

WEEPING WILLIE

DE-DER 397

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER DECEMBER, 2015

NEWSLETTER

Hello All:

Thanks for having patience waiting on me to get the newsletter out. December has been a tough month with health issues among other things.

On one of the pages in newsletter there is something different and some of you will know and some will not. Enjoy.

We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. We can have archaic and eat it, too.

See ya later, Alligator!!! After you read what I was talking about you'll know where I got this last saying.

Elisabeth Kimball



Listed below are our Association Officers. If you need information, please feel free to contact one of them.

President: Tom Morrissey
3240 South 76th
Lincoln, NE 68506
Phone: 402-483-6889
Email: adtomorrissey@msn.com

Vice President: Lee Robinson
2382 County Rd 207
Brookeland, TX 75931-5202
Phone: 409-698-9332/409-656-6063
Email: bjr3645@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Frank Roche
Address: 411 Miller Street
Luzerne, PA 18709
Phone: 570-287-3992/690-3566
Email: frank3971033@verizon.net

Secretary: Elisabeth Kimball
236 Linker Mountain Road
Dover, AR 72837
Phone: 479-968-1236 or 479-280-2776
Email: canerday@centurytel.net

Chaplain: John Caldwell
Address: 610 Saddle Ridge Ave
Durham, NC 27704-1237
Phone: 919-471-4513
Email: bcaldwell@nc.rr.com

Historian: Bill Endter
Address: 109 Larkspur Lane
Locust Grove, VA 22508
Phone: 703-323-8297
Email: eendter@cox.net

DUES PAID-2016

Alcorn Mike
Aument Carolyn
Austin Steven
Cramer Peter
Eertmoed Don
Endter Bill
Ercek Ronald
Frederiksen Gary
Gannon Betty
Hays William
Hill Les
Horch Linda
Long Leroy
McLoy Mackie
Morrissey Thomas
Roche Frank
Rott Raymond
Silhan Peter
Thompson Ross
West Tom

Our 2016 dues are due now and we ask that you get them sent in as soon as possible.

Our Association depends on dues to help with expenses and we certainly want to keep our USS Wilhoite alive.

Please mail your dues to USS Wilhoite % Frank Roche 411 Miller Street Luzerne, PA 18709.



IT'S A NEW YEAR

Put your problems on probation,
run your troubles off the track
Throw your worries out the window,
get the monkey off your back

I wish you health, I wish you wealth
as your days go by
Share yourself with others,
and you'll succeed in what you try

Silence all of your critics,
to your conscience, make amends
It's time to make necessary changes,
yes, it's a New Year again

So, have a grand and glorious 2016
truly enjoy this rhyme
Stay close to God, keep the faith,
and you'll enjoy this time

Remember the ones who have aided you,
In your walk down life's pathway
Thank them for their mentoring,
In making you what you are today

Say a prayer for those far away,
and help those who are near
Always be mindful of what you have,
that you can give away this year

Be sure to help your neighbors,
when it's needed, lend an ear
Be a shoulder to cry on,
you can help dry a tear

I wish you all the good things,
for this brand new Year
May you share the very best,
with all those you hold dear

THE USS WILHOITE ASSOCIATION

WOULD LIKE TO WISH
EVERYONE A GREAT
SAFE, AND HEALTHY
NEW YEAR IN 2016



**This is Holiday Inn at
Airport where we stayed!**



This is the DAR Mansion.



The Catholic Cathedral



Top - with picture of Alligator on our Safari Tour

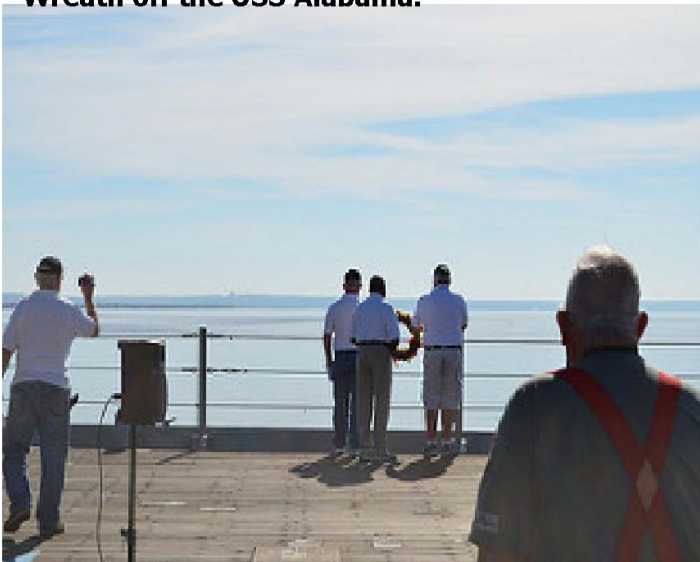
Bottom - Is our Safari Guides, which were wonderful





Our Tour of the Pensacola Naval Aviation Museum - Pictured is Steve Gergens our photographer!

