



# Radar Picket Ships YAGRGRAM #57

Fall 2010

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## YAGR'S 15th Reunion 2010 Reunion Cruise Or Recruitment Drive?

In the Navy's effort to establish a new class of radar picket ship, the Carnival Freedom got underway from her homeport of Ft. Lauderdale, FL with 115 former picket ship crewmen and their spouses/guests to establish a new southern picket station. What will be unique about this station is that it will have liberty ports. So with this in mind, the crews and ships that man this station will no longer have to stay at sea for 30 to 45 days like the Guardian Class of ships. The former crewmen had a few questions: Where is the Air Search Radar? Where are the guns? How are we supposed to protect ourselves?

It also appears that this new class of ship will have shipboard nightclubs and lounges and each crewman will have his own stateroom and will be allowed to have his spouse or a guest share his stateroom if he desires to do so. He will not have to stand watches; so gone are the days when somebody wakes him up in the middle of the night by shining a light in his eyes saying, "Wake up. You've got the mid-watch."

It was reported that a Navy recruiter would be onboard the ship in an effort to recruit as many former picket ship crewmen as possible, but the scuttlebutt is that he did not make this trip because he did not want to spend such a long period of time (6 days) away from home.



Yagrmen with spouses and guests  
in ship's Atrium.

# YAGR'S 16th Reunion, Nashville, TN

May 26 to May 28, 2011

Nashville Airport Marriott  
600 Marriott Drive  
Nashville, TN 37214

Room rate is \$99.00 per night. This rate is also good for three (3) days before and three (3) days after the reunion. Complimentary parking, complimentary airport shuttle and complimentary Fitness Center are included. Call 1-800-770-0555 to make your room reservation. Mention that you are with YAGR'S when you call in order to get the above room rate. As always, it is very important that you reserve your room as soon as possible. The Marriott has set aside 100 rooms for YAGR'S. It will add more rooms to our block if rooms are still available. **Room reservations must be made by April 28, 2011.** Don't miss out!! If you have any problems, please give me a call.

## Proposed Schedule of Events

The reunion format will be the same as past reunions:

We will have optional pre-reunion tours on **Tuesday** (May 24th) and **Wednesday** (May 25th).

On **Thursday** (May 26th) we will open the hospitality room at noontime where you will pick up your reunion packet.

On **Friday** (May 27th) we will go on our group tour with the hospitality room opening upon our return.

On **Saturday** (May 28th) the mens meeting and spouses/guests function will be held in the morning. The hospitality room will open afterwards and finally the banquet will be held on **Saturday** evening.

On **Sunday** (May 29th) it is time to check out of the hotel and start your trip home.

## Reunion Registration

The reunion registration cost this year will be \$95 per person for dues paying members and their spouses/guests and \$112 per person for nondues paying members and their spouses/guests. A dues paying member is one whose dues have been paid for the year. If in doubt, look on the envelope mailing label this YAGRGRAM came in. If a date of 5/31/11 or later is on it, you are a dues paying member.

The registration cost covers the hospitality room, group tour, Saturday evening banquet, spouses/guests breakfast, name badges and printing costs associated with the actual reunion. **As always, the reunion registration refund policy is "If YAGR'S doesn't have to pay for it, neither do you."**

## Group Tour (Friday, May 27, 2011)

A guided city tour of Nashville including a drive by of Bicentennial Mall, State Capitol, Historic Second Avenue, Music Row, Vanderbilt University, The Parthenon. The tour includes admission to Historic Ryman Auditorium, known as the Mother Church of Country Music, and the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Lunch is on your own.

## Optional Pre-Reunion Tours:

**Tuesday, May 24, 2011**

**5:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

**GRAND OLE OPRY**

**\$55 per person**

Enjoy a show of the world's longest running live radio broadcast.

**Wednesday, May 25, 2011**

**10:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**GENERAL JACKSON SHOWBOAT LUNCHEON CRUISE**

**\$70 per person**

Enjoy a 2-1/2 hour cruise aboard a great showboat. Includes lunch and entertainment.



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## YAGRGRAMS and Mailing List.

Unfortunately over 235 former crewmen have just been removed from our mailing list. I have done everything possible not to do this. Some of those cut are people who have not responded to my request to return the information form that was sent to them. Others that were cut are men who returned the request form years ago but we have not heard from them for a number of years. I had to assume that they no longer wanted to receive any mailings from YAGR'S.

Also for the past few years the number of men paying their dues has dropped off. In the past money collected from those paying dues was enough to cover the cost for those not paying their dues, but we are almost at a point where we can no longer count on it. It may soon be necessary to send the YAGRGRAM only to those who are dues paying members.



### YAGR'S Association

Since the last YAGRGRAM was sent out a few months ago, things have been happening as far as the Association is concerned. While I am always hearing of former crewmen passing away or being hospitalized or treated for various illnesses, it seems to be happening more frequently. **Unfortunately, I have to add my own name to the list of men being treated as I have just been diagnosed as having brain cancer. I have gone through chemo, radiation and surgery where a mid-size tumor was removed. Thankfully things are going okay so far. I am in my second phase of treatment at this time.**

I will be looking for some help in the day-to-day running of the Association. If you are willing to lend a hand, please let me know. Although it would be best to have someone fairly close to Rhode Island in order to make it easier to coordinate things, any and all help will be appreciated.



