

Now Hear This!

Association Address:

c/o John Schwarz, Exec. Dir.
2500 Clarendon Blvd., Apt. 121
Arlington, VA 22201

Association Phone Number:

703-867-0142

Address for Tax Deductible Contributions:

USS Houston Survivors Assoc.
c/o Pam Foster, Treasurer
370 Lilac Lane,
Lincoln, CA 95648
(please specify which fund –
General or scholarship)

Association Email Contact:

Contact@USSHouston.org

Association Founded 1946:

by Otto and Trudy Schwarz

Model Unveiling a Big Success!



*USS Houston CA-30 on Display at the
National Museum of the United States Navy*

For details, see "Galloping Ghost Now on Display..." on page 2

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ALERT!

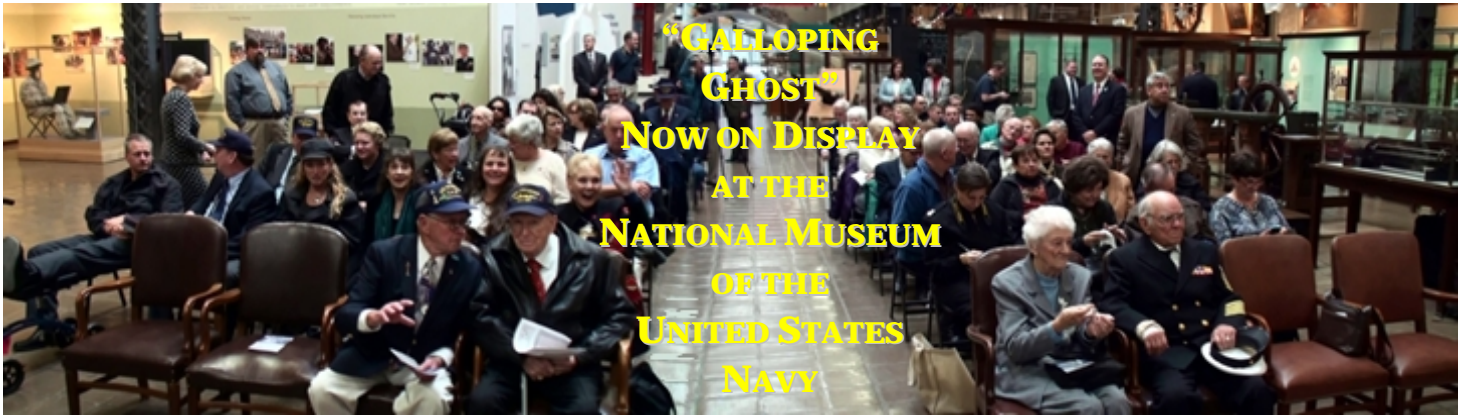
**70th Anniversary of USS Houston Sinking
in 2012**

Make plans now to attend!

**USS Houston CA-30
2012 Reunion
Feb. 29 - March 4, 2012**

**Hyatt Regency Downtown
Houston, Texas**

*See pages 15 and 16 for
registration form and agenda.*



On 17 November 2011 USS *Houston* CA-30 Survivors David C. FLYNN, Howard BROOKS, and Bill INGRAM, as well as former crewman Ray KESTER were among the over 80 people who gathered at the National Museum of the US Navy in Washington, DC to celebrate the installation there of a magnificent 14-foot-long scale model of USS *Houston* CA-30. After a special ceremony, attendees applauded as mounted lights blinked on inside the new case for the first time in public, illuminating the beautifully restored 1929 model of USS *Houston* CA-30 by renowned model builder Horace E. Boucher.



Survivors Bill Ingram, David C. Flynn, & Howard Brooks pose for photos at the National Museum of the US Navy next to a new painting of *Houston* by artist Tom Freeman.

Ed Furgol, Director, Naval History and Heritage Command provided speaker introductions at the installation ceremony. Speakers included: RADM Jay DeLoach, USN (Ret.); Royal Australian Naval Attaché LCDR Carl Holmes, RN; Dana Wegner, Curator of Ship Models, Naval Sea Systems Command; and our Association's Executive Director John Schwarz.

Built around 1929 in New York City by the highly acclaimed H. E. Boucher Manufacturing Company, the wood and brass model today is a part of the collection of the Naval Sea Systems Command, which includes some 2,500 ship models, Mr. Wegner explained. Horace

Boucher had been lead model maker at the Washington Navy Yard until 1905, when he resigned and founded a model production firm which developed a reputation as the top model-building studio in America, Wegner said. The *Houston* model is now one among several of the best examples of Boucher's work at the National Museum of the USN, which displays it in the Pacific section, "In Harm's Way: The US Navy in World War II" exhibit. According to Wegner, "(Back in 1929) it probably took three model builders one year to complete." The 3-man team that had worked under Wegner to recondition the model took some 1,100 man hours to completely disassemble, repair, repaint, and re-rig the *Houston* to bring it back to its original condition, Wegner said.



Attendees applaud as the lights inside the new display case illuminate the restored USS *Houston* model for the first time.

Before its installation in the museum, the model had been moved several times. Beginning in 1961, the Navy loaned Boucher's model to the BB USS *Texas* in Houston, Texas. While there, it was damaged, and its case was lost, Wegner said.

