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"Galloping Ghost of the Java Coast"

Newsletter of the U.S.S. Houston CA-30 Survivors Association and Next Generations

#### Now Hear This!

#### **Association Address:**

c/o John K. Schwarz, Executive Director 2500 Clarendon Blvd., Apt. 121 Arlington, VA 22201

**Association Phone Number:** 703-867-0142

## Address for Tax Deductible Contributions:

USS Houston Survivors
Association
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

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### U.S. Navy Dives on USS Houston (CA-30)

# The Heavy Cruiser is surveyed by U.S. and Indonesian Divers



Divers from USS Safeguard (in the background) survey the wreck of USS Houston (CA-30) in the Sunda Strait as part of CARAT 2014 exercise series, June 2014.

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On 9-13 June 2014, U.S. Navy divers, assisted Indonesian by Navv personnel, surveyed the wreck of USS (CA-30) Houston as part "Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training" (CARAT) 2014 exercise series. According to a U.S. Navy press release, "the purpose of the mission (was) to determine the vessel's current condition and provide realworld training to rescue and salvage divers in maneuvering around a sunken ship..."

(Continued on the next page)

Divers from both navies also shared best practices and diving techniques during a series of training evolutions on board the rescue and salvage ship USNS *Safeguard* (T-ARS-50).

Dr. Alexis Catsambis, an underwater archaeologist from the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC), provided "operations planning support in order for the mission to effectively document the state of preservation of *Houston.*" Planned documentation methods included personal inspection by divers, the use of sonar sensing systems and a remotely operated vehicle (ROV).



9 June 2014: Dr. Alexis Catsambis (on the right) is interviewed by the Indonesian press aboard Military Sealift Command Rescue and Salvage ship USNS Safeguard (T-ARS 50).



On 11 June, mid-way through the 5-day diving exercise, a special wreath-laying ceremony was held on board USNS *Safeguard* (T-ARS 50) over the site of USS *Houston* (CA-30). The wreath presenters included Deputy Chief of mission Kristen Bauer, U.S. Embassy Jakarta; Captain Richard Stacpoole, USN; Marine Lieutenant Colonel Miguel Avila; as well as divers from the U.S. Navy and the Indonesian Navy.



BANTEN BAY, Indonesia (June 11, 2014) – Deputy Chief of Mission (Jakarta, Indonesia) Kristen Bauer (top left), Captain Richard Stacpoole (top right), and Marine Lieutenant Colonel Miguel Avila stand at attention during a wreath-laying ceremony for the sunken Navy vessel USS Houston (CA 30) on the Military Sealift Command Rescue and Salvage ship USNS Safeguard (T-ARS 50).

"It is an honor to pay tribute to these service members who lost their lives on the USS *Houston* and remember their sacrifice. Our partnership with the Indonesian Navy to work together in surveying the USS *Houston* site will assist in preserving the remains of the USS *Houston* and her crew," Deputy Chief of Mission Bauer said.

In its 20<sup>th</sup> year, CARAT, which continues through late 2014, is a bilateral exercise series designed to address shared maritime security priorities and concerns, strengthen navy-to-navy relationships and enhance interoperability among participating forces. The Indonesian Navy has been part of the exercise since it began in 1995, and this year's CARAT diving exercise is just aspect of ongoing navy-to-navy cooperation.

Dr. Catsambis and NHHC's Underwater Archaeology Branch are in the process now of compiling the expedition's findings into a formal report on the condition of the ship which will be released when it is completed. — US Navy Press Release.



To read the U.S. Navy's daily blog on the dive, go to the News Section of our website at: www.usshouston.org

## From the desk of the Executive Director John K. Schwarz

Evan though the payt rounian is not for quite a while

Even though the next reunion is not for quite a while, it is not 'slow season' by any means as many things are happening in and around our Survivors Association. Hope everyone has been able to keep up, particularly our non-internet-reachable folks.

