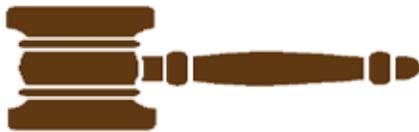




# THE DASHPOT



Issue 63 Newsletter of the Association of Minemen Fall 2008



## FROM THE PRESIDENT Robert Hart

The reunion arrangements are rapidly coalescing thanks to the many people who have assisted and guided me in my first year as your Association of Minemen President.

In this place, I wish to thank those who have worked hard and diligently to make this reunion come to fruition. Dick Schommer has been carrying the ball in making the arrangements with The Town and Country Inn, Toby Horn has secured the agreement of Dr. Walter Leventhal, MD to be our guest speaker on Saturday evening at the dinner, and Swede Carlsen has kept me up to date on the applications for scholarship assistance. Ron Swart is and has been a pillar of support and guidance in the AOM "Matters of State". Phil Dechene and others have been keeping me apprised of the passing of several of our members and others. Thanks also to Bill Fortner and Curtis Christian for their efforts in this great organization.

On the active duty side, MOMAU 11 has a new Commanding Officer. LCDR Marc Goode assumed command of the unit on 15 August 2008 at the US Naval Weapons Station, Goose Creek. Welcome Aboard, Sir. A letter has gone out to LCDR Goode requesting the assignment of two enlisted personnel to participate as ex officio members of the AOM Board of Directors and General Business meetings, as agreed to at the reunion in San Diego last year, for the purpose of obtaining the active duty thoughts and perspectives of being involved with the AOM.

In the Spring 2008 edition of the Dashpot, I touched on the subject of establishing a precedence for the notification of the death of AOM

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## 34TH ANNUAL ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN REUNION, CHARLESTON, SC

**OCTOBER 10-12, 2008**

By this time you have probably determined your travel plans to the 34th Annual Reunion. The weather is great and the gas prices are down (\$3.39) per gallon. The Early Bird will start around 1600, in the hospitality room Salons C&D on Friday 10 Oct 08. Adult beverages, soft drinks, and light snacks will be available.

Due to ordnance moves on the base there will be no Tour of MOMAU 11. Do not send me anymore personnel information for the tour. Those that sent information, the information has been shredded.

Meeting for the Board of Directors will be in the hospitality room Salons C&D on Saturday 11 Oct 08 at 1100.

Membership Meeting at 1300 Hospitality Room Salons C&D.

Dinner will be at approximately 1900, but a no host bar will be set up at 1800 and will be available through out the evening. Menu is Seafood Buffet which is printed on the reservation form. Dress for the dinner is casual dinner attire, no shorts please. I must have a

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# THE 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 with the mission of perpetuating knowledge of undersea mine warfare and championing its necessity as one of America's first lines of defense.



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## President continued.

members and others affiliated with the Mine community. If you learn of a death, please notify me, as Chaplain, Phil Dechene and Bill Fortner, to get the information included on the AOM home page and in the next edition of the Dashpot.

I hope to see you at the Association of Minemen reunion in October.

---

## Reunion continued.

count of dinners by 06 Oct 08.

Picnic starts around 1200 on 12 Oct 08. Pool, and Salon areas. Standard picnic vittles. The Scholarship Auction will be held soon after the picnic winds down. Bring MONEY or your CHECKBOOK both are legal tender, and bring auction items. This is for a great cause.

Hope to see ya all in Charleston. If you have any questions about the reunion give me a call at 843-797-3715 or send me an e-mail at [rdschommer@hotmail.com](mailto:rdschommer@hotmail.com)

---

## **NAVY OFFICERS' COMMUNITY GETS NEW NAME**

The officers who oversee the Navy's underwater mine countermeasures and expeditionary salvage missions will now be known as Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) officers, according to NAVADMIN 364/07. Previously, they were called special operations officers. The change reflects these officers' core mission, and eliminates possible confusion with special operations missions in the other armed services.

EOD officers will wear a new device, described as a gold-plated, mirror-like polished metal pin which resembles the existing master explosive ordnance disposal insignia. The new device will be available in all Navy exchanges no later than April. For more information, contact Cmdr. Charles Andrews, the EOD officer community manager, at (901) 874-4991 / DSN 882, or by e-mail at [Charles.h.andrews@navy.mil](mailto:Charles.h.andrews@navy.mil).



## **SCHOLARSHIP SCOOP**

by Swede Carlsen

All twelve applications for AOM scholarships have been awarded. Four were given by the AOM membership, one was given as a memorial in the name of Harold (Bing) Hynal and seven were donated by AOM'S loyal anonymous donor.

The following applicants were awarded an AOM assistance scholarship:

1. Kyle Appleton  
Muhlenberg College
2. James Carlsen  
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
3. Michelle M. Caputo  
College of New Rochelle
4. Kristina M. Cavallo  
SUNY Cortland
5. Lori-Ann Cavallo  
SUNY Geneseo
6. Joelle Gagnon  
University of Rhode Island
7. Nicole Loonam  
West Virginia University
8. Kylie Murray  
University of Pittsburgh
9. Glen Wallace  
College of San Mateo
10. John Wallace  
Oregon State University
11. Lindsey Wallace  
University of Puget Sound
12. Scott M. Wallace  
Santa Clara University

Congratulations to all awardees!

Are you looking forward to the AOM'S picnic auction? Please bring neat items to be auctioned off to raise money for 2009 AOM Assistance Scholarships. Let's make a good start on next year scholarships.  
**STAND TALL AMERICA**



# From the Webmaster

Below are recently changed or added e-mails on the AOM WEB Site. There have been several inquiries about e-mail addresses on the AOM WEB Site that are bouncing. If you are listed on the site please check to see if your address is correct. If changes are required or you wish to be listed on the site e-mail me the information at [pdechene@triad.rr.com](mailto:pdechene@triad.rr.com).  
Phil DeChene AOM WEB Master

## E-mail – Active Duty

## E-mail – Reservist

## E-mail – Retired

08/22/08 - Robert (Bob) Hart MNC; [mncrn@roadrunner.com](mailto:mncrn@roadrunner.com)

08/06/08 - Stephen L. McManus MN1; [stephen\\_l\\_mcmanus@yahoo.com](mailto:stephen_l_mcmanus@yahoo.com)

07/16/08 - Mark Zinnel MN1 (SW); [mark.zinnel@navy.mil](mailto:mark.zinnel@navy.mil)

07/16/08 - Boyd (Bing) Billingsley MN1; [boyd.billingsley@vtmilcom.com](mailto:boyd.billingsley@vtmilcom.com)

07/16/08 - Archie D. Mosley MN2; [amosley@centurytel.net](mailto:amosley@centurytel.net)

07/08/08 - Bill Bash MNC; [wbash@cox.net](mailto:wbash@cox.net)

07/03/08 - Bill Darlington EX- MN2; [bdarlington@nc.rr.com](mailto:bdarlington@nc.rr.com)

06/24/08 - Roy (Nick) Willey MN1; [oransay@verizon.net](mailto:oransay@verizon.net)

06/17/08 - Tommy Boyles MN1; [tommy.l.boylesjr.civ@mcs.navy.mil](mailto:tommy.l.boylesjr.civ@mcs.navy.mil); [tommy\\_texas2005@yahoo.com](mailto:tommy_texas2005@yahoo.com)

06/11/08 - John Bray MNCS; [John.Bray@fe.navy.mil](mailto:John.Bray@fe.navy.mil); [john\\_bray1980@hotmail.com](mailto:john_bray1980@hotmail.com)

