

# THE DECKPLATE

Volume 2, Issue 1

June 2003

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



### *Points of Special Interest*

- **Reunions are great!** Read all about the 2003 Seattle reunion in the cover story.
- **A new coordinator for your group is still needed.** Read Richard Cohagan's article on page two.
- **If you couldn't be at the reunion, see who was.** A list of attendees is on page two.
- **WELCOME MAT** on pages 3&4 lists 47 new members. See who's been found.
- **Scott Tercy shares some of his memories in MAIL CALL** on page 4.

## GREAT TIME AT SEATTLE REUNION

The 2003 USS Schofield reunion is history now, and what a great time it was! Nineteen former crewmen and 10 guests enjoyed the great American Northwest during the May 29—June 1 reunion at the Best Western Federal Way in Seattle, WA.

The reunion began with registration on Thursday afternoon and the opening of the hospitality room for becoming acquainted with one another. At 5:00 pm the welcome reception gave everyone a chance to get together for the first time as an entire group. Introductions were made, hors d'oeuvres were

served and then the fun began—the thing that makes a reunion so special, the sharing of stories and experiences. The evening was free to have dinner with old and new friends and to continue the reminiscing.

Friday morning there was time for a leisurely breakfast and chatting with friends, as the tour did not depart until 3:00 pm. The visit to the Tillicum Village began with a harbor cruise across Puget Sound to Blake Island Marine State Park, where the Tillicum Village is located. Dinner was a Salmon Feast, prepared in the traditional method on cedar stakes over alder fires. Dinner

was followed by a colorful pageant of native folklore. It was an unforgettable evening, not your usual Friday night outing.

Saturday offered a Seattle city tour to get acquainted with the host city. Of course you can't go to Seattle without visiting the Space Needle, so that was on the agenda. The salmon ladders at Chittenden Locks and a visit to the famous Pike Street Market were also included in the tour. There is some great shopping opportunities at the Market and many took advantage of that. The group was ready for some refreshments upon returning to the hotel

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hospitality room.

After a while to relax and freshen up, everyone was ready for the cocktail hour and the photo session at 6:30 pm. At 7:30 pm the main event, the USS Schofield banquet, began. After dinner had been served, photos of the oldest crewmember present, Gaylord Larson, and the youngest one present, Michael Harper, were made. Three plankowners were present and acknowledged. As requested, no entertainment was planned for after dinner. The much preferred entertainment was sharing stories and catching up on the lives of old friends.

On Sunday morning, after the private breakfast buffet, the time came to honor the deceased shipmates. The Memorial Service is a tradition in which each deceased's name is read, followed by the tolling of the bell. It is the crewmembers' way of honoring the memory of those who have gone on before them. Following the service, the hard part came—saying good bye for another year. Handshakes and hugs were abundant as each prepared to depart for home. "See you next year in San Diego," was a frequent quote. Hope we will!

**Dates for the 2004 San Diego reunion will be announced in the September issue.**

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

## A WORD FROM THE REUNION COORDINATOR

The 2003 Schofield reunion is over and time to plan the 2004 reunion in San Diego, CA. I hope many more plan to attend.

Overall, everyone had a great time at the Seattle, WA reunion. The Tin Can Sailors Association was mentioned and some of the benefits, \$250.00, was collected for the newsletter and was given directly to the ML&RS, Inc. All donations should be sent to them. No other postcards will be sent out to locate others. We hope that all other shipmates will find us in the many publications that ML&RS, Inc. places reunion notices.

It was decided that the 2004 reunion would be in San Diego, CA. As decided at the MO (2002) reunion, tentative dates June 24-27, 2004 were agreed upon and it was voted that the 2005 reunion will be in Charleston, SC. Robert Cichowski was the reunion business meeting chairman and did a very good job. We give thanks for his fine job. Thanks, Bob.

I started the USS Schofield DEG/FFG-3 Reunion Group in order to allow the Schofield crewmembers, officers and enlisted to meet and renew old friendships and to make new ones. As we located shipmates, many said they would help. At that time all we needed was a little donation to help pay for the search for others, postage cost and other expenses that arose. Many of you did just that and a big help it was. Thanks to those that did. A few agreed to be the reunion chairman, but for some reason had to decline that offer. A reunion chairman is still needed to handle the reunion business meetings and to assist the representative of ML&RS, Inc. This responsibility should not interfere with him enjoying the activities of the reunion.

As most of you know, I am involved in other reunion activities of other US Navy ships and this is the

reason I cannot handle this chairmanship. I had asked that a chairman be elected to represent the San Diego reunion. I hope someone will volunteer to do this. (Please do not fight over it.) Also vote for a shipmate to handle the Charleston, SC reunion. It is only necessary to keep one location ahead for the next reunions.

