



# THOMAS C. HART LINE

## YOU GOTTA HAVE HART

December 2013

Vol. 3 Issue 7,  
Winter 2013

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### Thomas C. Hart Veterans Assoc. Officers 2013-15

President	Dan Schubert	ETN3 (73-75)
Vice Pres.	Steve Garcia	NC1 (84-86)
Treasurer	Randy Groen	STG2 (73-76)
Secretary	Garry Collins	LT (86-89)
Historian	Andy Roberts	OS2 (81-85)
Storekeeper	John Ebata	BTFN (86-90)
Newsletter	Dave Neimeyer	LTJG (75-77)
Webmaster	Lee Edwardsen	STG2 (81-86)
Chaplain	Dave Kaminski	OSSN (84-87)
Chairman	Ron Koshko	EW1 (75-79)

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Greetings Shipmates,

I can't believe Thanksgiving is upon us and Christmas is just around the corner! With these holidays we often reflect upon family and friends and what their impact has been on our lives.

So too do I reflect upon the USS Thomas C. Hart family. We all share memories of the holidays we spent aboard the ship. Whether we were in port or at sea, those times were special and brought us together in ways only the significance of the holidays can. Today we proudly carry on this tradition of brotherhood in the Thomas C. Hart Veterans Association.

Since the 2013 Reunion, your officers have been busy with the planning for the 2015 TCHVA Reunion. The proposed sites are Minneapolis, MN, Newport, RI, and Norfolk, VA. You will be able to vote for your selection on the website during the period of January 15, 2014 to March 31, 2014. We will then announce the winning city on the website and you can start making your plans to attend.

Here's wishing everyone and their loved ones in the USS Thomas C. Hart Family a memorable and fulfilling Holiday Season and the very best in 2014!

Dan Schubert, President, TCHVA, [dan.molly@att.net](mailto:dan.molly@att.net)

## From the Secretary

From the Secretary

Shipmates, I hope this fall season finds you well and in good spirits! I know you are beginning to think about the Holiday season but I wanted to give you an update on TCHVA membership and encourage you to reach out to any and all of the shipmates. In September, we sent out an email with membership status and encouraged everyone whose membership is expired/expiring to join/renew TCHVA. A handful of shipmates responded but the majority did not.

As of today, we have 27 current members whose membership expires at year end. Today, our membership stands at 104 so that means if the 27 don't renew, we will be losing over 25% of our membership. The other 300 or so names on the listing from the September email have not responded either. Frankly, I'm a bit saddened by these numbers, particularly when the ship's Facebook page seems to have a lot of shipmates who visit there regularly and are excited about the TCH. Why not support TCHVA as well? We've kept the dues to the bare minimum \$20 for a two -year membership. Funds are only used for the support of our website and reunion expenses.

Building the membership in the next couple of months is important as we begin to solicit input for the selection of a reunion city for 2015. The only requirement for attending a TCH reunion is to be a member of TCHVA! Also, we really don't want to have to remove your name from the member listing posted on the website. I know your shipmates are excited when they visit the site and see your name.

In closing, I hope to hear of many new members joining and current members renewing their membership. Remember, your \$20 dues will cover your membership until January 2016! Also, we are still sending out TCHVA membership cards to any new member or current member who renews that doesn't have a card!

Email me with any questions: [garrysea@gmail.com](mailto:garrysea@gmail.com)

All the Best, Garry Collins, LCDR, SC, USN (ret), Suppo 86-89

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### November 2013 Financial Report Thomas C Hart Veterans Association

As of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, there is \$2184.85 in the Ships Treasury. This includes \$224.00 in the Help a Shipmate Fund and \$1920.85 in the checking account. This does not include money in the ship store account.

Respectfully submitted on November 17th

Randy Groen ; Treasurer Thomas C Hart Veterans Association [Randygg@frontiernet.net](mailto:Randygg@frontiernet.net)

## VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ahoy Shipmates!

First of all as we approach the holiday season I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

I would also like to thank the other board members for helping me out this fall. In Sept I signed up to be a Work Camper for Amazon in Campbellsville KY. Figured a little extra money before the holidays couldn't hurt. It's an interesting job and fun experience, but very exhausting for this old squid. I don't think I have worked this hard since boot camp. It keeps me busy at night working five twelves, and I sleep during the day so my time as been limited. The support and team work from the board and the membership has been a great help.