06/10/08 - Jerry Williams MN1 (SW); [jerry.williams@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerry.williams@sbcglobal.net)

## E-mail – Former Minemen

08/22/08 - Misty S. Rains MN3; [eternalblue83@yahoo.com](mailto:eternalblue83@yahoo.com)

08/22/08 - Chris G. Harris MN3; [kitgharris@yahoo.com](mailto:kitgharris@yahoo.com)

08/22/08 - Daniel J. Szarek MN3; [danny.szarek@conus.army.mil](mailto:danny.szarek@conus.army.mil)

08/06/08 - Jack Allen Powell MN2; [33jpowell@cox.net](mailto:33jpowell@cox.net)

08/04/08 - Robert Campbell MN2; [popbob@charter.net](mailto:popbob@charter.net)

07/16/08 - Ron Glasen MN3; [kegmine@hotmail.com](mailto:kegmine@hotmail.com)

06/11/08 - Rich Joyce MN2; [warden432@verizon.net](mailto:warden432@verizon.net)

06/09/08 - John Merrell; 1973; [JohnMerrell@Merrells.info](mailto:JohnMerrell@Merrells.info)

06/01/08 - Roy Ford MN2; [rfordcva34@yahoo.com](mailto:rfordcva34@yahoo.com)

06/01/08 - John Bishop MN3; [johnbishop\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:johnbishop_2000@yahoo.com)

**You can say any foolish things to a dog, and the dog  
will give you a look that says, "My God, you're right!  
I never would've thought of that!"  
-Sean Connery**



# DEAD E-MAIL ADDRESSES



Derick Hartshorn (<http://www.hartshorn.us/Navy/navy-index.htm>) has compiled a list of personnel that have dead e-mails on the AOM WEB Pages. If you want to update your information please send an updated e-mail to Phil DeChene: [pdechene@triad.rr.com](mailto:pdechene@triad.rr.com).

"Eddie Atkins"	<Eddie.Atkins@spirentcom.com>
"David Badger"	<akbadger@gci.net>
"Penny (Lackey) Baker"	<PenLou6@aol.com>
"William (Bill) Bannon"	<wbannon2@email.msn.com>
"Paul M. Becker"	<pablito_28@hotmail.com>
"Fred Bergey"	<fbergey@mindspring.com>
"Richard Bonfiglio"	<rb100144@msn.com>
"D. J. (Don) Branan"	<d.branan@attbi.com>
"Allen R. Broyles"	<mn1arb@aol.com>
"Debbie Lathrow Chitwood"	<chitwood@pyramid3.net>
"Dave Clark"	<DaveDH@netzero.net>
"Chris (Hako) Corino"	<minegirl2@yahoo.com>
"Eric Crews"	<ecrews1@hotmail.com>
"Dearing Dawg"	<mncsdawg@hotmail.com>
"Dennis Doerr"	<dman@dycon.com>
"Cecili C. Dorrell"	<Cecil.Dorrell@erdc.usace.army.mil>
"Ted Elhajj"	<ted_elhajj@yahoo.com>
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"Edward Gard"	<elgordo@finalcom.net>
"Don Gatewood"	<dineh52@prodigy.net>
"Ralph Glendenning"	<rwg@nmia.com>
"Russell R. Gore Jr"	<Golfply@adelphia.net>
"Ray Green"	<RayG@paraigmlearning.com>
"Roger Hanich"	<rhanich@mchsi.com>
"Fred Hansen"	<fthansen@attbi.com>
"Ben Harman"	<rooffixr99@hotmail.com>
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"Blas (Joe) Hernandez"	<ifont76@cs.com>
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“Dennis Linner”	<wwonders@olypen.com>
“Mike Locke”	<Mike.Locke@fernald.com>
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“Bob McNeal”	<taloft@westsound.com>
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“Dan Zimmerman”	<dzimmer281@aol.com>

# Happy 55th



Saturday, August 2, 2008 at 6:29 p.m.

Today, Annie and I have been married 55 years. That seems like an amazing time. For us the years have passed quickly and many times we cannot believe that we have been so lucky. So I wanted to share this day with all of you since you have been with us through all the duty stations, the good times and the best of times...



RAY & ANN COBBS



Editor's Note: The younger generation have no idea what an incredible accomplishment this is. I remember driving to my quarters on Guam and seeing a 3 feet wide banner of brown paper across the wide expanse of the second story of Ray's quarters that proudly proclaimed to the entire world,

**"LORDY, LORDY! ANNIE'S FORTY!!"**

By sunset the odds were 235 to 1 against Ray surviving until sunrise. :-)

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WHO IS MORE IRRATIONAL? A MAN WHO BELIEVES IN A GOD HE DOES NOT SEE, OR A MAN WHO IS OFFENDED BY A GOD HE DOES NOT BELIEVE IN?

-BRAD STINE

---



## **BINNACLE LIST**

**William Wildman**

I talked to Bill Wildman's wife, Ludi, last night. She said that Bill has completed chemo and radiology treatments and is back home again resting and recovering from his ordeal. He's lost some weight but his doctors have reportedly given him a good prognosis. Typical for Ludi, she said she was real happy with what the doctors have said about his treatments and for us not to worry about Bill.  
R/Chuck

**Don Branan**

**9/11/2008**

I received a telephone call from Joe Hernandez stating that Donald J. Branan, MNC, retired, just had an operation for an aortic aneurysm and that he doing well. Branan was born February 7, 1930, so he isn't a young stud that might have had an easier time with such an operation.

We wish Don a speedy recovery. Oh, Don did mention that he hopes to be well enough to make the October AOM reunion.

Take care, Don DeCrona

## **NEXT DASHPOT ARTICLES ARE DUE 1 DEC 2008**



## **MAIL BAG**

**Kyle Appleton**

Thank you very much for the Association of Mineman's 2008 Scholarship Assistance Award for \$750.00. I am enrolled in Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA and planning to major in Chemistry with a minor in Spanish. I have applied the scholarship to next semester's tuition bill (which makes my parents extremely happy!) and helps me out tremendously. Thanks again. I am working hard to validate your confidence in me and my academic abilities.  
Kyle Appleton

**Z. O. Chuhay**

Talked to ZOC Chuhay last night. He has moved to an assisted living facility in Pensacola, FL. I'm sure he would appreciate a card, letter, or phone call from his many friends.

Mr. Z. O. Chuhay  
Broadview Assisted Living; Room 128  
2510 Abbie Lane  
Pensacola, FL 32514  
Phone: 850-505-9908

**Joe and Mark Hernandez**

Lt. Joe Hernandez is on UTUBE. If you would put a mention in the next newsletter to that effect. Enter [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJulV\\_kDqYM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJulV_kDqYM) in the search box of your web browser.

Take care, Bill Roberts

Note: They will be keeping their day jobs.....

**Tommy E. Hoagn**

**7-26-08**

A note to let you know I haverelocated to Arkansas from California and been very busy taking care of problems of a new home I had built here in Arkansas, County of Benton, dirt road, well for water, septic, no cable however do have electric and finally got telephone service, no fast speed internet however but do have the old computer going. enclosed is my new phone # and e-mail.

Keep the Dashpot coming and hope all is well.

**Nicholas Squillace**

**June 27, 2008**

I am writing to let you know what has been happening with me in the past year. I went to Chile this past December to finish my minor in Spanish. Unfortunately, I was in a major accident with a glass door inside our hotel. I spent almost a week in the hospital in Santiago, Chile. The whole experience was eye opening and it really made me reconsider my plans.

