

THE DECKPLATE

Volume 1, Issue 4

March 2003

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS SCHOFIELD (DEG/FFG-3)



Points of Special Interest

- *Our cover story is on the city of Seattle. See what a fabulous city it is and get your registration in for the reunion so you can see it for yourself.*
- *Richard Cohagan has a moving prayer in his remarks on page two.*
- *WELCOME MAT on pages two and three have 30 newly located shipmates. The numbers are growing all the time!*
- *A request from the daughter of a former crewman is in MAIL CALL on page three.*

EXPERIENCE SEATTLE IN 2003

May 29—June 1, 2003, the dates for the USS Schofield reunion are getting closer. If you haven't yet sent in your registration, let us tell you a little more about the city of your choice for this reunion—Seattle. Then come see for yourself the beautiful Northwest area of our great country.

Beyond the café culture and burgeoning business opportunities, this region's spectacular setting, perched on protected Puget Sound, is reason enough to pack up and head out.

You can be driving in any of the distinct neighborhoods when suddenly your windshield

is filled with a landscape of mountains and water and city skyline painted perfectly together. It could be the teeth of the Cascade Range smiling in the east over downtown Bellevue, or Mount Rainier filling a huge triangle of sky above Lake Washington, or the Olympic Mountains in the sunset across Elliot Bay. Here, more than anywhere else in the world, the forefronts of technology and urban culture stand arm in arm with dramatic coastline and high alpine terrain.

The climate and style are decidedly comfortable. Seattle actually gets less rain per year than New

York, Chicago, Miami or Atlanta. Winters are mild and summers are perfection, with persistent blue skies and temperatures that make air conditioning unnecessary. High temperatures in July average about 75 degrees, while low temperatures in winter drop below freezing an average of only 15 days per year. The mild climate make activities like golfing, fishing, whale watching and hiking possible year round. Shopping in Seattle rivals most large cities. Small designer boutiques coexist with big retailers like Nordstrom and Bon Marche with sleek malls like Pacific Place. The famed Pike

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Place Market is a bazaar of fresh seafood, fruit, vegetables, flowers, ethnic eateries and specialty shops amid a menagerie of artists and street performers. Stroll the adjacent waterfront or relax and watch the ferries glide to and from the islands.

Groundbreaking attractions are recently completed or underway all over the city, from the Mariner's new ballpark, to a professional football and soccer stadium, now under construction. A magnificent new symphony hall opened in downtown in 1998. And in the shadow of the Space Needle, the monorail runs through the undulating architecture of the Experience Music Project, an interactive journey to the soul of rock music. Seattle is also one of the few cities in the U.S. to boast a major opera, symphony and ballet company.

In many ways, this region is futuristic, for it embodies the idea that we can balance economic vitality with environmental sensitivity, high technology with simple pleasures and urban convenience with outdoor adventure. Come explore the contrasting thrills of this metropolitan playground on the edge of the wilderness. See you in Seattle on May 29th!!

USS SCHOFIELD REUNION

MAY 29—JUNE 1, 2003

SEATTLE, WA AREA

**BEST WESTERN
FEDERAL WAY**

Registration packets have been mailed. If you have not received one, contact ML&RS, Inc.

A WORD FROM THE REUNION COORDINATOR

It is getting near the time for the second USS Schofield DEG/FFG-3 Reunion. The registration forms will be out soon to notify you of the activities, dates and hotel and total cost.

I was sure that we would have 300 members by the time of the reunion and as of mail call this day, Feb. 8, 2003, the 300 was met by the letter from David Dulinawka BM2 from 1977-1981. Thanks to all. Hope many of you are at this second reunion. Take a moment and read this prayer and keep all our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and others deployed in harms way, in you prayers.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen."

I have not received any news of any of the Schofield shipmates who are in the Reserves having been called back to active duty. But I'm in contact with the USS Ramsey DEG-2 Reunion Association and was told of two Ramsey shipmates called back.

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"Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To"



WELCOME MAT

The following shipmates have been located since the last newsletter. Welcome aboard. We hope to see you at the next reunion and that you will take an active part in the association. We welcome:

Gary Triplett (1967-70) GMG2
1247 N Hwy 97 Spc 15
Redmond, OR 97756

Michael Hunter (1980-85) GMM2
800 E Bobier K-2
Vista, CA 92084

C. Mel Linn EM1
RR 1 Box 286B
Brownwood, TX 76801
915-784-5621

Rudy Aranas (1975-77) MS1
13849 Stoney Gate Pl
San Diego, CA 92128-3656

Mark Acker (1970-72) RM3
PO Box 9310
Ogden, UT 84409

Robert Weatherford (1981-86)
27 Bethany Ln
Readfield, ME 04355

Joseph Spruiell (1987-88) EM1
12173 Cancun Dr
Jacksonville, FL 32225-4687
904-534-6328

Jeffrey Kyle (1981-85) EW2
703 Waverly Ln
Prattville, AL 36067
334-361-8426

Dan Menikheim (1976-81) FTM2
23052 Blackwell Rd
Saucier, MS 39574-9071
228-831-1913

Robert Morais (1968) STC
1404 Seacliffe Dr
Gautier, MS 39553
228-497-2485

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Mark Lemery (1979-83)
MM2 (E-5) Engine Room
71 Arbor Rd
Enfield, CT 06082-4204
860-749-6918

David Devera (1978-80) DK1
731 Hamlet Cir
Goose Creek, SC 29445
843-553-0928

Douglas Falor (1977-78) IC2
4525 Thayn Dr
Salt Lake City, UT 84120-3737
801-965-1277

