

THE DASHPOT

Issue 19

Newsletter of the Association of Minemen

FALL 1997

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our 23rd Annual Reunion was again an example of our membership rising to the occasion of providing an environment as well as an opportunity for fellowship, networking and the renewing of old acquaintances as well as the initiating of new ones. The atmosphere presented by the Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego allowed the welcoming reception, meetings of directors and memberships, banquet as well as a picnic and auction to move effortlessly making the event come to fruition and finally end much earlier than those on hand wanted.

This year's two Minemen of the Year were recognized: Active: MN2 **Ian Weslek** - USS PATRIOT (MCM 17)

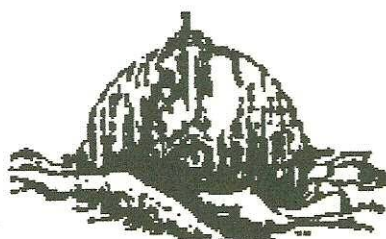
homeported in Sasebo, Japan; Reserve: MN2 **Joseph Oszvart** - NR MOMAU TEN (augments MOMAU EIGHT, Guam) El Paso, Texas.

Our guest speaker, Vice Admiral **Alexander J. Krekich**, Commander, Naval Surface Force, Pacific Fleet, in attendance with his beautiful wife **Barbara**, gave us a dynamic presentation providing an eye opening status of the Navy as a whole as well as the Mine Force in particular which we all found very informative. Vice Admiral **Krekich** held a question and answer period at the completion of his presentation which provided all in

Please See **President** Page 2

INDEX

Committee Reports	3
Full Force News	4
Museum	3
Taps composit	7/8



AOM

1997 MINEMAN of the Year Announced

Active

MN2(SW) Ian Weslek
USS Patriot

Reserve

MN2 Joesph Oszvart
NR MOMAU 10

"These Sailors represent the finest the Mineman rating has to offer and I am very proud of their accomplishments."

Other command nominees:

MN2 **Rodriquez** - MCM Rotational Crew E
MN2 **Becker** - MOMAU 1
MN1 **Stultz** - MOMAU 3
MN1 (SW) **Bartoli** - USS Gladiator
MN1 **Pipkin** - MOMAU 8
MN3 **Motley** - MOMAU 12
MN1(SW) **Johnson** - ATG Ingleside

MN1 **Nicely** - MWTC Ingleside
MN2 **Wirth** - MOMAU 5
MN1 **Robertson** - MOMAU 11
MN1 **Lauderdale** - MOMAU 10
MN2 **Richardson** - USS Oriole
MN1 **Allston** - MOMAD 7
MN1 **Pendleton** - MOMAU 14

"All nominated candidates are superb sailors and picking one individual out of so many was a tough task indeed." "Again, congratulations and well done to the selectees. Keep smiling. RADM Conley."

1998 Dues are past due.

Send your check for \$10 to

the Secretary /Treasurer.

The year on your mailing label indicates dues are paid through August of that year. Dues notices are not mailed to members.

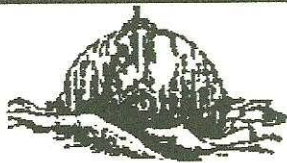
Next Reunion
Charleston, SC

7 - 9

August 1998

Make Plans to be there

Minewarfare
Inspection
Group
Disestablished
30 May 1997



ASSOCIATION OF
MINEMEN
DEDICATED TO SERVING
THE
U.S. NAVY MINE FORCE

The Dashpot, published quarterly, is the newsletter of the Association of Minemen, a non-profit organization incorporated in the state of South Carolina... to perpetuate a knowledge of undersea mine warfare, necessary to America's first line of defense.

PRESIDENT

Warren Savage (95-98)
10331 Settle Road
Santee, CA 92071
(619) 258-1478
FAX (619) 258-0652

VICE PRESIDENT

Joe A. Balderrama (95-98)
1417 Sadler Drive #236
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
(904) 225-0446

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Lyal M. Stryker (97-98)
8517 Deerwood Drive
North Charleston, SC 29406-9713
(803) 553-1450
FAX 803-569-6913

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William L. Carlson (95-98)
1925 Pilgrim Ave
Bronx, NY 10461

L. R. (Bob) Forbes (96-99)
1 Newark Ave
Goose Creek, SC 29445

LCDR John Iwaniec (97-00)
PO Box 2745
Seal Beach, CA 90740-1745

John F. Loonam (97-00)
10033 Indian Rd
Gloucester, VA 23061-2830

Horace L. (Buddy) Stewart (96-99)

4628 Yardley Drive
Charleston SC 29405

CDR Ron Swart (95-98)
5125 Cavendish Dr
Corpus Christi, TX 78413

PARLIAMENTARIAN (97-98)

Donald A. DeCrona
2320 Wide Horizon Dr.
Reno, NV 89509-5079

NEWSLETTER EDITOR (97-98)

John Loonam
10033 Indian Rd
Gloucester VA 23061-2830
(804) 693-2094 Phone/FAX
e-mail jloonam@ccsinc.com

President from Page 1

attendance key insight to today's Navy.

The scholarship committee comprised of **William Carlson** (Director), **Donald DeCrona** (Parliamentarian) and **Paul Santa Maria** (Committee Chairperson) and selected three scholarship awardees for this coming school year. The seven applicants were all great which made the committee's work very difficult.

Two directors, **John Iwaniec** and **John Loonam** were selected by the membership to the Association of Minemen (AOM) Board serving from 1998 to 2000. Three appointments were made to serve for the next year; **Lyal Stryker**, Secretary Treasurer, **Don DeCrona**, Parliamentarian and Dashpot Editor **John Loonam**.

Additionally, **Paul Santa Maria** was appointed Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee and **Toby Horn** was appointed Chairperson of the Mine Museums aboard USS YORKTOWN/USS LEXINGTON with **Ron Swart** as local Chairperson of the USS LEXINGTON Mine Museum.

The membership decided on MCM Community don't seem to be Ingleside/Corpus Christi, Texas, as interested. Except for a few well the site for our 1999 Reunion to be held 13 - 15 August 1999. All your drought from the MCM Fleet. With a AOM Board of Directors and Officers few Minemen on board, I would worked diligently to assure a expect some direct response and not successful year and memorable have to find information in Station reunion. They were joined by the newspapers.

The Reserve reunion committee: **Jim Miller**, **Jerry Chipman**, **Bill Bash**, **John Iwaniec** and **MOMAU One** members as well said they like the Dashpot and keep as our Website Staff comprised of **Hal Elston** and **Fred Dane**.

We must look ahead and move forward in the area of recruitment and retention within the Association of Minemen to assure a vibrant future for the future Minemen as well as our ongoing activities, especially our education outreach activities. I will solicit applicants to Chair a universal communications vehicle for Recruitment/Retention Committee to ensure this is an ongoing and integral effort of the AOM.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist in the Mine Museum's upkeep and expansion as well as ensuring our future reunions and other activities are

conducted with active participation for our membership.

Again my thanks to all who contributed to the success of our past year and I look forward to the next year as one of growth and expanded horizons.

Respectfully Yours,
Warren

EDITOR

Thanks to all for submitting articles for this issue of Dashpot. If it were not for these inputs, we would put the newsletter to rest.

Where are the rest of you?? For three years (that's 12 issues) we have been on schedule with copies mailed to over 500 addresses. We sent reminder postcards to 65 Command and individuals soliciting articles. That practice ended as not worth the time, effort or expense as they are usually ignored. The Minemen in the

MCM Community don't seem to be received articles there has been a few Minemen on board, I would expect some direct response and not have to find information in Station newspapers.

