

Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of the Bibb Shipmates Association

November, 2017



November 16, 2017 issue of the BIBB Scuttlebutt Newsletter from the desk of Lloyd Hensley.

Edited by Bob Hughan

Hello Shipmates;

After much thought, visits, phone calls and e-mails we have decided on when, and where our 2018 reunion will be held. Our reunion will be in Portland, ME during the week of September 25th thru September the 27th of 2018 with checkout on the 28th. These dates were selected because the other dates we were offered were around Labor Day. We felt the weather would still be good at the end of the month.

We will be staying at the **Clarion Hotel** at 1230 Congress St. The reservations can be made by calling 207-774-5611, telling them you are with the BIBB Shipmates Association. The cost of the rooms are \$139.00 plus prevailing city and state taxes. Currently, taxes are at 9%. These prices are quoted for single to quad occupancy. Oh, you will get breakfast each morning with this price. If you opt out of the breakfast, then they will take \$10.00 off your nightly stay. I was told this is a hot breakfast.

We are working on information for our Thursday night dinner and will let you know in our January newsletter. Our board and I talked it over and the hotel will serve us Thursday night dinner so we will not have to go anywhere. They offered us a great menu to choose from (menu to follow in January).

The hotel has a shuttle that will pick you up from the airport if you are flying in and offered us the shuttle to go downtown and back for free. We will work out the times later next year.

If you have any question, please call or email me or any of the officers for more information.

I did some checking of the shipmate's members that we have not heard from in the past couple of years and most have crossed the bar.

Charles Corns	10/16/2015
Peter Kodis	1/16/2017
Edwin J Bielski- WW2	6/18/2017
Thomas Custer	2017
Alphonse J. Balsis	12/7/2013
Frank R. Trojan	10/21/2015
Sid Bernstein	1/1/2016
Thomas Gardner	5/18/2015
Robert K McGinley	5/30/2013

If you know of anyone that is sick or would like us to call or send a letter to, please let me know. We love to keep in touch with everybody we can. If I don't know I can't do anything.

Bob received a letter from Jim Heydenreich telling us his dad James was sick and if anyone wanted to correspond with him, it could be sent to Jim at:

Jim Heydenreich
2450 S Park Road
Apt 103
Hallandale Beach, Fl 33009

On to some good news, I received a call from Mrs. Evelyn Edson of New Smyrna Beach, FL last week. She had sent me a newspaper clip about how the Coast Guard members from station Ponce De Leon had come to her aid to help her after the hurricane. I have put the newspaper clipping on our web site so everybody can read it. There are a couple of pictures (see attached) along with a letter she wrote. For anyone who doesn't know her, her husband was on the BIBB in the 40's and was a life member. She called me a youngster, even at my age.

I had new membership cards made up that will help us all know when our dues are due. The last one left a little of the unknown. Sorry if some of you got any card asking for your dues when you thought they were paid up. My fault. But these will fix that problem along with the paid spreadsheet.

Evelyn Edson
822 Oakview Drive
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
(386) 428-6716

September 19, 2017

Captain Todd Wiemers
USCG Sector Jacksonville
10426 Alta Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32226

Dear Captain Wiemers,

My name is Evelyn Edson and my husband, Paul, was a career Coast Guardsman. One of his postings was at USCG Ponce Inlet. Unfortunately, Paul died in 2008, and I am forever indebted to the crew at Station Ponce for providing Paul's burial at sea.

This past August, a friend of mine contacted Senior Chief Jeff Graham and asked if I could visit the station where Paul served. The Senior Chief graciously agreed and he and the Executive Office, BM1 Jennifer Waldo met me, and my son Larry at the operations building and escorted us to the galley where we all had lunch. After lunch, Senior Chief Graham and BM1 Waldo took us on a tour of the station and the boats. I so much enjoyed being back on the station with some of the wonderful Coast Guard family that I enjoyed for many years with Paul. In photo 1, left to right is Senior Chief Graham, BM1 Waldo, me, my friend Earl Tingle, and my son, Larry.