## YAGR'S Exhibit Battleship Massachusetts

We are still hard at work on our Exhibit even though Harry has not been able to join in because of his health condition. Roland Cote (AGR-10), John Hemminger (AGR-2) and Dave Terry (AGR-10) are still working on the display cases for the binnacle, helm and engine order telegraph..

They have moved the ship's wheel that was mounted on the after bulkhead out of our exhibit area and installed a sign where the ship's wheel was on display.

While we had the cases built, we had to make the moulding that will hold the plexi-glass panels in place. Unfortunately, the mouldings are not stock items. After we picked up stock lumber, the milling process got started to produce the moulding we need to secure the plexi-glass in place.

YAGR'S wants to thank Paul Gosslen, a volunteer on the Battleship Massachusetts, for doing some welding for us and helping install the sign by welding brackets on the bulkhead.

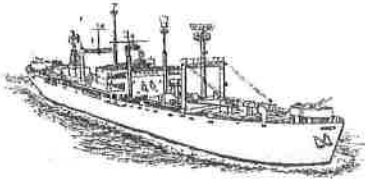
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## SPOUSES/GUESTS PROGRAM

Once again all the spouses/guests will gather for a breakfast buffet and raffle while the men are at their meeting.

For the raffle we ask that you bring an inexpensive item to be raffled off. I am often asked what to bring. My answer is always the same: Bring something that you would like to win yourself. Arts and crafts and other handcrafted items are always a favorite with everyone.

Many of the spouses/guests feel this is the best part of the reunion. It is a fun time and everyone is friendly. If you are a first timer, come and meet the other spouses and guests. You won't feel like a stranger and you will definitely have a good time.



## Dues

### \$17.00

Dues are now due for the dues year of June 1 2010 to May 31, 2011.

John Hemminger has agreed to assist me with collecting dues and mailing out Membership Cards and Crew Lists. When paying your dues, please make your check out to YAGR's and mail it to

John Hemminger  
24 Ballou Street  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

If you have paid your dues, a date will be above your name on the mailing label this YAGRGRAM came in. Also if you have paid your dues and there is no date above your name or you did not receive your membership card and latest crewmen list that is sent with it, let me know.



**Visit YAGR'S Web Page**

**[www.yagrs.org](http://www.yagrs.org)**

**Webmaster**

**Frank Pulaski (AGR-4)**





Thanks to Charles "Chuck" Coons (AGR-13) we now have the YAGR's logo patch available. If you would like to order one, the cost is \$5.00 each, postage included. We have a limited quantity of these patches so if you want one, do not wait too long to order yours. Once they are gone, they are gone.



3 inch YAGR'S embroidered logo patch in color.

QUANTITY \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00 TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

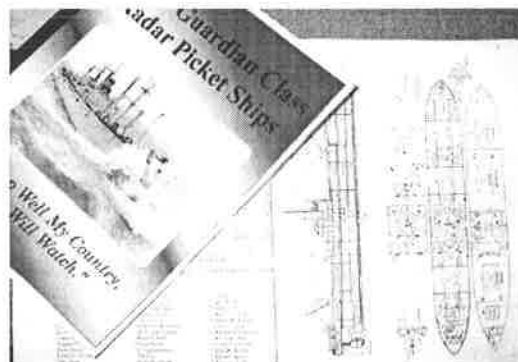
Make checks payable to YAGRS and mail to me at the address on Page 1.

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE THE YAGRS BOOK IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE



**16th Annual Reunion**

**Nashville, TN**

**May 26, 2011 - May 28, 2011**

**turn as soon as possible but no later than April 15, 2011**

This information will be used on your name tag. Use the name you want printed on your name tag.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Spouse/Guest** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ship Served on** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date on Board** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rate** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ship Served on** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date on Board** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rate** \_\_\_\_\_

Reunion Registration		Please print			
NASHVILLE, TN		May 26 - May 28, 2011			
	Cost per person	x	# of people	=	Sub Total
<i>Example</i>	\$95.00	x	2	=	\$190.00
es paying members, spouses/guests	\$95.00	x		=	\$
n dues paying members, spouses/guests	\$112.00	x		=	\$

Pre-Reunion Tours		Please print			
<b>Grand Ole Opry</b>					
Tuesday, May 24, 2011					
5:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.					
Names of People going on tour					
	\$55.00	x	1	=	\$
	\$55.00	x	1	=	\$
	\$55.00	x	1	=	\$
<b>Showboat Luncheon Cruise</b>					
Wednesday, May 25, 2011					
10:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.					
Names of people going on tour					
	\$70.00	x	1	=	\$
	\$70.00	x	1	=	\$
	\$70.00	x	1	=	\$
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>					<b>\$</b>

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO YAGRS AND MAILED TO ME AT THE ADDRESS ON THE FIRST PAGE OF YAGRGRAM

