



A Newsletter of the USS Edisto Association

Volume 2, No.1

Spring 2008

REUNION 2008
Marriott Hotel, Newport News, VA
(757) 873-9299



USS BURTON ISLAND
AGB1



USS EDISTO
AGB2



USS ATKA
AGB3



USS GLACIER
AGB4



USS STATEN ISLAND
AGB5

FAMILY AFFAIR

About The Cover

On the cover is a picture of the Newport News Marriott Hotel where the 2008 Reunion will be held May 1st through the 5th. The hotel is located in the Oyster Point Town Center, Newport News, VA. More information on the Town Center and the hotel may be obtained by visiting the Oyster Point website at <http://www.citycenteratoysterpoint.com/index.html>.

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The Kee-Bird is the official Newsletter of the USS Edisto Association, Inc and is published three times yearly. Stories, photos and other materials relative to icebreakers should be mailed to the USS Edisto Association, P.O. Box 747, Mims, FL 32754 and shall become the property of the USS Edisto Association. We make no guarantee that said stories or photos will be published and we reserve the right to edit the content to conserve space to limit printed materials to keep cost down.

Editor/ Publisher/Printer
Glenn Smith

Contributors

Virgil Paulk
James Jensen
Jim Oliphant
Val Patarini
Al Hudson
David Collins
John Hrivnak



Davy Jones's locker
Rate – Onboard – Date Gone to Sea



Arms, Richard, RDSA, 49, 7-Mar-07
 Bagwell, Earnest R., , 53, 2-Feb-07
 Bouchard, Morton S., QM3, 54, 2007
 Clark, Vernon L., F1, 47, 25-Aug-07
 Kurpecky, David R., SN, 65, Apr-07
 McCall, Lawrence A., SN, 47-48, 21-Apr-07
 Muckenfuss, J. Wilson, ADR3, 61, 20-Feb-07

Musto, Michael A., ME1, 52-55, 27-Nov-07
 Robertson, Douglas D., AERM3, 47, 19-Jul-07
 Schomaker, Donald, AN, 51-52, 2-May-07
 Snedeker, Robert H., , 47-48, 18-Mar-07
 Spruill, Norman L., LTJG, 56-59, 10-Oct-07
 Turner, Jesse L., RM, 55-57, 19-Aug-07
 Vaughn, Roy, RD3, 58, 4-Sep-07
 Wiedenhoeft, Frederick, , 64-66, 14-Jul-07

Remembering Michael A. Musto, ME1, '52-55

Emails from shipmates:

The Musto I knew (and think his name was Michael) was an Edisto crew member when I came aboard Jan. 58 & think still there when I transferred off July 59, and I really wrote the following assuming this was him, this before I noticed the service dates you show in Subject line. If this is the Musto I knew, the following is applicable. If not, it applies to a different Musto than the one who just passed away. Anyway, were you on the Edisto when we were up north the summer of '58, somewhere off Labrador or Baffin Island when it seemed there was some problem with the ship's steering, propulsion, both, or some such. They thought it might be one of the screws chipped, chunk knocked out of it, somehow broken so put ladder over side & Musto went down it and on the ice and walked back to the stern where he got down on his belly on ice in attempt to inspect the propeller. He was really concentrating on his inspection, trying to discover problem, and could not see this old polar bear (and believe she had cubs with her) walking up to come over to inspect Musto stretched out on the ice. Bunch of us were out on deck watching him and we saw what all going on, started yelling at him, but he wasn't hearing us. Forgot how finally got his attention, if someone threw something down & hit him or what, but when finally got his attention & he saw that bear approaching him, he made it back to that ladder midships one hell of a lot faster than he made it from that spot to the stern when he was going out. When going out he was walking rather carefully on the ice but when getting back from that bear he was pretty well running. If you remember or knew him, Musto wasn't very tall and you never saw two little short legs moving so fast as those were at that time. I remember that about Musto more than any one thing, and over the years have told that tale so often; in fact, this past Thurs. was with friends visiting this really neat taxidermy shop where they had a stuffed black & a stuffed brown bear and I told these friends & the taxidermist that tale about Musto & the polar bear. Thanks for doing the great job you do, Glenn, in keeping us informed of unfortunate passing of all Edisto crew members. It's especially sad, but something one particularly wants to know, when it involves a shipmate. My sympathy to the Musto family. Take care. Keep up the good work & keep in touch.