In 1996, the model was brought into storage at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Bethesda, MD. Association founder Otto Schwarz and Wegner discussed a plan to recondition the model back then, but the idea became dormant, Wegner explained.

It wasn't until June 2010 when Otto's widow, TRUDY SCHWARZ alerted her son JOHN SCHWARZ to one of Otto's old files. (Otto Schwarz died in 2006.) John Schwarz contacted Wegner and "enthusiastically picked up where his father had let off some 14 years earlier," Wegner said. "Ethically bound," Wegner and his team of model restoration experts "were careful to preserve Boucher's intent, and except for the flag at half-mast, it looks exactly like it did when the US Navy obtained it in 1929," Wegner explained. "We were inspired by the sentimental role the model plays commemorating those lost aboard gallant *Houston* in 1942, and by the model's symbolic role in the minds of the survivors and next generations. This model has a soul," Wegner said.



Houston's US flag flies at half-mast.

In an email, Mr. Wegner further discussed the unique significance of the *Houston* model's flag. "While a few times we have mounted flags at half-mast for ships lost, the USS *Houston* model is the only one at the Navy Museum. As far as I can tell, the half-mast tradition began when the Navy displayed our model of the USS *Maine* in the Capitol rotunda in February 1898."

USS *Houston* family in attendance included: Ann DuHaime, Teresa REILLY, Trudy SCHWARZ, David and Donna FLYNN, Howard and Sylvia BROOKS, Bill INGRAM, Matt and Jane (STEFANEK) Matthews, Pam (CRISPI) FOSTER, Ed and John SCHWARZ, Dana and Kathleen CHARLES, John and Sue (PAPISH) KREUTZER, Fulton, Laura, and Sandra FLYNN, John CARLYLE, Stanley

MELESKI, Eugene and Sean FREY, John SIGNORIN, James FIORI, Helen PRUZAN, Juan and Lisa ARROYO, Michael and Valerie AUFIERO, Peter and Martha BOTA, John and Marilyn MURTHA, Bill LYNCH, Raymond KESTER, Warren and Lorraine HARTDORN, Jonathan VERHOEVEN, Craig JOHNSON, Benjamin and Frances WEINER, Francis IPPOLITO, Thomas FORD, Lawrence FRASIER, Kenneth T. and Patrick STEFANEK.



Survivor David Flynn (on right) looking at the restored model.

Michael AUFIERO and his team that built and installed the beautiful mahogany display case were also on hand for the official installation activities.

Many thanks to all those who contributed funds for the production of the beautiful display case.



Houston's forward turrets #1 and #2 at 1/48 scale.

Contributing writer: R. Dana Charles, Association vice president and correspondent (Son of the late H. Robert Charles, USMC survivor).

From the desk of the Executive Director

John Schwarz



Thank goodness for our Survivors, spouses and widows. Seventeen months prior to November 17, 2011 one widow (Trudy Schwarz) handed to us Next Generationers another one of those rare USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association and Next Generations opportunities of a lifetime. It was, of course, the original CA-30 ship model project.

As with any project or initiative, with it comes expectations, challenges, and blood, sweat and tears that can lead to tremendous gratification or disappointment. Thankfully, with this project came gratification! On November 17th, our expectations were not merely met, they were significantly exceeded as the most beautiful model imaginable of our beloved ship was unveiled in its new, fabulously custom built case in its new home, the National Museum of the U.S. Navy at the Washington Navy Yard in our nation's capital - Washington, D.C.

What a glorious affair the unveiling was! The Navy planned out a very nice tribute program including many military protocols, the model unveiling itself, then a professionally facilitated "round table" where our survivors and shipmates in attendance (Ingram, Flynn, Brooks, Kester) were able to speak to the audience on various topics from recollections of their own personal experiences. It was a fascinating program with which everyone seemed overwhelmed. For those who could not make it, we will provide ample visual coverage at our upcoming reunion.

I would like to express to you how honored I was to be able to speak on behalf of our organization at the ceremony. The entire effort was a true team accomplishment that clearly demonstrates what we can do when we properly pool our collective talents, effort, hearts and souls into something so directly related to our Association's mission. Major initiatives such as this do require our collective efforts.

Anyone anywhere near the Washington D.C. area must come and see the model. You will be very happy you did! Or build it into a future, special trip as there is so much else to see in this area. Relative to our Association alone, we have the following things in and around the nation's capital area: between 6 to 12 of our men lying at rest in Arlington National Cemetery, a permanent marker in the cemetery commemorating the USS Houston CA-30 and the HMAS Perth, the Asiatic Fleet Room and one of our models in the Navy Memorial, another ship model and the Rooks Fountain on the campus of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, in addition to the permanent scholarship administered from there.

See you all in Houston in March 2012 and stay well in the meantime,

John

In Memoriam

USS Houston

Our sincere condolences to the families of Marvin Bain, Marie Feliz and June Smith.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Marvin L. Bain, USN

1/6/1918 – 11/23/11

Hot Springs, Arkansas



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Marie Feliz

10/2/11

Palm Springs, California

Wife of USS Houston survivor

Jack Feliz, USN

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

June Smith

10/1/11

Pahrump, Nevada

Widow of USS Houston survivor

Jack D. Smith

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In Memoriam

Milton "Blue" Butterworth

1920-2011

Australian POW

Remembering...