The most dis-heartening thing that we deal with is news of the loss of yet another of our beloved survivors. Such was the case with the recent passing of Mr. David Flynn. I'd like to offer some of my fond re-collections of him: I remember way back to the Allen Park Inn days (prior to their closure, of course, in 2001), and those Flynn boys (The Mighty Flynn sons) all tabled with David, laughing and having just a good 'ol time at reunions. I can remember as if yesterday, Mr. Flynn among five living survivors who trailed my Dad's casket at his burial at Arlington National Cemetery, September of 2006. Being in Florida recently on a Holiday, I had the honor and pleasure of having a visit with David during what turned out to be the month before his passing. I am happy to tell you all that most of the conversation dealt with his vivid and fond memories of his service to America and being a shipmate/survivor of the USS *Houston* CA-30. He was respected, admired and liked by all those around him right to his passing. I will always remember the generous, charming and classy nature this gentleman possessed. Please keep your fingers crossed that we can realize David's resting place to be near his shipmates and USS Houston CA-30 marker in section 12 in Arlington National.

It was overwhelmingly good news to be informed that our U.S. Navy Department had selected the USS *Houston* CA-30 as that sunken ship to be jointly dived on to do extensive research on her condition. We are anxiously awaiting the report and have requested a meeting with key Navy officials here in Washington, DC to discuss the dive and other mutually important matters.

Hopefully you all had a chance to access and read the wonderful story of the recovered 'trumpet' published in a June <u>Stars & Stripes</u> edition. Several Association folks helped with fact-checking and other contributions to that article and it, again, represents great exposure to the story of our ship as the readership of this publication is sizable. Again, this was facilitated through our wonderful friends here at the Navy Yard in Washington, DC.

Our Association President Sue Kreutzer continues to try to nail down the reunion dates for 2015 so that anyone wishing to commence planning can do so. As you all know our major scheduling hindrance is the ever growing popularity of the three-week rodeo that takes place around our 03/01/1942 anniversary date. We will update you as soon as we firm up our reunion dates.

By the time of receipt of this <u>Blue Bonnet</u>, the annual scholarship application window will be open (June 1 to November 1). Those of you coaching perspective candidates are encouraged to advise candidates to 'get busy'.

As usual we are always looking for a few good men/women to assist with Association responsibilities so if you have commitment and time, let us know, we'll gladly put you to work contributing in some way. That includes you Next, Next Generationers!

**John**Son of Otto and Trudy Schwarz

John Schwarz

## Birthdays...



RADM Bob Fulton, USN (Ret.) watching the Army-Navy game this last 14 December at his current residence in Collierville, TN. On 22 December 2013 he celebrated his 103rd birthday. He is currently the oldest living Naval Academy graduate...Class of 1932.



Bill Ingram turned 90-years-old on 13 June 2014.



Marvin Sizemore turned 92 on 13 March 2014.

## **REUNIONS**

#### 70th Lost Battalion Association Reunion July 31 thru August 2, 2014

Omni Dallas Hotel at Park West 1590 LBJ Freeway Dallas, Texas Phone 972-869-4300

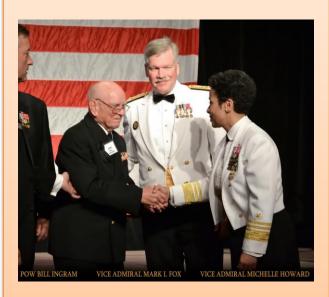
For further information contact Terry Shields: 940-872-8888 or 940-841-0494 or by email at terry-shields@sbcglobal.net

USS *Houston* (CL-81) 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion 2014 October 21 – 25, 2014

The USS *Houston* CL-81 reunion for 2014 will be held at the Holiday Inn, Norfolk, Virginia.

For further information, please contact Donna Rogers at 717-792-9113 or by email at <a href="mailto:dlr7110@yahoo.com">dlr7110@yahoo.com</a>

## Bill Ingram Honored



On 7 June 2014 Bill Ingram (Left) was an honored guest at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of Midway Commemoration, the largest one in the world. Also honored were Battle of Midway survivors, former American POWs, a Pearl Harbor survivor and Bataan Death March survivors. The event was held at the St. Johns County Convention Center, in the Renaissance Hotel, World Golf Village, St. Augustine, FL.

### You Shop, Amazon Gives

By Pam Crispi Foster, Treasurer

Many of us already shop online at <a href="Amazon.com">Amazon.com</a>. Did you know that Amazon has a program where they will donate a portion of your purchase price to the USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association and Next Generations? There is no additional cost to you or to the association and the proceeds help to perpetuate the memory of our ship and the sacrifices made by her crew. Visit our website: <a href="www.usshouston.org">www.usshouston.org</a> and click on the AmazonSmile link or go to the website shown below. This is a win-win situation for all of us.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the **USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association and Next Generations** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support the USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association and Next Generations by starting your shopping at <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2814051">http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2814051</a>.

