrangements for our Reunion Photo Booklet. A special note of appreciation, also, to Neil & Carmen Robinson for an outstanding job in the preparation of our Shipmates Info Handbook. Will look forward to joining you in sharing the "T" memories of the 40's & 50's at The Surfside, in September.

#### U.S.S. Tripoli Group

Reunion Coordinator -----Luther Royds  
1019 Gorman St., Philadelphia, Pa., 19116  
(215-673-7742)

Steering Committee -- Victor Aloisio, Luther Royds, James McHenry, Lowell Mercier, Robert Herlihy, Paul Long, Thomas Hise, Neil Robinson, Bob Terry

Member Info Coordinator --Neil Robinson  
88 Goddard Dr., DeBary, Fl., 32713

E-Mail: cnrobins@bitstorm.net

Treasurer ----- Donald Robertson  
Membership Committee -- Paul Long, Martin Stahl, Richard Merlin, James King  
Reunion Committee -- Luther Royds, Lowell Mercier, Donald Mills, James King, Henry Wegner

TRIPOLITAN EDITOR ----- Robert Herlihy,  
1 Ash St., Putnam, Conn., 06260

E-Mail: r.j.herlihy@snet.net

PUBLICATION EDITOR: William Atkinson  
Tripolitan Newsletter is distributed to members of the Tripoli Group, who served aboard the Aircraft Carrier U.S.S. Tripoli, CVE-64. Member annual contributions of \$10.00 support the Newsletter and Group activities. Contributions should be mailed to Luther Royds, 1019 Gorman St., Philadelphia, Pa., 19116 (Checks payable to: Luther Royds)

#### TRIPOLI 1957 PORTS OF CALL

| <u>PORT</u>       | <u>ARRIVED</u> | <u>DEPARTED</u> |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Mobile, Ala.      |                | 15 February     |
| Mayport, Fla.     | 18 February    | 20 February     |
| Bremerhaven, Ger. | 5 March        | 8 March         |
| Pensacola, Fla.   | 23 March       | 25 March        |
| New Orleans, La.  | 26 March       | 30 April        |
| Mobile, Ala.      | 1 May          | 4 May           |
| Bremerhaven, Ger. | 18 May         | 21 May          |
| Brindisi, Italy   | 29 May         | 29 May          |
| Naples, Italy     | 30 May         | 2 June          |
| New York City     | 13 June        | -----           |
| Norfolk, Va.      | -----          | -----           |
| Mayport, Fla.     | -----          | -----           |
| Pensacola, Fla.   | -----          | -----           |
| Mobile, Ala.      | 30 June        | 11 July         |
| Bremerhaven, Ger. | 24 July        | 26 July         |
| Brindisi, Italy   | 3 August       | 4 August        |
| Gibraltar         | 7 August       | 8 August        |
| Guantanamo, Cuba  | 18 August      | 23 August       |
| Pensacola, Fla.   | 26 August      | 28 August       |
| Mobile, Ala.      | 28 August      | 10 September    |
| Norfolk, Va.      | 13 September   | 15 September    |
| Gibraltar         | 25 September   | 2 October       |
| Bremerhaven, Ger. | 6 October      | 10 October      |
| Pensacola, Fla.   | 23 October     | 2 November      |
| Mobile, Ala.      | 2 November     | 19 November     |
| Santander, Spain  | 2 December     | 3 December      |
| Bremerhaven, Ger. | 5 December     | 9 December      |
| Pensacola, Fla.   | 23 December    | 24 December     |
| Mobile, Ala.      | 24 December    |                 |

Our thanks to Bill Atkinson for the 1957 Itinerary, above. The "T" was at Todd Shipyard, in New Orleans, for a yard period, from 26 March to 30 April, that year.