In addition to remembering those of our USS Houston family who have passed on from this life, we also remember those from the HMAS Perth and the “Lost Battalion” who forged such close bonds with our Houston crewmen while enduring the same treatment as prisoners. They too will never be forgotten.

In Memoriam

HMAS Perth

Ernest James Noble

Royal Australian Navy

1/9/19 – 9/22/11



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

James Leslie "Jimmie" Millerick

Royal Australian Navy

9/29/11

In Memoriam

Family and Friends

Richard “Dick” Rejmaniak

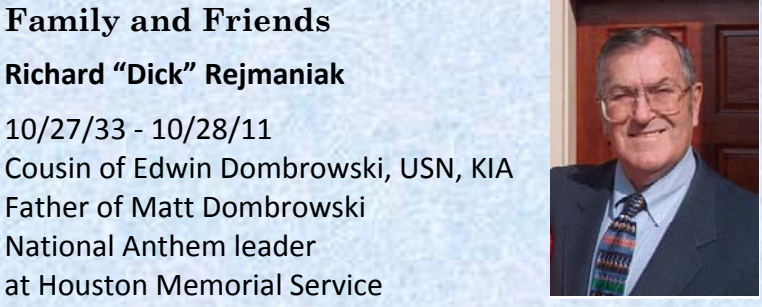
10/27/33 - 10/28/11

Cousin of Edwin Dombrowski, USN, KIA

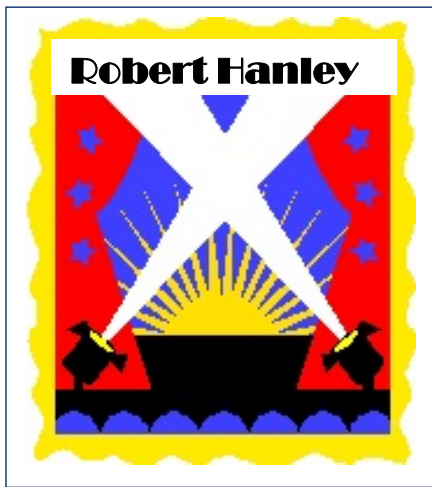
Father of Matt Dombrowski

National Anthem leader

at Houston Memorial Service



Crew Spotlight



Survivor **Robert Hanley** spent seven to eight hours in the water before being picked up by a Japanese patrol boat after Houston's sinking. Mr. Hanley left the Navy in 1947 as a Chief in the Medical Corps. He then joined the Army and retired as a Master Sargent (E8). His total time in military service was 21 years, 3 months and 22 days!

Mr. Hanley is married to Eileen and they will be celebrating their 66th wedding anniversary on January 5, 2012. Congratulations to them!

The Hanleys have six children and sadly their youngest son has passed away. In addition, they have eighteen grandchildren of whom a grandson and granddaughter serve in the military. They are also blessed with twelve great grandchildren with the youngest being eight months old. They are thankful that all the children live in the same state as they do.

Mr. Hanley is in good health and has been cancer free for some time now. His only health complaint is his arthritis. They do not come to the reunion because they are usually snowed in during March! They manage to keep in touch, however, with fellow crew mate Mr. Al Kopp.

By Freddie Crawford

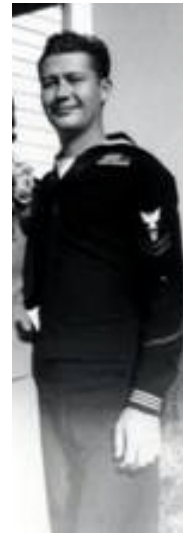
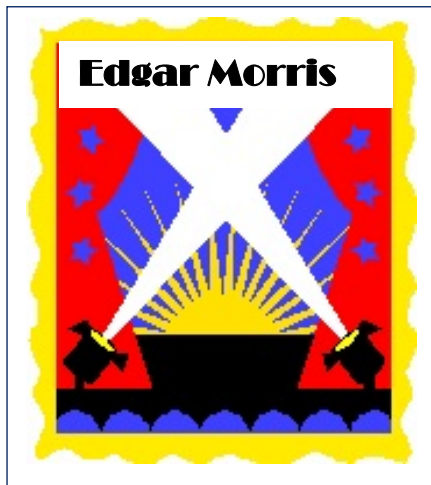
Lost Battalion Reunion

Trudy Schwarz attended the Lost Battalion reunion on August 13th in Dallas, Texas. She reports that the reunion was well attended and a grand time was had by all. The "NGs" are making plans for future reunions.

Lost Battalion Roster

Would you like to be added to the Lost Battalion roster/email list? If so, contact Gail Bialas at mgbialas@verizon.net

Crew Spotlight



R. EDGAR MORRIS, Musician 2nd Class

By Marlene Morris McCain

I grew up knowing that my father had always loved music, and had served aboard USS Houston during World War II. But like many of our dads, he didn't talk at all to his children about the months of battles and the years of mistreatment and near-starvation in the POW labor camps. Recently, we've learned much information about my dad, about the Houston, and his time in the ship's band in some letters Edgar wrote home in 1939-1941. They had been stored in an old box, which since we first opened it we've begun to describe as our family's "treasure trove"... Here's some of what we've only recently discovered:

Becoming US Navy Musician...

