

Sirago Newsletter



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May 2011

Reunions '11, '13 & '15

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Shipmates,

In THIS newsletter you will find a separate sheet recapping some of the highlights of Reunion 2011 which was a multi-boat reunion comprising 23 different boats of the 26 total that were ever associated with SUBRON SIX. This was a momentous occasion for us and our next reunion of this nature (as part of the SubRon Six Smoke Boat Sisters (SSSBS)) will be in 2015 – four years from now.

Moving on to the 2013 reunion (which will be Sirago only), the following words come from the XO of our Reunion Association, Mr. David Glaser:

Would like to thank all those who scavenged their local Navy recruiting office for geedunk. Job well done. Not only did we have enough lanyards but several folks hit the jackpot and brought much more. BZ

Would like to chastise all those who didn't make it to the reunion. You missed one heck of a party and a whale of a good time. Better

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reconsider before missing another one.

Currently investigating setting up a 4 or 5 day cruise for the 2013 Sirago reunion. The members present in Virginia Beach overwhelmingly voted in favor of investigating the feasibility of a reunion cruise. Another good reason not to miss a reunion: you get to vote on officers and let your voice be heard.

The 2015 SSSBS reunion will be back in Virginia Beach. The Wyndham has made a very attractive proposal to welcome us back. While nothing has been set in concrete yet, it looks very promising.

That is all – XO

Now – here are some words about Reunions from our Skipper – Rich McCamant:

Those of you who attended the recent SUBRON Six Smoke Sisters reunion in Virginia Beach know what a great event it was. For those of you who were not able to attend, I can only hope you can make it to the next reunion which will be a Sirago affair in 2013, probably in April or May.

Bravo Zulu for a tremendous job well done by the two guys that made this reunion so successful, Mike Bickel for all the organizing and promoting and Dave Glaser for the logistics.

There were 163 submariners there (57 from Sirago) representing 23 of the 26 diesel boats that were a part of Submarine Squadron Six. Counting guests we had over 300 for the banquet on Saturday evening. Bickel is already thinking ahead to another SSSBS Reunion in 2015. If you are not on his email list for SSSBS affairs and want to be, drop

him a note at bickel485@aol.com, but don't expect to hear anything for awhile. He is running deep until he can recover from this one.

For Sirago reunion 2013 we are looking into the possibility of doing it as a cruise. At the crew meeting we had on the beach there was very high interest in doing it that way. Dave tells me we could do a 3-4 day cruise out of Houston, ending up in Key West. We could also do a week long cruise out of any one of several cities and include port visits in the Caribbean like St. Thomas. I would love to have any input anyone would like to provide. Send me an email at ss485sirago@yahoo.com, call me at (410) 820-5225 or drop me a note to 10225 Ocean Gateway, Easton, MD 21601.

Note about Service Records (by Rich McCamant)

We have sent out this info before but several guys have asked me recently, so here it comes again.

You can request a copy of your military service record or the record for someone for whom you are the next of kin from the National Archives. There is no charge.

The easiest way to do this is to go to their web site www.nara.gov and click on the big tab near the top that says "Veterans Service Records." From there just follow the on-line instructions for completing the form. If you don't have a computer, get one of your kids or grandkids to do it for you or go to your local library. You can also call them at 1 (866)272-6272 and request that they mail you a form to fill out and mail in.

How much info they send you will depend on which of their 500+ researchers they assign to your case and how they are feeling that day. You may get as little as a letter stating your service dates and a copy of your DD-214 or you may get 100 pages including all your schools, promotions, performance evaluations, awards, etc.

There will be a cover letter with the name and direct phone number of the researcher who pulled your record. If you want to find out if there is more available than what you received, call that researcher within a day or two from when you get the letter (before they put it back in the files).

For your request you will need to provide them with all the numbers you can. They thrive on numbers. You will need any of the following you can provide: Social Security Number, Military Service Number, Date of Birth, Dates of Service (approximate will do). The more the better.