#### **Crew Spotlight:**



### George Lee "Bandy" Galyean

By Marlene Morris McCain

**George Lee Galyean** was born Jan 10, 1901, in Albion, Nebraska, the third child and only son of George F. and Nannie Sutton Galyean. His father was originally from Iowa, also an only son in a family of eight children. They moved to Nebraska in 1880. The elder Galyean became a successful farmer and stock-raiser. George Lee's mother died when he was only 4 years old and his father remarried 3 years later.

#### **Entering the Navy...**

In 1920 at age 19, George Lee traveled to Des Moines, Iowa, and enlisted in the US Navy for a period of 4 years. He stayed in the military and made a career of the Navy, attaining the rank of Bandmaster (the equivalent of Chief) in 1938. He met and married Myrtle Davis.

#### Serving in the Asiatic Fleet...

In 1941, Galyean received orders for transfer to the USS *Houston* (CA-30), the flagship of the Asiatic Fleet. This was a prestigious assignment; the *Houston* was a sleek, fast, beautiful ship – and her crew was known to be "hand-picked." Galyean officially came aboard on Sep. 20, 1941 after the previous bandmaster had left on Sep. 19. Several other new band members came aboard at the same time. This was a period of "war games" aboard the *Houston*; the ship was mostly out to sea and in the south Philippine Islands for battle practice and maneuvers. In mid-Oct., the ship was back at Cavite and on Oct. 18, Galyean took 13 men of the band (the *Houston*'s orchestra) ashore for "temporary duty in connection with entertainment."(1) The orchestra frequently played in such venues as the Manila Polo Club and the Army/Navy Club. On Oct. 24, they returned to the ship. During this period in Oct. and Nov., according to one of the band members, "the band really took it easy. They played Morning Colors, rehearsed a few hours, then Noon Concert, and they were finished until 8:00 the next morning." Very soon, all of that would change...

#### The beginning of war...

The *Houston* was at Iloilo in the south Philippine Islands when word came at 3:00 am on Dec. 8 that Pearl Harbor had been bombed by the Japanese and the United States was at war. The *Houston* headed south toward Australia and began escort and convoy duties. The bandsmen all had assigned battle stations, and they spent much more time at those stations than doing musical things – although they did play once in a while.

On Feb. 4, 1942, a Japanese bomber managed to hit the ship's mainmast with a bomb that exploded beside the rear (No. 3) turret. Nearly four dozen crewmen were killed and many others were badly wounded. The *Houston* made its way to Tjilatjap on the south coast of Java to bury their dead and transfer their wounded to a hospital. "Bandmaster George L. 'Bandy' Galyean led his musicians in Chopin's funeral dirge. As the last coffin left the ship, the marine bugler sounded the notes of 'Taps.' All the crew who could be spared marched behind the trucks to the cemetery. The band continued to play the funeral music and the men marched in reverse order of rank behind the band, officers last and Capt. Rooks at the end of the column." (2)

#### The Houston is lost...

On the night of Feb. 28, after the Battle of the Java Sea, following orders, the *Houston* and HMAS *Perth* attempted to make a run for it through Sunda Strait off the west end of Java. They ran headlong into a large Japanese invasion fleet. The *Perth* was sunk after midnight on March 1, 1942 and was terribly outnumbered. The *Houston* fought on alone for approximately half an hour before she too succumbed. The "abandon ship" was sounded.

S1/c Jordon J. (Joe) Garrett was one of the last men off the ship. He remembers: "I crawled through the wreckage in the dark toward a hole of light at the end of the hangar deck and came out on the fantail of the ship.

"It was then that I saw the Chief Bandmaster. He said, "Garrett, I think it is time for us to start swimming." I said, 'OK, Bandy, let's go.' I remember seeing the *Houston*'s flag still flying. We took off our shoes and pants, neatly folded them and laid them on the deck. Then we stepped into the water, which was only about 2 or 3 feet down since the ship was listing toward us. Later I noticed that my watch stopped at 12:20 am (March 1, 1942), which was when we got in the water.