#### Attractions near the Lake George Area

The Lake George area, of New York, offers many attractions for the Tripoli Shipmates who are planning a longer stay at the Reunion. The Factory Outlets of Lake George, including "French Mountain Commons Outlet Center", "Lake George Plaza Outlet Center", "Factory Stores of America", and "The Adirondack Outlet Mall" provide an enjoyable shopping experience at reasonable prices. Sightseeing attractions include Fort William Henry in Lake George (experience the history of the French and Indian War), The Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake (history of the Adirondack region--A village depicting life of the early settlers), Lake Placid (home to a United States Olympic Training Center), High Falls Gorge in Wilmington (a spectacular walking tour with over 700 feet of waterfalls), Ausable Chasm (River Raft or scenic Nature Trail tours with breathtaking views of the Chasm), Adirondack Balloon flights in Glens Falls, and the Skenesborough Museum in Whitehall (exhibits depicting the Shipyard where the first U.S. Naval Fleet was built in 1776).



**Captain's Inspection on Tripoli Flight Deck in 1944**

Our thanks to Gary Garrett, of Orange, California, for this photo of a Captain's Inspection on the Tripoli Flight deck in 1944. The Tripoli departed San Diego on 31 January, 1944, for duty with the Atlantic Fleet. She arrived at her home port of Norfolk, Va., on 2/16/44, with her Composite Squadron of Wildcat Fighters and Avenger Bombers. She headed out to sea, again, on 3/15/44, as center ship in Escort Carrier Task Group 21.15, supported by five DE's, assigned the task of breaking up German U-Boat refueling activities in the Cape Verde Islands area.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**APRIL**

- 1 -- Eric Spencer
- 2 -- Martin Stahl
- 4 -- Richard Neckers
- 5 -- Albert Sattler
- 9 -- Clay Coomer
- 14 - William Wright
- 19 - Julian Cassell
- 20 - Dick Hiner
- 24 - Benjamin Whitfield

**MAY**

- 2 -- James Coulter
- 4 -- Jules Primm
- 8 -- Melvin Blackwell
- 8 -- Victor Aloisio
- 13 - Richard Mann
- 13 - Henry Wegner
- 16 - Irvin Snider
- 21 - Hugh Dengler
- 23 - Ronald Tanner
- 25 - Thomas Bolles
- 26 - Tom Hise
- 27 - Eugene Papaj
- 29 - Wiley Dummich

**JUNE**

- 10 - Don Robertson
- 12 - Joe Iannaco
- 18 - Chet Bellairs
- 19 - Frank Shaver
- 20 - John Marsh
- 25- Donald Neruda
- 25 - Neil Robinson
- 29- Dave Grudzinski
- 30 -Stephen Pruden



**TOP SONGS ON THE "T" IN JUNE OF '53**

"I'm Walking Behind You", Frank Sinatra, "Anna", Silvana Mangano, "Why Don't You Believe Me", Joni James, "How Do You Speak to an Angel", Eddie Fisher, "Donsero", Richard Hayman, "Because of You" Tony Bennett, "I Believe", Frankie Lane, and "Moulin Rouge" P.Faith

**Tripoli Softball Games Highlight Naples visit in May, 1953**

LTJG Fanning arranged for a series of softball games, between various Tripoli Divisions, during a visit to Naples in May of 1953. Jim Noonan was the winning pitcher for X-RAY Div., as they defeated First Division 6-5. Tork Owens took the loss for 1st Div. X-RAY also played V-Div. to a 3-3 tie as time ran out. The 2nd Div. defeated the R-Div. Cooks/Stewards 7-6 on a pinch-hit homer by Chuck Massie. Carl Brashear was the winning pitcher with 11 strikeouts. Frank Scelzo started for the Galley Outfit and pitched steady ball while in action, but was not around at the finish. Big-John Mullaly hit two home runs as Easy Div. beat Nan Div. 12-5. The battery for Nan Div. was Connell and LTJG Hill, while Easy Div. countered with Wright and Von Voight. Chuck Savage and Joe Byrne were outstanding in the field for E-Div. Pierce, Hatfield, and Hill paced the Nan-Div. hitters. O/I Div. defeated O/R Div., in a slugfest, 17-14. LTJG Comingore was the winning pitcher for O/I Div. and Willie Wilson took the loss for O/R. Pip Steinmetz, B.C. Bain, and Ben Sydow hit homers in the game.