The Reserve components have responded hit and miss. Everyone I have talked to have said they like the Dashpot and keep up the good work. Well, if you don't send something in I won't have any work to keep up.

Each issue gives the next deadline date. That's three months away. Surely you must know something that could be shared with the community. Why not jot it down and send it in? You don't need to wait for the deadline. My aim is to have a universal communications vehicle for our Mineman community.

Fax 804-693-2094 (automatic) e-mail jloonam@ccsinc.com (cheapest & easiest)

Committee Reports

Museum

Toby Horn

This past June, the South Carolina Walterboro High School NJROTC Unit came aboard the USS Yorktown for their two day annual visit to help us get some of our AOM Mine Museum projects underway. This sharp unit of young men and women really got us started on a solid inventory of all the hardware material we have on board. They cleaned up our shelf storage area; identified, counted out, and restowed the various and sundry mine components; went into the SAS spaces and inventoried all the mines and mine components we have stored there; and cleaned up our office and tool room spaces so that we now have a really nice working environment. Under the guiding hand and leadership of our own MNCS (Ret) **Dick Spofford**, this crew once again provided us an invaluable service. We owe them a great deal of thanks and our President will be sending a letter of recognition as soon as **Dick** sends us some names of the unit members involved. We also need the names to go with a photo that was taken which we will post in the next issue of the Dashpot. BRAVO ZULU Walterboro! We hope we can continue this great working relationship in the years to come.

We still have a lot of work to do to get our museum in tip-top shape for all our members that will visit during the reunion next year. I have provided our President and BOD a list of major projects that will need both financial and "swedish steam" support. Let this serve as notice for any of the gang in the Charleston area that can pitch in and help. I hope to soon put out a call for a Saturday work party and beer bust. Most of the things we need to accomplish can be done in a good days work if we get enough people together - then we can sit back and drink beer and tell some more lies.

Down the road apiece, we will be accounting for all the documents, publications, books, photographs, etc. and putting the information in a database that can be used by academicians, historians, authors, et al.

Fred Dane and **Hal Elston** tell me that it is very feasible to link this to the internet home page they have done such a magnificent job on.

I look forward to helping make our mine museum a place each and every one of you will be proud to visit. Please, if you can spare a dime or two and contribute to our museum effort - do so, with many thanks. But when it comes to sparing a dime versus sparing some time, I'll elect for your time. Help us where you can. It's your museum!!!

History

Don DeCrona

Annual Mineman Reunion - 20 years ago

The 3rd Annual Mineman Reunion took place on 22 October 1977 at the Fort

Eustis Officer's Club, Fort Eustis Army Base, Virginia. Approximately 150 were in attendance. Honored speaker was **RADM A.J. Monger**, Commander, Mine Warfare Command. The Admiral complimented the Mineman community for the great amount of progress and esprit de corps which has been generated during the past years in support of the naval mine program, and he strongly urged continued hard work and diligence.

The first Association bylaws were adopted with minor changes. The 4th reunion was to be held in Charleston on August 19th and 20th.

This made the first reunion to be held over a two day period.

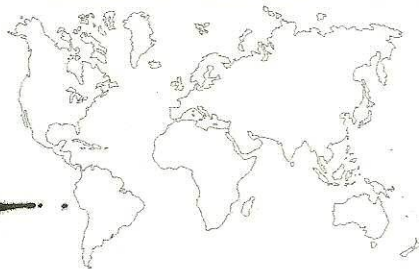
Officers were: President, **Foxy Fisher**; Vice President, **Jack Smoot**;

Board of Directors, **Ed Sprecher**, **Fred Reid**, **Lyal Stryker**, **Harry Coker**, and **Toby Horn**.

Membership

Membersmates our fraternal organization is slipping away into oblivion. Where are you on the matter? Our active duty roster seems to be falling away to nothing. Many members join and when they transfer forget to send in address changes. This leads to missed Dashpot mailings which leads to upset members that don't renew their dues. Some are unhappy with one or more aspects of the association. We are anxious to have you on one or more of several Committees or on the Board to prevent membership problems. Hopefully the delayed History Book will be out by the end of the year ending membership dissatisfaction. As CDR **Ron Swart** said a few issues ago "As for me, I'm being patient, helping where I can. When it arrives, it will be a our pride and joy, a piece of history...our history, our yearbook, at long last, we are expecting it in July 1996. I can't wait!" Well, then along came more input and it was decided to delay and use the additional input. Please don't let one issue keep you out. I recently heard from one member wondering if we should join forces with another group such as the Minewarfare Association to broaden our base. Is this what we want? You may be the cause if you don't support us and encourage membership throughout the Community. Only \$ 10. a year.

Please pay your dues annually, join up if you're not a member and support the Association of Minemen. Don't let it disappear!



COMINEWARCOM

by CDR Ron Swart

I'm still working reorganization issues for CMWC and am involved with many MCM issues as well. The Readiness, Requirements and Tactics Department (N8) is still gelling as an organization, but should prove to be a major influence in deciding the direction Mine Warfare will take in the future. Mr. **George Pollitt**, long time CMWC analysis ace, has decided to retire from Government service and take a position with Johns Hopkins University doing analysis and research. The push is on to find a suitable replacement. He'll be missed. Work on the USS Lexington Museum Mine Exhibit will resume next week after a hot summer (without AC). We are looking to corporate America, specifically the companies who support Mine Warfare, to donate the \$10,000 needed to put air conditioning on the mess decks... this will be our share of the \$25K required to do the job.

COMOMAG

by LCDR John Auberry

As CDR **Ron Swart** has already announced, the recent COMINEWARCOM reorganization has resulted in all of the mining functions to be assigned to COMOMAG. COMOMAG staff (12 officers and 22 enlisted) is now responsible for all the in-service mines (service and exercise and training), all naval reserve MOMAGs, all the minefield planning functions,

and both MOMAG Assist Visits and the Mine Readiness Certification Inspections. COMOMAG is often referred to as the "one shop stop for all mining issues".

As I write this, COMOMAG is on its WESTPAC Assist Visit (AV) swing to MOMAU 12 Misawa, MOMAU 10 Kadena, MOMAU 8 Guam, MOMAD 7 Hawaii, and MOMAU 1 Seal Beach. The current team is composed of Lt **Ken Allen**, MNCM **Helgerson**, MNC **McGuire**, and MNC **Brown**. In general the AV lasts about four days, with the first day being devoted entirely to administration facilities, and supply. These days the MOMAGs are being asked to assemble few mines during both the AV and the Mine Readiness Certification Inspection.

Our mine force continues to be molded to fit the Navy's changing needs. And this molding is painful. If someone wants to look only at the negative things that are currently happening to the mine force, then you see that we are taking more than our fair share of manning cuts, we are losing more and more of our most talented and experienced sailors, we are being asked to review more and more of the MOMAG for closure or consolidation, and our mine inventory is shrinking. On the positive side, the Navy is steadfast that it still wants to maintain a mining capability, but a different kind of capability than we currently have. I am told though - that this is the way the mineforce has always had to operate. Always adapting to the changing environment around it. Only thing different now - it's a different day and different time.