"Bandy kept on hollering, 'Swim fast, boy, or the ship's gonna suck you down.' So we swam just as hard as we could until I was just about to give out. The ship's stern was swinging toward us, so it was hard to get away fast enough. Finally, a friend of mine from Arkansas named Callahan floated by. He was shot all to pieces. Bandy said, 'Take that man's life jacket 'cause he's dead and you're going to be dead before long if you don't get a life jacket.' So he helped me get the life jacket off the man and I put it on.

"Torpedoes were continuing to hit the *Houston* and shells were falling all around us exploding in the water. They caused us to be bounced out of the water and our insides felt like they were exploding. I think the ship went down about 15 minutes after I got the life jacket. It rolled toward us and quickly sank. The Japanese continued to shell the area of white wake for some time.

"We (Bandy and I) swam 1½ or 2 hours. It was just him and me. Japanese machine gun boats were coming around, flashing their lights and shooting at people in the water. Several times one would come real close to us and we would lay real still, face down in the water, until they passed us by. Then we'd start swimming again for the beach. Once, one came real close and stopped. We could hear them talking. We laid real still in the water and they finally went on by. There were bodies all around us, so they probably thought we were dead too. We kept on swimming until finally we came across a life raft with about 27 people in or on it. After that I never saw Bandy again. The Chaplain was on there – Chaplain Rentz was his name."

#### Captivity...

Some of the men were able to swim to shore; some were picked up by boats and taken ashore. Many were in the water for 2 or 3 days. "On Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> at Pandeglang (Java) city jail, other stragglers were turned in, among them the ship's bandmaster, George Galyean." (3)

While on the island of Java, Galyean somewhere acquired a German flugelhorn (similar to a trumpet or bugle). He managed to hang on to it through all the transfers, and it was this instrument that he used to sound "Taps" whenever there was a death in camp. "At funerals at 100 Kilo Camp and 80 Kilo Camp, the *Houston*'s bandmaster, George L. Galyean, was often on hand to

blow 'Taps.' 'They had the bugle going all of the time. Somebody was dying all the time – all the time.'(4) Galyean even managed to get home to the USA with it after the war; he was photographed many years later playing it in Tacoma (photo at right).

Information from an affidavit he gave after liberation dated Sep. 8, 1945, while he was in Calcutta, India (5). "While we were at Bicycle Camp in Batavia in Sep. 1942, I was beaten by a Jap soldier we knew as the 'Brown Bomber.' I was standing in the compound and he came up behind me. As I started to turn around to face him



he struck me on the right side of the neck with the butt of his rifle. I fell down and he kicked me in the belly 3 or 4 times. I never knew what he beat me for."

"While I was at 100 Kilo camp, we were getting no tobacco. A party of prisoners, which had been outside collecting some edible weeds, met some natives and bought some cigarettes. When the Japs found the cigarettes in the bottom of the baskets, they beat all 8 men and then made them beat each other. At 100 Kilo camp in the summer of 1943, we bought some of our food from the canteen. Once we ordered 1,000 eggs. Herabara (unsure of this name), the camp interpreter, took 200 of the eggs and made us pay for all of the 1,000 eggs at 15 cents each. We then bought the 200 eggs back and this time paid 50 cents apiece for them. At Branch #9, 20 kilos from Petchaburi (Petburi? Phet Buri?), I was made to operate the canteen when a Korean named Tonuta, who operated the canteen, ran away. I was able to reduce the prices for supplies about 50%." (signed) George L. Galyean.

#### After the war...

Mr. Milner tried to get an interview with Galyean after the war. A copy of a letter with the Milner papers is dated July 1960. Milner says, "Almost everyone I have talked to (more than 125 participants in the story) talks of "Bandy" Galyean with respect and affection. Everyone agrees that I'd be foolish to start writing the book before I had a long talk with you." Milner was planning to try to meet with him in August.

In a reply to Milner, Galyean wrote, "I would be very pleased to see you and be of assistance in any way possible. As I have quit my job, and am just loafing around until early fall, I would have plenty of time to spend with you." This was in 1960; one assumes he had retired from the Navy after 40 years! But another note from Milner in 1961 sounds like they never did get together – and Milner's book was never written.

Galyean and his wife lived in the State of Washington, and around 1960 they adopted their eight-year-old grandson, George Lee Galyean II. Bandmaster George Galyean passed away Aug. 21, 1968, and he is buried in New Tacoma Cemetery, Washington.