I am fortunate to have found a career path I am absolutely thrilled with. I have applied to a master's program in public health at Wright State University to commence this coming fall. I am still awaiting their response but am optimistic with my excellent credentials. I believe that I will ultimately end up pursuing my PhD in elidemiology or another branch under public health, but I am taking it one step at a time.

I graduated from Wright State UNiversity this past March with my Bachelor's degree in Bio-

logical Sciences with my minor in Spanish. I am currently at a small 2-year college in downtown Dayton as an adjunct instructor for allied health students.

I want to thank you so much for your immense support throughout my academic career at Wright State University.

Sincerely, Nicholas Squillace

---

**John Wallace** **July 29, 2008**

Dear Association of Minemen,  
Thank you for the Association of Minemen's 2008 Scholarship Assistance Award.

I am now in my senior year, am on track to graduate next June and have greatly appreciated your help throughout the years.

Sincerely, John Wallace

---

**Ed Oyer** **11 July 2008**

Bill, greetings:

As to the photo: LT John Koerber; MNC Bartazal left; Chief Cobis right; Maurice McCune upper left.

Additional on Master Chief's Hawthorne fine recollections.

While at quarters one morning, we were advised that Chief Jones GMC had committed suicide on the 1st deck of our barracks - pretty tricky to do with a shotgun. We swabs also took on the Marines in the indoor rifle range and promptly gave lessons!!

I, too, filled and soldered boosters, in 1954, in one of those cement rooms (12" thick walls) using the steam iron. We also cleaned and painted five gallon cans of an ABC agent and reworked some service MK 6 mines going to WestPac. One case rolled off the dolly and hit the deck and I turned to a 3rd class next to me and he had his fingers in his ears - you know we never let him forget that.

I was also the nominated 37 passenger bus driver as I had a license from Pearl when the USS Shea was in dry dock and had completed the explosive drivers course too.

There was a MNC there - Pence EOD type - sharp too.

I shot a few rabbits out behind Mt Grant with a .38 special (long barrel) that I often wore (holstered) in town except on the side of the street where the Post Office was (only restric-

tions). YeHaw, the old wild west!! We also found a few old gold mines and some Geographics magazines - new cars \$200, etc.

I came into Hawthorne on Bonanza Air Lines - what a flight that was!!

I left on a bus to Vegas then out to Nellis AFB and got a hop on a General's plane to Bolling Field, Wash DC.

Yes, I'd want to do a two year tour there, but once I made Second Class, it was off to "B" school. I miss the El Capitain too.

Ed Oyer

---

**Birddog's Last Name**

ZO Chuhay, formerly of NAD, Hawthorne, NV, mid-1950s, said "Birddog" was an MNC, however, he believes the man's last name was Hylo instead of Hyder. He also said MNC Hylo was promoted to Warrant Officer. Maybe someone else, possibly an AOM member, would happen to know what the man's last name was.

Thanks for your help. Don Jones

---

**Harold Elston** **13 Sep 2008**

I just got this from Nolan Barb about Elston being in the hospital, Barb was on one of the DMS in Korea. I thought I would send this along; later. Fred Dane

Thought it would be ok to send an SOS to all that know Harold Elston to send an email to [haroldelst@sbcglobal.net](mailto:haroldelst@sbcglobal.net). -He is being transferred to a hospital near Okl. City. He cannot speak, but can communicate by his laptop. If you know someone I missed please forward to them. At this point we are all getting older than dirt. Started out as bladder infection, turned into pneumonia. Everybody take a moment to say a prayer for him. Hope you all love & respect Harold as much as we do. Goes without saying we feel the same about each one of you also. Take care & God Bless & keep you.

Love Nolan & Donna

If all is not lost...  
where is it?



## TAPS

**CWO4 Wesley L. Keith, USN (Ret.)**

From: [gunnerwlk@aol.com](mailto:gunnerwlk@aol.com)

Date: 07/02/08 21:20:46

Hi, my name is Kimberly and I am Wes' daughter. I just thought you would like to know that my Dad passed away on June 21.

I'm sure my Dad would want me to let you know since you had emailed together so many times before. Take care.

Kimberly Killion  
[keranula@comcast.net](mailto:keranula@comcast.net)  
843 296-1007

### Eulogy for Wesley L. Keith

We are gathered here today, July 1, 2008, to pay respect and lay to rest Wesley L. Keith who crossed over on June 21st.

Wesley was born on August 9, 1945 to James M. Keith, Sr. and Margaret R. Turner Keith in Dodge City Kansas.

In 1962, at age 17, Wesley joined the United States Navy where he was afforded the opportunity to visit eighteen Foreign Countries and live in four of them. He was allowed to experience and enjoy Asian, African, European, and Latin American cultures. He was fortunate enough to get an education that is unavailable through a university. Wesley served our country for 30 years and retired in Hawaii in 1992. He also fought to protect our country during two tours to Vietnam.

Wesley was a man of great pride and integrity. He lived by what he believed in and hoped that he showed, by example, these great qualities to all he came in contact with.

Wesley set high personal goals and standards for himself and worked diligently to achieve those goals.

He was in a leadership position and set high

goals and standards for his people, but he also took care of them.

He never forgot where he came from.

Wesley had made many, many good friends along the way. The Navy had been good to him as well as his family.

Through Wesley's tour in Japan, he was able to meet and marry his bride Chiyako Hamamoto Keith on November 7, 1965 at Iwakuni Japan.

During the marriage, came two very beloved children. First came Lawrence M. on December 6, 1966, and second came Kimberly J. on February 3, 1968.

Larry has since married Linda Marie and has one stepdaughter Heather Kirkland.

Kimberly has since married William Brian Killion who helps to raise Wesley's best buddy grandson Brandon Kyle.

Brandon was Wesley's pride and joy. They spent hours on end together and have a very special bond that most grandfathers don't get to experience on a full time basis. Wesley taught Brandon his most favorite sport, Golf. Time and time again, Brandon has made his Grandfather a very proud man. Wesley has seen Brandon come a long way from shooting in the 70's...that would be on 9 holes, to now shooting in the 30's. Great job Grandpa!

Other than spending time with Brandon, Wesley also enjoyed golfing above all other activities. He also had fun fishing, hunting, and camping.

Wesley also had one very true love, his bride of over 40 years, Chiyako. They had the utmost respect, love and admiration for each other always. After forty years, there is no doubt that they were truly soul mates and best friends.

His wife Chiyako survives Wesley, as well as his two children Lawrence and Kimberly, and grandson Brandon.

Two brothers, also survive him James M. Keith Jr. in Oregon, Michael E. Keith in Dodge City, Kansas. Also in Kansas are two sisters, Rhonda L. Thomson and husband Jim in Ford and Rita S. Mullins in Newton.

His Father James M. Sr., Mother Margaret R. Keith, and three brothers, Laurence R, Donald L, and Richard E. Keith precede Wesley in death.

His bride, children, grandson, siblings and his entire Navy, golfing, hunting, and fishing buddies will sadly miss Wesley.

## **MN2 (SW) Billy Joe Arthur, USN**

MOMAG Senior Enlisted Leaders,

It is with great sorrow that I inform you all that MN2(SW) Billy Joe Arthur lost his bout with cancer and passed away Monday afternoon, 30 Jun 2008. Although he has been sick since his diagnosis a year ago, this comes as a surprise to us all because we thought he would beat it. He was a blessing to all who knew him and will be sorely missed. I would appreciate you all passing the following information out to your sailors who may wish to send their condolences, cards, and flowers, or even pay their respects by attending the funeral..