MOMAU 1

by LCDR John Iwaniec

Well things here at Unit One continue to move along smoothly with some positive Kudos, the weapons Station had their big MHE/ Safety inspection and fared so miserably that NAVSEA was going to shut the base down. The inspectors

commented that the only facility on the base that had a perfect program with Zero discrepancies was the MOMAU. You would think we would have gotten a phone call congratulating us from the station but I guess they're still licking their wounds.

As some of you know the reunion was a great success, with everyone enjoying themselves tremendously. It was great to see **Jim Miller** and **Bill Bash** again, I haven't seen them for quite a few years. MNCM **Jim Temple** also shows up and still looks like he did ten years ago. I played golf with **Jose Balderrama** and **Frank McCarthy** and we had a great time. Wasn't much of a tournament with just the three of us but we pretended that we were at the Seniors Masters Tourney and made due...**Jose** looks better than he has in years and says it's the minerals he's now, taking, stuff must work. The picnic was great with plenty of food and good conversation and everyone really enjoyed the camaraderie and meeting old friends. I didn't make the Banquet, unfortunately, I had to attend a function with my daughter who is heading off to Denison University, but I understand that I was voted in as one of the new Association Board members in my absence... I consider it an honor and will do best to provide quality service to my fellow Minemen.

Here at the shop we have some good news for some of our more outstanding individuals, MN1 **Lee Whitmore** received a NAM from COMINEWARCOM, RADM **Conley**. MN1 **Steven Ciccarello** received a NAM for his outstanding performance at MOMAU 5. MN2 **Paul Becker** is our recent Senior sailor of the Quarter, MN3 **Burroughs** is our last Junior Sailor of The Quarter. Mrs. **Burroughs** has since left the Navy for medical reasons and is currently working at the base Exchange. MN2 **Baney** was selected for advancement and was frocked on 16 June. Last but not least I finally will get to put on the LCDR oakleaf on

Please see **Unit 1** Page5

September first. **Ed Hutsell**, (LCDR retired) will do the pinning ceremony for me with my wife Liz on Friday, 5 Sept. **Ed Hutsell** probably doesn't realize the sacrifice I'm making by waiting another whole week to take these dang LT. bars off Other than that, I took half the crew to Mexico two weekends ago and we had a great time, that is after we finally found Senior Chief **Williams** and my store creature who got lost for two hours in Ensenada and somehow ended up at Punta Buffordora 16 miles south of our planned camp site at Estero Beach. They finally showed up and the rest of the weekend was super. I shot over 200 pounds of yellow tail and a beautiful white sea bass of 45 pounds so we got lots of fish for our next command fish fry. My two spearfishing plebes **MNI Ciccarello** and **MN1 Whitmore** shot at a lot of fish but nothing made it back to the boat, course both of them blame me for not properly preparing their equipment for them. Hope they're not expecting me to pass their next rating exam for them too... Actually both of them have terrific spearfishing skills and good killer instincts and it won't be long until they both get big fish.

This past Saturday we had a great picnic for our good friends from the Destroyer Escort Squadron Association. The DESA folks do so much for us during the course of the year we just wanted to say thanks to them by doing a picnic in their behalf. Last piece of news, we have recently had two weddings, **MN3 Killip** and **MN3 Richardson** are hitched to their respective mates and are no longer available for dating purposes. **MN3 Medina** and **MN3 Harmon** are both proud fathers with new baby boys, lucky guys.

OK that's it till next time, Y'all take care.

MOMAU 5

by CWO 4 Bob Reed

It's been a pretty busy summer out here at Club Med, (formerly Sunny Sig). Our secondary mission of cement filled shapes has taken about sixty-five percent of our crew TAD to Portugal, Spain, Denmark, Israel, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, mainland Italy, and the USS JOHN F. KENNEDY {CV 67}, just since April.

We're still high fiving each other over our MRCI in May. I believe our final grade was something like three adjectives above "OUTSTANDING". Reserve MOMAU's 04, 06, and 07 from Albany, NY, Charleston, SC, and Greenerills, SC respectively deserve much recognition for their readiness support. Best MRCI since Bushnell was a MNSN. Three new Sailors have joined the Unit FIVE team since last issue. **MN2 Michael Slater** inbound from Unit FIFTEEN/MWTC and **MNSA's Cameron Carlisle** and **Dominic Vallez** from MWTC. (Here's where I'd like to put in a plug for those outstanding instructors at MWTC for molding some fine Sailors coming to the fleet. Great job!) Departing Unit FIVE is **MN3 Wendy Sims** to Unit FOURTEEN and **MN3 Kecia Nason** to Unit ONE. Advanced to their present rank was **MN3 Erik McKnight** and **MN3 Demetrius O'Halloran** on 16 July and 16 August respectively.

Awards were presented as follows: **MN2 William Lowery, Jr.**, the Air Force Commendation Medal for service while attached to the 72nd Security Police Squadron at Tinker Air Force Base. **NAM's to MNCS Bruce Howard** and **MN1 Edward Moriarty** for their supporting roles prior to and during the MRCI. **MN1 William White** and **MN3 Erik McKnight** received Letters of Commendation for SSOQ and JSOQ and **MN2 James Doudna** received something like his 100th Good Conduct Award.

Till next issue CIAO from Club Med.

MOMAD 7

by MNCS D. Baldwin

All hands received a Certificate of Award for Mine Site Excellence from COMINEWARCOM and a Letter of Commendation From the Det OIC. **MNSN Chadd Adsit** was frocked to MN3.

SSOQ MN1 Brian Allston, **JSOQ MN3 Ammie Miller**.

Good Conduct Awards (2nd) **MN2 Pamela Smith** and **MN2 Thomas Lavake**.

MOMAU 10

by MNC McGoldric

.KONICHIWA from MOMAU-10. This summer has been very busy for us here at Unit Ten. To start we have had several Minex's that have included the countries of: Thailand, Singapore, Korea and Japan. This August we said "fair winds and following seas" to a good shipmate, **MNI Jody Hill** retired after 20 years of faithful service on 30 Aug. 97. **Hill's** camaraderie and "sharp" wit will be sorely missed here and in the Mine Force. If you have been "surfing" the net and came upon MOMAU TEN's unofficial home page, that was due to the tremendous effort of a gifted individual, **MN2 Bill Ramsey**. We also had to say good-bye to him and his wife this past July due to an inoperable medical condition. His outstanding ADP skills will definitely be missed. July also saw the making of history here at TEN, we received our first Executive Officer, LT. **Teresa Wright**. She and her two daughters come to us from COMOMAG, Corpus Christi. She is settling in quite well and is looking forward to a challenging and rewarding tour while here at Unit Ten.. Take care out there and stay dry, From the C.O., X.O., and crew of MOMAU TEN.

MOMAU 12

by LCDR Ed Simmons

"TACHI IRI KINCHI"

O HIO GOZIMUS, summer is quickly fading away Early bird golf is finally here (0330) and the days are getting shorter, the nights getting colder! Notable events:

The MOMAU 12 Recon squad finished 4th out of 15 teams in 1st Commanders Cup Paint Gun Competition and boldly claim bragging rights for the Navy. Participants include: LCDR Shapeshifter **Simmons**, MNCM **Benton**, MN1(SW) **Corvo**, MN2 **Warren**, MN3 **Dykes**, MN3 **Koski**, MN3 **Rosser**, MNSN **Douglas**, MNSN **Matelski**, and MNSN **Wallace**.