#### Notes for this article:

- 1. From the Logs of USS *Houston* (CA-30)
- 2. From The Last Battle Station by Duane Schultz.
- 3. From <u>The Last Battle Station</u> by Duane Schultz.
- 4. Quote from Roy Offerle: from Ship of Ghosts by James D. Hornfischer.
- 5. From the Samuel Milner papers.



## RECOMMENDED MOVIE: THE RAILWAY MAN

What it's about: Adapted from the autobiographical book of the same name by Eric Lomax, the 2013 film *The Railway Man* deals with the long-lasting, negative postwar effects of wartime trauma on Mr. Lomax and his fellow British ex-POW survivors of the WWII Burma-Thailand "death railway" construction project.

The movie begins in 1980 in England as Eric Lomax (Colin Firth) meets Patti (Nicole Kidman) on a train. A self-proclaimed "railway enthusiast," Lomax is a

former British soldier who was captured by Japanese forces during the fall of Singapore in 1942, and was

subsequently tortured after he and three other POWS were caught with a map and a make-shift radio receiver they built. By 1980, Lomax—brilliantly played by Colin Firth—is still suffering from the effects of torture at the hands of kempeitai (secret police) interrogators when a fellow ex-POW friend informs Lomax that his former Japanese torturer, Nagase, is still alive. Lomax decides to seek revenge on his former captor and in so-doing experiences profound changes in his own life. — Dana Charles





Archaeologist Kate Morrand, in charge of preserving the trumpet found near the wreck of USS Houston (CA-30), shows the horn to RADM Kevin Donegan, USN during a tour of command facilities on 29 April 2014. The recovered trumpet will be placed eventually at the National Museum of the U.S. Navy in Washington, DC.

#### RECOMMENDED ARTICLE:

# PURLOINED TRUMPET TELLS STORY OF LIFE ON USS HOUSTON

Recently, *Stars and Stripes* published an outstanding article by Matthew M. Burke about a trumpet found recently near the wreck of USS *Houston* (CA-30). We have received permission to reproduce the article at our Association's website:

http://www.usshouston.org/news.html

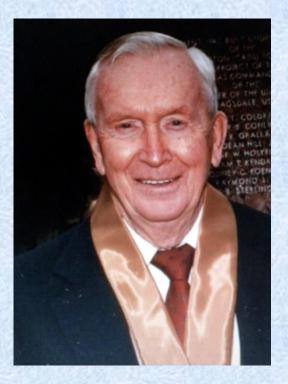


USS Houston CA-30

Our sincere condolences to the Family of David C. Flynn

\*\*\*\*\*\*

David C. Flynn



November 21, 1919 – May 29, 2014 Boca Raton, FL USS *Houston* (CA-30) survivor (Navy)

\*\*\*\*\*



### **Memorial Day 2014**

Australian Naval Attaché Andrew Schroeder, RAN and USS *Houston* (CA-30) Survivors Association and Next Generations Executive Director John Schwarz remembered USS *Houston* (CA-30) and HMAS *Perth* and placed flags of Australia and the U.S.A. at the USS *Houston* (CA-30) and HMAS *Perth* Marker at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day 2014.

#### NOW HEAR THIS!

## INTERNAL ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Applications for this year's scholarship program competition are being accepted beginning June 1 with the deadline for submission extending to November 1, 2014.

To apply for the scholarship applicants can go to <a href="https://www.usshouston.org">www.usshouston.org</a> and click on the scholarship tab, scroll down to bottom of the page and click to download the application packet.

Application packets can also be obtained by writing to John Keith Schwarz, 2500 Clarendon Blvd. Apt. 121, Arlington, VA 22201.

The scholarship award available for 2015 will be \$3,000.00! This is due to the health of our scholarship fund account balance resulting directly from your generosity. Donations are always accepted, appreciated and necessary to perpetuate this program and its award threshold.

You can also remember the USS *Houston* Scholarship Fund in your will, estate planning, or beneficiary designations. All donations are tax deductible.

Donations should be made out to: USS *Houston* CA-30 Survivors Association.

