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## YAGRGRAM #86 - FEBRUARY 2021

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view & print this YAGRGRAM in color at <http://www.yagrs.org>

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### 2021 Reunion - Hotel Information

Reunion dates, including the pre-reunion tours, are Tuesday June 1 - Saturday June 5

The hotel is the:

Colorado Springs Marriott

5580 Tech Center Dr.

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

1-800-932-2151

Mention YAGRS. Rate code is YAG

Room rate is \$139.00 a night plus 10.25% room tax. LAST DAY to book a room is Friday, April 15, 2021.

NOTE: This is 6 WEEKS before the reunion dates as compared to the usual 4 weeks. Booking after that at the YAGRS rate is at the hotel's discretion.



Due to the decline in attendance, we have only blocked 50 rooms, which is for 100 persons. Since the major expenses for this reunion are being paid by an anonymous benefactor, we may need to ask for additional rooms. However, it is up to the hotel to expand the block of rooms at their discretion. This could be a problem as Colorado Springs is a large tourist attraction and rooms are in great demand. **So I cannot emphasize enough to reserve early.** Its first come first served.

Please note that due to the virus the only number valid for the hotel is the 800 number. And don't forget to mention the group code YAG. If you have an issue with registration, please email Lori Shook at [Lshook@pyramidhotelgroup.com](mailto:Lshook@pyramidhotelgroup.com) or call Brian Forrester (YAGR reunion planner) at 480-332-7294.

### 2021 Tours

Reunion tour dates and times are included in the reunion registration form on the last page.

### Memo from Lee Doyel

**Subject:** YAGRS - SOUTHWEST AIRLINES SERVICE

For planing purposes the following is furnished. I checked and the news that Southwest Airlines will begin service to the Colorado Springs Airport in March is valid.

Here is the website for the Colorado Springs Airport: <https://coloradosprings.gov/flycos>

It shows the 9 cities Southwest is flying from into Colorado Springs.



# Mariner/Marlin Association

## ANYWHERE-ANYTIME

### Mariner Group Tour

The Mariner group has opted to have a paid tour for their members. In order to avoid confusion and keep their monies separate from ours I am using their form for our members that may want to go on their tour. Do not send this form to YAGRS. It goes with a check to the Mariner group at the address listed on the form below.



## MARINER/MARLIN ASSOCIATION

### 38th ANNUAL REUNION, CO SPRINGS, CO, June 1-5, 2021

#### BANQUET, HOSPITALITY ROOM AND TOURS RESERVATION FORM

THIS FORM WILL NOT TAKE CARE OF YOUR HOTEL. YOU MUST CONTACT THE HOTEL DIRECTLY.

PLEASE PRINT ALL NAMES AS YOU WISH THEM TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAGS MEMBERS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SQUADRONS \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

The Mariner/Marlin Association members are going to attend our reunion as guest so we both can have a "look see" at each other before we consider joining the two associations. They have opted to have paid tour for their group on Thursday, June 3. YAGRS member are welcome to go on that tour although it is our regular registration day.

You can go on the tour and pickup your registration packet on returning from the tour. The tour is \$40 and must be paid to the Mariner/Marlin Association. Use this form when booking the tour. Use the YAGRS registration form for the free tours and banquet food choice. Make the check to Mariner/Marlin Association and mail to Robert Tibbetts, 2017 Blackhorse Lane, Lexington, KY 40503. His email is bob42@twc.com Phone 859-232-7871.



DATE/TIMES	TOURS	COSTS per person	X NUMBER OF TICKETS	= TOTAL
Tuesday, June 1, 2021	Iron Springs Dinner Show	N/A		N/A
Wednesday, June 2, 2021	Pikes Peak Summit Tour	N/A		N/A
Thursday, June 3, 2021	Historic Pueblo Riverwalk, Medal of Honor Memorial/Museum & Weisbrod Aircraft Museum	\$40	X	\$
Friday, June 4, 2021	Royal Gorge Route Railroad	N/A		N/A
Total Amount for Tours				= \$
Total Amount for Registration				+ \$
Total Amount Payable to: <b>THE MARINER/MARLIN ASSOCIATION</b>				= \$

In the event that you have to cancel your reservations we will make a full refund if you cancel before April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:** Next of Kin, Adult child, or Close friend

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

The cell phone # you will have with you \_\_\_\_\_

## USS Massachusetts Report

From: ROLAND R COTE

Date: 08/18/2020

Subject: YAGR Donation

For the newsletter: YAGR donation to the battleship was delayed due to Covid-19 restriction. As you can see masks and social distancing were applied. The donation check was presented to Christopher Nardi (Chief Operating Officer) aboard the USS Massachusetts by Roland Cote AGR-10 representing the YAGRS Association. To all fellow shipmates stay safe.