**Division Rosters -- Last Trip Of The "T" 9/17 to 11/4/58**

- W Division** -- Lt. Donald B. Perryman, John L. Cote, YN2, Robert J. Drury, YN1, William H. Haberthier, SN, Alex L. Pitts, YN3, Kenneth N. Robinson, PN2, Frank M. Wood, SN.
  - S-1 Div.** -- LCDR J. R. Primm, ENS. Patrick M. Rayborn, Marion J. Bass, SN, Robert R. Clayton, SH2, Leonard Coker, SH2, Leonard Creech, SK1, Floyd Davidson, SH2, Ellis F. Dortch, SH2, M. C. Gorham Jr., SN, Tommy E. Hensley, SH2, Charles W. Hiehle, SN, Lonnie D. Holt, SK3, John L. Hunt, SA, F. A. Kingsbury Jr., SH2, James B. Lawson, SN, Donald T. McCleery, SN, Jack Morris, SH1, Stanley D. Nispel, SK3, S. J. Oleksinski, SK3, Smith, SN, Edward E. Stallings, SKC.
  - V-Div.** -- LCDR D. E. McKinley, E N S. Joseph B. Parker, Victor Balancier, SN, Andy Campbell, BM2, Charles W. Carlisle, SN, Donald D Cleary, SA, James N. Coyne, SN, Carl D. Gladd, SN, Ray E. Graham, BM3.
- (Ed. Note: List will continue in next Issue. Notify Bill Atkinson, 11172 Pioneer Rd., Portland, MI., 48875-9514 of any corrections or shipmate info.)



## Shipmate News

Ed. Note: This is the 3rd in a series of articles by R. Warren Smith on his personal history, aboard the Tripoli, in WWII.

We left Tacoma early morning 31 October, 1943, on several busses, and a moving Van or two, with our gear, and headed south to Astoria, arriving sometime in mid-afternoon. Within an hour, two tugs brought our new home down the Columbia River and up to the Naval Station Dock. I'll never forget our first sight of her, as the tugs warped her around and the sun reflected off the water along her starboard side. She was painted dark blue, as were all combat ships destined for the Pacific Theater. The compression wrinkles in her hangar deck plating gave her a striped effect, and several people mentioned the word "Tiger". Boarding and Commissioning took the rest of the day. Our first voyage was up to Puget Sound, with a Gunboat-type escort, since we weren't provisioned with any ammunition. We completed provisioning at PSNY and headed out for our first shake down cruise, still in Puget Sound. During her speed runs, we learned the Tripoli turned the highest speed for her class at that time. We also went out into the Straights of Juan de Fuca and conducted gunnery exercises. Our last port of call there was Seattle, for a few days, where we enjoyed liberty.

(Continued - next issue)

### Hotel New Yorker Scene of Tripoli Ship's Party in July of 1952

The "T" men enjoyed a ship's party in the main Ballroom of the Hotel New Yorker in July of 1952. Shipmates enjoyed an evening of dancing and entertainment, provided by a 16 piece orchestra. Highlights of the evening included some talented entertaining by John Paradise and Weinstein. Organizers for the event included LCDR Phillips, CDR G.W. Smith, LCDR D.S. Butler, LCDR J.C. Spear, Lt. Keller CHELEC Aldrich, Hodges, QM1, Lego, HN, Rudy, SKC, Dummich, YNSN, Quinn, QM1, Shea, QM2, and McLaughlin, SK3.