Mail Donations to: Treasurer- Pam Foster-Crispi, 370 Lilac Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648

To-date and after approximately 14 years of program implementation, we have awarded 11 scholarships totaling \$22,250.00. This is an extremely successful program outcome by any reasonable measure. We thank everyone who has donated and participated in this worthwhile endeavor.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Past Internal Annual 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

2012 – Cody Karcher, great grandson of Richard H. Gingras

2013 – Laura Reilly, granddaughter of John Reilly and Maggie Tuttle, great niece of Howard Brooks

2014 – Stephanie Daigre, Granddaughter-in-law of Gene Crispi

#### Past US Naval Academy Foundation Scholarship Winners

2010 - Stephen Scales

2011 - Lenue Gilchrist,

2013 - Robert Z. Sutherland

2014 - Evan S. Hovenden

\*\*\*\*\*\*

## US NAVAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE

Again, due to the generosity of our Association members and others and since its purchase in 2008, this permanent scholarship in the name of 'USS Houston CA-30 Memorial Scholarship' has seen five awards granted. We are proud to announce that our first and original recipient of the scholarship, **Stephen Scales**, has graduated and is currently an Officer serving in the U.S. Navy. The scholarship award enabling a year of preparatory military school education aided Stephen in his journey which has now produced yet another proud Naval Officer. What a lasting tribute to the legacy of the men of the USS *Houston* (CA-30)!

#### USS HOUSTON ITEMS FOR SALE

 DVD "Last Stand" (8 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

Ship Lapel Pin (specify silver or gold highlights)

(1 - 3 pins are 1 oz.) \$4.00





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-10 oz.)

("USS Houston CA-30 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation", 10 oz.)

Brown & Black Ball Cap

Blue Ball Cap ("USS Houston CA-30", 10 oz.) \$15.00

Brown Ball Cap ("USS Houston CA-30", 10 oz.) \$5.00





Brown & Black Ball Cap



Women's Polo Shirt



Men's Polo Shirt

T-Shirts (size Medium) (9 oz.) \$10.00 T-Shirts (size Small, large, and X-Large) (9 oz.) \$20.00 T-Shirts (size 2XL or 3 XL) (9 oz.) \$25.00

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

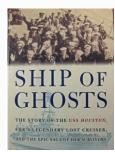
Ship of Ghosts book (about the USS Houston), autographed by author James Hornfischer (2.2 lb) \$30.00

**Shipping Costs:** 

1 oz. - 6 oz. = \$4.00

7 oz. – 12 oz.= \$7.50

13 oz. - 5 lb.= \$10.50



T-Shirt

Ship of Ghosts autographed by author James Hornfischer

Make checks payable to:

**USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association** 

Mail checks to:
Sue Kreutzer
43156 Meadowbrook Cir
Parker, CO 80138

Include the following information (please print clearly):

Name

Address

City, State and Zip Code

**Phone Number** 

Items Ordered, Size and Quantity

Questions? Email: Sue@USSHouston.org

#### Meet your ...

#### **Board of Managers**

...here to serve

Executive Director: John Schwarz
Son of USN survivor Otto Schwarz
Association strategy/outreach, Special Projects,
Scholarship Committee, Membership liaison

Email: John@usshouston.org

President: Sue Kreutzer
Daughter of USN survivor Paul Papish
Webmaster, archives, membership,

Scholarship Committee
Email: Sue@usshouston.org



Vice-President: Dana Charles
Son of USMC Survivor Bob Charles
Crew and POW camp records,
Blue Bonnet Editor, researcher, correspondent

Email: Dana@usshouston.org



Treasurer: Pam Foster

Daughter of USN survivor Eugene Crispi
Financial and IRS records,
Scholarship Committee

Email: Pam@usshouston.org

### Membership

Our USS Houston "family" continues to grow weekly as more and more folks want to know about the gallant crew of USS Houston CA-30. If you have relatives and friends who have not yet joined our Association, please encourage them to join us! Members do not have yearly dues. However we do operate based on the generosity of our membership. Annual donations are gratefully accepted. For more information and a membership form, click on: <a href="http://www.usshouston.org/memberform.pdf">http://www.usshouston.org/memberform.pdf</a>, fill out the form and send it in!

#### Welcome Aboard!

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to everyone who has recently joined our USS Houston (CA-30) Survivors Association and Next Generations.

Association Website: www.usshouston.org

Facebook Group Site: USS Houston CA-30





Notes on news received via email at contact@usshouston.org and via regular mail...