Jim Oliphant.



I remember Mike very well. He was a super guy who always had a smile on his face and a pleasant word for everyone.....even us Deck Apes. I agree with Jim regarding his years on the Edisto. I'm pretty sure he was on board during Operation Deep Freeze I. That would have been 1955 going into 1965. I'll have to write David Musto as to how old Mike was when he passed. I was 20 for Deep Freeze and I thought Mike was much older than me and I'm 72 now. Of course, at 20, everyone seems a lot older than you.

Val Patarini



Mike Musto was on the Edisto when I reported on in '56. He was the first one to go upon the stack when there was a stack fire. I believe what James Oliphant was referring to was when Mike and a couple of others went over to repair a hole in the USNS Gission Los Angeles. I do remember that we fed the polar bear for a few days. He ate better than we did. It also kept him away from the guys so they could finish the repair work on the ship. Sorry to hear of his passing. Sorry to hear of all the passings of all the people that I knew.

Al Hudson



Dear Glenn:

RM1 Jesse Lee Turner passed away on Sunday, August 19, 2007. He was 81 years old. He was buried on August 21, 2007, with full military honors, at the National Cemetery in Biloxi, Mississippi. He was always proud of his service with the USS Edisto. Please let his crew mates know and you may remove this e-mail address from your records

Leslie (Turner) Clauson
 Daughter





MAIL BAG




First official Reunion - Shipmate David Collins sent me the Call to Reunion letter and a roster for the first official reunion of the USS Edisto that was held September 27, 1997. This reunion was orchestrated by Lyman Smith, and was held at the home of Rod and Kathleen Whitelaw, Orleans, MA. Those invited or were in attendance were:

Lyman & Barbara Smith, '62-64
 Rod & Kathy Whitelaw, '62-64
 David & Holly Collins, '64-65
 Walt & Frances Flaherty, '63-64
 Frank & Ginny Hanson, '64-65
 Ed & Benth Johnson, '63
 Norval & Clare Nickerson, '63-65

Rudd & Barbara Platt, '62-64
 Rich & Linda Pribula, '63-64
 Joseph Kellogg, '62-65
 Daryl Feckley, '63-65
 John Power, '63-64
 John Hagen, '63-65
 Wadsworth McDaniel, '63-65

Dave said also that he and wife Holly made 2 trips to the Antarctic where they sailed the Ross Sea and visited McMurdo during the winter of 2003/2004.



John Hrivnak, '51-55, is asking if any of you shipmates recall the Edisto basketball team and if so, he wants a copy of the photo taken of the team. He lost his in a flood in '72.



The Association now boasts **268** active members with 76 new members registering since the publication of our first newsletter, the Kee Bird. Fantastic! As a member you receive a Certificate, a CD for use on a computer that contains Assn files, latest membership roster, Deepfreeze cruise books and more.



Received a note and donation from Carol Spruill in memory of Charter Member Norm. Carol says she will continue to be an active member of our group. Also received a note from Charli, widow of Charter Member and Plank Owner Vernon Clark. She too plans to remain active in our group.



