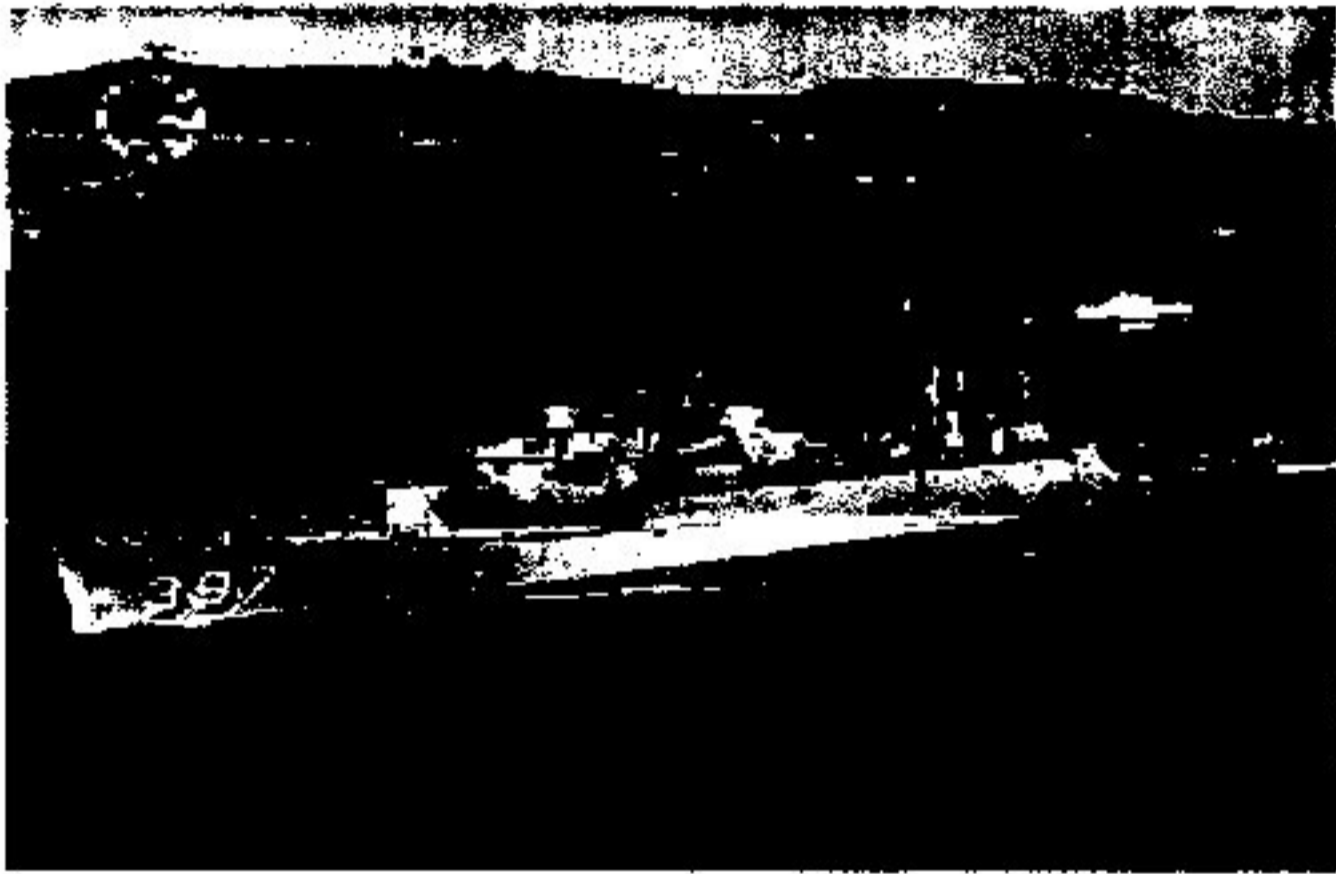


USS WILHOITE DE/DER 397

Association Newsletter



USS WILHOITE DE/DER 397

January, February & March

2020

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Shipmates & friends

Happy New Year! I hope you had a Merry Christmas. It's such a busy season and time seems to literally fly by.

This newsletter is sent to our members who have paid their dues. A list of those members is included. Some of the members have paid their dues beyond 2020. Those members will have a number beside their name indicating through which year their dues are paid.

If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email, please email me that request. Remember you can also read the newsletter on our website USSWilhoite.org thanks to Steve Gergens.

I also want to thank Thom West for getting our Facebook page set up and also for those of you that post on it. Social media seems to be a great way to keep in touch. If you haven't visited it, please do so or ask your grandkids or great grandkids to show you how 😊

In this newsletter you will find information & Registration form for our reunion in Buffalo, NY. So, you can start making plans now. I would love to have a great turn out for this reunion, it's sure to be a fun time.

