

USS PYRO AE-1 and AE-24 Association

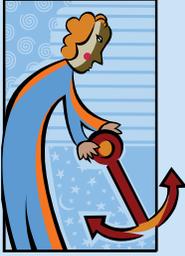


REUNION AT SEA



SHIPS PASSING IN THE NIGHT

**Aboard the Carnival Celebration
March 30~April 3, 2006**



The crew



Participating members and guests

James Bell and Beth Ann Berchett

Jared Cameron and Susan Scanlan

Billy and Myra Eckstine

Loyd and Mary Ellis

Fred and Sharon Hamlin

Al and Shirley Hansen

Bill Hogan and Linda Fox

Scott and Sandra Hinrichs

Robert and Bernice Kelly

George and Linda Lewis

Lud and Anne Miller

Tom and Carol Moulton

Tom and Jean Ryan

Tony and Carlene Sieverin

Tom Sanborn and Carole Labauve

Larry Sheipline

Jasper and Lavonne Strunk

Rick and Rita Tully

John Wichtrich

Doug and Linda Wisher

Vance and Beverly Worrell

The Celebration



Well, the Carnival Cruise Line's Celebration was no USS Pyro, but here are a few things the Celebration had that the Pyros didn't: A swimming pool (top left); gender diverse entertainment (top center and right); a casino — well, not officially, anyhow (left); slot machines (right); overstuffed chairs in the crew's lounges or wardrooms (bottom left); or stewards who left fluffy animals made of towels on beds — or beds, for that matter (bottom right).



Chums and couples



Loyd and Mary Ellis



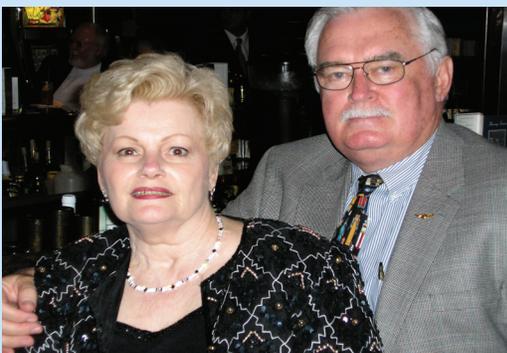
Linda Lewis, Linda Fox and Beth Ann Burchett



Beverly and Vance Worrell



Tom and Carol Moulton



Carol Labauve and Tom Sanborn



Lavonne and Jasper Strunk



Lud and Ann Miller



Sandra and Scott Hinrichs



Rita and Rick Tully



Fred and Sharon Hamlin



Tony and Carlene Sieverin



Jared Cameron and Susan Scanlan



SALUTING THE MAN WHO MADE IT HAPPEN



Great USS Pyro Association reunions don't just happen. They're the result of thoughtful research, thorough arrangements and – above all else – hard work.

Behind every successful event, there's a star, a work horse — not a show horse — who takes the time to handle the nitty-gritty details. In an organization like the USS Pyro Association that is staffed by volunteers, the reunion chairman carries a big load.

Tom Sanborn, while also serving as our association's treasurer — no small job in itself — has worked on the past three reunion committees, chairing the Branson gathering in 2005 and the Carnival Celebration reunion this year.

Working with a travel agent, Tom was able to negotiate, among other perks, cabin upgrades for association members; a daytime hospitality room onboard; a \$35 per cabin credit; complimentary wine at selected dinners; all at a cruise fare far lower than the 'walk-up rate' individual passengers pay. Bravo Zulu, Tom!



Plan of the day(s)



Thursday, March 30

**1700 Welcome Aboard Cocktail Party, Endless Summer Lounge
1815 Dinner**

Friday, March 31

Day at Sea

**0800 Business Meeting, Endless Summer Lounge
1030 -1600 Hospitality Lounge, Endless Summer Lounge**

Saturday, April 1

Arrive Nassau, Bahamas

**0800 -1600 Hospitality Lounge, Endless Summer Lounge
1715 Group Photo outside the Endless Summer Lounge
1815 Dinner
1915 Captain's Cocktail Party**

Sunday, April 2

Arrive Freeport, Bahamas

**0800 - 1600 Hospitality Lounge, Endless Summer Lounge
17:45 Ceremony in Memory of Fallen Comrades, Veranda deck
1815 Dinner**

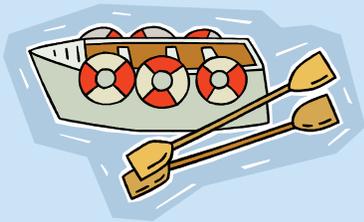
Monday, April 3

Arrive Jacksonville

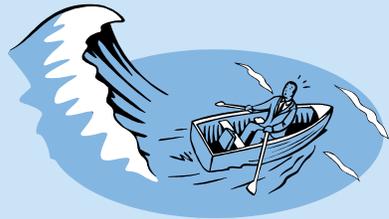
Abandon ship drill

Will the *real* Mae West please stand up?