We have had some great shipmates renew their membership and have signed on a couple of new ones since the last news letter. Please keep searching out those shipmates we haven't found yet and keep in contact with your old friends who are members so we can all continue to be the great crew we were and are. Don't forget to check out the T. C. Hart web site for info on happenings and the next reunion.

*Steve Garcia (NC1)*

TCHVA VP

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## REUNION 2016

The planning for the 2015 T.C. Hart Reunion started at last summer's reunion in Louisville KY. The membership in attendance narrowed the options for the next reunion to 3 locations: Norfolk VA, Newport RI and Minneapolis MN. There will be an on line vote by the membership in early 2014 to determine where the reunion will be held. In the meantime, here are some details on each of the cities in the running:

### MINNEAPOLIS

Here are my reasons as to why I think the reunion should be held in Minneapolis. If Minneapolis is selected I have volunteered to be the planner for the reunion.

The cities of Minneapolis and St Paul and their suburbs are collectively known as the twin Cities Metro area. It is the 16<sup>th</sup> largest metropolitan area in the country with a total population of over 3.3 million. In spite of its frigid winters (or maybe because of them) there are a multitude of things to do. It is the home of the Major League football "Vikings", baseball, "Twins" Basketball "Timberwolves", and Hockey "Wild," and the National Champion Lynx Women's basketball team. There are numerous theaters, comedy clubs, and museums. It is the home of Mall of America, the country's largest shopping mall.

The biggest selling point for having the reunion in Minnesota is the Mall of America. You could spend several days there and not run out of new things to do. It is located in Bloomington MN about 12 miles from Minneapolis and 1 mile from the airport. The mall has over 520 shops and stores, an amusement park with roller coasters and other thrill and non-thrill rides. There are over 50 restaurants ranging from fast food to fancy gourmet. You could putt-putt golf, go through the aquarium or see a movie in one of the 16 screens at the movie theater. There is a bowling alley, a wedding chapel and a comedy club along with several bars. Since Minnesota does not have a sales tax on clothing it is a great place to shop for

clothing. I hate shopping, but I still go to the mall regularly to walk and people watch. The mall is the number one tourist attraction in the country based on the number of people who go through the doors each year. There are many charter flights from various cities from the US and around the world that were set up just to bring people to the Mall of America.

The Twin Cities are also known for their outdoor recreation. Minneapolis means “The City of lakes” and there are lakes, ponds, rivers and streams throughout the area. There are numerous city and county parks and nature areas. There is also a MN State Park and a National Wildlife area within minutes of the Mall of America. Outdoor recreation activities include swimming, sightseeing, bird and wildlife watching, hiking, biking, boating, canoeing and fishing among others. Despite the cold wintertime climate, Minneapolis has a thriving bike community. It has 120 miles of on- and off-street bicycle facilities, plus indoor bike parking and other cycling-friendly facilities. It was designated by Bicycling Magazine as the number 1 bike friendly city in the US in 2012. You can rent a bike and travel either paved or unpaved trails.

The T.C. Hart has a connection to Minnesota. On July 4<sup>th</sup> 1976 Hubert H Humphrey the former Mayor of Minneapolis, US senator representing Minnesota and US Vice President under Lyndon Johnson, gave a speech at a party that was being hosted by the Hart in Stavanger Norway. Two days later he took a tour of the ship. I had the privilege of shaking his hand when the only other sailor on the ship from Minnesota and I were introduced to him. Other famous people who are from Minnesota... former Vice President Walter Mondale, Current senator and past Saturday Night live writer and comedian Al Franken and Congresswoman Michelle Bachman, (shows that Minnesota takes its politics seriously) Singers Bob Dylan and Prince. Comedians Garrison Keilor and Lonny Anderson, and movie producers the Coen brothers.

