

## USS Salamonie Association



### *The Fantail Scuttlebutt*

Official Publication of the

## USS Salamonie AO-26

Issue 55

**"Any Time, Any Where, Any Weather"**  
[www.salamonie.homestead.com](http://www.salamonie.homestead.com)

Fall 2012

### A Message from the President

Dear Shipmates, Spouses, and Significant Others,

We are now in the fall season and approaching the end of another year. As we approach the holiday season, we take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy, healthy, and blessed holiday.

Those of you who attended the July 4th celebration in Warren have wonderful memories of a great time and renewed friendships. Those of you not in attendance can only be invited to attend this event next year. Those special people in this small town will warm your hearts and indeed make you proud to be a Navy veteran and especially a Salamonie sailor. The reception we receive from these fine people is a real experience.

As you will note, our April reunion will be in Virginia Beach. We are particularly anxious and excited to return to an area where we spent significant time, both on active duty and in the reserves. We again encourage you all to attend and join in the fun and comradery. You will be truly missed if you do not join us.

Lilly Nutter will celebrate her 100th birthday in December. We ask that you make a note and send her a birthday greeting. She has been a true and dedicated friend to us and the military. She is a very special lady.

We again take this opportunity to thank John & Dorothy Lichoff, Dee & Don Bond, and Rita and Dave Wood for their hard work and continued support. We are very grateful for their contributions.

Best wishes,

Chuck Wazenegger

### 4<sup>th</sup> of July Activities in Warren, IN

Some interesting things happened in Warren this year:

1. Several of the store fronts displayed a sign about the USS Salamonie that stated:

"A Salute to the Veterans of the  
USS Salamonie:

"When veterans of the USS Salamonie learned of the project of "one shoe box at a time", they offered to pay all the costs of postage. This took place in 2002 and their checks started rolling in from 30 states (even one from Canada). They have contributed \$11,117.97 to date. That has paid for 1,143 boxes mailed to the troops by a resident of Heritage Pointe."

GOD BLESS AMERICA

2. Several members of a scout troop in Warren carried our large American flag in the parade preceding the USS Salamonie float. We were able to contribute \$91.54 to the troop from the donations that were thrown into the flag that they carried. We received a nice note from the troop leader, John Tolen, thanking us for granting them the honor of carrying the flag from one of the greatest ships in our fabulous fleet. John noted that his uncle, Leon Tolen, served as a signalman on one of the ships in the South Pacific during WW II. He thanked our shipmates and other veterans for the contributions

that have secured our freedoms and laid the foundation for the lives that we enjoy today.

3. A mystery truck driver performed a “random act of kindness”:

“On June 27 there were eight of us from the USS Salomonie in Warren getting ready for the Salomonie Summer Festival and were having supper at Ugaldes restaurant. When we asked for our check, we were told that a “Truck Driver” who was sitting in a booth by us and who wished to remain anonymous had paid our check for supper and said to “Thank us for our services”. They knew him but would not divulge his name.” We bought a thank you card and signed it and the waitress said she’d give it to him the next time she saw him. An article about this was published in the Warren Weekly.

4. John Lichoff sent a second article that was also published:

“To the Community of Warren:

Once again we were blessed to be able to come to your warm and friendly town for the Fourth of July Celebration and Salomonie Days, where respect and patriotism for all veterans runs supreme and second to none.

We are honored and blessed for the support of all and for being able to have our museum in a wonderful home like Warren.

Thanks you for the town and people who honor us and all veterans in the parade.’

#### **A Thank you Note**

We received the following note from Shelley Boxell: “Thank you all for your generous donation to the Knight-Bergman Center. We are using your donation to complete a cementing project outside the gym for emergency evacuation. We are hopeful to have it completed by October 1, 2012.

Thank you again for your great support.”

KBC Board and  
Shelley Boxell, KLBC President

#### **Huntington Herald-Press “Veterans gather at Festival a**

A reporter named Toni Thrasher, from the Huntington Herald-Press interviewed several Salomonie shipmates and wrote an article for publication in the paper.

She noted that more than 30 veterans who, at one point in their lives, were aboard the USS

Salomonie, gathered in Warren for the Salomonie Summer Festival.

She noted information about the Salomonie including dates when it was commissioned and decommissioned.

She said that John Lichoff, one of the founders of the Salomonie Museum, described the ship as a floating gas station, which supplied the fleet with fuel.

John also said that every summer the veterans come to Warren. “They honor us like you wouldn’t believe. They salute us. We consider this home and our ship is a very close-knit family.”

Tom Keske, one of the last enlisted men aboard the USS Salomonie, was one of the last people to leave the ship before it was decommissioned. “The only other person behind me was the captain”, he said. Keske described the last time as “strange” since he had been aboard for 49 months so it was strange that “I had to go to another ship and start learning their steam plan again. Keske joined the Navy at 17, worked in the engine room aboard ship, and when he left the ship for the last time he was 21.