The body, escorted by MN1(SW) Kirk Myers, was transported to his home town near San Angelo, TX. on 03 July 2008.

The funeral service was held at Tennyson Baptist Church, Tennyson, TX at 1000 on 07 July 2008.

Billy Joe is survived by his wife Sarah and three daughters, Dakota (11), Abby (5), and Jenna (2). Please keep his family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Thanks,  
Mike

MN2 Arthur (COMOMAG) was diagnosed with cancer only a few months ago when he went to medical with some lumps on his back. Originally, medical thought it was just some sports injury since he was pretty active and he was given some pain medicine and sent back to work.

However, one his Chiefs knew something was not right. The Chief intervened with medical and medical did some further testing and discovered the cancer. MN2 Arthur died this weekend from complications from the cancer. He was married with three daughters.

Services were held on Monday July 7th, at 0900, at the Shaffer Funeral Home, in Bronte, Texas followed by the burial at Mule Creek Cemetery, Tennyson, TX.

Cards can be sent to The Arthur Family, ICO Shaffer Funeral Home, 509 S. State St, Bronte, Texas 76933.

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## **James A Lawless**

I see in the July 2008 FRA Today that MNI James A Lawless passed away. Thought I'd pass this on.

Jim Hawks. MNCS, USN(Ret)

## **Lucy Keen**

Rosita Panesa Lucy Keen, 80, of Goose Creek, SC, wife of John H. Keen, Jr., died Monday, August 18, 2008 peacefully at home.

Born on June 28, 1928 in Bocolod City, Philippines, she was the daughter of Santiago Panesa and Soledad Villanueva Panesa. During World War II her family was taken captive by the Japanese. They were rescued by her brothers. Rosita was an entrepreneur operating a seamstress shop when she met and married an American sailor stationed in the Philippines.

Rosita had many talents and her versatility enabled her to work in different areas. While employed at General Dynamics she worked as an administrative assistant but was also a crane operator and a fabricator. She was employed at Fluor Daniels also. Rosita's family was most important to her. When she took her son John to Judo lessons she decided to join him; she enjoyed watching all her sons play sports. She enjoyed gardening, growing both flowers and vegetables.

She is survived by her husband, John H. Keen, Jr. of Goose Creek, SC; her sons: Michael R. Keen, his wife, Monica and their children Madison A. and Maryn A. Keen, Christopher P. Keen and children, Mahaley K., Reilly J. and Karisa H. Keen all of Goose Creek, SC; sister, Amalita and her husband Eulogio Catallo who have six daughters and two sons; two brothers, Silvino and his wife Rebekka Panesa and Mauro Panesa of the Philippines. She was preceded in death by a son, John H. Keen III and her daughter Carmen M. Keen.

The Liturgy of Christian Burial was held Friday, August 22, 2008 at 9:30 AM in All Saints Chapel at the Naval Weapons Station. Prayers of Final Commendation and Farewell was held in Carolina Memorial Park.

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## **MN2 Ross E. Waldman, USN (Disch.)**

Ross E. Wadman, former MN2, discharged 1955, died June 24th, 2008, in Portland, Oregon.

Reported by Bill Darlington, former MN2.





# Over The Tairail

## NOF Yokosuka

By MNCM Don Jones

My 1959-1961 tour at the Naval Ordnance Facility (NOF), Yokosuka, Japan, was a great learning experience for me as an MN2. Within days of arriving I attended a 2-week long 16-mm movie projector operator's course. While on night or weekend duty at Azuma Island, I showed movies for the duty section. The on-base "Conversational Japanese in 20 Hours" course was fun and useful, especially when traveling on trains, etc.

Next on my list of side-jobs was learning how to safely operate a Mike-boat (LCM) in the very busy Yokosuka (military) and Nagura (commercial) harbors. My instructor, a former Japanese Navy warrant officer, got uptight when one of the aircraft carriers was sitting at Piedmont Pier. Piedmont Pier, was shaped like a reverse "L". The carriers were moored to the long leg and the Mike-boats and other small craft were moored on the short leg.

On 23 May, 1960, a Mineman on Azuma Island happened to glance out a window of the component test shop and where there was usually oily water within just a few yards of the seawall it was now a hundred feet or more out to the water's edge. The MN realized something strange was going on so he yelled for the rest of us to come and take a look. We rushed to the windows and indeed the water was much, much lower than we had ever seen it even at low tide.

We also noticed that the rocky sea-floor near our shop was littered with dozens and dozens of various U. S. mine components that through the years had been tossed out the windows and into the drink. Clock starters, extenders, and various other small items were scattered about. Normally they would have been hidden by several feet of seawater. There was even the unmistakable shape of an A-8 firing mechanism sitting amongst the rocks. About the time somebody said that thing's classified, we noticed someone picking his way slowly through the slippery rocks. Apparently, he had also spotted the firing mechanism from the seawall and had set out to retrieve it.

Shortly after that while on the waterfront we saw across the harbor that a corner of a barge had gotten stuck under one of the piers where the Japanese whaling ships were usually moored. By then the water was coming back in quite rapidly, but I don't recall seeing a wall of water. The day before, over 17,000 kilometers southeast of us an underwater earthquake off Chile's coast had sent the tsunami heading our way. The Great Chilean Earthquake of 1960 had a magnitude of 9.5, the highest ever recorded. (Internet source)

One day I happened to be on Azuma's pier and witnessed a sailor, operating a mobile crane, trying to load a heavy piece of equipment into the well-deck of a Mike-boat. Something didn't look right about the setup. He had the outriggers sitting on wooden blocks, but the crane was tilted sideways toward the water. A Japanese guy was standing on the stern of the Mike-boat with a worried look on his face when suddenly the crane tipped over and its boom fell on top of the Mike-boat. I yelled for the guy on the Mike boat to look out, but by that time he was long gone. He had already jumped into the water and his arms were a blur as he swam away from the boat. Luckily no one got hurt and the Mike boat wasn't damaged very much, nor was the crane.

I worked at several different places on Baka-shima. On Friday afternoons, one service mine for each sailor assigned would be brought into the mine-shop. And on Monday morning you set your own pace for doing whatever we had to do to them. But, they had to be ready to go back into the magazine by Friday morning. That afternoon, another mine would be brought in for you to work on the next week. Most of the guys liked that routine, because it gave you some time to do things on the main base.

One 4th of July, NOF's excellent softball team (runner up to the base championship) played a double-header with the American servicemen incarcerated at Japan's Otsu Prison. It was a creepy feeling to be inside the notorious Prison. We had heard some pretty horrible stories about how badly the Japanese guards treated the American prisoners. We soon learned that most of the guys were in prison for slugging a taxicab driver or a Japanese woman. That offense alone would get you a sentence of one to three years in Otsu Prison. In addition, there was no smoking allowed by the prisoners. The prisoners won both games in high scoring slugfests. Then we all had grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. That's when we really got a chance to chat with the guys. But, mostly we just listened. Everyone had a sad story to tell. One poor guy was in for murder. I believe his sentence was 25-30 years.