I do appreciate all the emails of support of the work my wife and I have put into the Schofield reunion group.

Thanks,  
Richard Cohagan,  
EMCS Retired 1968-70

## 2003 REUNION ATTENDEES

Domingo & Teresita Abella  
Mervin & Mary Baker  
Elmer & Lucille Barnes  
Robert Benham & Connie Hodges  
Robert Cichowski & Juanita Nay  
Sam Cotton  
Charles Dickens  
Douglas Falor & Corrie Miera  
Thomas Fritsch  
John & Linda Furstenwerth  
Michael Harper  
J. David Jones  
Charles Knowles  
Gaylord & Sarah Larson  
Wesley & Shirley Oxenrider  
Guy Schaub  
Jackie & Nenita Stout  
James Wachs  
Kenneth Wilson

**Total Members: 19**  
**Guests: 10**

**GRAND TOTAL: 29**

**If you recall any of the events mentioned in the MAIL CALL letter, please send ML&RS your recollections of them for the next issue. Our address is to the left.**



## 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:

*Donald Faubert ('82-85) RMSA-RM2*  
1427 15th St  
San Diego, CA 92154  
619-575-5547

*William Ullmer (1982-85) BMSN*  
50533 Park Ln  
W Granger, IN 46530-8651

*Newton Legeyt (1984-87) HT3*  
420 E Hartland Rd  
Barkhamsted, CT 06063-1157  
860-379-8750

*George Billeisen (1981-83) STG2*  
14215 Stacey St  
Carmel, IN 46033-8791  
317-581-0567

*Frank Curles (1975-77) MMFN*  
212 S Airport Rd  
Rensselaer, IN 47978  
219-306-0083

*Robert Feldman (1975-78) BT3*  
242 Forest Haven Dr  
Sequim, WA 98382-7780  
360-582-9332

*Ronald Nahaku (1982-85) BT3*  
302 S St Apt 7  
Centralia, WA 98351-2343  
360-736-5034

*Forrest Pelletier (1977-79) RM1*  
1440 Kostner Dr  
San Diego, CA 92154-3832  
619-428-4549

*Kirk Jackson (1981-82) PN1*  
5823 Belleville Dr  
Coeur D Alene, ID 83815  
208-765-4424

*Tim Schnoebelen (1982-84) SM2*  
1817 Martha St NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87112-3162  
505-299-5544

*Fonnie Mark Preston (1984-88) OS1*  
3024 N Hill St  
Amarilla, TX 79107-7423  
806-383-4912

*Ronald Harn (1984-86) RM3*  
805 Pettit St  
Ardmore, OK 73401-5335  
580-490-9324

*Jeremy Kumin (1984-86) YN3*  
4920 Foxlair Trail  
Richmond Heights, OH 44143  
216-663-1208

*John Dussor (1987-89) BT1*  
13802 Nominasi Ct  
Chester, VA 23836-5777  
804-530-0254

*Paul Toner (1977-80) BM3*  
118 Los Alamitos Cir  
Hanover, PA 17331  
717-637-4490

*Ronald Alano BT3*  
4926 N Potter Ave  
Kansas City, MO 64119-4221

*Mark Bajari (1985-88) IC3*  
223 Linder Ave  
Florence, MT 59833-6700  
406-273-2476

*Michael Alqueza (1986-88) SN*  
3602 Gilmore Heights Rd N  
Jacksonville, FL 32225

*Kerry Mosher (1985-88) OS2*  
1380 Chapman Lake Dr  
Warsaw, IN 46582-7819  
574-267-5737

*Peter Day (1985-87) ST3*  
103 Main St  
Lake Placid, NY 12946-1401  
518-523-4627

*Kevin Burns (1976-79) SN*  
300 Bel Air Dr Apt 115  
Vacaville, CA 95687-6355  
650-359-8719

*Chris Troeller (1973-77) MM3*  
7 Stewart Ave  
Newburgh, NY 12550-6620  
845-565-5116

*Fred Holzworth (1982-84) YN2*  
3305 Beech Ln  
Avon, OH 44011-3719  
440-937-9733

*Kenneth Wilson (1968-71) BT1*  
P O Box 160  
Chemult, OR 97731-0160  
541-591-0480

*Tom Hudson (1974-77) OS2*  
c/o Merlin Media  
12 South 1st # 104  
San Jose, CA 95113

*John Delacey (1986-88) MM2*  
3485 Firestone Dr  
Ijamsville, MD 21754-9041  
301-831-3289