## Ladies Program

Hello Ladies

I know we are all excited that the reunion group Mariner/Marlin Association will be joining us in Colorado Springs this year. We hope the Lady Mariner/Marlins will choose to join us at our annual reunion breakfast festivities. We have always enjoyed ourselves and I think they would also. Hopefully, someone will see that a copy of this article will get to those ladies. Our breakfast party starts at 9 am and concludes approximately 12 noon on Saturday.

Nothing much has changed since my last article so this may be redundant. A reminder to bring to breakfast something to participate in our gift exchange. I would suggest something in the \$20 range. Handmade things are always popular with the ladies. If we all bring something to add to the gift table, there would be a somewhat equal opportunity for each and every lady to win something to take home.

As has been our tradition, we will be taking up a collection to donate to a local Veterans Facility. Some ladies like to shop and prefer to contribute needed items. The most requested items at these type facilities are sweatpants, lounge pants, zippered hoodies, socks, t-shirts, and toiletries. Monetary donations are always welcome, for those who prefer to write a check. I will include the full name of the Vet Facility in the reunion packet at the reunion.



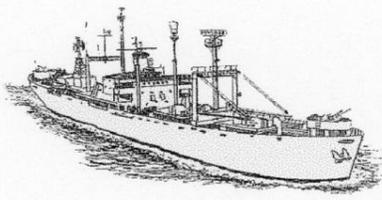
Since Colorado is known for it's mining of semi-precious gemstones, a decorated "TREASURE" box is the theme for our contest this year. Use your own discretion as to size and what you feel comfortable transporting. Anything from a ring box to a cigar box in size maybe. There will be trophies awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

If any of you M/M ladies have any questions or desire more details my number is 843-545-0641 and email is [pareichling@aol.com](mailto:pareichling@aol.com)

So praying all goes well and soon this pandemic loses its control over our lives and our plans. Stay safe and healthy and safe travels to all.

God Bless, Pat Reichling

## Sea Stories



If you have a sea story or incident that happened on your ship it can be published in the YAGRGRAM. Email (or snail mail) to Mel Harder at: [mel.harder@snet.net](mailto:mel.harder@snet.net), or mail to Mel Harder, Drawer N, East Hartland CT 06027

### Jerry Polizzi, USS Outpost, 1960-62

I found Joe Walsh's well written sea story about his unfortunate experience under Captain Queeg on the USS Searcher both hilarious and sad. I served as a new ensign on the USS Outpost during the same period, 1960-62, and had exactly the opposite experience. I had the good fortune of having LCDR Frank Horn as skipper, and LT George Thompson as XO. I found them both to be excellent leaders, managers, sailors, and all around highly professional officers whom I was proud to salute. Wardroom morale could not have been better. Captain Horn encouraged me to "ship over" and went so far as to get me shore duty orders to Naples, would you believe. In hindsight, I foolishly chose not to accept them, preferring to ship out on my Third Mates license (a graduate of SUNY Maritime College) simply to "make money". I did, however, stay in the reserves for 19 more years and retired as a LCDR.



### From: Lee Doyel Subject: YAGRS - MEDALS EARNED BY YAGR SHIPS

During the Cuban Crisis the east coast ships participated in the United States response to Russia placing nuclear weapons in Cuba. As a result the ships and personnel onboard were awarded 2 medals. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Navy Expeditionary Service Medal. AGR 1,2,3,4,9,10,11&12 were given the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. The Navy Expeditionary Service Medal was also given to AGR-10. It was the only ship to receive this medal.

Over the years I have been asked how qualified members could get their medals. Because of the passage of time and the time involved wading through the beauracratc process I was not to encouraging about trying to get the medal(s). I suggested buying one on the open market. While probably not the correct way to do it, it was the easiest and most practical; and the one I recommend.

note: Periods of eligibility shown here have the year as 1961. It should be 1962. Printing error in the book.

Awhile back I received a catalog which listed almost all the medals ever awarded. Including the medals above.

If any one wants to get their medal you can ask for a catalog or go online for them They cost from \$11.00 \$16.00. They also have other military memorabilia.