Even as early as his time in boot camp at Great Lakes NTS, Edgar Morris—Eddie to those who knew him—would check on the qualifications needed to become a Navy Musician. Eventually, in San Diego, he took the required examinations and qualified for Fleet Music School, which only admitted 50 students at a time. He felt very lucky to get in. "The Navy trade schools," he said, "rank just below Annapolis in rating and are better than almost any college... This is paradise to me; I have all day with music."

After graduation Edgar played trombone with the band on USS Northampton for almost 6 months in Hawaii. In early January 1941, he applied for transfer to the Far East. Edgar and four other musicians arrived in Manila on the 29 March 1941. Edgar wrote, "The bandmaster told my friend, (Albert M. "HAP") KELLEY, Mus1/c, and me that we would probably get initiated into the orchestra on Sunday at the Army/Navy Club when it opens for the first time...I had expected to be playing the baritone (horn) rather than the trombone and was afraid of being transferred to the USS Black Hawk; but I was asked to sit in and play piano with the Houston's orchestra. I guess I did OK because I am going to stay on the Houston for sure!"

There were 19 in the Houston's band, and 12 or 13 were used for the orchestra. The members of the band were mostly young fellows, and Edgar had gotten well acquainted with them. One, WALTER SCHNECK, was a friend whom he had known in San Diego. Edgar wrote, "Today, the band played concert at noon... I was put on the peck horn (alto horn; a small version of a baritone) and did OK; I would rather play anything on the Houston than get to play what I asked for on any other ship. At least I will get to be in the orchestra playing piano – which I love – and we play ashore about 2 or 3 times a week."



Edgar Morris (extreme left) rehearsing with USS Houston CA-30's band, 1941.

Photo courtesy of MarleneMorris McCain

On April 17, 1941, the band played about two hours up on the forecastle for the Admiral and his luncheon party. The next day they played at the Manila Club for a group of performers from a Russian Dancers group. Each evening the orchestra would play before movies and each noon the band played a few marches and one or two classics up on the quarterdeck. Edgar was getting along fine with the unfamiliar peck horn; the band played quite a few heavy classics and light operas and most of those pieces had a peck horn solo or two. He said that their outfit was good and they could get over the hard stuff pretty easily – and they played a lot of it!

While the Houston went out to sea for battle practice and maneuvers, Edgar didn't get any practice on the piano because there was not a piano aboard. His battle station in the daytime was the machine gun nest on top of the after mast, and at night he was a pointer for the giant Number Two Searchlight on the searchlight platform. Some of the other band members manned the 5-inch guns and others handled the 5-inch shells on the loading machines.

During the week around July 4, 1941, they were back in Manila, and it was a very busy week for the band. They played at the officers club at the Cavite Naval Yard until the wee hours of the morning. The next night they played at the Manila Polo Club. They started playing at 8:00 pm and played straight through until nearly 4:30 am. And the next morning the band played for church!

Edgar wrote his parents on July 11th: "the choir for church has not been getting along so well with the band and there was no piano. So on Monday, July 7th, Chaplain Rentz asked me if I thought I would be able to play an organ if he got me one (and) I told him I would do my best. Tuesday morning, he sent for me and as soon as I entered his cabin I saw the organ, a small portable one. He told me to try it and he liked it. Later, we went up to Captain Oldendorf's cabin to demonstrate the organ. The Captain liked it also; and then the Chaplain gave me a list of numbers to practice for Sunday in church. Yesterday we had choir rehearsal and it went off fine. I will be playing church from now on..."



Captain Rooks with the Band (Edgar Morris is the trombone player on the left)

Edgar started playing the portable organ on Saturday night for the singing of a few of the old-time songs before movies. On Sunday, July 20th, now at Tawitawi, after finishing a church service on the Houston, Edgar also played the portable organ on USS Marblehead.

With War Approaching...

The Houston was mostly out to sea for battle practice and maneuvers in August and September 1941. On October 2nd, Edgar reported that “We have been out to sea almost constantly. These last months have been really hard on morale; we have not had any liberty and are literally cooped up on the ship. Everyone gets pretty grumpy... Since I last wrote to you, we have a new bandmaster (George L. Galyean) and about five new men in the band.”

About three weeks later the Houston was back at Cavite Navy Yard. On November 15, 1941, Edgar wrote, "The band has really been taking it easy since coming into Cavite two weeks ago. We play Morning Colors, rehearse a few hours, then Noon Concert and we are finished until 8:00 the next morning. I am in fine health and still like everything and look forward immensely to coming home."

This was the last letter Edgar's parents received. It would be almost four more years before he would see home again...

To read the entire article, please go to NG Shawn Flynn's website:

<http://www.usshouston.net/stor/MorrisRalphEdgar/MorrisRalphEdgar.htm>

By *Marlene Morris McCain*

marlenemccain@fbccabot.org

[illegible]

Survivor **Marvin Sizemore** received 14 long-overdue medals on December 5, 2011, in a ceremony at Miami University at Oxford, Ohio. The medals were pinned on by NROTC Commanding Officer Colonel Patrick Malay. Marvin's daughter, Freddi Crawford, worked with the office of U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) to obtain the overdue medals. For more details, see NG Shawn Flynn's website.

