



Kee Bird



Volume 8 - Issue 1 USS/USCG EDISTO AG89/AGB2/WAGB-284 Spring/Summer 2014



Ahoy Shipmates and Friends.

Welcome spring and good-by Winter. It's good to have warmer temperatures. We had a very enjoyable time at our Nashville, Sept, 2013, Reunion, and now can look forward to another one.

Glenn and Kathie have planned a reunion in Washington, D.C. for April 2015. Washington, D. C. is probably one of the best destinations in the country for a military reunion because of the historical experience. This will be a memorable event with a great appreciation of the beauty and vigilant service of our country's military. There are so many national monuments, historical landmarks, great institutions, museums, sites, etc. to visit.

Thank you, Glenn and Kathie, for all your efforts to make this happen. We shall appreciate the results.

If anyone has news worthy story, pictures, comments, etc. suitable for the Kee Bird, please do not hesitate to share.

Take care and stay healthy.

Jerry Downs

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DAVEY JONES LOCKER

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Onboard</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Mbr</u>
Andrasko	Francis	57	27 /Mar 2014	
Carita	David A.	65	16 Jul 2014	
Dosch	Albert	53-54	10 Mar 2014	Yes
Eitner	William J.	49-50	23 Apr 2014	Yes
Fredericko	Martin M.	48-50	12 May 2013	Yes
Gorsuch	John	49-51	9 Aug 2013	Yes
Hanson	Frank	64-65	27 July 2013	
Heintz	Robert E.	48-49	26 Apr 2014	Yes
Heymer	Robert E.	50-52	28 Oct 2013	Yes
Kinney	Patrick B.	60	12 May 2014	Yes
Kotzur	Joe	47-48	31 Mar 2014	
Krause	Albert L.	47-49	14 Apr 2013	
O'Malley	James F	47-52	20 Aug 2013	
Schmidt	Calvin P.	48-49	21 Jun 2013	Yes
Selleck	James	55	1 Nov 2013	Yes
Willis	Alvin	53	02 Jan 2014	Yes

The Kee Bird is the official newsletter of the USS Edisto Association, Inc and is published three times yearly for members of the Association. 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

www.ussedistoagb2.com
www.steadyeddy.org

OBITUARIES

William J Eitnier, SA 1949-50

William J. Eitnier of Brigantine, NJ passed away on April 23, 2014, surrounded by his loving family. His devoted wife of 52 years Carolyn and his three children, Paula, Jamie and Dan, son-in-law Ralph, daughter-in-law Sue, future daughter-in-law Jenny, Niece Pam, Nephew Scott, seven grand children and one great grand child survives him. Bill, also known affectionately as Bud by close friends and family was born on February 4, 1930 in Philadelphia. Bud and his family moved to the Atlantic City Inlet when he was 3. His family included his father Eugene, mother Florence and younger sister Sandy, all three have pre-deceased him. Bud served in the United States Navy before and during the Korean War. Bud served on the ice breaker **USS Edisto** in 1949 sailing to Greenland, through Baffin Bay above the Arctic Circle through Barrow Strait to Cornwallis Island and Somerset Island. Bud's passion for the sea was passed on from his grandfather Ernest Gray and his father Eugene Eitnier, both of whom served their countries in the US Navy and Merchant Marines. Bud and Carolyn resided and raised their family in Brigantine starting in 1962. Bud was a long time member of the Brigantine Yacht Club since 1967 and also a member of the United States Power Squadron for 62 Years. Bud started with the Atlantic City Electric Company as a Linesman in 1953, working his way up to a Manager position before retiring in 1990. Bud was an expert sailor, carpenter, wood-craftsman and a waterfowl carver. His attention to detail won him many national and world awards for his duck carvings. Some of his work has been displayed on a number of occasions in the Brigantine Museum. Bud enjoyed walking around the Northern end of the island, every day until his passing. He was respected, loved and admired. He was a kind and gentle man, who will be missed by his family, his friends and residents of Brigantine. Bud spent his entire life on and living by the sea, his final wish is for his ashes to be poured into the deep blue waters of the Atlantic to voyage endlessly and eternally. "Whenever you gaze upon the sea, think of me" WJE.