As secretary it is my job to mail cards to those shipmates that are sick, injured or hospitalized as well as cards to families of shipmates that have passed away. I can only do this if you keep me informed. I'm asking that you share our newsletters, website & Facebook page with families. You might be surprised how interested they are. I attended a seminar recently on our inheritance to our kids. One of the panelists said the greatest inheritance we can leave is our stories. Share your sea stories so that they live on long after you are gone.

Until next time, Fair Winds & Following Seas

Connie Mauldin, Secretary

Wilhoite dues paid 2020

2020/01/28 10:12 AM

Aittala, Gene (21)

Alcorn, Mike & Dana

Cusato, Paul

Ereck, Ron (21)

Hawes, Eugene (22)

Hayes, Will

Huml, Vincent (21)

Hydro, John

Knight, James

Markley, Ray

Mauldin, John & Connie

McFadden, Charles

Morrissey, Tom

Parker, David

Polh, Art

Robinson, Lee

Rott, Ray & Donna

Shanahan, John

Tencer, Charles

Thompson, Ross

Torriglia, Paul

Yonkofski, Ben

IN REMBRANCE

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of a dear shipmate, Clarence Bob Gray. He passed away on Dec 6 as the result of complications from COPD.

Bob was stationed on the USS Wilhoite 1968-1969. He was MM2. Bob was very active with the Wilhoite Association. He & his wife Jan hosted the 2000 Wilhoite reunion in Meridian, MS. For those of us that were there, it was an awesome reunion. Bob served as secretary for our association. He made the loving decision to donate his body to science. He will be missed.

HEARTS & FLOWERS

Shipmate, John Mauldin, had a heart attack on Nov. 30. Due to the efficient & quick system of 911 he was transported to an excellent facility and diagnosis quickly made. As of this writing, he is in a rehab facility and expected to be home for Christmas.

Maritime Terms & Traditions

When My Ship Comes In

This phrase, meaning "If & when I make my fortune," was coined in the days when seafaring adventurers would send their fleets along the Mediterranean & African coasts in search of rich cargoes. First, they would have to go to the money-lenders, in order to finance the venture. As it was impossible to set an exact date for the fleet's return, they would sign documents promising to re-pay the loans "when my ships come in."

Mind your P's & Q's

Nowadays a term meaning "Be on your best behavior." In old days, sailors serving aboard government ships could always get credit at the waterfront taverns until pay-day. As they would only pay for those drinks which were marked up on the score-board, the tavern-keeper had to be careful that no Pints or Quarts had been omitted from the customers list.

Present Arms

The 'present arms' salute was originally a pacific and friendly gesture, meaning literally 'Presented for you to take if you wish',

First Navy Uniforms

Until the year 1747 the dress of sailormen was very nondescript. At that time King George II ordered uniforms to be worn by all navy men, as a means of boosting their appearance and morale.

THE NAVY – THEN AND NOW

Then – In the “good old days”, if a sailor smoked, he had an ashtray on the deck.

Now – If a sailor smokes he/she is sent outside and treated like a leper.

Then – Mail took weeks to arrive aboard the ship.

Now – Every time the ship nears land, there’s a mob topside seeing if their cell phone works.

Then – If a sailor left the ship it was in Blues or Whites.

Now- The only time they wear Blues or Whites is for ceremonies.

Then – Sailors wore bellbottoms everywhere on the ship.

Now- Bellbottoms are gone from the Navy. 14-year-old girls wear them everywhere.

Then – Sailors wore a “dixie cup” all day, with their uniform.

Now – It’s not required and they have a choice of various headwear.

Then – If you said “damn,” people knew you were annoyed and avoided you.

Now – If you say “damn” you’d better be talking about a hydroelectric plant.

Then – The Ships Yeoman had a typewriter on his desk for doing daily reports.

Now – Everyone has a computer with Internet access—and they wonder why no work gets done.

USS WILHOITE (DER-397) & USS FINCH (DER-328)

Buffalo, NY 2020

September 21st – 24th

MILLENNIUM HOTEL

Reservations 1-716-206-8327

2040 Walden Ave, Buffalo, NY 14225

Rooms \$110 per night – Free Breakfast

Ask for Wilhoite Group Reservations

PROGRAM

Mon. Sept 21st. – Registration – Hospitality Room (HR)

Tues. Sept 22nd – Maid of the Mist – Tour of the Falls – (HR)

Wed. Sept 23rd – Buffalo Naval Park/ Tour ships & Museum

Memorial Service on Fantail of USS Sullivan – (HR)

**Thur. Sept 24th – Banquet/State Exchange/Pictures/Business Mtg
(HR)**

Fri. Sept 25th – Smooth Sailing Home

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Guest _____

\$134 per person # _____ Amount \$ _____

Mail to Dana Alcorn

13864 W. Vernon

Avondale, AZ 353 90 *send by May 1st 2020

USS Wilhoite _____ USS Finch _____ Rank/Rate _____

Years aboard ship _____