Sometimes weekend duty on Azuma Island was fun. One day we spotted an old Chilean battleship, waiting to be scrapped, moored nearby. The Chilean's battleship Almirante Latorre was built in Britain in 1911, acquired by the Royal Navy in 1914, reacquired by Chile in 1920, de-commissioned in 1958, and sold to Japan for scrap in 1959 (Internet source). Several of us took a Mike-boat out and we boarded her for an hour or two. It was an impressive ship with 14-inch naval guns.

One weekend, a senior Mineman in the duty section, who was married with his wife in Japan, said, "Take me to Yokohama in the Mike-boat."

Since I had never been to Yokohama, by sea, and it was a nice day and the harbor was calm we set off on our mystery trip of about 10 nautical miles one way. Soon it became obvious that the brown-bagger had made this trip before, because he kept giving me heading directions with hand-signals. When we arrived, he said for me to wait for him and he would be back soon. Twenty to twenty-five minutes later, he returned with a "big grin on his face" and we returned to Azuma Island. To this day, I don't know the purpose of our trip.

One of the oddest jobs I had for a couple of weeks during the winter was helping to salvage old metal pipe from unused buildings across the harbor at Oppama. Most of the pipe must have been used for steam lines because it was covered with asbestos insulation. Of course, back then, we didn't know any better and didn't take any special precautions while stripping asbestos off the pipe. Some of the pipe we salvaged was out on a breakwater near Oppama. I don't remember what they were going to do with that old pipe. But, it was fun hauling it across Nagura harbor in a Mike-boat. Those old green, Navy-issue foul weather jackets kept you warm and it was good to be alive and in the U. S. Navy.

MNCM Don Jones, USN Retired  
PO Box 36  
Sherwood, TN 37376  
Phone: 931-598-0864



Personnel Inspection at Hawthorne, NV 1954

# REALLY OLD NAVY



**Commander John B. Vliet**  
**United States Navy**



**Commander**  
**Mobile Mine Assembly Group**

**COMOMAG HOLDS**  
**CHANGE OF COMMAND**

By Ed Mickley, Public Affairs Officer

Corpus Christi, TX - Commander Stephen M. Anderjack was relieved by Commander John B. Vliet as Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group (COMOMAG) Friday, August 8th, beginning at 10:00 a.m., onboard the USS Lexington Museum on North Beach. Lt. Cmdr. Andrew J. Ashton presided over the ceremony.

COMOMAG, based at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, TX, plans and coordinates mining activities and mine warfare operations required to support the fleet. This includes; live war reserve assets for offensive and defensive mining, deployment of Assembly Teams around the world, exercise and training mines, threat mine targets and versatile exercise mine systems training, assessment and certifications.

In addition, COMOMAG provides administrative, operational and training support for six Mobile Mine Assembly Units (MOMAU): MOMAU ONE Seal Beach, California; MOMAU EIGHT Guam; MOMAU TEN Kadena, Japan; MOMAU ELEVEN Charleston, South Carolina; MOMAU TWELVE Misawa, Japan; and MOMAU FIFTEEN Ingleside, Texas.

Commander J.B. Vliet transferred from Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Dam Neck, Virginia and reported to COMOMAG Corpus Christi, Texas as the Commander.

Commander Anderjack is transferring to the *USS Harry Truman* (CVN 75) as the Gun Boss.

**Biography:**

Commander J.B. Vliet was promoted in April of 2007 and selected for XO/CO Fleet up (CDR CMD) 15 APR 2007. He transferred from NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER (NSWC) Dam Neck, Virginia in June 2008 and reported to COMOMAG Corpus Christi, Texas as the PCO in August 2008.

Commander Vliet's most recent assignment was from SEP 07-JUN 08 where he served as a Strike Force Interoperability Officer (SFIO). He was directly responsible to NAVSEA 05W, TY-COM's, FLT COMMANDER's and CO NSWC Dam Neck for C4I and Combat Systems' installation and modernization throughout the U.S. Navy's Surface Fleet.

Prior to Commander Vliet's tour as a SFIO he was assigned as the Assistant Operations Officer in USS NASSAU (LHA 4) from OCT 05-SEP 07. Additional assignments prior to USS NASSAU include assignment as the Information Warfare/Operations (IW/IO) Officer for 2D MARDIV in Camp Blue Diamond, Ramadi, Iraq from JAN 05-SEP 05; Naval Gunfire Officer for 2D MARDIV, Camp Lejeune, N.C. from JUN 04-JAN 05; Time Sensitive Targeting Officer at CJTF-Horn of Africa from OCT 03-JUN 04.

Sea duty tours: USS ARKANSAS (CGN 41) from MAY 82-JAN 85; USS YORKTOWN (CG 48) from MAY 90-JAN 92; USS THOMAS S. GATES (CG 51) from JAN 92-AUG 95; USS MAHAN (DDG 72) from MAY 99-JUN 2001; PRESINSURV SEA DUTY DET from JUN 2001- AUG 2003; USS NASSAU (LHA 4) from OCT 2005-SEP 2007.

Shore duty tours: Instructor at U.S. Naval Gunnery School, Great Lakes, Ill. from JAN 85-MAY 90; Student, NROTC, Old Dominion University from AUG 95-JAN 97; AEGIS Computer Program configuration management, NSWC, Dahlgren from JAN 97-MAY 99.

Commander Vliet earned a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Education, Training and Development from Southern Illinois University.

He was married in June 1983 to the former Stephanie Merrill from Clinton, CT. They have two children, Joshua 18 yrs and Meredith 11 yrs.

Commander Vliet's personal awards include The Meritorious Service Medal (3), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (3), Navy Achievement Medal (7), and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (9).



## **COMOMAG**

by MNCS Michael Cooley

COMOMAG held a change of command on August 8<sup>th</sup> as CDR John Vliet relieved CDR Stephen Anderjack as the new MOMAG Commodore. We look forward to CDR Vliet's leadership and vision as he takes the helm and leads us into the future with our recasting under Naval Munitions Command (NMC) and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) on the horizon.



**CDR Vliet**



**CDR Anderjack**

### **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT (N3)**

Congratulations to all the new Chief Petty Officers on your recent selection and Induction. Just remember, your journey has just begun. We would also like to wish fair winds and following seas to MNC(SW) William Andrzejewski for 20 years of dedicated service to the finest Navy in the world!

N32 is staying busy with numerous exercise and RDT&E initiatives and would like to say thanks to all the MOMAU's for their continued dedication and support of the Exercise/Training Mines Program. MNCS Cooley deployed to USS TARAWA (LHA 1) recently with MN2 Robinson and MNSN Monnin from MOMAU ONE in support of PANAMAX 08. They installed the EX-181 Mine Launcher Rail Assembly in the well deck, and with plenty of support from the fine professionals onboard "Big T" successfully, they launched 14 exercise shapes to simulate mining of the Panama Canal.

### **SUPPLY DEPARTMENT (N4)**

The Supply Department continues to provide top quality support to the Mobile Mine Assembly Units (MOMAU's) throughout this quarter and into the new fiscal year. One of our biggest accom-

plishments this quarter was hosting the MOMAU SKs here at COMOMAG to provide user training on the new web-based Command Financial Management System (CFMS). In FY09, CFMS will be their sole financial system for managing mission and maintenance funds. We also want to extend a well deserved 'Bravo Zulu' to our LPO, SK1 Hylton who recently completed his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. He will graduate with Magna Cum Laude honors in October.