## Shipmate Profiles

Joe Campanaro, pictured here in a recent photo with his Tripoli Hat, is a Plank Owner of the Tripoli, and served aboard the "T" as a Water Tender 2C during WWII. He was assigned to Oil King duties in the "B" Division, under Chief Engineer Lt. Commander Russell. Other shipmates, who served with Joe, in the B-Division, at that time, included Elmer Bass, Roger Jenson, John Butkus, Gene Bradfield, Ellis Jones, Bob Langdale, Clarence Dietz, and George Durfor. Joe was initiated as a "Shellback" by Davey Jones, aboard the "Good Ship Tripoli" in August of 1944. He still remembers the liberties while the Tripoli was operating out of Recife, Brazil, including a horseback ride, at a riding stable, with Butkus and Wilson. "No one knew how to ride, but we took a go at it, anyway." Joe currently resides on Cornwall on Hudson, New York, with his wife, Helen, and will be joining us at the September Reunion at Lake George.



### O/R DIVISION HI-LITES --June 27, 1953

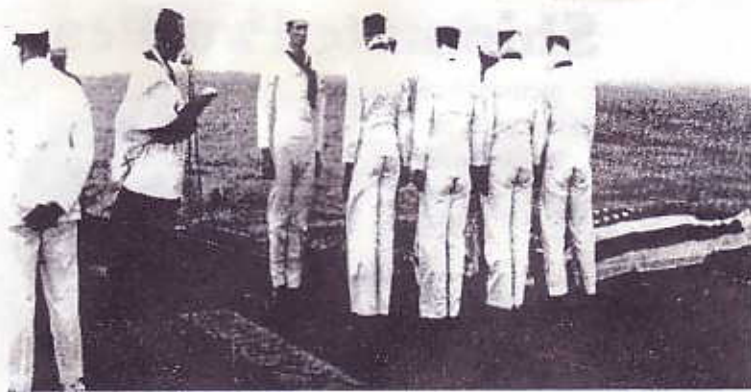
Many O/R Division personnel participated in the tours during our recent visit to Glasgow. Chihocky and Schneider were hoping to settle down in Callender, Scotland, before being forced back aboard the tour bus. John Marsh entertained himself by photographing cemeteries and volunteering to climb the 287 steps of the Sir Walter Scott monument. Harvey Cook, Bob Bornheimer, Frank Genus, and "Father" Long took the Edinburgh tour, along with Mr. Eppner, who took some movies of Queen Elizabeth, while she was there for her "Little Coronation" visit.



### TAPS

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Louie J. Succi      | 11/1/71 |
| Phillip E. Bubar    |         |
| Bernard P. Humes    | 10/1/60 |
| Edmund C. Swicegood | 7/26/94 |
| Louis Brookins      |         |
| Charles R Jolley    | 3/29/91 |
| Francis E. Shea     | 9/23/81 |
| Anthony Spinella    | 7/27/69 |
| Floyd F. Mock       | 9/27/91 |
| Isidore J. Mendez   | 5/27/98 |
| Nathan M. Drake     | 6/7/69  |





**Burial at sea for "T" Shipmate killed on duty in WWII**  
S2c Bernard Joseph McNamara is buried at sea, on the Tripoli, in the South Atlantic, in WWII. He was killed on duty and was buried with full military honors. The attending Chaplain was Lt. Otto Sporrer, and the pall bearer facing, at left, is Charles (Bill) Dundee. Our thanks to T-Shipmate Bill Dundee for the information.



Ken Lee (L), and Bill Cupps served in the Medical Division of the Tripoli in the early '50's. They are pictured above at a recent meeting in Texas. Ken presently resides in West Columbia, S.C. and Bill Cupps in Plano, Texas. Also serving in the Medical Division, at that time were Walter Catlett, M.D., D.L Jackson, H M C, Stan Dempki, Ed Lurvey, John Spivey, Willy Burcham and John Lego. Bill Cupps has contributed a considerable amount of photos and historical data for the current Tripolitan.



USS TRIPOLI CVL-64

Luther Royds has a supply of USS Tripoli PINS, LETTER OPENERS, MONEY CLIPS, and MEDALLIONS (suitable for Christmas Tree Ornaments) available for purchase at \$5.00 each. You can purchase them at the Reunion, or send a check to Luther (payable to Luther Royds). The proceeds support the USS Tripoli Group activities.