Patrick B. Kinney, SA 1960

Patrick B. Kinney of Bristol, Pa. died suddenly on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at his residence. He was 73.

Patrick was a retired truck driver for STS Motor Freight and a crane operator for Novolog.

He enjoyed crabbing, and family picnics and was an avid NASCAR fan. A U.S. Navy veteran, he is survived by his wife, Sara A. (Troxell) Kinney; daughter, Shannon K. Miller (Mark); a son, Patrick B. Kinney (Lori Kurtz); and three grandchildren, Payton Cecilia and Mark Anthony 'Bubba' Miller Jr. and Lorrick Kinney. He was the brother of Dennis (Sandra) and Cecilia Kinney and is also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Patrick was preceded in death by his son, Baby Patrick, and his brother, and sister, Donald and Betty Girardi.

Francis Andrasko Story, SA 1957

The day before Frank's death, March 27, 2014, I received an email from a young lady named Valerie Walters who was very distressed because her friend was dying in a Sarasota, FL hospital. She found a Kee Bird newsletter that I sent him a few years before and was trying to arrange a military burial but Frank had no family nor anyone who could present records to substantiate his military service. Sense he had spoken of the Edisto, she reached out to me. He was in our Edisto database so I contacted the Sarasota County Veterans Service and gave them his service number 512-25-751) and a copy of the Daily Diaries which shows where in 1957 he transferred from the Battleship USS New Jersey (BB-62) to the Edisto as a SA. Surprisingly, the VA reported back to me that there wasn't any record of Frank by name or service number. I contacted the Navy's archives and the Navy personnel records division and everyone else that might have information but sadly, the Navy says he was not a veteran. Rubbish! I exhausted every source I have but repeated attempts failed to obtain a DD214 or any acknowledgement that he was a veteran. If he in fact was a vet - as the Navy records show - then this is a travesty.

MAIL CALL



Edisto's own, Lt Howell Purvis, '58-59, has played for 330 funerals over the years. One can Google him and find numerous news stories about him and his trumpet.

Howell was a pilot on the Edisto and before that he served a tour in Vietnam as a pilot. After the Navy he applied for duty with the Secret Service and was accepted. During his 20-year career served presidents LB Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Regan and H.W. Bush.

Howell says, "I interviewed Sara Jane Moore and Squeaky Fromme." He says that he eventually got Sara Jane Moore to confessing why she did it.

As many of you shipmates know, we have been entertained by Howell and his trusty trumpet which he carries wherever he goes. Recently he was recognized by the Pearl River Community College (PRCC) as a member of the 2014 class of the Pearl River Community College Lifetime Achievement Hall of Fame.

From: Jon and KT Newton

Date: August 8, 2014 11:28:39 AM EDT

Subject: Antarctic fun fact

When explorer Ernest Shackleton announced his intention to cross Antarctica, he received almost 5,000 applications for just 56 places on his crew. The explorer and his chosen comrades set sail on the **Endurance 100 years ago today.**

From: Wendy Munson (a proud daughter of late Charles E. Gaull, '52-55)

Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 9:50 AM

To: Glenn Smith

Subject: Re: USS/USCG Edisto Reunion - Wash DC



CMC Susan Whitman

Hi Glenn,

As always was nice to see a email from you and the Edisto family.... Sounds like the gathering in DC will be fun.... Thought I would pass the information on to you that my sister CMC Susan Whitman is still in the Navy and was promoted to Force Master Chief, for Commander, Naval Surface Force Atlantic.... not sure if I have the title correct, but I know it is a big job..... You can look her up by her name and see what exactly she is doing..... She is back in Norfolk , she spends a lot of time in DC.... Wish dad was still alive, this would have been a good trip. Stay safe and take care.....Wendy Gaull Munson.

From: John Duignan – a Proud Papa

Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 9:29 AM

Subject: : White House

“ Military quite strict on how the ladies have to wear their hair.”