<http://www.usshouston.net/stor/SizeMoreM/SizeMoreM.htm>

Congratulations, Marvin!!!



*Survivor **Marvin Sizemore** receiving medals*

Hellfire Pass...

...where a few Houston men labored as POWs, has recently completed refurbishments of the lookouts overlooking Konyu Cutting. The lookouts had been closed for some time due to safety concerns but now have reopened to visitors of the Hellfire Pass Memorial Museum.

Sick Bay

Survivor **David Flynn**, – in rehabilitation following two falls; also recovering from pneumonia.

NG Tim Klenk – in rehabilitation following a serious stroke.

Changes to Donations to the Cruiser Houston Collection

By Dana Rooks, Dean of Libraries, University of Houston

The University of Houston Libraries is very proud of one of its “flagship” collections, the Cruiser Houston Collection. The USS Houston Survivors Association made the original gift of archival materials in 1981, and additional items have been added over the past twenty-six years. In 2006, the Library unveiled a permanent USS *Houston* exhibit open to the public, and recent projects such as the book *Ship of Ghosts: The Story of The USS Houston*, *FDR's Legendary Lost Cruiser*, and *The Epic Saga of Her Survivors* and the KUHT documentary *The Cruiser Houston: Of Pride and Purpose* have made excellent use of the research materials in the collection.

Much has changed over the past quarter century, and several factors make this the right time to reevaluate our Cruiser Houston Collection Development Policy. The successful completion of the permanent, non-rotating USS *Houston* Exhibit means that the Library will no longer be adding new pieces of memorabilia for display. The Library will focus on research materials such as papers and photographs which more closely reflect the teaching and research mission of a university.

We hope that survivors and their families will consider donating important pieces of historic memorabilia to appropriate museums for display to future generations. The Libraries hope that you will continue to honor us with your larger donations of photographs, letters, and other papers that document the period from 1929 to 1945. This will allow us to continue keeping the collection open to significant new additions that may still be in private hands. However, we will no longer be able to accept single item donations, photocopies and scans, or post-1945 materials. This will allow us to be more efficient in processing the collection and enable us to spend more time making the collection available for research.

Items still collected:

- sets of original letters
- sets of original photographs
- sets of original documents
- diaries
- scrapbooks
- POW camp records
- Blue Bonnets* that we don't already have

No longer accepting:

- memorabilia (including menus, invitations, stamps, coins, medals, flags, three-dimensional items from the POW camps)
- framed artwork and framed photographs
- large items salvaged from the ship
- photocopies
- scans
- post-1945 materials

The University of Houston Libraries are grateful for your support in the creation and building of this important collection. We are honored by your presence each year in the Libraries. We hope you will continue to help us tell the story of the USS *Houston* to countless generations of students and scholars in the future.

Editor's Note: This article appeared in a previous Blue Bonnet and is reprinted here for your information.

Thanks to Julie Grob for providing it.

USS HOUSTON ITEMS FOR SALE

Acrylic Paper Weight (10 oz.) \$20.00

Bumper Sticker (1-3 is 1 oz.) \$2.00

Challenge Coin (3 oz.) \$10.00

Bell or Monument Lapel Pin (specify type) (1-6 pins is 1 oz.) \$3.00

Ball Cap (Blue) (10 oz.) \$15.00

Ball Cap (Brown) (10 oz.) \$5.00

DVD "Last Stand" (8 oz.) \$20.00

New! Ship Lapel Pin (specify silver or gold highlights)(1 - 3 pins is 1 oz) \$4.00



New! Polo Shirts - Short Sleeve, Navy Blue
with Gold Embroidery of the USS Houston:

Men's - sizes M-2XL-\$25.00

Women's - sizes S-XL-\$25.00

(Shipping Weight-10oz.)



Women's Polo Shirt



Men's Polo Shirt

T-Shirts (size Small to X-Large) (9 oz.) \$20.00

T-Shirts (size 2XL or 3 XL) (9 oz.) \$25.00



T-Shirt

Note Cards of the USS Houston Ship (pack of 10) (5 oz.) \$10.00

Ship of Ghosts book (about the USS Houston),
autographed by author James Hornfischer (2.2 lb) \$30.00

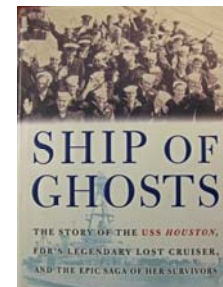
Shipping Costs:

1 oz. - 6 oz.= \$4.00

7 oz. - 12 oz.= \$7.50

13 oz. - 5 lb.= \$10.50

Note: USPS Ground Service Only



Ship of Ghosts
autographed by author
James Hornfischer

Make checks payable to:

USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association

Mail checks to:

Jane Matthews

836 Kendal Drive

Broadview Heights

Ohio 44147

Include the following information
(please print clearly):

Name

Address

City, State and Zip Code

Phone Number

Items Ordered, Size and Quantity

Questions?

Email: Jane@USSHouston.org

NOW HEAR THIS!