The MOMAU "Cherry Pickers" volunteered to hand pick cherries and help Mr. **Kayaga** take down plastic coverings over his cherry orchard. It was a super effort by the swift and agile footwork of LCDR & Mrs. **Simmons**, MN1 **Hoffman**, MN1 **Miller**, MN2 **Walker**, MN3 **Rosser**, MN3 **James**, and MNSN **Wallace**. Under some very humid and hot conditions, Mr. **Kayaga** treated the crew to a lunch of Yakisoba.

Eight personnel participated in the Aomori Bon Odori Festival on 20 August 1997. Obon called the "Feast of Lanterns," is a celebration which Japanese Buddhists hold for the spirits of deceased relatives. The Aomori City Hall in conjunction with the Shimoda International Club, invited 50 Misawans to attend. A free tour bus picked up and returned participants for this event. The event included a dance festival that featured traditional Japanese dancers in costumes and many booths featuring traditional Japanese foods. All participants were dressed in Japanese costumes and danced during the festival. Participants included LCDR Ed **Simmons**, Mrs. **Yoshi Simmons**, Ms. **Jennifer Simmons**, YN2 **Donnie Wilson**, MN2 **Jesus Gutierrez**, MN3 **Daniel James** and MNSN **Joseph Matelski**.

2Q97 Sailors of The Quarter YN2 **Donnie Wilson** MN3 "Jai" **Dykes** Farewells
MN2 **Tiffany Steele** MNSN **Helena Hatlevig**

MOMAU 12

by LCDR Ed Simmons

Editor note: received too late for the Summer Issue (6/18/97)

"TACHI ZRI KINCHZ"

O HIO GOZIMUS, winter is gone... hopefully, and we're struggling through an oppressive heat wave. Temperatures have exploded past 70 degrees, and it's only June!

Notable events:

MOMAU 12 assisted by NR MOMAU 119 and 410, finished FIRST in the small command category for the 1st Annual' Misawa Air Base sports day competition! MOMAU 12 dominated the entire sporting competition from the fire truck pull to volleyball! At least that's what we thought. Competition was close but nothing the men and women of the Mine Force couldn't handle. All services and commands on Misawa AB were represented.

NRMOMAU's 119 and 410 completed their two weeks ACDUTRA in May. Lots of good training and fun was had by all. LCDR "Mark Spitz" **Weaver**, CO of NRMOMAU 410, was featured in the base newspaper slicing through the pool during the Sports Day festivities. Of course it didn't say how we finished. We weren't pretty in the relays but thank heavens we finished the events (and no one drowned). Both the Austin Texas and Seal Beach California NRMOMAU's were outstanding. We wish them a hearty well done. The following personnel were present:

NRMOMAU 119 SEAL BEACH: LCDR **Eric Rassmussen**, CW03 **Nate Miranda**, MNC **Jim Hicks**,

MN1 **Raymond Allen**, MN1 **Gilbert Bourgouin**, MN1 **Cartie Williams**, MN1 **Vickie Woleader**, MN2 **Troy Burrud**, MN2 **Michael Peters**, YN2 **Diane Sims**, AO3 **Randy Hankins**, MNSN **Antoine Lambert**, MNSN **Luan Pham**.

NRMOMAU 410 Austin: CDR **Jeffrey Weaver**, MNCS **Bob Stegge**, MN1 **Jim Hayes**, MN1 **Harald Tannreuther**, MN2 **Paul Calhoun**, MN2 **Jason Gray**, PN2 **Jack Collins**, MN3 **Jason Lubbers**, MNSN **Steve Miller**.

MN1 **Patrick Rappley** transferred to the Fleet Reserve on 30 may 97 after 20 years of faithful Naval service. His shipmates and friends wish him every success in his new career. **Pat** and **Mili** are retiring in the local Misawa area. In attendance were the Mayor of Shimoda Town, our NRMOMAU Units from Seal Beach and Austin and friends from the Japanese American Friendship Club.- 1999

MN3 **Tamara Motley** was selected as the 1996 COMOMAG Junior Sailor of the Year. She was recognized by the Misawa CPOA as one of Misawa's best during a formal banquet. She also attended a Joint Forces Reception Ceremony hosted by Commander Naval Forces Japan.

MOMAU 12 hosted 31 Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) personnel from Ohminato Naval Base. A mine briefing and site tour were presented to the Mine Countermeasures Unit. A hearty "bento" lunch followed, provided by JMSDF.

MOMAU 12 received a 35 Fighter Wing (35 FW) Safety Citation for outstanding support of the 35 FW Mishap Prevention Program for two consecutive years of zero DUI/DWI incidents.

LCDR **Simmons** acted as a judge for the 6th Air Defense Missile Group English Speech Contest held 10 June at 6th ADMG Headquarters. Seven Officers, seven NCO's, and six Airmen were judged on phraseology, voice, attitude, contents, and composition, and ability to reply to

Please see Unit 12 Page 9

TAPS

The Association of Minemen wish to express their sympathy to the families of those departed loved ones who now reside with our Most Supreme Commander in the big Mine Shop

The following list of deceased minemen, and members of the Association of Minemen, and friends was compiled from back issues of the Minemen Newsletters and the Dashpots and from other source's. Compiled by Earl Roberts CDR USN RET.

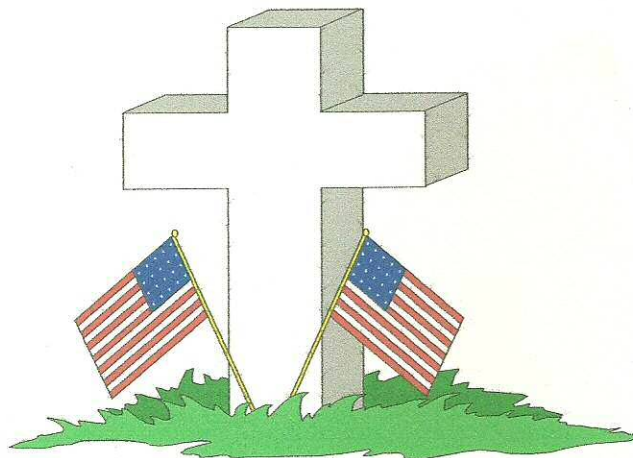
We invite additions or corrections. email me....Earl Roberts, tsr21@prodigy.com; snail mail. 610 Old Dominion Rd, Yorktown, VA 23692; phone (757) 898-4391

Key to where published: Dashpot (DP), Newsletter (NL). Issue: Spring (S), Summer (Su), Fall (F), Winter (W)