Ms Thrasher noted that “these veterans have experienced a lot of history. Dean Bailiff was one of the sailors participating in the Cuban Missile Crisis. George Perrault was on the ship between 1959 and 1963 and he was on the first honor guard that brought Kennedy’s body back to the White House from Dallas, Texas. He was one of the members of the military that stood guard, at the right side of the coffin, while Kennedy’s body was lying in state at the White House. He can be seen in a photo surrounded by heads of state and other dignitaries, as Jacqueline Kennedy stands at the flag draped coffin. He noted that when he got off the Salomonie he was stationed in Washington, DC.

#### **NOW HEAR THIS. ATTENTION ALL HANDS:**

John Lichoff

**12-12-12 (100)**

On December 12, 2012 Ms Lilly Nutter will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The question is what do you get for a special lady on this auspicious occasion?

Lily has made the USS Salomonie AO-26 semi famous with all her care packages that she has sent to our troops in harm’s way.

She’s been honored in many ways for her deeds such as: Recognized by AARP, National VFW, record of notes in US Congress and the senate, the states of

Ohio and Indiana individually, the attorney General and Ohio State National Guard, Governors of Ohio and Indiana, news and TV media and many more too numerous to mention.

This has been a quest for Lily made possible by the generosity of the crew and friends of the USS Salamonie AO-26.

Please remember and send a card to her and say thanks on her birthday.

Lily Nutter  
801 Huntington Avenue  
Warren, IN 46792-9402

**USS Salamonie Association**

**Officers and Board Members**

**President** – Chuck Wazenegger  
(bear1151@verizon.net)

**Vice President** - John Lichoff

**Chaplin/Trustee** – Joe Cuneo

**Trustee** – Herb Macintyre

**Records/Files/Honor Roll** –

John Lichoff (jlichoff@neo.rr.com)

**Treasurer** – Donald Bond (dbondin@aol.com)

**Newsletter Editor** – Rita Wood  
(RLW313@aol.com)



**Honor Roll**

**Ken Creason HMSN 49-52**  
**Cruz J. Gonzales GMSN 59-61**  
**Lee McAdams RD3 55-59**  
**Jimmy Wayne Neighbors BMSN 60-62**

**New Finds**  
**Welcome aboard**

**James D. Stewart BMSN 60-61t**

**Sick/Surgery/Treatments**

**Please keep these people in your prayers. Send cards**

Chuck Wazenegger	Leonard Buck
Dee Bond	Lois Perrault
Rose Masters	Raleigh Masters
Gordon Cook	Cecil Blain
Ray Aguirre	Dottie Mac Intyre
Pat Selmer	Doug Snead

**Get Well Soon**

**A Letter from Raleigh Masters**

John and Dorothy Lichoff received a letter from Raleigh Masters in July. He thanked people for the get well card that was sent to him from the folks at the Warren reunion. He mentioned that he gets around with a walker and a cane and continues to be able to drive. He mentioned that his wife, Rose, is able to get around using a walker.

Raleigh mentioned that he misses everyone.

**DUES**

Dues are now **\$25.00.**

Send your check made out to USS Salamonie to:

Don Bond  
18940 Filmore Drive  
Goshen, IN 46528  
(574) 533-8835

USS Salamonie Association  
Dues 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to get my newsletter via:  
\_\_\_\_\_ snail mail  
\_\_\_\_\_ e mail  
\_\_\_\_\_ web site

**Remember that your membership dues help to keep the association afloat.**

**Additional donations can be made for the following:**

**Knight-Bergman Civic Center**  
**USS Salamonie Postage Fund**  
**Troop Care Packages**

## A Report from Lily Nutter

1,168 care packages to troops. Please pray for our troops who are in harm's way and for a speedy and safe return.



Carry me back to old Virginny, adapted for our reunion in April by RLW.

“Carry me back to old Virginny.  
There's where the cotton and corn and taters grow.  
There's where the birds warble sweet in the spring-time.  
There's where the Salamonie folks plan to go.”

**For the**

### **2013 USS Salamonie Reunion 4/17/13 to 4/21/13**

Virginia Beach is an independent city located in the Hampton Roads metropolitan area of Virginia, on the Atlantic Ocean at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. It is the most populous city in the state as well as being the 39<sup>th</sup> largest in the United States.

Virginia Beach is a resort city with miles of beaches and hundreds of hotels, motels and restaurants along its waterfront. It is listed in the “Guinness Book of Records” as

having the longest pleasure beach in the world.

Virginia Beach has several state parks, three military bases, a number of large corporations, two universities and numerous historic sites.