Shipmate John has a reason to be proud of daughter Kathleen. Here she is sporting the hairdo appropriate for White House visit. Notice the golden braids... on the sleeves...not the hair

Photo of USCG Capt Kathleen Duignan after meeting at the White House.



MAIL CALL

Bill & Cathy Gallant and Patti Deegan have come up with a novel idea to help the McDonald House charities by collecting the toiletries at the hotels where they stay and donating them to the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC). The mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) is to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well being of children. Below is a copy of the letter they received after making a donation to RMHC.

November 13, 2013

Dear William,

Your recent donation of toiletries will help us tremendously in our effort to provide for the many families who stay with us. It is the support of friends like you that help make the Ronald McDonald House a reality.

Sincerely,
D. Crank
LMT Volunteer

*We wish to thank you for your contribution to the
Ronald McDonald House of Tampa Bay.*

Your support helps to provide a safe and supportive home-away-from-home for families while their seriously ill or injured children receive medical treatment at our bay area hospitals.

Compassionate volunteers greet families as they walk through our doors. Community groups prepare hot, nutritious meals throughout the day for emotionally exhausted families. Parents, relatives and siblings gather in common rooms to share their hopes and fears with others going through similar situations. Because of friends like you, Ronald McDonald House is so much more than a house, it is truly a home.

Your gift to the "House that love built" is tax deductible and helps to keep our doors open. Thank you again for making a difference in the lives of pediatric families in Tampa Bay.

REUNION

Reunion of All Icebreakers, Washington DC area

Sheraton Reston Hotel, Reston, VA (Near Dulles Airport)
11810 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20191
703-620-9000

April 23-27, 2015

Rate \$89/night plus tax, Single and Double - Rate is good 3 days before and 3 days after so take this opportunity to invite your brothers, sisters, friends, neighbors, sons and daughters to join you and see historic Washington.

CUTOFF DATE FOR THIS RATE IS APRIL 9, 2015 - Two ways to make reservations:

Call **1-800-561-9186** and ask for USS/USCG Edisto Association room block or from the Internet: **<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/USSUSCGEdistoAssociation>**

- Free parking
- Complimentary Shuttle to/from Dulles Airport
- Complimentary space for unoccupied motor home parking
- Complimentary use of swimming pool, Jacuzzi and exercise facilities
- **20% discount** on food and beverages (non-alcoholic) with presentation of badge
- Free storage (up to 4 hours) for luggage for early check-ins or bring to hospitality room until granted access to room.
- Early Bird Deadline –Registration form and money received on/before 1 April are eligible for one (1) night's lodging. Drawing will be held April 9, 2015.

Negotiations are underway for meals and tours. All prices quoted for meals and tours **include gratuities, service charges, state and local taxes.** Tour prices are based on the cost of buses & drivers, cost of tour guides per hour, Wash DC permit, Arlington Cemetery Tram Fare and parking fee divided by the number of seats on buses. A minimum of 35 passengers per bus is required. The next two pages contain a sample schedule.

Thursday, April 23rd - WELCOME BUFFET

- Noon – 4 pm Registration (pick up badge & reunion package)
- 5 pm – 6 pm Cash Bar pre-dinner gathering
- 6 pm – 8 pm Welcome all Icebreakers Buffet Dinner. Recognize all ships & sailors

Friday, April 24th – TOUR 1

- 0900-1100 Business Meeting and election of officers
- 1300-1600 Visit Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum

Saturday, April 25th - TOUR 2

- 8 am – 5 pm Visit Arlington Cemetery, DC monuments, memorials and Navy Yard
- 12 pm - 1 pm Lunch on your own at Pentagon City.