Scholarship Update

**2012 Scholarship Award
\$3,000.00**

We have six candidates this year for the USS Houston CA-30 Internal Scholarship. They are currently being reviewed for a winner.

NO scholarship auction in March 2012.

Rather than continuing the auction we have customarily held on Friday evenings of the reunion weekends, we will be accepting donations throughout the weekend for the internal Scholarship Fund. Some people have spent a lot of money purchasing items to be auctioned only to have the Scholarship Fund receive a very small percentage of what monies were spent. For example, if an item is purchased for \$25 for the auction and then the item is sold for only \$10, the scholarship fund has lost \$15 from what it would have received if the person had simply donated the original \$25.

So please do not bring items to be auctioned. Instead of spending money to purchase items or bid on items at the auction, please donate directly to the internal Scholarship Fund!

by Jane Matthews

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
Donations to the Scholarship Fund in any amount are always greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. Make your check payable to:

USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association

Write "**Scholarship Fund**" on the memo line and mail it to:

Pam Foster, Treasurer
370 Lilac Lane
Lincoln, CA 95648

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Past "In House" Scholarship Winners

- 2004 - Gene Bankhead-grandson of Gene Crispi
- 2005 - Katy Fort-granddaughter of Cecil Chambliss
- 2006 - Gerald Agin-grandson of Gerald Agin
- 2007 - Jenny Garrett-granddaughter of Joe Garrett
- 2008 - Raymond Davis-great nephew of George Davis, Jr.
- 2009 - Alex James-great nephew of John Stefanek
- 2010 - Kevin Swick-grandson of John Reilly

**Past US Naval Academy Foundation
Scholarship Winners**

- 2010 - Stephen Scales
- 2011 - Lenue Gilchrist, III

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Battle of the Java Sea

You might want to check out the animated Pacific War battles that are online at pacificwaranimated.com. The Dutch East Indies campaign, which includes a short animation of the Battle of the Java Sea, can be seen at:

<http://pacificwaranimated.com/dutch-east-indies-onslaught-35>



NOUS

The Naval Order of the United States (NOUS) held its annual Midway Luncheon on June 3rd with our own historian **Don Kehn** (also NOUS's historian) reviewing the article, "Underappreciated Victory" by Dr. James Schlesinger, former Secretary of Defense, Director of the CIA, Secretary of Energy, and commissioner on the Hart-Rudman Commission on National Security. Dr. Schlesinger laments the fact that too few of us understand the Battle's significance. He believes that the Battle of Midway is the crucial battle for the West in World War II

Interesting Memories Category:

As a follow-up to an article in the August issue of the Blue Bonnet, page 10, entitled “**Houston Survivors’ Signatures Found on Bank Note**”, survivor Bill Stewart gives some interesting additional facts about one of the bank note signers - Jacob Mabry. Bill says that he thinks Mr. Mabry was the second survivor to reach the shore and that he (Bill) was probably the first. About 20 minutes after reaching shore, Bill lay down on the beach and went to sleep. When he awoke at daylight, he saw a most unusual sight – a man perched on a rock about 100 feet out in the water. He had apparently swum to the rock in the dark, crawled up on it and gone to sleep! That man turned out to be Jacob Mabry.



Jim Hornfischer
representing the Association
at the Navy-Army Game
(won by Navy of course)

HMAS Perth

Notes from “down under”

Gavin Campbell, writes on behalf of HMAS Perth survivors, “To all our USS Houston shipmates we extend the blessings of Christmas and best wishes for a healthy 2012.”

Audrey Manning, wife of Perth survivor **David Manning**, recently wrote a newsy letter to Trudy Schwarz. In it, Audrey shared that David spoke on board the Perth 3 at the celebration of the Royal Australian Navy’s (RAN) 100th anniversary. He ended his talk by speaking about Captain Waller and championing the cause for a posthumous V.C. (Victoria Cross) for him.

Audrey sings in a four-part choir of 50 voices, attends a book group, plays bridge and keeps up her walking. She especially enjoys beach walking and afterwards a dip in the heated pool.

“The Late TJ McFarland Honored”, *continued from page 14*

TJ, the son of the late Tom McFarland (a Marine survivor of USS *Houston* CA-30) and the late Gwen McFarland, was known for his unique view of life, his vast wit, and his big heart. TJ grew up in Lubbock, sang in the choir, learned to play drums while at the San Marcos Military Academy. His first high school band “The Twilites” with renowned band mate Joe Ely rehearsed in Tom and Gwen’s living room. Gwen would chaperone them when they played clubs. TJ’s folks followed his career and attended many of his country swing concerts. His music took him throughout America and Europe. TJ was also a film actor; his most notable film role was in Where the Heart Is, in which he played the part of “Ray.”

Next Generationer Spotlight

The Late TJ McFarland Honored

By CK McFarland



TJ McFarland

The Austin Music Memorial has posthumously honored Thomas James "TJ" McFarland whose music legacy contributed to Austin's rich and renowned Music history. TJ was among 10 honorees selected for the 2011 awards. An engraved 18" plaque for each new inductee will be installed on the new Joe and Teresa Lozano Long Center for the Performing Arts "City Terrace" which overlooks Lady Bird Lake and the Capitol in Austin. These honorees along with 30 others, previously awarded from years past, represent 100 years of music as diverse as Gospel, Marching Band, Country, Swing, Big Band Jazz, Blues and Rock. Some of these honorees were only known within Texas, while some were known world-wide.