If Minneapolis is selected, I plan to choose a hotel that is either attached to the Mall or is just across the street. I will also look for some cheap hotels options that are in the area. Most Bloomington hotels give free shuttle service to the mall and airport. For tours I am thinking of a city tour of Minneapolis and St Paul, a dinner cruise either on Lake Minnetonka or on the Mississippi, St Croix or the Minnesota River. We could also go to one of several good dinner theaters in the area. There is also a historic cave tour in St Paul, a Brew Pup tour of Minneapolis or a winery tour just outside of the south metro. Other options are tickets to see a Minnesota Twins game at Target Field the newest major league baseball park in the country, or maybe to see a Minnesota Lynx women’s professional basketball game. Since the Mall is located on a light rail line you can get to or from the airport and to downtown Minneapolis where the Twins, Lynx, and timber wolves play their home games, It also has a stop at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. I will try to plan some of the tours to use the light rail instead of renting a bus. I am also considering some cheap or no cost options such as a daily morning hike on one of the several nearby hiking trails in the area. I have some other ideas and am open to suggestions and feedback. I have include some links below if you are interested in seeing more

Wikipedia Twin cities

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minneapolis\\_%E2%80%93\\_Saint\\_Paul](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minneapolis_%E2%80%93_Saint_Paul)

Mall of America <http://www.mallofamerica.com/>

Target Field <http://minnesota.twins.mlb.com/min/ballpark/index.jsp>

Minnesota Zoo <http://www.mnzoo.com/>

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=32590>

Brew Pubs <http://www.thrillist.com/travel/minneapolis/minneapolis-best-brewery-crawl>

## **NORFOLK, VA**

It seem like only yesterday that we had our reunion in Louisville KY, and what a great time we all had thanks to the hard work of Gary Collins. But it's time to start planning for the next one and I thought I would give you some insight on one of the location that will be up for consideration when we select the site...Norfolk VA.

Yes we have all been there once or twice before, but if you haven't been there in a while you will be surprised. Norfolk provides many opportunities for things to do and see and places to visit within driving distance. If you like to just hang out on the beach there is that, or catch a boat for some deep sea fishing. There are also numerous places to eat everything from pizza and pasta, to sea food and sushi, or grab a burger or a slice of prime rib. If you want a more interesting way to dine there is always the Spirit of Norfolk Dinner cruise which has always been a popular attraction. If you are looking for something a little more entertaining the Mystery dinner Theater is a great place to go.

The tour possibilities are almost endless. There are all the military bases, Norfolk Navel Base, NAS Oceana, Fort Wool, and Fort Eustis just to name a couple. There are wineries with in driving distance where you can take tours and tasted some great Virginia wines. Colonial Williamsburg and York Town are about an hour away if you want to take in some history, as well as the War Birds Museum in Pungo where you can view vintage military aircraft, and if the timing is right, possibly see some of the old bird in the air. Or for a cooler treat go by Dumars Ice cream shop for a taste of good old fashioned ice cream in one of the waffle cones made from the original machine made for a World's Fair.

And if you want to shop...way too much to mention. Beach shops, malls, and specialty shops are everywhere.

Whether you decide to fly, drive, or take the train to get there, Norfolk is a great place to have the reunion and visit with old friends and bring back some old memories. The choice of location is up to you the membership what ever you decide I can assure you, you will have a great time.

Steve Garcia (NC1)  
Past Reunion Coordinator

## **NEWPORT, RI**

Walk along the Cliff Walk in Newport, RI and see the gorgeous mansions that served as summer homes for the rich and famous of a century ago. Many of the mansions are open to the public. If mansions aren't your style, there's downtown Newport and Thames Street. See the harbor where the America's Cup sailing races were held for many years. Take a harbor cruise, or even a day trip to Block Island. Perhaps you'd be interested in Rose Island Lighthouse, Touro Synagogue (the oldest synagogue in the US), the International Tennis Hall of Fame, or perhaps visit the US Naval War College. About 30 minutes away in Falls River, MA is Battleship Cove, with the USS Massachusetts, the destroyer USS Joseph P. Kennedy, submarine USS Lionfish, and two PT boats, plus the National Destroyer's Museum.

