



USS Aeolus Newsletter

NOW HEAR THIS

USS AEOLUS 8th Reunion Planned for Norfolk Virginia Oct 4–7 2010!

It's time to start seriously planning for this next reunion. You have to make sure you attend this one. Some of you certainly are familiar with the location city of this next reunion. It is expected that most of you at least had a passing acquaintance with the fair city of Norfolk, Virginia. Just as a reminder, Norfolk just happens to be the home of the largest Naval base in the world occupying some 4300 acres of Hampton Roads real estate on a peninsula known as Sewells Point. Port facilities extend more than four miles along the waterfront and include some seven miles of pier and wharf space. Norfolk is the home port for 75



ships and 134 aircraft. When not at sea, they're along side one of the 13 piers or inside one of the 11 aircraft hangars. These periods are used for repair, refit, and training, and to provide the ship's or squadron's crew an opportunity to be with their families. Naval Station Norfolk, as it is known, is homeport to aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, large amphibious ships, submarines, supply ships, and many different types of Naval aircraft. Air Operations conducts over 100,000 flight operations each year (an average of 275 flights per day or one every six minutes).

Naval Station Norfolk is the hub for Navy logistics going to the Caribbean, and European and Central Command theaters of operations. The land on which Naval Station is located was originally the site of the 1907 Jamestown Exposition, a mammoth 300th anniversary celebration of the

establishment of the first permanent English settlement in America in 1607. During the Jamestown Exposition, high-ranking naval officers agreed that this site was ideal for naval activity. After the US entered World War 1 in April 1917, the Secretary of the Navy was persuaded to buy the property.

One of the activities available on the free day of the reunion is the Victory Rover Naval Base Cruise. The Victory Rover makes 2 hour narrated cruises past Naval Station Norfolk. It departs from Nauticus on the downtown waterfront. You can enjoy the fascinating and entertaining commentary along the way aboard this Navy themed vessel. You will see aircraft carriers and all of the other ships that form the world's most powerful fleet. Make sure you bring your camera and binoculars.

The leadership of the Aeolus Association has once again put together an exciting schedule of activities with just enough free time to allow some independent activities.



Don't forget to get your reservations made at the host hotel, the Marriott Springhill Suites, and get your registration form into Mike Jarvis as soon as possible so the number attending the reunion can be determined.

USS Aeolus Association Officers

President: Joe Jesso Vice President: Bill Rush
Treasurer: Mike Jarvis Secretary: Bob Luttrell

MEMORIES FROM OUR SHIPMATES

From Joe Prizzi CS3 (1958-1959). He recalls during a passage through the Panama Canal he would take iced tea down to the engineers in the engine and boiler rooms. He remembers that the railings going down the ladder were so hot he couldn't hold on to them.

"We were laying cable somewhere in the Pacific and being towed by a sea-going tug. The water and wind got so rough that the tug had to let go of our tow lines and head to shore. The Aeolus stayed attached to the cable and bobbed around like a cork." Many of the crew got terribly seasick including Joe, particularly when one of his roommates, thinking it funny, blew cigar smoke up his nose as he was trying to get some sleep.

From Vernon Vincent SN (1955-1958) recalled that he and Henry Maursey RM3 (1955-1957) had been sent to board the Aeolus in Baltimore while it was still in the process of being retrofitted. "Henry and I went ashore to see some of the city. On the way we picked up a bottle and went on our way. At the top of a hill overlooking the bay was a very nice park. Henry and I decided to rest a spell. As we were sitting there contemplating what it was going to be like and nipping at our bottle, two little old ladies came walking through the park. Well, we had been hitting the bottle pretty good but as these two ladies walked by one said to the other, "My oh my, it sure is nice to see two sailors sitting here in the park instead of down there in the bar chasing girls of ill repute." Henry said "We sure are a couple of nice guys, aren't we?" We then proceeded to stagger back to the ship laughing all the way about being such "nice sailors". Vernon has more remembrances that we will report in the future. Meantime, Vernon is not able to attend the reunions but would certainly like to hear from his old shipmates. His contact information is listed on the Aeolus web site on the crew listing. (www.usaeolus.com, ID: shipmate; Password: portsmouth)

Editors Note: Thanks to Joe and Vernon for sending along their stories of their days aboard the Aeolus.

Much the same way as Joe and Vernon did, if any of you fellow shipmates have stories of your times that you would like to relate to the rest of the association members, they would certainly enjoy reading about them. Just jot down the information and send it along via email to Tom Starling at starlingt2001@yahoo.com or via snail mail to Tom at 6549 West Law Rd, Valley City, OH 44280.

The USS Aeolus Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the memory of the USS Aeolus (ARC-3) and her crew.



IN MEMORIAM



It is with great sadness that we report the the passing of an American Hero. Eric Currier, 21, USMC, grandson of Russ Currier EN2 (1963-1966), was killed in Afganistan while serving with the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force from Camp Lejeune, N.C. in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

No other reports the passing of shipmates or other American Heroes were received. If anyone is aware of shipmates that may have passed away and have not been previously listed in the newsletter, please send the information to Tom Starling at 6549 West Law Rd, Valley City, OH 44280 or email at starlingt2001@yahoo.com.

The Search Goes On

We are always looking for information concerning the whereabouts of our missing shipmates. Vernon mentioned two additional shipmates, Stanley Cobles and James Harman, who are not listed on the web site crew list. If you have any information about these two or any others that you remember. Let us know. If you haven't visited the new Aeolus web site and gotten a sign on and password just email Mike Jarvis (mjarvis@nandc.com). You can then review the crew listing and see who you remember that may be missing off that list. If you can give us information about any missing crewmembers, we will attempt to find them and let them know about the association. The web site is also loaded with other information and pictures that you are certain to enjoy.

Don't know how many of you are followers of Facebook but if you go on the web and access Facebook (which is a social networking website for those of you who might not know) and search on USS Aeolus you will find some connection information about the Aeolus. In the Wikipedia listing there are some interesting pictures of the Aeolus as she rests on the bottom of the sea. We will post some in the next newsletter. Currently there are only five former shipmates listed as member of the USS Aeolus group on Facebook. Check it out and join the group.

Have you Paid Your Annual Dues Yet?

The dues for the Aeolus Association are a real bargain. Even when everything else in our lives continues to go up in cost, the annual dues for the Aeolus Association remain the same. Just \$10 per year. Please send dues to: USS Aeolus Association, 28800 Mound Road, Warren, MI 48092