TJ's plaque reads:

"Thomas James "TJ" McFarland (1946-2005) played many roles, as an accomplished drummer, talent scout, booking agent and record producer in the Austin scene from the mid 60's until his death. TJ was a mentor to many and he helped advance countless careers in the music industry."



C.K. McFarland (sister of TJ) Observing TJ's Plaque

Continued on page 13

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please note that dinner menus and prices have changed from previous registration form)

70th Anniversary USS Houston Memorial Service/Reunion

February 29-March 3, 2012

Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown

Hotel room reservations MUST be made by YOU either by calling 888-421-1442 or 402-592-6464 or online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/USSHouston>

Reservation Line: 888-421-1442 or 402-592-6464

DEADLINE – MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 7, 2012

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND LIST THE NAME OF EACH PERSON INCLUDED IN THIS REGISTRATION (Use the back of this form if necessary)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name of crew member you are honoring and relationship (or state you are a friend). Please include branch of service _____

Anticipated date and time of arrival: _____

Friday Dinner – 6:30 PM (please select your choice of entrée)

Chicken Marsala # _____ X \$33.00 = \$ _____

Vegetable Lasagna # _____ X \$33.00 = \$ _____

Saturday Brunch – 10:30 AM # _____ X \$22.00 = \$ _____

Saturday Dinner – 6:30 PM

Chef Selection of White Fish # _____ X \$33.00 = \$ _____

Beef Tips # _____ X \$33.00 = \$ _____

Registration # _____ X \$35 per person = \$ _____

Late Registration # _____ X \$15 per person = \$ _____

(Received after February 7, 2012)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Reception at the University of Houston (Friday) # _____

Bus seat need to U of H # _____ Handicapped Access # _____

Please include a check for the total cost made payable to: USS Houston-Next Generations (your check is your receipt)

Mail registration to: Pam Foster, 370 Lilac Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648

**USS HOUSTON (CA-30) SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION
AND THE NEXT GENERATIONS**

Tentative 2012 Reunion Schedule of Events

February 29-March 3, 2012

WEDNESDAY (Feb 29) – SET-UP

Set up hospitality room	3 PM	Arboretum 2-3 (2 nd floor)
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THURSDAY (March 1) - REUNION BEGINS

Registration & hospitality room	8 AM –11:30 PM	Arboretum 2-3 (2 nd floor)
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Scholarship Committee Meeting	4 PM	Arboretum 1 (2 nd floor)
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FRIDAY (March 2)

Hospitality & registration	8 AM – 11:30 AM	Arboretum 2-3 (2 nd floor)
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** Hospitality Room is closed during meals

Annual Member Meeting	10 AM	Arboretum 1 (2 nd floor)
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Board of Managers Meeting	11 AM	Arboretum 1 (2 nd floor)
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Lunch on your own – List of eateries is available at concierge desk.

Please double check when the restaurants will be open!

University of Houston Reception 12:30 PM – 3:45 PM

12:30PM-12:45PM - Gather in hotel lobby to check-in prior to boarding bus.

1:00 pm – SHARP - Bus departs for U. of Houston.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm – Reception, talk by Julie Grob, visit permanent exhibit .

3:15 pm – SHARP - Bus departs for the return to the Hyatt Hotel.

Dinner	6:30 PM	Arboretum 4-5 (2 nd floor)
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- Speaker-Executive Director's Presentation/Announcement of Scholarship winner

SATURDAY (March 3)

Hospitality**	8 AM – 11:30 AM	Arboretum 2-3 (2 nd floor)
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** Hospitality Room closed during meals & Memorial Service

Brunch	10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Arboretum 4-5 (2 nd floor)
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- Speaker: 2011 Dive-Jerry Ranger

Memorial Service setup	12:00 PM	Sam Houston Park
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70 th Anniversary Memorial Service 2012	2 PM	Sam Houston Park
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Dinner	6:30 PM	Arboretum 4-5 (2 nd floor)
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- 70th Anniversary Program
- **PLEASE NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Meet your ...

Board of Managers

...here to serve you!

Executive Director: John Schwarz
Son of USN survivor Otto Schwarz
Ship models, compiler of ship memorial sites,
archives, Scholarship Committee
Email: John@usshouston.org



President: Sue Kreutzer
Daughter of USN survivor Paul Papish
Webmaster, archives, membership,
Scholarship Committee
Email: Sue@usshouston.org



Treasurer: Pam Foster
Daughter of USN survivor Eugene Crispi
Financial and IRS records,
Scholarship Committee
Email: Pam@usshouston.org



Secretary: Jo Klenk
Daughter of USN survivor Joe Garrett
Blue Bonnet editor, blog master,
birthday card project, Scholarship Committee
Email: Jo@usshouston.org



Manager: Jane Matthews
Daughter of USN Survivor John Stefanek
Chair of the Scholarship Committee,
Chair of the Future Vision Committee,
Sales Items
Email: Jane@usshouston.org



Vice-President: Dana Charles
son of USMC Survivor Bob Charles
Crew and POW camp records,
media specialist, researcher, correspondent
Email: Dana@usshouston.org



Membership

Our USS Houston "family" continues to grow weekly as more and more folks are wanting to know about the gallant crew of USS Houston CA-30. **Membership is free** and we invite you to join with us. Click on the [Membership Form](#), fill it out and send it in. We encourage you to attend the Annual Membership Meeting held during the Reunion weekend as we value your thoughts and ideas.