Thomas Otis (1978-80) BMC
PO Box 704
Wilbur, OR 97494
541-672-5642

Steven Nauss OSSN
37763 Alta Ct
Fremont, CA 94536
510-790-1061

John Warlick (1977-80) MSC
5702 Saint Thomas Dr
Lithonia, GA 30057-5473
770-987-2747

David Rayl (1976-80) FTG2
PO Box 6345
Kokomo, IN 46904-6345

Henry Van Stedum (1976-80) HT2
819 Oak St
De Pere, WI 54115-1532
920-336-8298

Mark Hammon (1974-78) GMM2
18183 W Sundowner Way #854
Canyon Country, CA 91387

David Dulinawka (1977-81) BM2
3628 James Ave
Blasdell, NY 14219
716-824-2076

Wade Petteys (1978-81) MM2
PO Box 93
Corinth, NY 12822
518-654-2603

Stevie McKinney (1978-80) BT2
15 Arrowhead Ct NE

Rydal, GA 30171-1648
770-387-9714

Dennis Walsh (1975-77) PN3
1911 Westover LN NW
Kennesaw, GA 30152-7401
770-426-5602

Bryan Oskey (1979-81) SN
1811 Broadmoor Ave
Ft. Wayne, IN 46818-1010
260-489-6731

Chuck Knowles (1974-78) QM2
16761 Viewpoint Ln #137
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Fred Bowin (1979-81) STGCS
403 N Penn St
Columbus, KS 66725
620-429-2855

Michael Garrett (1983-88) EW1
13490 Hwy 8 Business #26
Lakeside, CA 92040

Guy Schaub (1981-84)
15123 SE 140th Pl
Renton, WA 98059
425-228-7628

Romulo Apostol (1983-85) MS3
6920 Quebec Ct
San Diego, CA 92139-2701
619-470-8825

Clyde McCoskey (1981-83) BM2
7410 NE Old Military Rd Lot 59
Bremerton, WA 98311-3276
360-308-9574

FACTS ABOUT WASHINGTON

- The population of Seattle in 2000 was 563,374
- Starbucks, the biggest coffee chain in the world was founded in Seattle.
- Washington is the birthplace of both Jimi Hendrix (Seattle) and Bing Crosby (Tacoma).
- Medina is the home of the United States wealthiest man, Microsoft's Bill Gates.
- The northwestern most point in the contiguous U.S. is Cape Flattery on Washington's Olympic Peninsula.



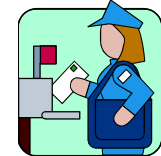
TAPS

The Schofield Deckplate has learned of the following deaths since the last newsletter. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families and friends of the deceased.

Robert Childers
(1975-77) LT/CDR Ops Div
Date of death not known

James Stewart Sissons (1975)
Died September 7, 2001

Anyone who knows or learns of a shipmate's death, you are requested to notify the newsletter so that person can be listed in TAPS and also on the Honor Roll at the next reunion.



MAIL CALL

ML&RS,

While researching my father's military history for my son (his grandson), I came across your newsletter, the Schofield Deckplate. I am unsure how to read the records accurately, but his performance record lists the USS Schofield (DFG-3) and a date of 15 Jan. 75. For the Taps section of your newsletter, James Stewart Sissons passed away on September 7, 2001, in Baltimore, MD, where he was working. I would love to hear from anyone who worked with him or knew him during his military days. Thanks!

Ronda Dutton
972-820-3060
rhonda.dutton@realpage.com

AN AMERICAN

*Submitted to ML&RS by
Larry DiPasquale,
USS Purdy DD-734*

You probably missed it in the rush of last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American. So I just thought I would write to let them know what an American is, so they would know when they found one.

An American is English, French, Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Australian, Iranian, Asian, Arab, Pakistani, or Afghan. An American may also be a Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, or one of the many other tribes known as Native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses. An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American is from the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God-given right of each man and women to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need. When Afghanistan was overrun by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country. As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan.

The best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes.

Americans welcome the best, but they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them were working in the Twin Towers in the morning of September 11, earning a better life for their families. (I've been told that the people in the Towers were from at least 30, and maybe more, other countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.)

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the history of the world. But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.

So look around you. You may find more Americans in your land than you thought were there. One day they will rise up and overthrow the old, ignorant, tired tyrants that trouble too many lands. Then those lands, too, will join the community of free and prosperous nations. And America will welcome them!

MORE WASHINGTON FACTS

- Washington state produces more apples than any other state in the union.
- Washington state has more glaciers than any other 47 contiguous states combined.
- Everett is the site of the world's largest building, Boeing's final assembly plant.
- Seattle is home to the first revolving restaurant built in 1961.

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

This is the official publication of the USS Schofield Association. From now on it will be published quarterly in March, June, September and December, *subject to receiving sufficient funding*. The Newsletter is funded by voluntary contributions from the membership. All members are encouraged to support the voice of the Schofield. A financial statement will appear in each of the following issues. **Send contributions to Richard Cohanagan.**

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially share experiences.

Unless otherwise stated, the views and opinions printed in the newsletter are those of the article's writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Association leadership or the Editor of the Newsletter.

All letters and stories submitted will be considered for publication, except unsigned letters will not be published. Letters requesting the writer's name be withheld will be honored, but published on a space available basis. Signed letters with no restrictions will be given priority.

Letters demeaning to another shipmate will not be printed; letters espousing a political position will not be printed.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters to conform to space limitations and grammar.

You are encouraged to actively participate in the newsletter family, by submitting your stories and suggestions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The cost of this issue of the Schofield Deckplate is **\$187.12**