Medals of America  
114 Southchase Blvd  
Fountain, SC 29644

## Periods Of Eligibility

### Navy Expeditionary Service Medal

#### USS Guardian AGR-1

June 9, 1961 to June 10, 1961  
July 18, 1961 to July 19, 1961

#### USS Lookout AGR-2

June 30, 1961 to July 22, 1961  
August 8, 1961

#### USS Skywatcher AGR-3

May 15, 1961 to June 11, 1961  
June 26, 1961 to July 27, 1961  
Sept. 23, 1961 to October 7, 1961  
October 13, 1961 to October 14, 1961

#### USS Searcher AGR-4

April 20, 1961 to May 16, 1961  
May 27, 1961 to May 28, 1961

#### USS Investigator AGR-9

August 31, 1961 to September 28, 1961  
October 13, 1961 to October 14, 1961

#### USS Outpost AGR-10

August 11, 1961 to Sept. 2, 1961  
Sept. 14, 1961 to Sept. 20, 1961  
October 1, 1961 to October 15, 1961  
October 24, 1961 to November 3, 1961  
July 21, 1962 to October 23, 1962

#### USS Protector AGR-11

April 11, 1961 to April 22, 1961  
May 8, 1961 to May 9, 1961

#### USS Vigil AGR-12

July 21, 1961 to August 13, 1961  
August 29, 1961 to August 30, 1961

### National Defense Service Medal

#### All Personnel

June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1954  
January 1, 1961 to August 14, 1970

### Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

#### USS Outpost AGR-10

October 29, 1962 to December 15, 1962

800-308-0849  
[MedalsofAmerica.com](http://MedalsofAmerica.com)

ship's coordinators : Lee Doyel

Ship's coordinators maintain an email list that is used to forward memos from the chair and advance notices of reunion plans to crew members. If you wish to be included, send an email to your ship's coordinator. Due to various circumstances, I now need coordinators for AGR-1, AGR-7, & AGR-14. I can supply group lists to anyone who takes one of these ships. Duties are not extensive. Primarily forwarding that I put out to the ship's email list.

- |       |  |        |   |
|-------|--|--------|---|
| AGR-1 |  | AGR-9  | Frank Mahaffey <a href="mailto:franknbets@gmail.com">franknbets@gmail.com</a>         |
| AGR-2 | Ralph Rappuhun <a href="mailto:rrappuhn@aol.com">rrappuhn@aol.com</a>                  | AGR-10 | Paul Langenus <a href="mailto:plangenus@cox.net">plangenus@cox.net</a>                |
| AGR-3 | Chuck Parker <a href="mailto:chuckparker@gmail.com">chuckparker@gmail.com</a>          | AGR-11 | George Sleeper <a href="mailto:gsleeper@roadrunner.com">gsleeper@roadrunner.com</a>   |
| AGR-4 | Steve Mierzejewsk <a href="mailto:stevejackie43@gmail.com">stevejackie43@gmail.com</a> | AGR-12 | Jesse Germany <a href="mailto:jgermany31@gmail.com">jgermany31@gmail.com</a>          |
| AGR-5 | Bob Werstler <a href="mailto:rdwerst@sbcglobal.net">rdwerst@sbcglobal.net</a>          | AGR-13 | Richard Willhite <a href="mailto:willys55nut@comcast.net">willys55nut@comcast.net</a> |
| AGR-6 | Lee Doolittle <a href="mailto:tleedoo@u.washington.edu">tleedoo@u.washington.edu</a>   | AGR-14 |   |
| AGR-7 |  | AGR-15 | Lee Doyel <a href="mailto:mldoyel@cox.net">mldoyel@cox.net</a>                        |
| AGR-8 | Ron Stasiak <a href="mailto:ronstasiak@rocketmail.com">ronstasiak@rocketmail.com</a>   | AGR-16 | Frank McNamara <a href="mailto:ec2sc1@comcast.net">ec2sc1@comcast.net</a>             |

### YAGR BOOK

Due to a medical condition Joe Maurer will no longer be able to sell and mail the YAGR book. Sales have been declining and very few have been sold in the past year, so it looks like the book may have run its course like the ships store. There are a few in inventory which Joe is sending to me. Any one wanting a book can contact me and I will send them on and will do so until the inventory is depleted. Joe has done a "Yoemans job" with the book distribution. He sold well over 290 books so our legacy should be around for some time as they are passed along to family and institutions.=

### Dues Payment Form - dues are \$17/year

Make checks out to YAGRS. Mail to:

Ray Ostrowski, Treasurer

123 Barbara Dr., Newburg NY 12550

Ray can also be reached at: e-mail: [rayrosie@hotmail.com](mailto:rayrosie@hotmail.com)

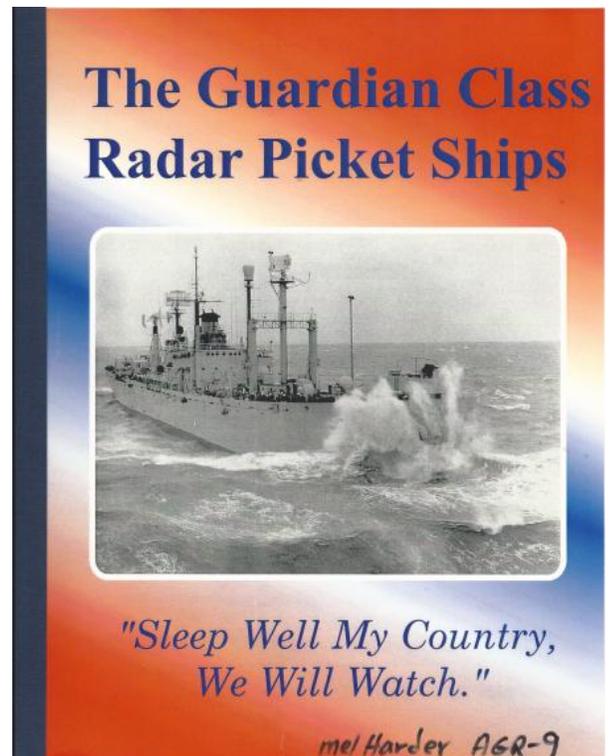
phone: 845-565-6243 cell: 845-245-5707

Current membership year ends May 31, 2021. Highlighted date on address label is the date your current membership expires. If that date is **5/31/2020** or earlier, please update your membership by making a dues payment. Upon dues payment, you will receive an updated membership card and crew list. Please complete the information below and mail to Ray Ostrowski with dues payment.. You may pay for more than one year.

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

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

amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_



## REGISTRATION FORM - YAGR'S 24<sup>th</sup> annual reunion Colorado Springs, CO. June 1 – 6, 2021

Return completed registration form as soon as possible but no later than April 15, 2021. Mail to YAGR'S treasurer Ray Ostrowski, 123 Barbara Drive, Newburgh, NY 12550. Print exactly as you want your name to appear on your name tag. Also, indicate your choice of beef, chicken, or fish for the Saturday evening banquet

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BANQUET CHOICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SPOUSE/GUEST \_\_\_\_\_ BANQUET CHOICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDITIONAL GUEST(s) \_\_\_\_\_ BANQUET CHOICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SHIP \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION IS AT NO COST - INCLUDES BANQUET DINNER AND TOURS

PRE REUNION TOUR TUES JUN 1	COST/ PERSON	# OF PEOPLE	TOTAL
<b>DINNER THEATER</b>	\$0.00		\$0.00
NAMES OF PEOPLE FOR TOUR -BUS LEAVES at 5:30 PM			
PRE REUNION TOUR WED. JUN 2	COST/ PERSON	# OF PEOPLE	TOTAL
<b>PIKES PEAK</b>	\$0.00		\$0.00
NAMES OF PEOPLE FOR TOUR -BUS LEAVES AT 11 AM			
REUNION TOUR FRI JUN 4	COST/ PERSON	# OF PEOPLE	TOTAL
<b>ROYAL GORGE TRAIN</b>	\$0.00		\$0.00
NAMES OF PEOPLE FOR TOUR -BUS LEAVES AT 11 AM			
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		

<b>Staying in hotel</b>	yes	no	<b>REUNION SHIRTS</b>	<b># of shirts</b>	<b>tot cost</b>
<b>sharing room</b>	yes	no	<b>small @ \$20 ea</b>	_____	_____
<b>if yes with whom</b> _____			<b>medium @ \$20 ea</b>	_____	_____
<b>use a walker</b>	yes	no	<b>large @ \$20 ea</b>	_____	_____
<b>use a wheelchair</b>	yes	no	<b>x-large @ \$20 ea</b>	_____	_____
<b>powered chair</b>	yes	no	<b>xx-large @ \$20 ea</b>	_____	_____
<b>hotel room conf. #</b> _____			<b>if not attending reunion</b>		
<b>email address</b> _____			<b>add \$5.00 shipping</b>		_____
<b>special dietary needs</b> _____			<b>total for all shirts</b>		_____