



RADAR PICKET SHIPS

YAGRGRAM #60

YAGR 16TH REUNION

NASHVILLE, TN

MAY 26/27/28, 2011



Co-editors: Roland and Yvonne Cote (AGR-10)

A wonderful and successful 16th reunion was had by all.

Nashville is a very friendly city and the southern hospitality was quite visible wherever we went. The weather was warm and we had the opportunity to witness what cicada bugs were all about (noisy critters). Thank goodness this only happens once every 13 years.

Our pre-tours to the Grand Old Opry and the General Jackson Showboat luncheon cruise proved to be enjoyed by all. Entertainment and food were great. A souvenir character doll was given to Charlie Hooper at the showboat luncheon cruise by a member of the cast. Mame his wife then generously donated it as an item for draw at the ladies' breakfast. Thank you also for being such a great MC at the ladies' breakfast.

All crew members attending received their packets on opening day. Included was a letter from Harry resigning his position as Chairman.

City tour brought us to the Tennessee WWII Memorial and admission to Ryman Auditorium and the Country Music Hall of Fame, followed by a tour of the city.

The banquet was quite a night. An Honor Guard Salute for Harry for all his work began the evening, followed by a superb meal and an entertaining DJ who kept the dance floor quite busy.

Having such a great group of people in the Association, is what makes our reunions such a success.

Hope to see you all again at the 17th YAGR Reunion in Lancaster, PA.

REUNION PHOTOS



OPRY



TENNESSE WWII MEMORIAL



SHOWBOAT LUNCH CRUISE



LADIES BREAKFAST



NASHVILLE CITY TOUR



BANQUET



Resigning as chairman of YAGRS was a hard decision for me to make. However, based upon my health condition, it was the right decision for me to make.

Who would have thought when we first started out that we would grow the way we did, that we would have the only exhibit of an auxiliary ship or that we would have a

book documenting AGR's.

I enjoyed every minute of the past 16 years and hope you enjoyed the reunions as much as I did. The best part of the past years has been the many friendships that we have formed. I am sure the new officers will do a good job and I wish them all the best. Any questions or correspondence should be directed to the new officers.

I look forward to seeing you all in Lancaster.

Harry Miller



MINUTES OF THE 2011 YAGR 's BUSINESS MEETING

Convened on the occasion of the YAGR'S 16th Reunion

Date of Business Meeting: Saturday, May 28, 2011

Location: Airport Marriott, Nashville, TN

Harry Miller convened the men's business meeting at 9:00 am.

In his opening remarks, he thanked John Hemminger (Lookout) who collected dues and sent out membership cards, and Roland Cote (Outpost) and Yvonne Cote for their work putting together and mailing the YAGRGRAMS.

Harry reviewed the work on the YAGR's exhibit on the Battleship Massachusetts and extended a thank you to Roland Cote, John Hemminger & Dave Terry (Outpost) for their work. The work is just about complete except for some painting. Future work will be mainly field days. He discussed our good relationship with the administration of the battleship and several projects, in addition to, the YAGR's exhibit, that YAGR's contributed to.

198 people attended this 16th reunion: 103 crew members and 95 spouses and guests.

Harry then presented the financial report. In summary, the YAGR's are in the black, with a balance of \$9,267 as of 5/31/11. This is after a donation of \$1,000 to the Battleship Massachusetts. Also, the grant balance for the battleship exhibit is \$6,820.

Harry then moved on to the most important matter to be decided upon, that is the NEW LEADERSHIP for the YAGR's. He explained that due to health issues, he will not be able to continue running the organization. He suggested a leadership organization of chair, treasurer and secretary, and opened the floor to volunteers, nominations and discussion.

Charles Brewster (Vigil) volunteered for chair. Al Nannini (Tracer) nominated Lee Doyel (Tracer). Lee Doyel was not present at the business meeting, but had made it clear to Harry and others his intention to run for chair. Al Nannini was on the phone with Lee Doyel during the business meeting to confirm Lee's acceptance of the nomination. After some discussion a vote was held. The results were: Charles Brewster (18) and Lee Doyel (67). Al Nannini again called Lee by phone to notify him of results.

Donald Baldwin (Searcher) volunteered for treasurer. Discussion followed regarding duties of the treasurer. The treasurer controls all accounts. All requests for authorization for withdrawals will be sent to treasurer. Because Donald lives in Georgia, the suggestion was made that a trustee account be set up for the battleship fund closer at hand. After much discussion it was decided that the new treasurer would work out the details, and a vote was taken. Donald Baldwin was unanimously elected treasurer. Harry said he will close current account and send all to new treasurer.

YAGRS — — — NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Dear YAGR Crew Members,

As per Harry's message, due to his health situation, the Association has required a change in organizational structure. He suggested, and it was approved by the membership to have a three person leadership team consisting of a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. The Chairman would be responsible for the overall running of the Association and planning the reunions. The Treasurer would be responsible for collecting dues and reunion monies and paying expenses. The Secretary would be responsible for writing and distributing the Newsletter.

Although I was not at the business meeting in Nashville, due to a health problem (gallbladder) with my wife, I was elected Chairman. Don Baldwin (Searcher AGR-4) was elected Treasurer and Mel Harder (Investigator AGR-9) was elected Secretary. I am pleased and honored to have been selected for this position. The Association has grown over the years under Harry's guidance from 40 crew members at the first reunion (1996) to as many as 194 crew members at subsequent reunions. We have with few exceptions drawn 100 or more crew members (plus spouses) at our reunions. This is a testament to Harry's guidance, foresight and organizational abilities.

As with any organizational restructure, changes are inevitable. However in this case, I do not foresee any major changes. I am not one to make change for change sake. The association has developed a highly successful model and I see no reason to "reinvent the wheel." Our reunions are the envy of other military reunions and hold a very good reputation throughout the hospitality service industry. Some change is inevitable, but hopefully the changes that do occur can be kept to a minimum and minimal in breadth.

A little background on me. I was the Engineer Officer on the USS Tracer (AGR-15) from 1960 to 1962. Due to the Cuban Missile Crisis, my reserve commitment was extended for one year. Although the extension was rescinded, I offered the Navy and additional year (2 yrs. total) for duty in Hawaii. They accepted and I was assigned to the District Intelligence Office, 14th Naval District (DIO 14ND). I subsequently changed my destinator from 1105 to 1635 (Intelligence). I stayed in the reserves and became employed as a civilian Special Agent by the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) which morphed into Naval Intelligence Service (NIS) and Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) and had duty stations in Hawaii, Subic Bay Phillipines, Dallas, Tx. and Pensacola, Fl. I made Captain (O6) in the reserves.

As the Association moves into a new phase, I ask for your support in the effort to continue and maintain the high standards the Association has developed. The new organization is a group effort now, but I know from past experience with this outfit, anyone called on for assistance has responded without hesitation. I am sure this will continue. It is in our nature as exhibited by our manning the picket ships on the probably first attack point if the Cold War turned into WWII.

With your support I feel confident YAGRS can continue to be the organization it has always been.

Regards,

John Doyel

Chairman

IF YOU E-MAIL ME: YAGRS16@COX.NET

**PLEASE USE "YAGRS" IN SUBJECT LINE IN ALL
CORRESPONDENCE. THANK YOU**

HARRY,

THE YAGR WORK CREW



WISH TO SAY,

THANK YOU



Left to right:

**Henry Mckay (Vigil), Jim Spiegel (Vigil), Harry Miller (Protector),
Tom Giardina (Skywatcher), John Hemminger (Lookout), Dave Terry (Outpost),
Roland Cote (Outpost)**