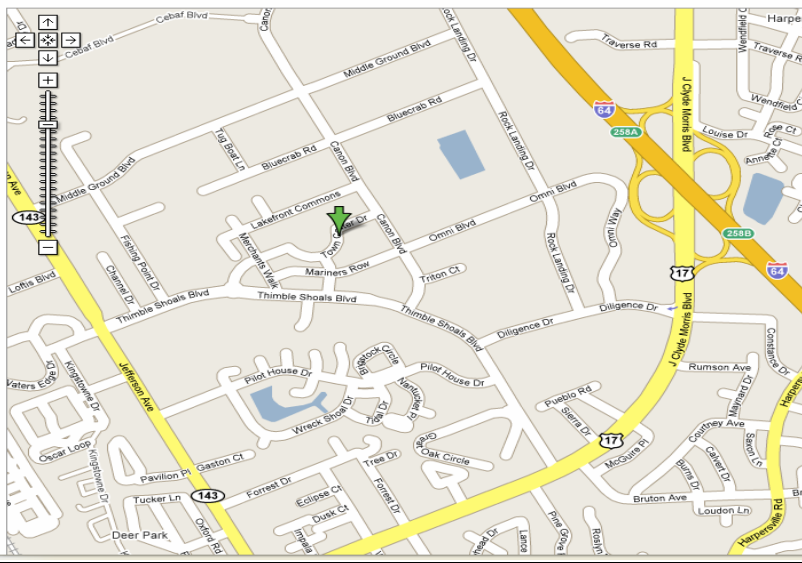
Several orders for hats and shirts were filled recently. Interest increased since the Kee Bird publication and distribution in Oct 2007. I discovered an error in shirt pricing because I used the old price list from our purchases in 2004 for the first reunion in Charleston, SC. It would seem that since then the shirts have gone up about to about \$28-30 each.

Cost comparison of the last 2 reunions versus the upcoming reunion in May and is based on a person attending all catered meals and participating in all tours

	Charleston, SC	Chattanooga, TN	Newport News, VA
Room Rate	\$92.95	\$92.62	\$110.88
Event Registration	\$20	\$20	\$20

	Charleston, SC	Chattanooga, TN	Newport News, VA
Meals	Breakfast - 14 Banquet - 29 Food Total \$53	Dinner -30 Banquet - 31 Food Total \$61	Dinner 1 - 20 Dinner 2 - 35 Banquet - 35 Food Total \$90
Tours	Tours w/lunch = \$165	Tours w/lunch = \$180	Tours w/lunch = \$115
Per Person Total	\$218	\$241	\$205

MARRIOTT HOTEL LOCATION



Marriott Hotel
740 Town Center Drive
Newport News, VA 23606

Reservations 1-757-873-9299

Just off I-64
Exits 256 (south on 17)

5 miles south of
Williamsburg/Newport
News International Airport



Things to do and see...

Golf - Newport News Golf Club, Parks and Recreation. Newport News, VA 23601 Phone: (757) 886-7925

Kiln Creek Golf Club & Resort 1003 Brick Kiln Boulevard, Newport News, VA 23602 Phone: (757) 874-2600

Shopping – Town Center Oyster Point, Newport News – Upscale shops only a step away from the hotel

Patrick Henry Mall - 12300 Jefferson Ave, Newport News, VA 23602 · 757-249-4305

Anchored by Macy's, JCPenney and Dillard's, this is the largest mall in the Newport News area. Other stores include Christopher & Banks, Gap and Gap Kids, Victoria's Secret, Bath and Body Works, American Eagle Outfitters, Gymboree, Old Navy, Dick's Sporting Goods and Borders Books. The familiar favorites are here when you get hungry – Chik Fil-A, Wendy's, Boardwalk Fries, Great American Cookie Company, and the Coffee Beanery among them – plus several other interesting options.

RV - Davis Mobile Home & RV Park is about 7 miles south of Town Center.

78 Dean Ray Ct., Newport News, VA 23606 Phone: (757) 244-5030

Williamsburg, VA - Come visit where America began and History lives, even today! Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Jamestown make up the Historic Triangle of Virginia and are also well represented by world-class accommodations, attractions, restaurants, and golf. The beautiful city of Williamsburg is a family destination significant for much more than just its' prestigious historical past.

Over 4,000,000 people visit the Williamsburg area every year to experience the award-winning, authentic, interactive tours of the times and lives of our colonial ancestors, not to mention the great dining and quality shopping found throughout the Historic Triangle. New things are happening everyday on Williamsburg.com to better prepare you with all the information necessary to make your time in Williamsburg Colonial Virginia as pleasant as possible, so check back often and enjoy!