**The Complete Package for the reunion is included in this newsletter.**

**The Registration Deadline is February 14 with the balance due by March 13, 2012.**

**SO now is the time to think about being carried back to “Old Virginny”**

**And joining us for some fun in Virginia Beach.**



### **Things to do ASAP**

- Pay your 2012 dues
- [Register for the Virginia Beach Reunion](#)
- Have a Happy Holiday Season



**Complete Reunion Package**  
**Includes: 4 Nights at Courtyard by Marriott**  
**7 Attractions**  
**2 ½ Days of Area Transportation**  
**Breakfast each A.M**  
**3 Group Meals + Banquet Buffet**  
**- Hospitality Room is open daily -**

**AO-26**  
**USS SALAMONIE**  
**Virginia Beach VA. Reunion**  
**4/17/13 – 4/21/13**

**Courtyard Virginia Beach Oceanfront South**  
**2501 Atlantic Ave.**

**Wednesday April 17, 2013**

3:00 pm Check-in Courtyard by Marriott  
 3:00 pm Hospitality Room Opens / Snacks  
 5:00 pm Everyone Meets in Hospitality Room  
 6:00 pm Dinner on own

**Thursday April 18, 2013**

9:30 am Motorcoach pick up at hotel and Depart  
 10:00 am Amphibious Base -Little Creek - Ft Story  
 11:45 am Lunch on own –enroute burger stop  
 1:30 pm Military Aviation Museum  
 4:00 pm Board and Depart for Hotel  
 5:45 pm Captain Georges Seafood Buffet  
 7:15 pm -Hospitality Room Opens

**Friday April 19, 2013**

9:30 am Motorcoach pick up at hotel  
 10:00 am Arrive at Adam Thoroughgood House (VBch)  
 11:00 am Board and depart for Norfolk Va.  
 11:30 am Lunch at Ship's Cabin Restaurant in Norfolk  
 1:15 pm Base and Ship Tour at Naval Station Norfolk  
 4:00 pm Board and Depart for Virginia Beach  
 4:30 pm Back to Hotel  
 6:00 pm Angelo's Murder Mystery Dinner Theater  
 8:30 pm -Hospitality Room Opens –

**Saturday April 20, 2013**

9:30 am Motorcoach pick up at hotel  
 10:00 am Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Ctr  
 11:30 am Lunch on own at Aquarium  
 1:30 pm Ferry Plantation  
 3:00 pm Back to Hotel  
 6:00 pm Banquet Dinner at Hotel / Cash Bar

**Sunday April 21, 2013**

Depart for home or stay and play



**Complete Reunion Package Price**  
**PER PERSON:**

**TWO in Room: \$ 736**

**One in Room: \$ 1.014**

90% refunds for cancellations  
 with 48 hours notice providing  
 that the Attractions and Hotel  
 refund DeeTours.

Airport transportation  
 available at an  
 Additional Cost

To Register please fill out Registration Form (Form will be in Newsletter)  
 and return it to our friends at DeeTours

P.O. Box 6874 Branson, MO 65615 417-527-0808

E-mail: Curtis@DeeTours.us

**\$50 Per Person Registration Deadline is February 14, 2013 –**  
**Balance Due 3/14/13**

Extra Nights  
 Lodging  
 \$119.00  
 Including Tax

**“USS SALAMONIE” REUNION BEGINS: April 17, 2013 (Wed.) REUNION ENDS: April 21, 2013 (Sun.)**

**1** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**2** YOUR ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ YOUR DEPARTURE DATE: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**3** LODGING - Handicap Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Smoking \_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking \_\_\_\_ Wheel Chair Seating: Transfer to Aisle Seat? YES NO

**5** AIRPORT SHUTTLE SERVICES: Available at additional cost.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby hold harmless from any claims DeeTours llc. and all suppliers used in the final DeeTours llc. package.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**\$50 Per Person Registration Deadline is February 14, 2013 – Balance Due March 14, 2013**

**COMPLETE VIRGINIA BEACH PACKAGE: \$1,014.00 Per Person (1 in room) OR \$736.00 per person (2 in room)**  
**EXTRA NIGHTS OF LODGING \$119.00** Includes tax. You may add breakfast to your extra nights for \$10 pp

**6**

	<u># of Persons</u>	<u>\$ per Person</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
FULL Package (see above listed prices)	: _____	x \$ _____	= _____
# of EXTRA Room Nights _____	x <b>\$119.00</b>		= _____

All pricing listed includes tax
Special needs? Diet etc.

**7** ADD ON Shows OR Services:  
 : \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

**8** PAYMENT DUE: **GRAND TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**9** RETURN Completed form with payment to:

DeeTours at P.O. Box 6874 Branson, Mo. 65615

All Checks to be payable to: **DeeTours**

For additional information call DeeTours 417-527-0808

<p><b>All Deposit and Balance payments must be paid by check or money order and mailed to the below address</b></p>
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**This Section to be completed by DeeTours upon receipt of payment(s)**

DEPOSIT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ FINAL BAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_