Our Memorial - Laying of the Memorial Wreath off the USS Alabama.



THE OLD WEST AND CHARLES DARKEY PARKHURST

Western Stagecoach companies were big business in the latter half of the 19th century. In addition to passengers and freight, stages hauled gold and silver bullion as well as mining company payrolls. Stage robbery was a constant danger and bandits employed many strategies to ambush a stagecoach. Thieves rarely met with much resistance from stage drivers, since they had passenger safety foremost in mind. The gang was usually after the Wells Fargo money box with its valuable contents. Passengers were seldom hurt, but they were certainly relieved of their cash, watches and jewelry. Before the completion of the transcontinental railroad over Donner Pass in 1868, the only transportation through the Sierra was by stage. Rugged teamsters held rein over six wild-eyed horses as they tore along the precipitous mountain trails. The stage coaches were driven by skilled and fealess men who pushed themselves and their spirited horses to the limit.

One of the most famous drivers was Charles Darkey Parkhurst, who had come west from New England in 1852 seeking his fortune in the Gold rush. He spent 15 years running stages, sometimes partnering with Hank Monk, the celebrated driver from Carson City. Over the years, Pankhurstr's reputation as an expert whip grew. From 20 feet away he could slice open the end of an envelope or cut a cigar out of a man's mouth. Parkhurst smoked cigars, chewed wads of tobacco, drank with the best of them, and had supreme confidence behind the reins. His judgment was soild and pleasant manners won him many friends.

One afternoon as Charley drove down from Carson Pass the lead horses veered off the road and a wrenching jolt threw him from the rig. He hung on to the reins as the horses dragged him along on his stomach. Amazinngly, Pakhurst managed to steer the frightened horses back onto the road and save all his grateful passengers.

THE OLD WEST CHARLES DARKEY PARKHURST

During the 1850's bands of surly highwaymen stalked the roads. These outlaws would level their shotguns at stage Drivers and shout, "Throw down the gold box!" Charley Parkhurst had no patience for the crooks despite their demands and threatening gestures. The most notorious road agent was nicknamed "Sugarfoot". When he and his gang accosted Charley's stage, it was the last robbery the thief ever attempted. Charley cracked his whip defiantly, and when his horses belted, he turned around and fired his revolver at the crooks. Sugarfoot was later found dead with a fatal bullet wound in his stomach.

In appreciation of his bravery, Wells Fargo presented Parkhurst with a large watch and chain made of solid gold. In 1865, Parkhurst grew tired of the demanding job of driving and he opened his own stage station. He later sold the business and retired to a ranch near Soquel, California. The years went by and Charley died on December 29, 1879, at the age of 67. A few days later, the Sacramento Daily Bee published his obituary.

It read; "On Sunday last, there died a person known as Charley Parkhurst, aged 67, who was well-known to old residents as a stage driver. He was in early days accounted on of the most expert manipulators of the reins who ever sat on the box of a coach. It was discovered when friendly hands were preparing him for his final rest, that Charley Parkhurst was unmistakably a well-developed woman!"

Once it was discovered that Charley was a woman, there were plenty of people to say they had always thought he wasn't like other men. Even though he wore leather gloves summer and winter, many noticed that his hands were small and smooth. He slept in the stables with his beloved horses and was

THE OLD WEST CHARLES DARKEY PARKHURST (cont)

never known to have had a girl friend.

Charley never volunteered clues to her past, Loose fitting clothing had her femininity and after a horse kicked her, an eye patch over one eye helped conceal her face. She weighed 175 pounds, could handle herself in a fistfight and drank whiskey like one of the boys.

It turns out that Charley's real name was Charlotte Parkhurst. Abandoned as a child, she was raised in a New Hampshire orphanage unloved and surrounded by poverty. Charlotte ran away when she was 15 years old and soon discovered that life in the working world was easier for men. So she decided to masquerade as one for the rest of her life.

The rest is history. Well, almost. There is one last thing. On November 3, 1868, Charlotte Parkhurst cast her vote in the national election, dressed as a man. She became the first woman to vote in the United States, 52 years before Congress passed the 19th amendment giving American women the right to vote.

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?
3. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?

**THE USS JOHN WARNER
IS A STEALTHY, SCARY SUBMARINE,
LIKE NO OTHER**

**The USS John Warner is 337 feet of advanced
weaponry and stealth technology unseen**



John Warner was commissioned on 1 August 2015 with Commander Dan Caldwell as the Commanding Officer, where it lies in the ocean today as it awaits its first mission is anyone's guess. At 7,80 tons, this black steel shark is home to some of the most advanced weaponry ever seen, or more accurately unseen and unheard, beneath the ocean's surface.

"The shiniest and coolest thing I've ever seen in my military career," Cmdr. Daniel Caldwell, a 22 year Navy veteran and the first captain of the USS John Warner, told CNN during the commissioning ceremony. "It's going to make whatever I do next anticlimactic."