Sailing salty seas means you always have to be ready to sink or swim salty seas. What cruise would be complete (or legal) without an abandon ship drill?



(Top L and R) The Worrells and Eckstines strap on their jackets and then seek refreshments after the ardors of the drill. Susan Scanlan (bottom left) sits while (bottom right) the Strunks stand.





Welcome aboard



(Top left) Myra Eckstine and Vance Worrell are avid listeners; (top right) Vance gets in his two cents worth; (center left) Bev Worrell smiles prettily; while (center right) the Hansens, Strunks and Golays party on. (Bottom right) Tom Moulton checks in with Vance Worrell; and (bottom left) chats with Jared Cameron.



(Top) If it's green, it must be good for you! Lavonne Strunk, Gary Golay, Helen Golay and Rita Tully test drive tropical libations.

(Center) John Wichtrich catches up with Carole and Tom Moulton.

(Bottom) Al and Shirley Hansen at the Welcome aboard affair.



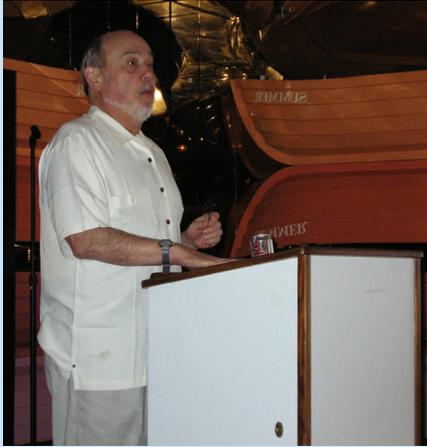
**Vance Worrell and Larry Shepline;
(above) Lud Miller, Scott Hinrichs and
Sandra Hinrichs share a cup of kindness.**



**Below: Lavonne Strunk, Carol Labauve,
Rita Tully and Helen Golay smile for the
camera.**



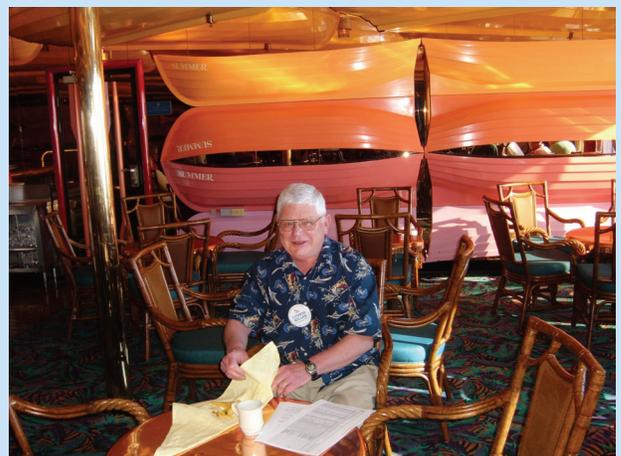
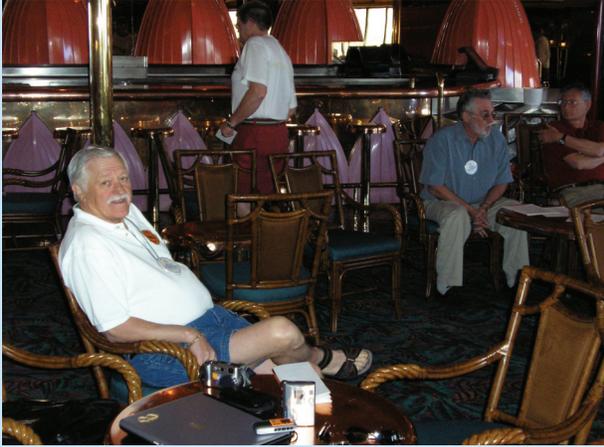
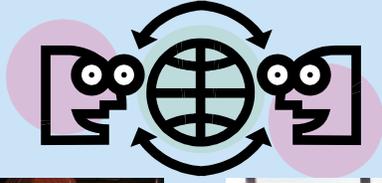
Membership meeting



All in our places with bright, shiny faces. Association bylaws require a membership meeting at every reunion and a membership meeting there was — at 0800.