Sunday, April 26th BANQUET & ENTERTAINMENT

- 1700-1900 Individual and Group Photos by Price Perfect (Remember Jody from Warwick Reunion?)
- 1900-2200 Banquet and Entertainment by the DC3

Monday, April 27th Check out of Hotel

REUNION

TOUR 1 – FRIDAY 4/24

1 pm – Depart Hotel for Udvar-Hazy Air & Space Museum, Chantilly, VA

5 pm – Arrive back at hotel

The **Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center**, located 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, is the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum (NASM)'s annex at Washington Dulles International Airport in the Chantilly area of Fairfax County, Virginia, United States. The 760,000 square feet facility was made possible by a \$65 million gift in October 1999 to the Smithsonian Institution by Steven F. Udvar-Hazy, an immigrant from Hungary and co-founder of the International Lease Finance Corporation, an aircraft leasing corporation. NASM has always had more artifacts than could be displayed at the main museum on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Most of the collection had been stored, unavailable to visitors, at the Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration, and Storage Facility in Silver Hill, Prince George's County, Maryland.

A SAMPLE OF THE UDVAR-HAZY COLLECTION

- Enola Gay, the Boeing B-29 Superfortress that dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan
- A first-generation tracking and data relay satellite that hangs directly above the Discovery
- The Gemini VII space capsule
- A Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft
- An Air France Concorde supersonic airliner
- A United States Air Force Lockheed L049, the military version of the Lockheed Constellation ("Connie") airliner
- The Boeing 367-80 jet transport, which was the prototype for the Boeing 707
- The only surviving Bell XV-15 experimental tiltrotor craft
- A Redstone rocket
- The only The only surviving Dornier Do 335 Pfeil[7] fighter
- The Gemini VII space capsule
- A Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft
- The Space Shuttle Discovery

TOUR 2 – SATURDAY 4/25

Washington DC Memorials, Navy Museum, Naval Heritage Center and Arlington Cemetery.

8:30 am: Depart Sheraton Reston hotel

9:30 am Arrive **U.S. Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center**. Located off Pennsylvania Ave., the towering masts, waving flags, tiered waterfalls and Lone Sailor statue overlook the world's seas in this striking memorial honoring the U.S. sea services. Military concerts spring-summer. Inside: nautical interactive videos and the Ship's Store.