New Tattoo for Old Salt ➡

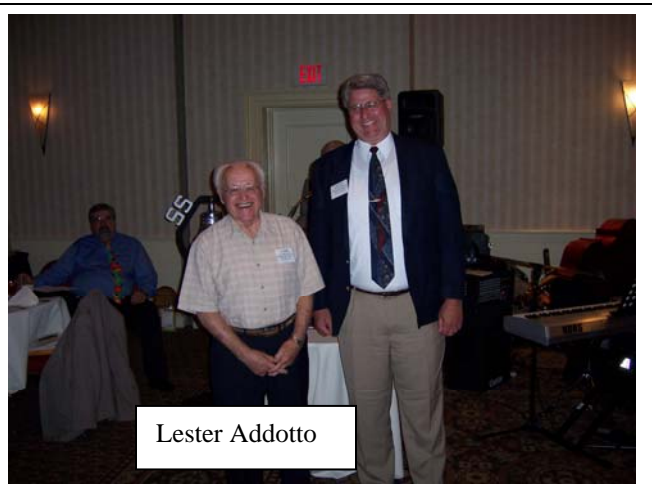
DP Hauer just had a tattoo done (see photo) which was the first tattoo he has EVER had on Friday, March 11, 2011. His wife recently passed away.... he was looking forward to the reunion... and... well, he finally got that Sirago tattoo.



ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|------------------------|
| Lester Addotto | ENC | 45-51 (P) | Died 5 May 2011 |
| Jesus Arcilla | TN | 68-68 | Died 17 March 2011 |
| Charlie Dekker | ETRSN | 63-64 | Died 29 September 2009 |
| Don Harper | LT | 64-64 | Died 30 December 2010 |
| William Herring | ENC | 49-50 | Died 9 September 2009 |
| Riley Keysor | TMC | 47-47 | Died 15 June 2010 |
| James Sleezer | SK2 | 64-64 | Died 6 March 2010 |

Sailor, rest your oar....



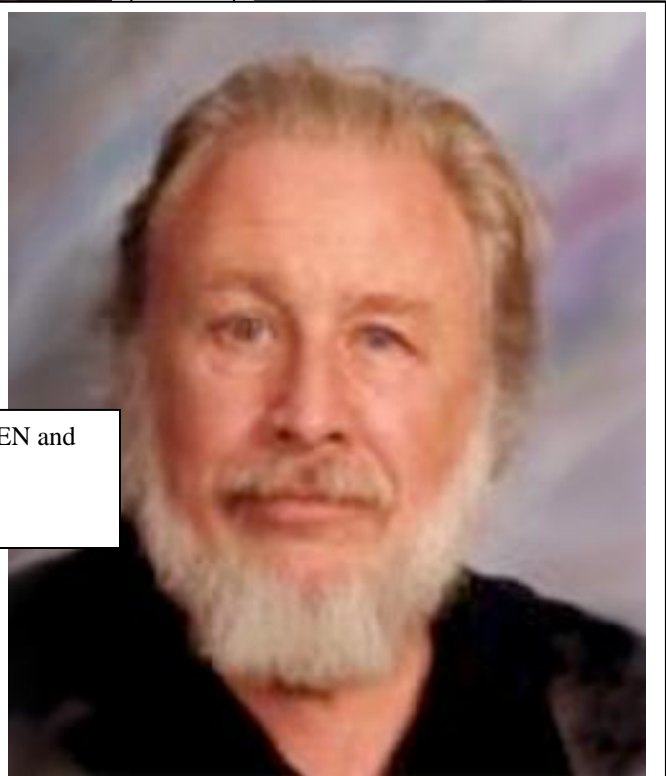
Lester Addotto



Bill Herring



Don Harper THEN and also here more RECENTLY



Riley Keysor served on Sirago as a CTM (TMC) in 1947
He is, to the best of my knowledge, the only Sirago sailor to have served as a POW during World War II. He was on his first war patrol on the Grenadier when she was scuttled after being depth charged and the crew was captured. The boat from which he was transferred to Grenadier was lost on its next patrol.



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