(Top left) President Cameron calls the gathering to order; (center left) Fred Hamlin watches Rick Tully and Jasper Strunk mull the issues; (center right) Loyd Ellis, Tony Sieverin and Scot Hinrichs take in the discussion; (right) Tom Moulton, Larry Shepline and John Wichtrich feign cheerfulness.





Dues and don'ts. (Top left) Billy Eckstine takes in the proceedings; (top right) Tom Sanborn presents the treasurer's report (center left), The meeting continues; (center right); Lud Miller checks out the bylaws and a pastry; (right) Cameron makes a point — or maybe not.





Rum rations



The name is Bond, James Bond. Tom Moulton enjoys a martini, shaken, not stirred.



Stopping at the bar for a pre-dinner libation quickly became a formal custom for Pyro people aboard the Celebration. (Above left) Rita and Rick Tully await an aperitif; (above right) Tom Ryan and sister Jean have the window seat for cocktail hour. (Below left) Doug and Linda Wisner make muster, joining Shirley and Al Hansen (below right).





Why didn't they have something like this on the Pyro? Tom Sanborn, Helen Golay, Carol Labauve, John Wichtrich, Carol Moulton, Linda Wisner, Doug Wisner and Tony Sieverin pose for Pyro paparazzi .



Helen and Gary Golay (above left) share a moment as Billy and Myra Eckstine look on.

Liberty call



See the ships, beaches and historic sites...

sample
some
spirits..





..or shop



... 'til you drop!



Dinner for the crew

Food, but not exactly a Mess. Dining is a big deal on any cruise ship and the Carnival Celebration didn't stint on steak, lobster, baked Alaska or any of the appetizers, entrees or desserts served to the Pyro 'crew' in the dining room. Not that we don't all fondly recall the ice sculptures created by Pyro mess cooks, but suffice to say that the Celebration chow and atmosphere went a step beyond Navy offerings...





(L-R) John Wichtrich, Jared Cameron, Susan Scanlan, Jean Ryan, Tom Ryan and Larry Sheipline.



(L-R) Tom Sanborn, Carole Labauve, Loyd Ellis, Mary Ellis, Carlene Sieverin, Tony Sieverin, Fred Hamlin and Sharon Hamlin.



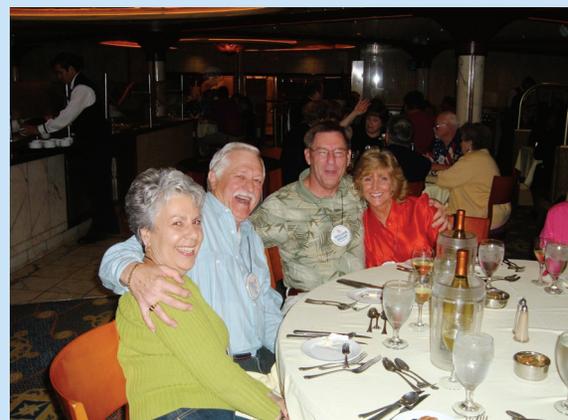
(L-R) Scott Hinrichs, Shirley Hansen, Al Hansen, Jasper Strunk, Lavonne Strunk, Vance Worrell and Beverly Worrell.



(L-R) Rita Tully, Helen Golay, Gary Golay, Lud Miller, Ann Miller, Linda Wisler, Doug Wisler and Rick Tully.



(L-R) Beth Ann Berchett, James Bell, Tom Moulton and Carol Moulton.



(L-R) Myra Eckstine, Billy Eckstine, Bill Hogan and Linda Fox



What hath Lavonne wrought? It was all Mrs. Strunk's idea: "Wouldn't it be nice if we all wore tiaras on formal night?" she suggested — and went a step further, providing tiaras for headgear-deprived Pyro people. There is a reasonable assumption that Lavonne meant headdress would be limited to ladies when she said "we all," but, of course, there's no accounting for wild and crazy Pyro guys...