10:30 am Board motor coach and depart for tour of Arlington Cemetery

11:45 am Depart for Pentagon City for **lunch on your own** at large food court

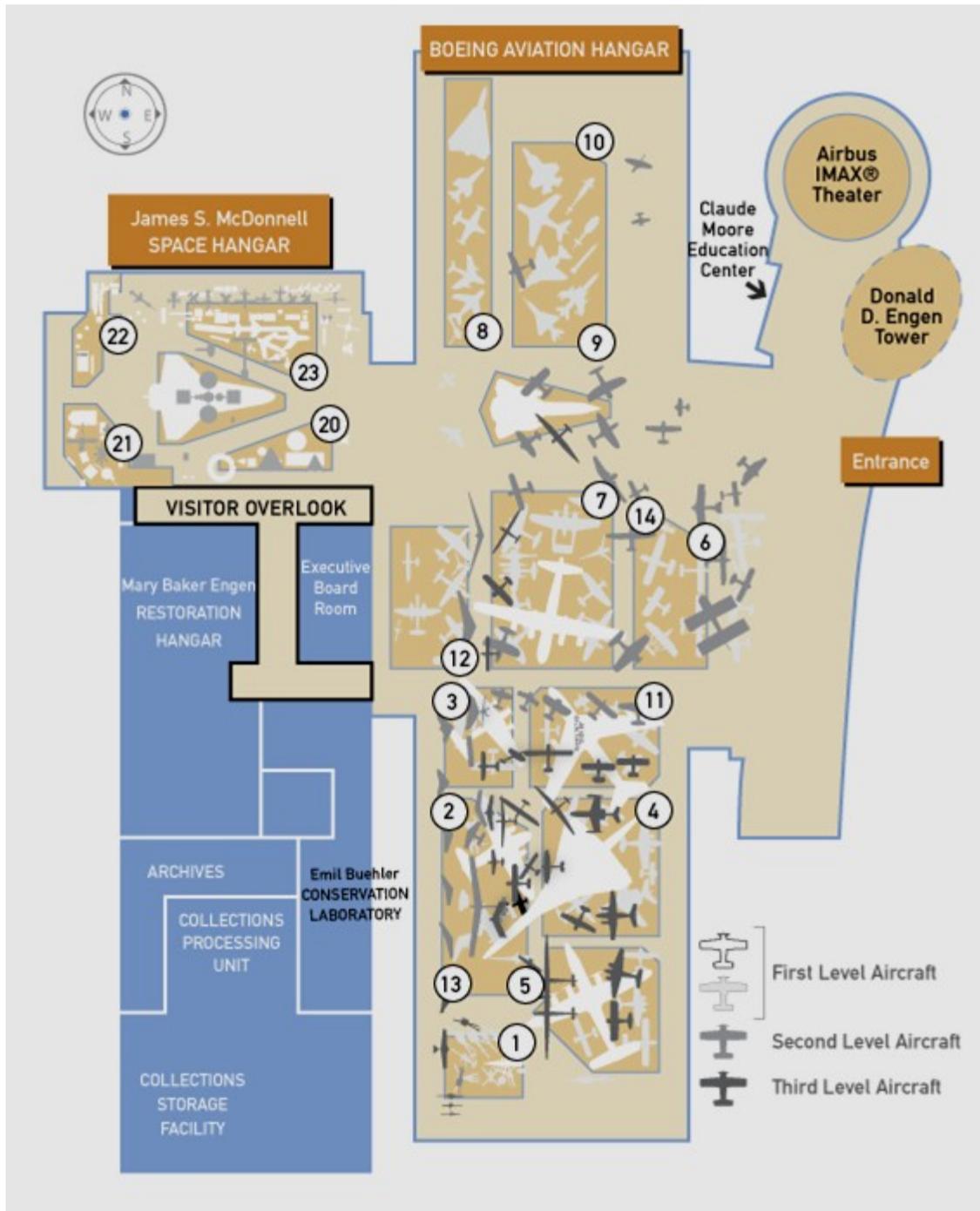
12:45 pm Depart for Navy Museum

1:30 pm Depart for Washington DC's Monuments and Memorials.

- Stop at the National World War II Memorial.
- Stop at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
- Stop at the Lincoln Memorial
- Stop at the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

5:00 PM Return to hotel

UVDAR-HAZY AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM



Uvdar-Hazy Museum has an outstanding collection. Here below is the Center floor plan and categories of Aviation.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Vertical Flight | 10. Modern Military Aviation |
| 2. Sport Aviation | 11. Aerobatic Aviation |
| 3. General Aviation | 12. German WWII Aviation |
| 4. Business Aviation | 13. Ultralights |
| 5. Commercial Aviation | 14. Interwar Military Aviation |
| 6. Pre-1920 Aviation | 20. Human Spaceflight |
| 7. World War II Aviation | 21. Space Science |
| 8. Korea and Vietnam Aviation | 22. Applications Satellites |
| 9. Cold War Aviation | 23. Rockets and Missiles |

REUNION - Those of you who have reservations at the hotel will receive a registration form and a schedule of events with meals and tour pricing. If you have not yet reserved a room but are planning to attend, contact me by phone: 321-269-5637, or email: ussedisto@cfl.rr.com so that I may send you the registration package. Check our webpage for any change or updates: www.steadyeddy.org

Edisto History Book Status – I am approximately three-fourths complete as I am now into the 60’s era. Unfortunately I didn’t meet the June/July target this year but will *absolutely* deliver a published hard-bound best seller in time for reunion. To those who have asked, the pre-publish price is \$35 and should be sent to our Treasurer, James M. Jensen, N4792 Homestead Rd., Hawkins, WI 54530-9567.

SHIP’S STORE - I have Blue Hats (Edisto Navy logo) in stock at \$25. All prices include shipping cost.



\$35



\$10



13’ x 19’ AGB-2 Print



\$10



Home - Ceramic Mugs - \$20 for one or \$35 for two
15 oz. Large El Grande C. Your Logo



\$10



\$10

New

White ceramic 15 oz mug
Made in USA. No Toxics.
Save by ordering 4 or more. \$8 at Reunion