More recently, we had a terrible hurricane (Irma) pass close to us, and my son and I had to evacuate to my daughter's house. Upon returning to my home which is about two blocks from the ocean, I found a lot of trash and debris from the trees and shrubs of my house and my neighbors' houses. Senior Chief called to ask if I had survived the storm, and I told him about the damage I had from Hurricane Irma. Within about an hour, Senior Chief Graham arrived at my house with four of his crew and they cleaned every piece of debris from my yard and two young men even repaired the screen door on my patio. I didn't ask for this help; the Senior Chief did this out of care and concern for a member of the Coast Guard family. The Coast Guard does more than risk their lives to save others; they never forget those who have served before them. In photo 2, Seaman Cory Walsh and Damage Controlman Ryan Hamm are repairing my screen door.

Please pass on my thanks to Senior Chief Graham and his crew for their dedication and commitment to the citizens of New Smyrna Beach, and especially me.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Edson

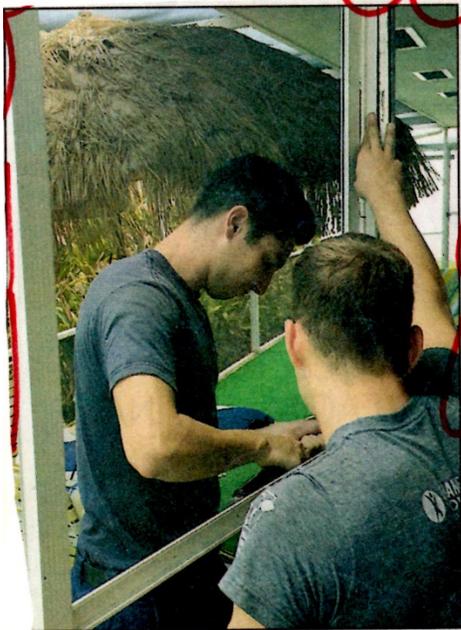


Photo courtesy of Ponce Inlet Coast Guard teaman Cory Walsh and Damage Controlman Ryan Hamm from the Ponce Inlet Coast Guard station re-install Evelyn Edson's door after reinforcing the damaged frame.



Photo courtesy of Ponce Inlet Coast Guard station Senior Chief Jeff Graham and Petty Officer First Class Jennifer Waldo met with Evelyn Edson, her son Larry and friend Earl Tingle Jr. recently at the Ponce Inlet Coast Guard station.

he saved a fellow

Rich Radle has been in contact with BIBB Shipmates Association member Maxine Habura of Phoenix, Arizona. Her deceased husband Jim, of the Greatest Generation, served on the mighty BIBB during World War II. She is extremely sharp, and sounded as if she could be 25 years old! Maxine turned 91 in October. She has allowed him to share the following letter with the Association.

Bibb Reunion Association:
Arizona

Phoenix

February 24th 2017

I am so grateful for your Scuttlebutt letter! I don't know many of the names anymore! My husband Frank was on The Bibb during World War II. We married in Washington D.C. December 7th, 1944; The Bibb was in Port at Charleston, South Carolina.

Here are some of the names of those on the Bibb at that time, all deceased.

Gunner's Mate- Frank Habura, member, BSA
Yeoman-Bernard Strand
Gunner's Mate- Al Karius, member, BSA
Cook-John Draggonetti, founder, BSA
Richard Olson, founder, BSA
Bill Marderosin, member, BSA
Jim Sheeran, member, BSA
Jim McGuirk, member, BSA
Capt. Ken Hamilton, founder, BSA

I am sorry I don't remember more! You may share this with your Shipmates. Frank was a Gunner's mate. He ordered his crew to shoot down Japanese war planes without the Captain's order. One down and one damaged! Thanks to God!

I am enclosing a small check; please don't forget those that are gone.

Blessings and prayers,

Maxine Habura

Lloyd Hensley, President BIBB Shipmates Association