MARINERS MUSEUM AND USS MONITOR CENTER



On March 9, 2007, exactly 145 years after the historic clash between the Civil War ironclads USS *Monitor* and CSS *Virginia*, The Mariners' Museum and its partner, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) opened the doors to one of the premier Civil War attractions.

This dramatic new \$30 million, 63,500-square-foot facility entralls families with exciting exhibits, bring students face-to-face with history, house state-of-the-art conservation labs and offer historians rich resources for research.

VICTORY ROVER CRUISE OF NORFOLK NAVAL BASE

See the World's Largest Naval Base Aboard the Victory Rover!

2 Hour Naval Base Cruises depart daily from the Nauticus Docks, home to the Battleship Wisconsin. Enjoy a fascinating and entertaining commentary along the way aboard this Navy-themed vessel. Thrill to the sight of Aircraft Carriers, Nuclear Submarines, Guided Missile Cruisers, and all of the other ships that form the World's most powerful Armada.

On board, guests will enjoy plenty of comfortable seating, clean restrooms, air-conditioned enclosed deck, open air upper deck, snack bar and souvenir shop.



Victory Rover

Naval Station Norfolk

Naval Station Norfolk occupies about 3,400 acres of Hampton Roads real estate in a peninsula known as Sewells Point. It is the world's largest Naval Station; in fact, based on supported military population, it is the largest military station in the world. The Norfolk Naval Base (NNB) is located on 4,631 acres, directly northwest of the City of Norfolk, Virginia. The Naval Complex includes Norfolk Naval Base as well as other Naval Facilities of the Sewells Point Naval Complex.

When the 78 ships and 133 aircraft home ported here are not at sea, they are alongside one of the 14 piers or inside one of the 15 aircraft hangars for repair, refit, training and to provide the ship's or squadron's crew an opportunity to be with their families. Naval Station is homeport to aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, large amphibious ships, submarines, and a variety of supply and logistics ships. Port Services controls more than 3,100 ships' movements annually as they arrive and depart their berths. Port facilities extend more than four miles along the waterfront and include some seven miles of pier and wharf space.

Naval Station's Nimitz Hall is a major stopping-off point for people destined for ships, aircraft squadrons, and stations overseas. Nearly 9,000 people are processed through the Transient Personnel Unit annually en route to their destinations.

It is uncommon for these ships to all be in port at one time. Naval Station Norfolk made history with the berthing of five (5) Nuclear Aircraft Carriers on 02 July 97 at 1730, when the Navy's newest Nimitz class carrier, USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN-74), returned to port, joining the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN-73), USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71), USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) and the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69). The only other time five carriers were berthed at the Naval Station was in 1992, but they were not all nuclear carriers.

REUNION SCHEDULE

Marriott Hotel
740 Town Center Drive
Newport News, VA 23606
For Reservations Call: 1-757-873-9299

Thursday, May 1st	4 PM – 6 PM	Check-in & Registration
	6 PM – 8 PM	Buffet Dinner \$20 per person
Friday, May 2nd Tour \$50	08:30 AM	Bus departs hotel for a casual walking tour of Colonial Williamsburg.
	Lunch	Lunch on your own with several restaurants to choose from in Williamsburg
	Afternoon	Reload bus and travel to the Mariner Museum and USS Monitor Center.
	4:30 PM	Bus returns to the hotel
	6 PM – 8 PM	Dinner at the Hotel \$35 per person
Saturday, May 3rd Tour \$70	08:30 AM	Bus departs hotel for Norfolk and tour of the Nauticus, the National Maritime Center, the Battleship Wisconsin and the Hampton Roads Naval Museum
	Lunch	Lunch downtown at the famous Abbey Restaurant
	Afternoon	Board the Victory Rover for a 2-hour Hampton Roads Harbor Cruise
	5:00 PM	Bus returns to hotel
Sunday, May 4th	08:30 – 10 AM	Business Meeting and Election of Officers
	5 PM – 5:30 PM	Gather at Pre-function area
	5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Opening Ceremony & Memorial Service
	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Farewell Banquet/Entertainment, etc. \$35 per person
Monday, May 5th	11 AM	Check Out

All Icebreaker Sailors, spouse, family & guest are invited to attend and participate in the tours, dinners, etc.