**AWARDS**

- NAM - MN1(SW) Kirk Myers
- NAM - YN1(SW) Rochelle Wilson
- SOQ - MN1(SW) Kirk Myers



N1 Myers and daughter Sierra



MNCM Childers, MN1 Myers, MNCS Cooley, SKC Diaz, LT Mathis, SK1 Hylton (QTR 1)

**HAIL**

CDR John B. Vliet from NSWC Dam Neck, Va

**FAREWELL**

- CDR Anderjack to USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN-75)
- MNC(SW) William Andrzejewski (Retirement)
- IT1 Patricia Dunn (Retirement)



**MOMAU EIGHT  
GUAM**

by YN2(AW) R. A. Davis

First things first, MOMAU EIGHT would like to announce new additions to our family; MN2(SW) Frederick Werner and his wife, Jane,

were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Alexandria, on July 18, 2008; and MN1(SW) Jerry Simpson and his wife, Sarah, were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Kimber, on July 28, 2008.

**Operational Notes-**

MOMAU 8 has been extremely busy for the past several months. Numerous milestones have been achieved to include a rare 100% Weapons reliability on our most recent MRCI. We have also been fortunate enough to have the MK 65 MOD 3 FIAT take place within our fence line. This new addition to our capabilities offers some wonderful enhancements to the MK 65. Currently the MOD 3 is undergoing some additional research and adjustments and we should hopefully see the final product hit the fleet soon. We have also ramped up our rollback of all the MK 56 related components to meet the scheduled OPLIFT and are moving a enormous amount of material in a relative short period of time.

**Community Service-**

Annually, the command is asked to participate in the Veterans' Memorial Tribute by the Mayor

of Talofof. This year at total of five person-  
nel volunteered to stand and honor the fallen  
soldiers of Guam.



Additionally, MOMAU EIGHT has continued its weekly "Friday Readers" program. This program has set new benchmarks for student to Sailor relationships. In addition, the program works as a stepping stone to close the gap between the Military and the local community and serves as a "spotlight" on the need for higher level of reading skills locally desired. Through continued dedication, MOMAU 8's relationship with the village of Talofof has grown. While helping the local Elementary School, we have also begun working with the residents of the Talofof and Yigo Senior Center. Members of the Seniors Center include survivors from Guam's Japanese occupation and veterans of the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The interaction has been an invaluable learning experience for MOMAU EIGHT and a reinforcement of appreciation to the sacrifice the seniors have made for us. This truly displays the give and take one receives while participating in Community Service.

#### **ADVANCEMENTS**

MNCS(SW/AW) Jones  
MNC(SW) Freeman  
MN1(SW) Radford  
MN1(SW) Simpson  
MN1(SW) Trammell  
MN2(SW) Cockfield  
MN3 Firmin  
MN3 Klett  
MN3 Savellano

#### **SAILORS OF THE QUARTER**

SSOQ: MN1(SW) Trammell  
JSOQ: MN1(SW) Radford  
BJOQ: MN3 Savellano

#### **Excerpt from Article featured in the Pacific Navigator:**

On 2 July 2008, Petty Officers from Mobile Mine Assembly Unit(MOMAU) EIGHT were

caught tacking on Crows on three shipmates who were recently promoted to Third Class Petty Officer. However, there will be no DRBs, no Captain's Mast, or punitive actions of any sort in this case. Sailors of MOMAU EIGHT did it the "right" way.

An old Naval tradition of respect was brought back to life. In the days of sail, when the word of a promotion was heard, the Petty Officers of the day would gather. Due to limited access and availability of new uniforms or rating devices, the Petty Officers would offer pieces from their personal wardrobe to help put together a proper uniform for their soon to be fellow Petty Officer. Additionally, out of a show of respect, if they felt the individual was deserving of such promotion they would each take turn at placing a stitch in the New Crow. This form of "Tacking on the Crow" over time slowly evolved into a hazing rite that is now against Navy regulations.

The Petty Officer's of MOMAU EIGHT, ranging from 3<sup>rd</sup> Class to Senior Chief Petty Officers, took time to "tack" on the new Crows of their three shipmates; MN3 Jason T. Klett, MN3 Travis J. Firmin, and MN3 Andre R. Savellano. The Petty Officers all placed at least one stitch in each new Crow to symbolize once again a show of respect for the well earned promotions. The new Crows were then worn during the frocking ceremony at which time a ceremonial version of the Petty Officer's Creed was presented by the Senior Enlisted to each with the signatures and words of wisdom bestowed upon it by each and every Petty Officer that had taken part in the "tacking".

This old heritage was given a new heart beat today by the men and women of MOMAU



EIGHT. The effect was not missed by anyone from E1 to O4. The three new Petty Officers walked away from quarters without fear of some unneeded beating taking place, instead in its place was a sincere sense of camaraderie and a much deserved sense of achievement.

This is just one of many “traditions” we as a Navy can revive in the “right” way. We need to realize that just because we have mutated some of them into almost unrecognizable practices does not necessarily mean we should just cease or dispose of such traditions. We merely need to brush them off, refocus on their true meaning and just as MOMAU EIGHT did, bring the real heart beat back to them. In the end, our traditions, our customs, our practices, are what makes us who we are, and without doubt we are the World’s Finest Navy, we are the UNITED STATES NAVY.

## HAIL AND FAREWELLS

### Welcome aboard:

- MNC Ingmire - COMAFLOATRAGRU Ingleside TX
- MN1 Balazs - MCM Crew Conflict
- SK1 Mapa - VAQ 138
- MN1(SW) McAndrew - MCM Crew Exultant
- MN2 Black - HM 15
- MN2 Blanchard - HM 15
- MNSA Jones - Mine Warfare Training Center
- MNSA Simms - Mine Warfare Training Center

### Transfers PCS and Retirements

- MNCS Pipkin – Retirement
- MNCS Jones (NR Unit 10) – Retirement
- MNC Wear (NR Unit 9) - Retirement
- MN1 Smith – Retirement
- MN2 Bivins – Separation & transfer to NavRes



## MOMAU TEN KADENA, JAPAN

by LT Jessie Sanchez

This final quarter of fiscal year 2008 has been both challenging and rewarding. Before we get into the arduous details, we would like to first announce some hails and farewells. We would like to hail our one new arrivals to Team Ten: YN1 Antonio Houston from COMUSNAVCENT in Bahrain and MNSN Camille Spain from USS Swift in Ingleside, TX. Our only Farewell for this quarter goes to MNC Christopher Bender, who is leaving us for LCS MIW Det One in San Diego, CA. We wish him the best. On a very high note, the command would like to congratulate our newly selected chiefs: MNC(Sel) Wilton Jordan and SKC(Sel)

Pablo Arao. Congratulations to all of our fellow brothers and sisters who have also advanced. Very well done! We would also like to congratulate our newly selected SOQ, JSOQ, and Bluejacket of the quarter. They are MN1 Luis Flores (SOQ), MN3 Jake Knarr (JSOQ), and MNSN Devin Keeton (Bluejacket) respectively.

In 4<sup>th</sup> quarter MOMAU Ten’s plate was filled with team exercises and upgrade training. We sent two personnel, MN2 Michael Prendergast and MN3 Ian Vrohman to participate in MCMEX 08 in Bahrain. The trip was a rewarding one for MOMAU Ten. Once again, Team Ten’s attention to detail, positive attitudes, and spirit led to a very rewarding exercise, even though there were some unplanned delays due to aircraft problems in Diego Garcia.