Although Newport can be a bit pricey, by judicious timing or staying just a few miles away, costs can be quite reasonable.

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### **Chaplain's Call**

Greetings and Happy Holidays to all of my Shipmates!

A couple of things that I wanted to share for everyone: (1) Tim Woodcock has had a couple of bad moments this last couple of months with health and family and I would ask that you keep him in your prayers. His nephew passed away suddenly and he has an issue with a growing aneurism waiting for medical procedures as the doctor allows. (2) Herman Washington III recently lost his Uncle. I would ask that we keep him in our prayers as well.

With these things being said - the Holidays can be a rough time for all. Things happen and this can make our special times difficult.

As Chaplain, I ask that we all try to keep positive and find a way to discover something good from every bad experience and seek comfort knowing that God is with us and helping us through all of our struggles.

When the Holidays arrive (Thanksgiving and Christmas and all Holy Days) remember to give thanks for what we have, tell people close to you that you love them, and celebrate well and safely. Keeping in mind that this is a special time - not just a commercial one.

To all safe travels, much love to all and God Bless each and every one of us on all of our "Individual Journeys" and festivities.

Best Wishes.  
Dave Kaminski  
Ship's Chaplain

From facebook:  
What shipmate(s) would you most like to see at the next reunion?

[Melvin Marquess](#) all of them, myself included!

[Jerry R. Leatherwood](#) I would like to see Joey Lalonde, Bob Cassidy, [Scott Cruikshank](#)  
[Scott Cruikshank](#) Me too brother

[Dave Kaminski](#) Would like to see: Capt. Nick, Gallo, Servantes, Washington, Spanky, HM Chief Demand, Shaky Jake, Dirk Ness, Joey Lalond, Upchurch, Duran, Capt. MacMichael, Mr. Ellis, Keller, Domer, Altweiss, Mr. Longnecker, John Buckley, Wayne Hutton, in all honesty anyone I was onboard with or who was on the Hart – they're all brothers to me!

[Nick Gallo](#) I will try. I would like to see Capt MacMichael, Mr. Buckley, SMC Nelson and anyone else that has served on the Hart and of course Dave Kaminski and Dave Altweiss.

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If you have any news articles or other information that you want to share with TCH Shipmates, please forward them to Dave Neimeyer at [neimeyer@us.net](mailto:neimeyer@us.net) or 9026 Haaf road, Fogelsville PA 18051 for the newsletter or if you prefer an item on the website, please submit to [garrysea@gmail.com](mailto:garrysea@gmail.com)

Check out the Ship's Store too!

Again, thanks for coming aboard TCHVA!



**2009 REUNION – CHARLESTON, S.C.**



**USS THOMAS C. HART DE/FF 1092 VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

TCHVA relies on your continued support to help build the Association and keep the great memories of T C Hart alive! You can continue to help by referring other shipmates to us and letting us know when you have an email address, phone number or some other bit of info that may help us locate our shipmates. The success of the Association depends on the active support of our members!

You can stay up to date with current events and happenings by visiting our website at [www.thomaschart.org](http://www.thomaschart.org)

**THOMAS C. HART VETERANS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

Visit the link to renew now! <http://www.thomaschart.org/id33.html>

**USS THOMAS C. HART (DE/FF-1092) VETERANS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM**

*Please print the form, complete, and mail to address listed on the form*



*If a shipmate told you about the TCHVA, please tell us his name: \_\_\_\_\_*

*First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_*

*Rate/ Rank on TCH \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_*

*Year Reported Aboard \_\_\_\_\_ Year Detached \_\_\_\_\_*

*Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_*

*City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_*

*Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_*

*Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Current Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Dues are only \$ 10 per year. We have chosen to collect for two years(\$20) at a time to reduce the administrative burden on our all volunteer staff. Thanks for your understanding and support. You may join for any additional years if you desire.*

*I am sending in \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please begin/renew my membership!*

*Please mail check/M.O. to: USS THOMAS C. HART VETERANS ASSOCIATION  
c/o Randy Groen  
2219 Friendship Ln.  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
"YA GOTTA HAVE HART"*