Room rate is \$99/per night plus tax. Breakfast is discounted \$2 with presentation of event badge. **Hotel is Nonsmoking** but there are areas where smoking is permitted.

Parking: Self-parking in covered garage is FREE to the Edisto Group. Valet parking is \$12 for overnight. There are areas adjacent to the hotel that offer free parking. Short-term Valet parking is available during daylight hours for \$5.

Unoccupied RV parking may be available for up to 3 vehicles at location just across the street from the hotel.

Breakfast Discount of \$2 with the presentation of your Event Badge.

Williamsburg/Newport News International Airport is just 5 miles north of the hotel. **Taxi fare** is approximately \$14 one-way regardless of the number of passengers & luggage. No shuttle service is available to/from the hotel.

Driving: From I-64, turn off at Exit 256 and go south on Hwy 17 (see map) and follow signs to Town Center, Oyster Point or Marriott hotel. From Norfolk and points south, turn off on Exit 256B and follow signs to Town Center and hotel.

Early Registrants whose check or money order and completed form are received on/or before March 10th will be included in a drawing for one (1) night's free lodging on either April 30th or May 5th – your choice.

Cut off Dates: Very Important – Mark on your Calendar

- March 31st:** Last day to get the **\$99 rate**. Afterwards the hotel may charge more and only if rooms are available
- April 7th:** Last day to get **registration and money** to Glenn Smith
- April 10th:** **No Refunds for Tours** after this date. Must pay agency for expected tours
- April 21st:** **No Refunds for Meals** after this date. Must pay hotel for expected attendance at meals
- April 27th:** Last day to **Cancel Room Reservations** without being charged for one night (**72 hours before arrival**)

TOUR 1 May 2nd (Friday) 8:30 AM Bus Departs Hotel

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG OVERVIEW

Depart via motor coach with your tour guide for the charming town of Williamsburg. Your guide will provide interesting and informative narration during your ride about the historic Virginia Peninsula and the Hampton Roads area. When you arrive in Williamsburg, you will step back into the 18th century while strolling through the streets of Colonial Williamsburg. Your historical interpreter will guide you through the past and the events that helped shape America's history as you enjoy a one and one half hour leisurely walking tour through the restored area of this lovely colonial capital city (Actual distance is approximately 4-5 blocks). Following your overview tour, enjoy free time to shop and browse in the many unique specialty shops in Merchants Square. High quality apparel, gifts, jewelry, unusual quilts, beautiful furniture and holiday decorations are but a few of the offerings found in this quaint, picturesque shopping area. Enjoy lunch on your own in one of the Colonial Taverns or in Merchants Square. Your guide will point out all of the dining options as you pass through town.

THE MARINER'S MUSEUM/USS MONITOR

Following lunch, enjoy a visit to the Mariner's Museum, one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world, housing a treasure trove of more than 35,000 items inspired by human experiences with the sea. For 70 years the museum has illustrated the spirit of seafaring adventure, assembling an internationally renowned and diverse collection of maritime artifacts – including figureheads, scrimshaw, handcrafted ship models, decorative arts, prints and paintings with a nautical theme, and small craft from around the world. Browse in the Museum Shop, which features an extensive collection of maritime books and gifts that are sure to please nautical enthusiasts of all ages and interests. New in 2007, is the USS Monitor Exhibit. This \$30 million exhibit includes artifacts, history and accounts of the career of the USS Monitor displayed in a 63,500 square foot space. The center's galleries are recreations of times and places – turning points of experience, re-living the Civil War battle of the iron-clads, USS Monitor and the CSS Virginia, which was to change Naval warfare forever. This exhibit is world class and one of the country's premier Civil War attractions. **Back at hotel at 4:30 PM**