ABLA, LEWIS (N) MN AUG. 1969 (VA records)
 ANDERSON, Ronald F. MN OCT. 1970 (VA records)
 BAKER, Harold Thomas, MN1, 3/80 NL
 BARTELL, CWO, May 1983, McDonnell Army Hospital, Ft. Eustis, VA - 1/84 NL
 BEARD, Will A. MN1, (reported Naval Affairs 3/94 - F/94 DP
 BERKSHIRE, Tony "Red" MN, December 16, 1989, Mullen, ID - W 89/90 NL
 BILLINGS, R. A. LCDR, June 1982 - 11/82 NL
 BISHOP, BOBBY L., MNC, 2/82 NL
 BLAKE DOWELL G. MN JULY 1993 (VA records)
 BLANKENSHIP, Roby MNC, August 15, 1989, Virginia Beach, VA - W 89/90 NL
 BOGART, Frank CAPT, (was Chief of Staff of COMINLANT) - F 95 DP
 BOK, Theodore, MNC, (listed in Naval Affairs) - Su 96 DP
 BOONE, George, May 29, 1990 - S 90 NL
 BOORDA, Jeremy "Mike" ADM, CNO May 16, 1996 - Su 96 DP
 BOOTH, MNC - 2/81NL
 BOOTH, Mark L. CDR, January 28, 1988, Waynesburg, PA (associate member, WW II veteran, served on minesweepers) - S 89 NL
 BORNHOLTZ, Dennis E. MN1, (reported Naval Affairs May 1989) - S 89 NL
 BRANDON, William J. MNC, unknown date, from Naval Affairs - 2/91 DP
 BRANNON, James H. "Jim", December 3, 1992, Wooster, AZ - W 93 DP
 BRIGHT, Harry MNCS, 30 May 1987, Elizabeth City, NC - S 88 NL
 BROOKS, Kelly Ray MNSN, April 1984, Vidalia, LA - 1/85 NL
 BROOKS, Robert CDR, 12 October 1995, (was Ord. Off. of MAVMAG Subic) - W 95 DP
 BROOKS, Willie MNMCM, April, 1989, Long Beach, CA - S 89 NL
 BROSNAHAN, Frederick R., October 27, 1996, Emlenton, PA - W 96 DP
 BROWN, Harris MNC, (from Naval Affairs July 1994) - F 94 DP
 BROWN, John R. MNMCM, (listed in Naval Affairs November 1994) - W 94 DP
 BROWN, Roland MNC, September 4, 1995, Yorktown, VA - F 95 DP
 BRYAN, Marvin L. MNMCM, Sept. 1, 1986, Charleston, SC - 3/87 NL
 BURKE, Richard H. MN2, July 11, 1986, San Diego, CA - S 88 NL
 BURTON, Roy E. CDR, Oct. 1990, Charleston, SC (was CO Mine Warfare School, Charleston) - 2/91 DP
 CAFFREY, Edward D. MN DATE UNKNOWN (VA records)
 CARLSON, Ed, November 30 1991, WV - S 92 DP
 CARNESI, Martin Peter MNC, 17 December 1983, New Orleans, LA - S? 84 NL
 CASSIDY, Tom MN2, December 4 1991, NY - S 92 DP
 CARTER, William C. MN1, June 1985 - 7/85 NL

CITEV, Harry P. MN DEC. 1994 (VA records)
 CLEVER, Edwin C. (WW II mineman) Feb 19, 1986, Yorktown, VA - 3/87 NL
 COMECHEE, Jim MN2 - February 1981 NL
 COOK, William R. MN NOV. 1980 (VA records)
 COOPER, Joe MN JULY 1982 (VA records)
 COPE, Thomas C. MNC, (reported Naval Affairs June 1989) - S 89 NL
 COWELL, Charles S. Jr., February 1982 NL
 CRANMER Donald C. MN3 In 1976 (Letter from his sister)
 CURTIS, Donald P. MNC, December 1984, Bricktown, NJ - 1/85 NL
 DAUGHTREY, Charles H. MNC, 28 August 1988, Adel, GA - S 89 NL
 DAVIS, Jeffery MNSN - 2/81 NL
 DAVIS, Robert C.H. MN1 Jan. 1979 (VA records) 3/80 NL
 DELOZIER, Louis Philip MN1, December 1984, PA - 1/85 NL
 DICKISON, John M. MNC, July 19, 1994 Poulsbo, WA - F 94 DP
 DIGIOMICCO, MN1 - 2/81 NL
 DILLON, James CDR, May 5, 1990 - Su 90 NL
 DOTY, Robert E., MNMCM, 2/82 NL
 DRAPER, Frank LCDR, August 27 1993, Halifax, NC - F 94 DP
 DWYER, John "Pappy" MNC, June 1989, San Jose, CA - S 89 NL
 EAST, Holt "Pappy" MN1, August 26, 1996, Newport News, VA - S 97 DP
 EVRARD, William E. "Bear" CDR, June 11, 1985 - 12/85 NL
 FAIR, Rodney M. MNC, Gettysburg, PA - Su 97 DP
 FAIRBANKS, Herbert B. MNC, Sept. 13, 1986, Camp Lejeune, NC - 3/87 NL
 FELDMAN, Edwin L. MNSN, listed in March 1991 Naval Affairs - S 91 DP
 FISHER, Forrest C., MNC, 26 October 1982 (first President of the AOM) - 11/82 NL
 FISTER, Kenneth J., August 6, 1991, Williamsburg, VA (head of TE Dept, NMWEA) - S 92 DP
 FOWLER, Buck MNCS - 2/81 NL
 FREEMAN, Jacque L. MN OCT. 1971 (VA records)
 GALLATIN, Ralph A. MNC, (Naval Affairs October 1996) - W 96 DP
 GEROW, Ken, September 1995, Boca Raton, FL - F 95 DP
 GILES, October 1995, United Kingdom (creator of the Giles cartoon - W 95 DP
 GILLESPIE, Ernest "Dizzie" MN1, October 1995, Columbia, SC - W 95 DP
 GLOWA, Joe MNMCM, December 19, 1989, Long Beach, CA - W 89/90 NL
 GOLDEN, Edward E. (Sam) CDR, 15 January 1996, Fairfax, VA - S 96 DP
 GOODE, Noel A. "Gabby Goode" MNC, November 14, 1990, Martinez, CA - 2/91 DP
 GOOKIN, Victor MNC, (listed in Naval Affairs August 1995) - F 95 DP
 GOMEZ, Fidel, Hawthorne, NV (Joe Hernandez's brother in law - W 95 DP
 GOTTKKE, Harry F. MNC, (reported Naval Affairs June 1989) - S 9 NL
 GRANTHAM, E. B. Jr. RADM, Jan 1985, Charleston, SC (COMINLANT 1962-1964) - 1/85 NL
 GRAY, Roscoe MN2, June 1986, Colfax, NC - 6/86 NL
 HAMM, Harlan T. MNC, 30 April 1983, Lower Swynedd, PA - 1/84 NL
 HAYLO, Burton CWO, August 1994 - F 95 DP
 HAYMAN, Frank - 2/81 NL
 HAYNES, Bill, December 5, 1988, Sacramento, CA (WW II mineman) - S 89 NL & F 94 DP
 HENLY, JACK H. MNC JUNE 1962 (VA RECORDS)
 HESTON, Robert H. LCDR, March 1992, Richmond, SC (supply officer) - S 92 DP
 HILDEN, James MN JAN. 1984 (VA RECORDS)
 HOSTETTER, James A. MN1, Charleston, SC - Su 92 DP
 HUFFSTETTLER, Thomas MN Date Unknown (VA records)
 HUNT, Charlie MNC, August 4, 1996, Charleston, SC - F 96 DP
 HYDE, James M. March 1985, Rhode Island (associate member, member of the Yankee Mining Squadron that planted the North Sea Mine Barrage in WW I) - 7/85 NL
 HYND, John "Scottie", March 9 1996, Hawthorne, NV - S 96 DP
 IRELAND, Jerry, March 21, 1983, Cheyenne, WY - 1983 NL
 JACO, Elmer J. MNC, 1/84 NL
 JAMES, Joseph Hurschal, II MN3 September 1982 - 1/82 NL