Website

We are currently working on a "facelift" for our website. If you cannot find what you are looking for, please feel free to contact Sue Kreutzer by phone at 303-840-5362 or email at sue@usshouston.org.

IRS News

The IRS recently performed an audit of the AXPOW (American Ex Prisoners of War) organization for the year 2008. An IRS audit is always a possibility for this Association and for that reason primarily, many changes were made starting back in 2009 to ensure that the Association will be "A-OK" if an audit should occur.

These changes include the following:

1. Establishment of updated Bylaws.
2. Transparent accounting, monthly treasurer reports, and monthly review by the Board of Managers.
3. Identification of a governing Board of Managers with each member having specific functions.
4. Development and maintenance of an Association roster listing all survivors, spouses, members, friends and contact information.

Heidi Gustafson Barclay has recently learned more about her great uncle, Calvin William Benner, EM3/c, USN, who was among the 368 survivors of the USS HOUSTON's final battle. He died of dysentery around 6/27/1943 as a POW while part of the labor force that worked on the Burma-Thailand Railway. Calvin is Heidi's great uncle, brother to Lorena Benner Gustafson, Heidi's Grandma. The Benner-Laurence VFW Post #4834 was named after Calvin Benner, the first Nebraskan to lose his life in WWII, and Elmer Lawrence, the first native American Nebraskan to die in WWII.



Jerry Caruthers wrote that he wanted to pass on to younger generations the memories of his uncle Charles B. Davis who was a liberated POW, but passed away in 1990. Dana Charles supplied Jerry with Charles' service records.

Justin and Eric Lien have corresponded regarding Justin's grandfather, Z.F. Lien, MAT-1/c, USN, who was KIA at Sunda Strait. Justin is currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps.

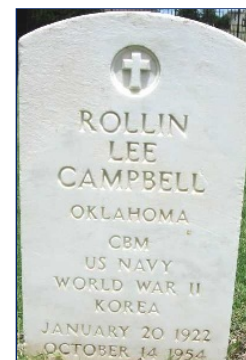
Parrish Quick, great nephew of Houston Marine **Fred Quick**, wrote that while attending a Veterans Day parade in Manhattan, Kansas, he decided to visit the local war memorial at the Riley County Court House and found two memorial markers commemorating USS Houston sailors. Seaman First Class **Forest Ebaugh** survived the Battle of Sunda Strait, was captured on Java, and died as a POW laborer on the Burma-Thailand Railway at 100 Kilo Camp, on September 14, 1943. Seaman Second Class **Elmer Ebaugh** was among the crewmen who was lost when the ship went down.



Joe Garrett

Jo Klenk sent a picture of her father, Houston survivor Jordan "Joe" Garrett pointing to his own "memorial marker" at a veteran's memorial in Gallatin, TN. The picture was taken six months before Joe's passing.

Nita Van Cleave wrote about her cousin, Houston survivor **Rollin Lee "Bobby" Campbell**. She clarified that Bobby was killed in 1954 in a jeep accident while serving in Korea and is buried at Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, Muskogee County, Oklahoma.



Mary Fort (daughter of USN Survivor Cecil Chambliss) writes that Cecil's granddaughter, **Lucy Fort**, now works in Washington, DC. She spent Veterans' Day at Arlington Cemetery, and made a point to re-visit the USS Houston memorial site.



Luther Prunty

Association

Websites:

USSHouston.org

Our primary website

USSHouston.blogspot.com

Blog for current news

You Are Invited to the **100th** birthday party for ...

Luther Prunty

of the

“Lost Battalion”

2nd Battalion

131st Field Artillery Regiment

U.S. Army

2:30-4:30 p.m. – Saturday, January 7, 2012

Scarborough Center, First National Bank Building

Jacksboro, Texas

3 p.m. cake cutting and singing “Happy Birthday”

4 p.m. JHS entertainers

Presenting: Short documentary,

“Luther Prunty: The First 100 Years

No presents but cards and photos appreciated.

They can be mailed to:

Mr. Luther G. Prunty

315 W. Archer St.

Jacksboro, TX 76458-1705

Congratulations, Luther!

*Happy 2012
to you all!*

Financial Report

by Pam Foster, Treasurer

From July 29 to December 7, 2011

Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance \$ 12,798.38

Receipts 2.68

Ending Balance **\$12,801.06**

General Fund

Beginning Balance \$ 12,381.64

Receipts 4,174.13

Expenses 2,457.99

Ending Balance **\$ 11,681.43**

Total Cash on Hand \$24,482.49



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Distribution: Sue Kreutzer, Pam Foster

Articles or information may be sent to:

Bluebonnet@USSHouston.org

All articles submitted are subject to editing.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of this Association, its members, or its Board of Managers.

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