TOUR 2 May 3rd (Saturday) 8:30 AM Bus Departs Hotel

NAUTICUS, THE NATIONAL MARITIME CENTER

Board the motor coach with your guide to visit Norfolk's exciting downtown waterfront where you will tour Nauticus, The National Maritime Center. Features here include a series of ingenious interactive exhibits, shows and theaters. Enjoy the Academy Award nominated film "The Living Seas" which celebrates the beauty, power and significance of the ocean, all shown in 70 MM on a giant screen. Also housed here is the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, one of ten museums officially operated by the U.S. Navy. Highlights of naval battles and exhibits of detailed ship models, artwork and memorabilia are showcased in the museum.

BATTLESHIP WISCONSIN

A true highlight to your visit to Nauticus will be a tour of the battleship Wisconsin, one of the famous Iowa-class ships. This great ship saw action in WWII, the Korean War and most recently in the Persian Gulf War. Wisconsin remains in the Inactive Fleet and is permanently berthed beside Nauticus where it is accessed by a connecting walkway. The main deck and sections of two upper decks are open for you to explore.

LUNCH AT FREEMASON ABBEY RESTAURANT

Enjoy lunch in the charming atmosphere of Freemason Abbey restaurant. Housed in a 19th century former church, the food is delicious and the ambiance delightful.

VICTORY ROVER HARBOR CRUISE

Following lunch, board the Victory Rover for a two hour cruise through the bustling Hampton Roads Harbor, one of the largest in the world. Enjoy fascinating and entertaining commentary along the way aboard this naval themed vessel. You will thrill to the sight of aircraft carriers, nuclear submarines, guided cruisers and all of the other ships that form the world's most powerful armada. Light snacks will be available on board. **Back at the hotel at 5 PM.**

REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ NICKNAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

RATE: _____ YEAR ONBOARD: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

DATE OF ARRIVAL: _____ DEPARTURE: _____ # IN PARTY: _____ # OF NIGHTS STAY _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME _____ TELEPHONE NBR: _____

DO YOU REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS? HANDICAP ROOM: _____ (Yes/No) WHEELCHAIR: _____(Yes/No)

HAVE YOU FOOD ALLERGIES? _____ (Yes/No) MEDICAL CONCERNS NOT MENTION ABOVE? _____ Yes/No

If yes, please describe: _____

FLY OR DRIVE: _____ This information will help me determine the information package I will send to you.

NOTE: The Event Registration Fee pays for badges, insurance, color guard donation, entertainment, room setup, audio/visual equipment and miscellaneous hotel charges that may arise:

Event Registration Fee	Hotel Guest	\$20 per person	\$ _____ Total
	If NOT staying at the Marriott	\$30 per person or \$50 per couple	\$ _____ Total
Thursday, May 1 st	Chef's surprise - Buffet	\$30 per person X _____	\$ _____ Total
Friday May 2 nd	Tour 1: Williamsburg & Mariner Museum	\$50 per person X _____	\$ _____ Total
	Buffet Dinner	\$25 per person X _____	\$ _____ Total
Saturday, May 3 rd	Tour 2: Norfolk Nauticus, USS Wisconsin, Lunch at the Abbey & Harbor Cruise.	\$70 per person X _____	\$ _____ Total
Sunday, May 4	Closing ceremonies Memorial & Farewell Banquet	\$35 per person X _____	\$ _____ Total

Total \$ _____

Monday, May 5th Check Out

Don't forget to mark your calendar with the cut off dates for room reservations (March 31), room cancellations (72 hrs before scheduled arrival), and for completion and mailing of this form (April 7th). No refunds on tours after April 10th.

Make a copy of the completed form and send a check or money order payable to USS EDISTO ASSOCIATION and mail before April 7th to Glenn Smith, P.O. Box 747, Mims, FL 32754. If you have any questions call (321) 269-5637 or Email me at ussedisto@bellsouth.net.