(Cont)

THE USS JOHN WARNER (cont)

"This Submarine embraces every single known bit of high-tech that is required to equip and allow it to maintain the toughest missions," said John Warner, former Secretary of the Navy, 20 year-senator and man for whom the sub was named. "It will go to all corners of this globe, all seven seas, and quietly perform a mission and disappear into the darkness of night and nobody will ever know that it was there."

The John Warner is the 12th Virginia-class submarine to have been built to the Navy's specification and only the second Block III subs in the Navy's arsenal. In addition to about 40 weapons systems, its home to special operations forces, unmanned undersea vehicles, and the Avancec SEAL Delivery system (ASDS).

**NO SHORTAGE OF OFFENSIVE FIREPOWER ON THIS
SUBMARINE**

This new attack submarine "is the most high-tech, it is the most lethal warship pound for pound that we have in our inventory," said Adm. Jonathan Greenert while he was the Chief of Naval Operations.

It's equipped with 12 Tomahawk cruise missiles stored in vertical launch tubes at the front of the submarine. While the Tomahawk was first put into service in 1983, it has gone through near countless upgrades and revamps. They can be equipped with a number of different guidance systems and warheads including bunker busters or even nuclear weapons beyond standard conventional packages. Frankly, we will never truly know what the Tomahawk is capable of carrying or how far they can fly.

THE USS JOHN WARNER (cont)

Additionally, the subs four torpedo tubes can be equipped with additional Tomahawks, MK60 CAPTOR mines, Mk 48 heavyweight torpedoes or Harpoon anti-ship missiles among other deliverers of death. Essentially, the sub can be equipped to handle specific missions as needed and add to the submarines lethal nature. Very few targets are safe whether underwater, in the air or on land depending on their proximity to the sub.

PROPULSION AND THE CREW ON THE VIRGINIA-CLASS SUB

Firstly, no crew members will be spending any time looking through a periscope. Those days are long gone. Instead the sub relies on a photonic mast which includes high-definition and infrared video to allow the submarine and its crew to see. The information from the mast will then be fed to huge video screens for the captain and crew to get their bearings.

"The only reason we have to come back is because our freezer isn't big enough," Cmdr Caldwell said lightheatedly when the submarine was commissioned.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON PAGE 6

- 1. Boxing**
- 2. Niagara Falls (The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute)**
- 3. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.**

WOULD YOU PLEASE SEND TO THOMAS MORRISSEY YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS! PLEASE SEND TO THE FOLLOWING: ADTOMORRISSEY@MSN.COM (small letters)

or mail to him at:

3240 South 76th

Lincoln, NE 68506



Sweatshirts, Golf Shirts, and Caps

Cost of Golf shirt is \$20.00 Cost of Sweatshirt is \$18.00.

Color is Navy or White or ash (Gray)

Sizes M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL Sizes M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

You can get Golf shirt with or without pockets.

You can order the following items from Bill West, 450 Old Furnace Rd, Tellico Plains, TN 37385 or call him at 423-261-2202 if you would like to have a Wilhoite shirt or ball cap. Ball Cap is \$10.00

2016 - 2017 - 2018 REUNIONS

September 12-16, 2016

The 2016 schedule is enclosed. The only thing we lack on this one is the Memorial Service and it is being worked on for the evening of the Steamboat Natchez.

2017 Reunion is for Dayton, Ohio

October 2-5th checking out on Friday 6th

Some of the things that we will possibly be going are the following: National Aviation Hall of Fame

Wright Brothers Memorial

LaComedia Dinner Theatre

Korean War Memorial

Sunwatch Indian Village

Boonshoft Museum of Discovery

As soon as we get this organized I will be sending you a copy.

HAWAII TRIP FOR 2018

We can get rooms for \$100.00 a night since we have retirees and disabled. Some of the things that we possibly will look at is the following:

Pearl Harbor and visit the Arizona Memorial

Scenic narrated tour along the Windward coast

to The Polyesian Cultural Center are just three of the things we are looking at. There is another place where there is a ship and I'll try to get the name of it.

We need to know how many would interested in going there. At the reunion in New Orleans we will decide if there is interest.

WHAT FUN REMEMBERING ALL THOSE LONG AGO FORGOTTEN WORDS AND PHRASES

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker and straighten up and fly right. Hubba-hubba; We'd cut a rug in some juke joint and then go necking, petting, smooching, spooning, billing, cooing and pitching woo in hot rods and japopies in some passing pit or lovers lane. Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A. of spats, nickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers. Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

Poof, poof, poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone, evanesced from the landscape and wordscape of our perception, like Mickey Mouse wristwatches, hula hoops, skate keys, candy cigarettes, little wax bottles of colored sugar water and an organ grinders monkey.

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter had liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff, this winking out of the words of our youth, these words that lodge in our heart's deep core. But just as one never steps into the same river twice, one cannot step into the same language twice. Even as one enters, words are swept downstream into the past, forever making a different river.