*Randy Beevers (1983-84) MM3*  
8410 Bellarine Dr  
Shelby Township, MI 48316-3610  
586-731-2085

*George Pluebell (1988) MM3*  
2330 Shalimar Dr  
Garland, TX 75040-4373  
972-496-2773

*Dan Dalit (1983-87) PO3*  
6891 Potomac St 148  
San Diego, CA 92139  
619-479-6202

*Bernard Quibilan (1988) FCCS(SW)*  
2635 Sycamore Dr  
Waukegan, IL 60085  
847-688-3569

*Stacey Sandkulla (1985-88) EW1*  
1218 Aberdeen Dr  
San Mateo, CA 94402-1902  
800-355-0141

*Mark Bergen (1975-77)*  
13031 Marlstone Ln  
Charlotte, NC 28215

*Ira Rhoades (1973-75) BC|MC*  
P O Box 55  
Fordyce, AR 71742  
870-352-7113

*Frank Shirey (1983-85) GMT2*  
100 St Gaberial Way  
Fayette, GA 30215  
770-719-4472

*Charles Russell, Jr. BM2*  
9918 Fall Harvest  
San Antonio, TX 78254-6101  
210-522-9163

*Alan Gilchrist (1968-69) RM1*  
78 Page Ave  
Bristol, CT 06010-4349  
860-582-8303

*Robert Sharp (1971-72) EMCS*  
670 Loomis Tr Rd  
Lynden, WA 98264  
360-354-2747

*Dorin Matney (1986-88) RM1*  
314 S Prospect St  
Summitville, IN 46070  
765-536-2419

*William Garnett (1985-87) MMCS*  
P O Box 557  
Van Army, TX 78073  
210-622-3850

*Bruce Reed (1981-85) OS1*  
P O Box 211505  
Chula Vista, CA 91921  
619-482-9460

*Andrew Befano*  
5913 Vine Dr  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330-2307  
609-909-9633

*Les Berlin (1985-88) FC2*  
445B East 206th St  
Sheridan, IN 46069  
317-758-4977

*Nelson Ewing (1982-86) BM1*  
253 Budmiles Rd  
Baxley, GA 31513  
912-367-0359

*David Jones (1968-70) QM2*  
17570 Camino Quintas  
Sahuarita, AZ 85629  
520-625-5627

*George Badger*  
14406 Englewood Dr Kp N  
Gig Harbor, WA 98329  
253-884-1783

*Joe Masic*  
1456 E Philadelphia #345  
Ontario, CA 92669  
909-923-2458

*Frank Gentis (1977-78) ET1*  
3141 La Rue Dr  
Kettering, OH 45429  
937-477-2074



## 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.

*James Sissons (1975)*  
Died September 7, 2001

*Edward Dickmeyer*  
(1968-73) MM1-MMC  
Died March 10, 2003

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.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Received from Schofield Account  
**\$655.29**

Received from reunion- **\$135.00**  
Received at ML&RS—**\$155.00**

**Total receipts—\$945.29**

Expended 06/03 newsletter-  
**\$220.65**

**Balance for 09/03—\$724.64**

Contributions should now be made to ML&RS, address page 2.



## MAIL CALL

I served on the Schofield from 11/81 to 10/84 as an EW. During my time on the Schofield we did two Wes Pac's which were both a lot of fun. On the first West we did the usual maneuvers patrolling off the coast of Russia getting buzzed by Bear Deltas, followed by Russian Intel ships. However, the ship was plagued with boiler problems that eventually had us stuck in Olongapo for 5 weeks. Damn the luck!!

The second West-Pac was also exciting. On the way to Hawaii from San Diego the ship again had boiler problems that caused us to go DIW. The decision was made to tow us to Pearl for repair. What a repair it was! They did not have an available dry dock for the repair to the boiler, so they put 10,000 pound weights on the starboard side of the ship to list it 30 degrees to allow access to the port side skin that would normally be under the water line. They cut a hole in the port side of her and replaced the super charger that was associated with the boiler make up. We lived on the Schofield while it listed for roughly a month because the base did not have available housing for us. That cruise eventually landed us in the Persian Gulf for a good 4 months. However, the payoff was Perth and Melbourne, Australia. Also Dunedin and Auckland, New Zealand. Damn the luck!! No other ships came with us to New Zealand. We had the towns to ourselves. I believe Captain Perkins had a little more pull than the other commanding officers, and rightfully so; he was a great leader.

Currently I work for Boeing at Edwards A.F.B. on the F-22 fighter as the aircraft operations manager.

Scott Tercy