JANKE, Roger LCDR, December 1992, Lady Lake, FL - F 94 DP
 JOEFFORDS, CDR - 2/81 NL (first NMEF/O-IN-C)
 JONES, R. Terry MN3, July 1982 - 11/82 NL
 JOOS, Harold W. CDR, June 1982 - 11/82 NL
 KELLY, John, September 2, 1996, Floral City, FL - W 96 DP
 KETNER, Roy L. CWO4, May 16 1991, Newport News, VA - S 91 DP
 KIRKPATRICK, Clifford MNC, listed in Naval Affairs May 1991 - S 91 DP
 KIRKWOOD, MNC, Goose Creek, SC - F 1995 DP
 KOBLEIN, Joseph S. "Tiny" (from Naval Affairs 4/84) - S? 84 NL
 KOJCSICH, John (Ret. Employee NMEF) - S 97 DP
 KOSSLER, Herman J. RADM, July 1, 1988 (past COMINLANT & COMINWARCOM Honorary Mineman, Number H010 - S 89 NL
 LAMBERT, Robert, Lebanon, OH - F & W 95 DP
 LIDGET, HENRY, - Bakersfield, CA - S 91 DP
 LINDLEY, James, MNC, February 82 NL
 LITTLE, William Joseph MN2, Dec. 12, 1981, Oakland, CA - 2/82 NL
 LONG, Landon L. MNC, (Red) Jan 31, 1991, Clifton Forge, VA - S 92 DP
 LUNDBERG, John Robert MNCM, 11 Jan 1983, of cancer, Lewiston, ME 83 Newsletter
 MACK, Donald G. Lt, July 20 1991, Garelochhead, Scotland - Su 91 DP
 MALLEY, Michael MNSN, June 4, 1986 - 3/87 NL
 MALONE "Dusty" MNC, unknown - 3/87 NL
 MANN, Herman J. MN SEPT. 1973 (VA RECORDS)
 MANON, John J., July 5, 1991, Wash. D.C. (worked at NAVORD & NAVSEA)- Su 91 DP
 MARSHALL, Franklin E. MN DEC. 1988 (VA RECORDS)
 MARSHALL, William H. MNC, June 14, 1991, Las Vegas, NV - Su 91 DP
 MCCANN, Frank Jr. MN2 - 1/84 NL
 MCCOY, B. "Bobby" F. MNC, August 1982 - 11/82 NL
 MCINTOSH, David M. CAPT, June 28, 1988, Gulfport, MS (assoc. mbr., COMINRON 4 1960-61)- S 89 NL
 McMAHON, William MN JULY 1991 (VA RECORDS)
 MELTON, Charles Edward MN1, Aug. 7, 1981, Huntsville, AL - 2/82 NL
 MERCHANT, Bill 1995, Reno, NV - F 95 DP
 METCALF, George MNC, August 4, 1989, Oak Harbor, WA - Su 80 NL
 MILLER JOE MN LATE 1953 OR EARLY 1954
 MILLER, Haines April 22, 1997, Palm Bay, FL (first TD at NMEF) - Su 97 DP
 MILLS, Ralph E. RADM, August 30, 1990, Charleston, SC (CO Cruiser- Minelayer Weekhawken in WW II)- 2/91 DP
 MINSTER, John J. MNC, May 27, 1990 - Su 1990 NL, Su 91 DP
 MUDD, Thomas, Jr. LT, January 7, 1983, McDonald Army Hospital, Ft. Eustis, VA - 83 NL
 NEVITT, Tom - February 1981 NL (Chief B. Arnacbeut of the Troubleshooter)
 NUNN, Robert L. MNSN JUNE 1991
 O'BRIEN, John LCDR, reported March 1992 TROA, WA - Su 92 DP
 O'BRIEN, Richard J. MN2, March 1991 Naval Affairs - S 91 DP
 ORMISTON, Robert R. MN1, (reported Naval Affairs) - W 89/90 NL
 PADGETT, Ralph W. LCDR, March 15, 1992 - S 92 DP
 PARKER, Robert E. CWO3, 28 November 28, 1987, Bristol, TN - S 88 NL
 PATRICK, J.D. MN1, Naval affairs May 1991 - S 91 DP
 PERRY, Vernon Wayne MNCM (DV), May 19, 1986, Indian Head, MD - 6/86 NL
 PETERSON, Richard Raymond MN2, 18 March 1983, Biloxi, MS - 1/84 NL
 PETIT C. E. (JOE) MNC DATE UNKNOWN
 PHILIPS, Alonzo MNC, February 1985, Bremerton, WA - 7/85 NL
 POWELL, Leroy MN1, Charleston, SC - S 95 DP



PRIESTLY Rodney G. MN1, Naval Affairs May 1991 - S991 DP
 STEGALLY, Benjamin W. "Ben" LCDR, December 17, San Antonio, TX - W 93 DP
 RAY, Avon P. MNC, February 1985, Yelm, WA - July 85 NL
 REAMS, Sam, (civilian employee at NMEF/NMWEA) Su 97 DP
 RICHARDS, Wallace "Wally" Lt, Early 1990, Washington State (AO LDO at NMEF) - Su 90 NL
 RICHFIELD, Norbert, February 1985 (assoc. mbr., illustrator and technical writert NMEF/NMWEA) - 7/85 NL
 RINES, Bob, LT, June 27 1996, Farmington, NH - F 96 DP
 ROBLE, John MNC DATE UNKNOWN
 ROLLINS, Marvin MN1, unknown - 3/87 NL
 ROTHSTEIN, Richard MN1 Date unknown (VA RECORDS)
 ROME, Bob MN1, 3/80 NL
 ROUSSEAU, Paul Emile MNCM, May 10, 1991, Charleston, SC - S 91DP
 RUTT, Theodore R. MN1, (Naval Affairs March 1989) - S 89 NL
 RYAN, Carleton E. MN1, (INaval Affairs February 1996) - S 96 DP
 SBEI, John Joseph "J.J." MNCM, February 7, 1993, Charleston, SC (was Force Master Chief at COMINWARCOM)- W 93 DP
 SCARIANO, Nick, June 1987, CA - S 88 NL
 SHACKELFORD, Louis H. (employee of NMWEA) September 26, 1987 - S 88 NL
 SHEPHERD, William Francis "Shep" October 1983, Charleston, S. C. 1/84 NL
 SIEGLE, John LTJG, October 5 1994, Yorktown, VA - F 94 DP
 SMITH, Raymond MNC - F 94 DP
 SMITH, Richard J. MN1, Su 1987, Charleston, SC - S 88 NL
 SMOOT, Earl A. MNC, January 1991, Yorktown, VA - S 91 DP
 SPANGLER, E. O., April 1986, Norfolk, VA - Jun 86 NL
 SPRECHER, Herbert E. "Ed" CDR, January 14 1986, Washington, DC (first mineman to go from MNSN to CDR) - 1/86 NL
 STANLEY, Gordon S. MN1, 1981 - 11/82 NL
 STEGALL, Emory Ray "SAM" MNC, November 1, 1988, Jackson, MS - S 89 NL
 STEVENS, Wyatt B. MN1, December 1983, Charleston S. C. - 1/84 NL
 STEWART, Doug Captain, February 1985, Charleston, SC (assoc. mem., past COMINRON 2) - 7/85 NL
 STOKER, Jimmie D. MNCM, Apr 19, 1987, Long Beach, CA - S 88 NL
 TAPLEY, Andrew S. MNC, March 9, 1983, Mountain View, AZ - 83 NL
 TERRY, William Rufus MNC, April 16, 1997, Charleston, SC - Su 97 DP
 THORP, Jack CDR - February 81 NL
 THOMPSON, Frank MNC, April 22, 1992, Naval Hosp. Bremerton, WA W 93 DP
 THOMPSON, Vernon L. MNCS, November 1985 - 12/85 NL
 TRASK, Robert LCDR, August, 25, 1990, - 2/91 DP
 TURNER, Robert B. MNC, July 12, 1991, San Diego, CA - Su 91 DP
 VETTS, Charles MN1, January 1996, near Earle, NJ - Su 96 DP
 WALDROP, Vernon E. MN FEB. 1987 (VA RECORDS)
 WALTERMARSEN, MNC - 2/81 NL
 WATERS, D. "Muddy" RADM, Florida (was CO of NMD/NWS Yorktown) - 3/87 NL
 WEBSTER, Gordon MNC, 17 April 1984, Portsmouth, VA - S? 84 NL
 WEIDNER, John MN3 - February 1981 NL
 WELCH, Raymond E. MNC, 13 Apr 1984, Homesread, FL - S? 84 NL
 WILLIAMS, Calvin, (brother of Henry Williams) - F 96 DP
 WILLIAM, James D. MNC MAY 1981 (VA RECORDS)
 WILSON, David D. LT - 2/81 NL
 WITHINGTON, F. S. RADM, Dec. 22, 1982 (was Chief, BUORD instrumental in establishing NMEF) - 1983 NL