Stars in their crowns. (L-R) Myra Ekstine, tiara instigator Lavonne Strunk, Bev Worrell, George Lewis, Susan Scanlan, Carol Moulton, Beth Ann Burchett, Linda Lewis, Sharon Hamlin and Linda Fox model their tiaras as James Bell takes a stiff drink of water.

Gettin' down

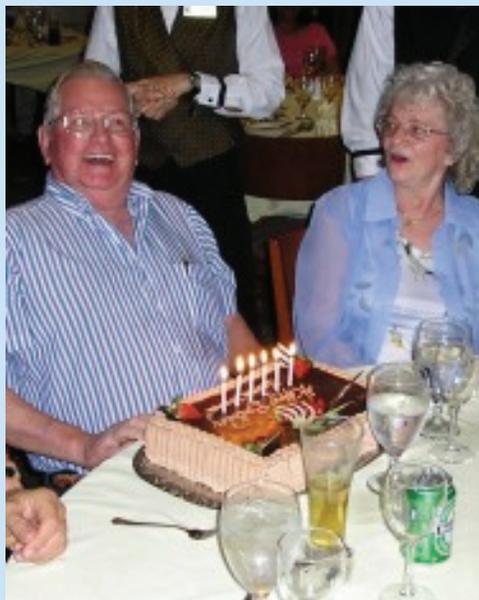


(Top left) Rick Tully starring in *Quartermasters Gone Wild*; (top right) Wisner and Golay seem to want another round; (center right) Scott Hinrichs proves radiomen do have rhythm by leading the Conga line; (bottom left) Myra Eckstine does her Statue of Liberty imitation; Jasper and Lavonne Strunk do the wave...

Celebrations



Rita Tully (above) and Jasper Strunk (below) celebrate undisclosed birthdays while the staff sings. By candle count, Jasper is at least six times Rita's age...





Honoring fallen comrades

USS Pyro Association reunions are about many things. For many members, the annual reunions serve as a vacation at fun locales with good food, tours and the camaraderie of spending time with old shipmates.

But reunions serve another, larger purpose: To honor and give life to the memory of those who have departed.

Again in 2006, the association honored shipmates who gave their lives on distant battlefields as well as sailors and spouses who passed away since the 2005 gathering.



Usually boisterous, the sun and pool decks of the Celebration grew respectfully silent as swimmers and sun-seekers joined the USS Pyro Association to honor those who have gone before us.

Association Chaplain Vance Worrell read the names of those who have departed since the last reunion while Rick Tully rang a ship's bell twice in honor of each deceased shipmate. As Randy Bell sang *America the Beautiful*, AE1 vet Frank T. Ryan, Sr., and Lavonne Strunk tearfully dropped red roses filled with memories into the blue Caribbean sea.



ROLL OF THE DEPARTED

AE-1

JAMES W. BROWNING

ROY A. WILLIAMSON

PAUL C. HISEL

AE-24

DERRELL G. GILLESPIE

VINCENT RAMIREZ, JR

SPOUSES

BONNIE SMITH

ELEANOR STONE

THEODORA FOX





(L-R) Lud Miller, Linda Wisner, Sandra Hinrichs and Scott Hinrichs at the memorial ceremony



(Above) Larry Sheipline and John Wichtrich on the Veranda Deck; (Left) Robert and Bernice Kelly in the foreground view the ceremony.



Vance Worrell and Randy Bell go over arrangements with a Celebration crew member as Carlene Sieverin and Mary Ellis look on.



Better halves. Carlene Sieverin, Susan Scanlan, Mary Ellis and Rita Tully muster on the Veranda Deck.



This USS Pyro (AE-1 & AE-24) Association Reunion At Sea Memory Book was edited by Jared Cameron who is solely, if reluctantly, responsible for all miscaptioned photos, incorrectly spelled names and mismatched spouses. Photos were taken by volunteers Billy Eckstine, Douglas Wisher, Tom Moulton and Jared Cameron who 'shot 'em like they saw 'em' — often with a cup of cheer in hand — and are not responsible for odd expressions, dubious deportment brought about by sea air, dress inappropriate to traditional gender roles, silly head coverings or pounds added since your salad days of Naval service. We believe we included at least one photo of every participant, but if we missed you (or your best angle), we apologize abjectly.



*Sincerely,
The editor*