MOMAU Ten would like to extend a hearty “BZ” to our Navy shipmates of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 for their outstanding effort in building and installing the shop’s new sandblaster. The overall evolution has been filled with challenges and obstacles, but the Seabee’s “Can Do” attitude and constant resourcefulness has kept them on schedule. The project is turning out to be a successful one, and will save MOMAU Ten untold labor-hours and dollars for years to come. UH-RAH Seabees!

Maintenance and training have taken up the rest of our time this past quarter. We are looking forward to the upcoming quarter and the start exercise season all over again. We are also preparing for our fast approaching change of command, where MOMAU Ten will be wishing a fond farewell to our current Commanding Officer, LT Jessie L. Sanchez who is going to CSCS Detachment Mayport, Fl. as Officer-in-Charge, and hailing our new Commanding Officer, LCDR Steven Reith, who will be taking over in October. The Change of Command ceremony is currently scheduled for October 10, 2008.



Our newly appointed SOQ, JSOQ, and Bluejacket, MNSN Keeton, JSOQ, MN3 Knarr, and SOQ, MN1 Flores, proudly displaying their well deserved plaques while standing alongside MOMAU TEN’s XO, CWO2 Palmer and and SEL, MNCS Julison.



Seabee Battalion hard at work pouring concrete for the foundation for MOMAU Ten's new sandblaster.



Seabee battalion finishing the final stage of the concrete foundation.



## **MOMAU TWELVE MISAWA JAPAN**

by YN1(SW) Ryan Durnell

Greetings once again, from the Land of the Rising Sun, Japan! This quarter afforded the

unit an excellent opportunity to strengthen our strategic alliance with our Japanese counterparts and forge stronger individual bonds with Japan's Mine Warfare Command. Their personnel observed our production and build operations and we discussed methods of increased cooperation, greatly improving our joint capabilities. In August, Mobile Mine Assembly Unit TWELVE zoomed into competition with other Navy commands in the 2008 Annual Boat Regatta. Ultimately, our revolutionary boat design succumbed to our treacherous, piratical foes. Though the brave vessel sank beneath the waves, all hands were saved and displayed even greater determination to establish maritime control over our lake in the years to come. Next year, the high seas will belong to us!

Our hard-playing Sailors are also hard workers, as evidenced by the extra elbow grease they liberally applied towards preparations for our upcoming Explosives Safety Inspection in September. That kind of hard work and dedication definitely pays off. While attending Airman Leadership School, our MN3 Andrea R. Krouse, in fierce competition with 27 Senior Airmen, won the Air Force's John L. Levitow award for Distinguished Honors in academics, fitness, and leadership. The highest award presented at the Airman Leadership School, it is based on overall performance evaluation, academic ranking, and peer and staff ratings. This is for the most outstanding student in the class. We watched with tremendous pride as the lone participating Sailor, often referred to as a "pirate," walked away with "their" trophy.

It just goes to show that the Navy, especially the mine community, is always at the forefront of leadership and excellence! We also bid a fond farewell to our one and only network technician, IT2(SW) Salvador C. Stabila. Fortunately, his loss will be partially alleviated by the impending arrival of IT2(SW) Ismael Iribe. We can see another cold and snowy winter ahead. Our few warm summer months are already coming to a close and the crew is eagerly anticipating winter sports and snowball fights.

### **HAILS WELCOME ABOARD**

IT2 Iribe – Arriving from USS HIGGINS (DDG 76) (September 2008)

MN2 McReynolds – Arriving from USS SWIFT (HSV 2) (November 2008)

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION



I would also like to take some time to recognize and congratulate the following personnel for a job well done.

YN1(SW) Durnell – Letter of Commendation, Sailor of the Quarterer

MN2(SW) Barrows – Letter of Commendation, Junior Sailor of the Quarter

MN3 Andrea R. Krouse – John L. Levitow Award

### ADVANCEMENTS:

Congratulations:

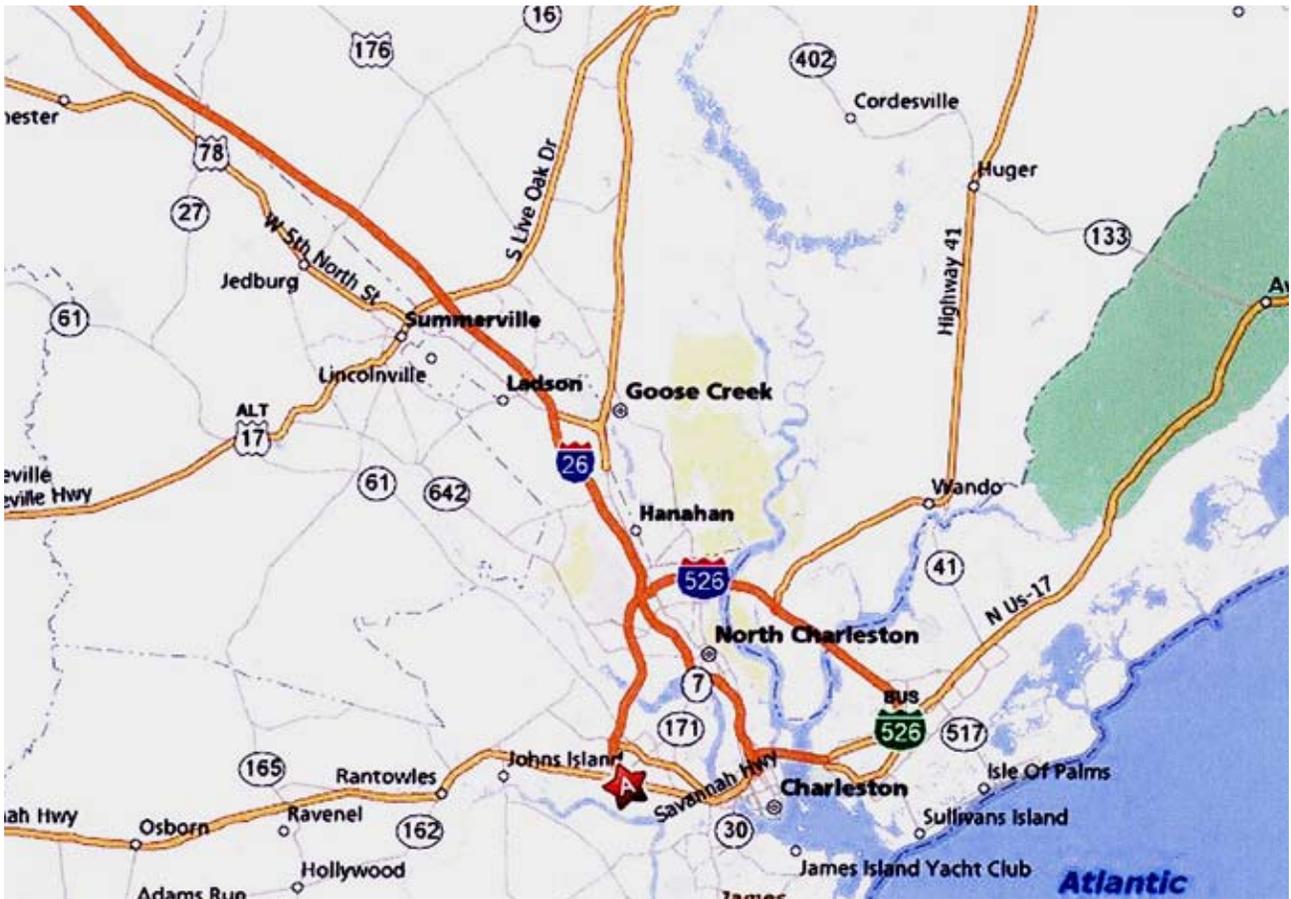
MNC(SEL) David W. Baker

On the RADAR screen

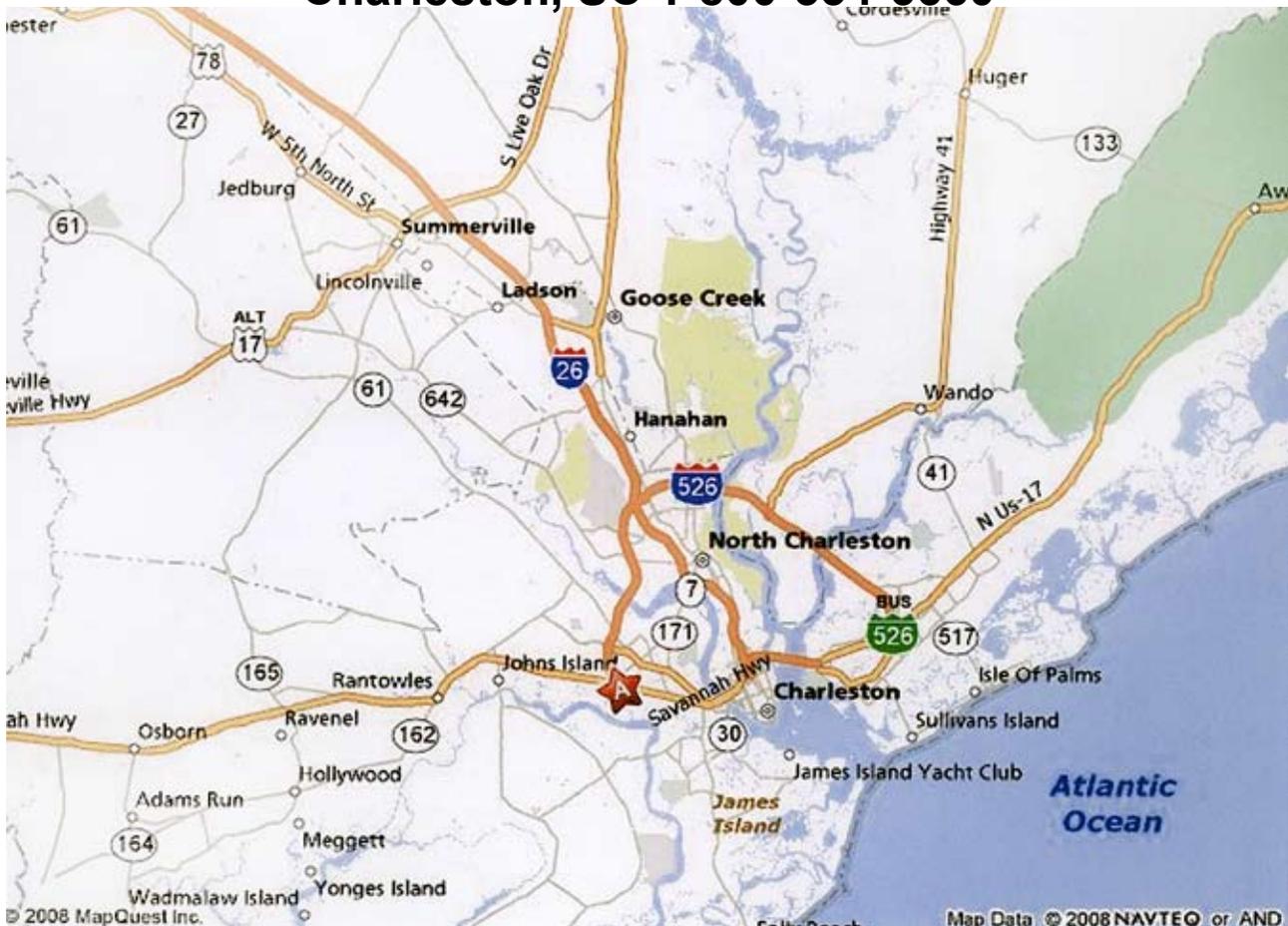
We continue to prepare for our upcoming ESI. Coupled with our heavy maintenance schedule and OPLIFT, we will need all the enthusiasm and vigor that our crew regularly displays. Labor Day weekend will give us another good opportunity for cross-cultural exchanges with the host nation and its people. We have had a demanding and rewarding quarter, and can look forward to enjoying the well-earned fruits of our labors. Fair winds and following seas.

Good advice is SOMETHING A MAN GIVES ...  
WHEN HE IS TOO OLD TO SET A BAD EXAMPLE.

FRANCOIS DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD (1613 - 1680 )



**Town and Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Highway (US 17)  
Charleston, SC 1-800-334-6660**



**ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN 33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL REUNION & MEETING CHARLESTON, SC  
AT THE TOWN AND COUNTRY INN 10-12 OCTOBER 2007**

Association of Minemen, PO Box 69, Eutawville, SC 29048-0069

**Please return the reservation form as soon as possible to the address above to expedite your registration for reunion events. Your tickets will be made available at the Early Bird, General Business Meeting, Dinner and Picnic.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AOM MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**Cutoff date for AOM GROUP RATE reservations is 12 SEP 2008. For single/double \$99.00 + 12.5%.**

Town and Country Inn Reservations: 1-800-334-6660

**We must guarantee the number for dinner not later than the morning of 6 OCT 2008.**

**Banquet Buffet includes a Seafood Buffet with Baked Chicken, Fried Shrimp, Broiled Salmon, Scallop Newberg, Traditional Rice Pilaf, Roasted New Potatoes, Broccoli & Cauliflower, Rolls and Butter, Salads, Coffee/Tea, and Boston Cream Pie. The picnic will be the usual picnic fare.**

**Your label has your paid to date, e.g., "Oct. 2008" means October 2009 is your paid to date. (New or reinstatement member add \$5.00 application fee.)**

**ANNUAL DUES: @ \$15.00 October 2008 to October 2008 (5 year max.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Dinner Tickets @ \$33.00 ea. X \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets = \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Picnic Tickets @ \$12.00 ea. X \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets = \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Picnic Tickets @ \$6.00 ea. X \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets = \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Number of children attending picnic age 6 and under \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Children under 7 are FREE)**

**Museum Donation: Tax deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**AOM General Fund: Tax deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**AOM Scholarship Donation: Tax Deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Checks payable to: Association of Minemen. (no cash).**

**Association of Minemen  
P.O.Box 69  
Eutawville, SC 29048-0069**

**Non Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Charleston SC  
NO. 270**



**Return Service Requested**

**NEXT ARTICLE DUE DATE IS 1 DECEMBER 2008**

*NAME* \_\_\_\_\_ *RANK/RATE/CIVITITLE* \_\_\_\_\_

*STREET* \_\_\_\_\_ *DATE* \_\_\_\_\_

*CITY* \_\_\_\_\_ *TEL* \_\_\_\_\_

*STATE* \_\_\_\_\_ *ZIP* \_\_\_\_\_ *SIGNATURE* \_\_\_\_\_

*ELGIBILITY* \_\_\_\_\_ *APPROVED* \_\_\_\_\_

Application fee \$5  
Annual Dues \$15

NOTICE: To maintain membership, dues of \$15.00  
must be paid annually by the month of October.  
The dues expiration date is October in the year  
above your name on your mailing label.

Mail Checks to:  
Association of Minemen  
P.O. Box 69  
Eutawville, SC 29048-0069