Unit 12 from Page 6

questions. Although one winner and runner-up was chosen, all participants were winners as far as the judges were concerned. I wished my Japanese was as good - LCDR **Simmons**.

Congratulations go to LCDR **Simmons**, LCDR **Rasmussen** (CO NRMOMAU 119) and MN3 **Richard Rosser** on their promotion to their present rank!

Recent award winners include:

Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal: MN1 **Joseph Miller**

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal: MN1 **Patrick Rappley** (COMINEWARCOM) YN2 **Donnie Wilson** (second award) (COMSEVENTHFLT) MN3 **Tamara Motley** (second award) (COMOMAG) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Medal MN1 **Charles Miller** COMOMAG 1996 Junior Sailor of the Year MN3 **Tamara Motley**

MOMAU 12 Sailors of The Quarter, First Quarter 1997 MN1 **Charles Miller**, MN3 **Tamara Motley**

Hails:

MN1 **Charles "Joe" Miller** from MOMAU ELEVEN. Charleston SC MNSA **Helena Hatlevig** (Maltsberger), MNSA **Lance Douglas**, MNSA **Joseph "JT" Matelski** and MNSA **John Todd "JT" Wallace** all from MWTC Ingleside TX.

Farewells: MN3 **Margaret Wilson** transferred to MOMAU 8 Guam, MN2 **Tiffany Steele** was discharged locally, MN1 **Patrick Rappley** transferred to the Fleet Reserve.

Sayonara for now until the next edition of the Dashpot, Stay in touch, shipmates...

Shrike MHC 62
Commissioned
May 24 1997

MOMAU 14

by unit 14

Greetings from MOMAU FOURTEEN located in historic Yorktown Virginia. Well it was a great summer, we all enjoyed the weather and took advantage of it and participated in many outdoor activities. with Busch Gardens located nearby, many of our sailors had season passes and it wasn't unusual to find the XO there everynight for the last hour the park was open riding the roller coasters with his daughters. We even had a UNIT FOURTEEN day at the park where MN3 **Nagle** reenlisted in the front car of the Drachen Fire roller coaster with most of the command in the remaining cars. Needless to say we all had a great time. We also got to help out the community by working with the VA hospital during one of their veterans day fairs and we worked putting up smoke detectors around the peninsula during "A Day of Caring". Hers are some items of interest pertaining to our crew:

Arrivals:

MNSR **Matthew E. Koehler**, I MNSR **Kenneth F. Tallchief** and MNSR **Patrick K. Brady, Jr.** - all from Pineman "A" School

Departures:

Early out program

MN2 **Gary J. Keeney** now residing in TN and MN3 **Tracy A. Kelly** now residing in WA

TERA program

MN1 **Christopher J. Asaro** - scheduled for December 97 SK1 **William T. White** - scheduled for October 97

Reenlistments

MN3 **Nagle** for 4 years on 24 July!

MN2 **Edwards** for 4 years on 8 August

Awards:

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal MN2 **Rickaby**

SSOQ/JSOQ:

MN2 **Joseph K. Kirker, III**, SSOQ, 3rd QTR, 1997, YNSN **Patricia C. Henderson**, JSOQ, 3rd OTR, 1997

Transfers:

MN3 **Gerald L. Crain** - "C" School - to follow on to MCM 8, USS SCOUT, Sep 97, MN2 **Andrea L. Edwards** - to Unit FIVE, Sigonella, Nov 97

Letter of Appreciation for annual Veterans Administration Volunteer Services County Fair, Hampton VA: LT. **Kenneth R. Allen**, CO Unit 14, MN1 **Julie J. Porter**, MN1 **Barbara L. Davies**, MN1 **Timothy D. Lowder**, MN1 **Richard L. Rollins**, MN2 **Andrea S. Dussault**, MN3 **Martin Clebowicz**, MN3 **Timothy L. Velas** and YNSN **Patricia G. Henderson**.

MOMAU 15

by YNC Krenek

How Ya'll shipmates and friends from around the world doing? It's still hot as ever here Deep in the Heart of Texas. We've had a few drops of rain, oh maybe a thimble full. We are building up for the upcoming Operation Cooperative TELOS-97 exercise, so the steaming seamen are still hard at work. In November we have our Assist Visit, for the upcoming MRCI, we all know how much fun those are. MN3 **Gonzalez** (GONZO) just got back from a 10 week TAD trip to Hawthorne, Nevada assisting in the MK 56 demill program (yea right, we know what he was doing, (ching, ching) he was playing those one am bandits. The command recently had an awards ceremony by LT. **R. F. Davis**, COMOMAG (actually he is our Commanding Officer) until LT. **Downing** comes aboard in October) along with him was Gunner **Michael R. Bryant**, assuming the role as XO for awhile (he needed a break from COMOMAG already, he's-only been there for six weeks). Anyway the awardees were: MN1(SW) **Arcand** who received a NAM, 5th Good Conduct Award, Senior Sailor

Please see MOMAU 15 Page 10

of The Quarter and above all that he also became a grandfather on 1 September 1997. His daughter gave birth to a 6 pound 2 ounce baby girl by the name of **Jennifer**. If you know **MN1 Arcand**, then you also know he fits the grandfather role. Other awardees were: **MN2 (AW) East** who received a Certificate of Recognition, **YN3 Martinez** a new member to MOMAU-15, he received a NATO Medal, **MN3 Angle** who was recently advanced to third class from being in the top 10 from Mineman "A" school, also received a Certificate of Appreciation and winner of a 24 hour special liberty chit for having the best uniform during Personnel Inspection. **MN3 Rexford** was also advanced through the accelerated advancement program from Mineman "A" School. **YN3 Gagne**, who will transfer to Brunswick, ME real Soon received a Letter of Appreciation. **MNSA Reeves** is our new Junior Sailor of the Quarter and **MNSA White** received a Certificate of Appreciation. **MN1 Winbush** a reservist from Michigan checked onboard for two weeks for his ACDUTRA, we sure will keep him busy. Some of our shipmates that have transferred are **MN1(AW) Hickman**, **MN2 Elsbury** and **MN2(AW) Christmas**, they all went to the Mine Warfare Training Center, Ingleside for School. It's time so say "Adios" from deep in the heart of Mine Warfare Excellence.