- Paul Koski writes: "Does anyone have any information about my Uncle George P. Koski who
  was a Radioman 3rd class on the USS Houston? If there are any survivors that knew George I
  would be interested in hearing from them or their families." Anyone with information on
  George Koski is welcome to email me at <a href="mailto:contact@usshouston.org">contact@usshouston.org</a> and I will pass it on to David.
- Received from Brad Dison an email as follows: I recently completed a photographic history of my home parish, Bienville Parish, Louisiana. In one of the small archives in the parish I found a photograph of 4 sailors from the USS Houston (CA-30). The sailors are Donnis W. Willis, Edwin F. Hoofer, Milton B. Russel, and David Zach Andrews Jr. To view the photo, go to: <a href="http://books.google.com/books?id=z">http://books.google.com/books?id=z</a> NkAwAAQBAJ&pg=PA34&lpg=PA34&dq=zach+andrews+bienville&source=bl&ots=eF5tzfG8Wk&sig=J98DhxV4MPy0bQE6ChpeMX1D62o&hl=en&sa=X&ei=kdrU6HHG6auyAGOi4DgAg&ved=0CCgQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=zach%20andrews%20bienville&f=false
  "Andrews was the first person listed as missing in action from Bienville Parish, which is why the photo was included in the book. Three of the four sailors in the photo died during World War II. I just wanted to share this with your group in hopes that I can gain more information on the four sailors." Anyone with information on these four sailors is welcome to email me at contact@usshouston.org
  and I will pass it on to Brad.
- Received an inquiry re: CA-30 crewman KIA on 3/1/42 Richard M. Van Slyke from Joan Burse as
  follows: "Did anyone know Richard M. Van Slyke Fireman First Class?" Anyone with information
  on\_Mr. Van Slyke is welcome to email me at <a href="mailto:contact@usshouston.org">contact@usshouston.org</a> and I will pass it on to
  Joan.
- Received an email from an unnamed person as follows: "Patrick Dinan, one of the engine room crew members of the Houston was my uncle. Of all my uncles involved in World War 2, he was the only one lost in action. My memories of him are from: a picture of him in his dress blues that was on grandmother's wall; and a picture of him, my older brother with Pat's dog. He was the reason I joined the navy after graduating school in 1959. The men that served on the Houston, along with anyone else in the military during the war, were heroes one and all. Few in the new military (Although there are some heroes also) can hold a candle to the sailors, soldier, Marines and air men of World War 2."
- Received email from "Christina" regarding information on USS Houston survivor James D. Early.
  I emailed Christina, providing Mr. Early's POW record. I also asked Mary if she would provide us with Mr. Early's date, place, and cause of death for our records. Anyone with information on James Early is welcome to email me at <a href="mailto:contact@usshouston.org">contact@usshouston.org</a> and I will pass it on to Christina.
- Received the following emails regarding the recent US Navy dive on USS *Houston*: "This is very fascinating, thank you!" wrote **NG Linda McManus.** "I've been forwarding this info to my sister and brother. By the way, if they happen to find a backgammon board, hand-painted with mermaids as the points, my dad O.C. McManus painted that! Topless mermaids, of course. That was one of things that he always regretted, that it went down with the ship..." **NG Debbie Carson** wrote: "This is exciting to read! Thanks for sharing!"

#### THANK YOU

...on behalf of the Association to those who have made donations, as follows:

Memorial Donations:

*In memory of Matthew Marinos:* 

Melissa Ellsworth

In memory of David Flynn:

John Schwarz

Tim & Jo Klenk

**Trudy Schwarz** 

William Sonnenberg

Rich & Pam Foster

Irene Coats

**Howard & Silvia Brooks** 

Shawn & Sandra Flynn

Fulton, Shawn, Dennis, Cletus Flynn

Mark Drayna

Patricia Raverty

Other Donations:

**Robert Rooks** 

**Dana Charles** 

Fred Viskovich

Laura Evalyn Stevens

Henry & Jane Matthews

#### **Financial Report**

by Pam Foster, Treasurer

Fiscal Year 2014

January 1 - July 7, 2014

#### **Scholarship Fund**

 Beginning Balance
 \$13,522.43

 Receipts
 +2,122.77

 Expenses
 -3,000.00

 Ending Balance
 \$12,645.20

#### **General Fund**

 Beginning Balance
 \$13,272.90

 Receipts
 +5,871.77

 Expenses
 -4,914.75

 Ending Balance
 \$14,229.92



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