NOTE

Articles submitted are printed without verification and are as perceived by the author. Editing by the Dashpot (to reduce space) is for length not content. The AOM does not assume responsibility, accuracy or authorship on submitted articles.

Minemen & Mines in the News

The Focs'le 7/2/97

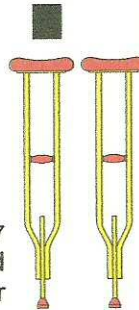
MN3 Orville Hall was pictured troubleshooting USS Heron sonar while undergoing repairs after the ship was struck by lightning. **MN1(SW) Anthony Bartoli** MCM Rotational Crew Charlie on USS Gladiator participated in helping Heron get back on line after the lightning strike. "The lightning went into different sections of the ship, breaking off, instead of going in a straight line," explained **MN1(SW) Paul King** of SIMA's R-4 Division. "That's why it affected so many systems." Other Minemen listed in the article were **MN1 Robert Gutierrez** and **MN2 Keith Jacobson**, MCM Rotational Crew Foxtrot member **MN2(SW) Robert Weatherholt** earned his Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualification. Navsta Ingleside's softball team boasts two Minemen **MN2 Dean Carr** of Rotational Crew Hotel and **MN2 Darwin Robinson** of Crew Golf.

Focs'le 6/6/97

After 22 years since inception the Inspection Group was disestablished on 30 May 1997. Over the period more than 1500 inspections and assist visits were conducted. Under reorganization of COMINWARCOM the responsibility for inspections and visits for mine sites will come under COMOMAG. Billets gained from the Inspection group were utilized to form a third mine countermeasures staff overseeing maintenance and operations of MCM ships at Ingleside. USS Shrike MHC 62 last authorized her Osprey class was commissioned

**NEXT ARTICLE
DUE DATE
December 10
1997**

BINNACLE LIST



We hear that all is going well with Hal Elston recovering from both having his right corotid artery cleaned out and removal of an aneurism on his aorta (done at different times). Both procedures went well.

We also heard through the grapevine that Charlie (CW) Miller (NMWEA, retired) has had a slight stroke.

at Savannah GA on May 24. Primary mission is reconnaissance, classification and neutralization of moored and bottom mines in littoral areas, harbors and coastal waterways. The ship is armed with two .50 caliber machine guns; a high definition, variable-depth sonar; and a remotely operated robotic submarine used to neutralize mines.

MNSR Charles Garner, student, FMWTC was pictured and quoted in the papers Mindsweep column.

FMWTC gets a new skipper. Capt. **James A. Haggart** relieved CDR **Michael J. O'Moore** as Commanding Officer of Mine Warfare Training Center, Ingleside. on 18 July. Capt. **Haggart** has extensive experience in airborne mine countermeasures.

Euro Deployers return to Ingleside. USS Inchon, USS Scout and USS Devastator with almost 900 crew members arrived back home July 15th after the four month deployment. Of note to the trekkies over 300,000 e-mail messages were processed.

The Booster 7/97

MN3 Amy Powers was pictured participating in morning colors at NWS Yorktown VA.

Coastal Courier 6/6/97

Magic Lantern was born out of tragedy, when USS Samuel B Roberts struck a mine in 1987. The U.S. Navy envisioned a need to improve its mine countermeasures capability. Development efforts to use laser technology to detect mines from helicopters was initiated. Test flights conducted in 1989 and 1990 demonstrated the new minehunting

device had outstanding capabilities in locating moored, surface and bottom planted mines. The only concern was the narrow swath width and manual target detection by the sensor operator. Those concerns were remedied. In 1991 its capability was proven during Desert Storm. In 1994 Magic Lantern was improved again providing deeper and wider search capabilities.

Coastal Courier 7/3/97

Distributed Explosive Technology system (DET) was turned over to production contractors by Surface Warfare Center's Indian Head Division. DET is a 180 Foot by 180 foot rocket-deployed explosive net designed to clear shallow surf zones of mines and obstacles. Along with Coastal Systems Stations Shallow Water Assault Breaching system, a lane is cleared to allow troops access to shore. The contract calls for a small number of explosive loaded and inert DET's to be utilized in reaching the next milestone toward full approval.

AOM Home Page

by John Loonam

If you haven't checked out the AOM Home Page on the net you're missing a great opportunity to see mines, mine sweepers, the USS Yorktown, Mine Museum and a raft of mine related information. If you don't have the internet, drop in on a neighbor that does and ask them to let you look at <http://battle.netgate.net> Its worth the time and really enjoyable to review. **Fred Dane** and **Hal Elston** have done a tremendous job getting our organization into the 21st century. I see putting the Dashpot there in the future.

**Association Logo
Paraphernalia (shirts,
hats, tie tac, sweat shirts,
jackets etc) available. For
order blank & prices
Contact Lyal Stryker (address P2)**

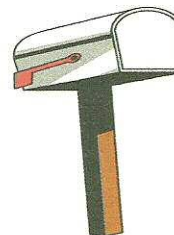
History Book

by John Loonam

Just a heads up on what was discussed at the 23 Annual reunion in San Diego concerning the History Book. **Lyal Stryker**, Sec/Treas told the group that the almost final galley proofs of the Vietnam stories were in his hands for final proofing. Upon return to Charleston from the Reunion he would call a meeting of Charlston folks to go over the corrections submitted. When they were incorporated the publishing company was sending their editor to Charleston for an illustration/text layout final. This was to take place and the book was to go to production. He expected to have delivery of the books in November 1997. The labeling and mailing will follow immediately.

Humor

A veteran Navy Captain and a shiny new Ensign, flying cross country, were approaching lake Michigan when a warning came of a thunderstorm ahead. At the controls, the confident Ensign dashed off a note on his knee-pad that they could easily beat the storm across the lake. The weather-wise Captain promptly shook his head, signaling the Ensign to go around the lake. Not one to give up easily, the stubborn young pilot wrote "have over twenty hours over-water flying time, we'll go across," The Captain promptly scribbled back "have two days in the water time, we WILL go around."



Mineman Offspring
Ties the Knot. YN3
Tina R. Longway,
Daughter of Jim and
Kume Longway,
married MM1(SS)
Jason F. Burk on 24
April. A formal

ceremony and reception were held on 16 August 1997. Tina and Jason will settle in Richmond, Virginia.

Had a few phone calls from Frank Whipple. He is employed in the computer programming business in Columbia, SC. He says he loves the work and accompanying pay.

Saw an article in The American legion magazine 7/97 on reunions. Mine Assembly Base West Loch TH (HI 40-46) #21094. Call (900) 737-VETS and give Number to operator. 8-5 Central time \$1.95 min usually takes 3 min.

Lavon DeCrona is on the road to recovery after gall bladder surgery.



The Officer of the deck (OOD) asked the starboard lookout what he would do if a man fell overboard. "I'd yell man overboard" replied the lookout. The OOD then asked what he would do if an officer fell overboard, the sailor hesitated for a moment then asked "which one, sir?"

The British Admiralty once issued this order. "It is necessary for technical reasons that warheads should be stored upside down, with the top at the bottom and the bottom at the top. In order that there may be no doubt as to which is the bottom and which is the top, for storage purposes, it will be seen that the bottom of each warhead has been labeled with the word **top**."

**Association of Minemen
P.O. Box 71835
Charleston, SC 29415-1835**

**Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Charleston SC**

ASSOCIATION of MINEMEN

1975—22 YEARS—1997

CHARLESTON SC

**San Diego, California
AUG 8-10 '97
Reservation Form Inside**