



THOMAS C. HART LINE

YOU GOTTA HAVE HART

Vol. 3 Issue 12

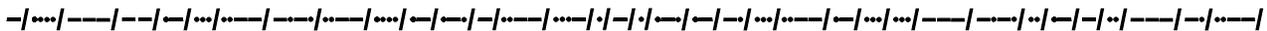
Winter 2015

POST-REUNION ISSUE

In this issue:

- From the President
- Notes from the Secretary
- Final Farewell
- Treasurer's Report
- 2017 Reunion Sites
- photos from 2015 reunion
- Membership form

T. C. Hart Veterans Assoc. Officers 2015-17		
President	Steve Garcia	NC1 (84-86)
Vice Pres.	Andy Roberts	OS2 (81-85)
Treasurer	Randy Groen	STG2 (73-76)
Secretary	Garry Collins	LT (86-89)
Historian	Ron Church	FTG2 (73-77)
Storekeeper	John Ebata	BTFN (86-90)
Newsletter	Dave Neimeyer	LTJG (75-77)
Webmaster	Mark Lamboni	LTJG (76-78)
Chaplain	Lee Edwardsen	STG2 (81-86)
Chairman	Dan Schubert	ETN3 (73-75)



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Another great “liberty call”! A well-earned BZ and giant THANK YOU! to Ron and Anita Koshko! Staying true to form they provided another great reunion. The food, the tours, and especially the comradery were just plain outstanding. Dee and I had a chance to visit with old friends/shipmates, reconnect with some we haven’t seen in a long time, and meet new ones and create new friendships. We roughed the “seas” on a smooth sunset cruise complete with refreshments including a couple of adult beverages, and had the opportunity to share the story of the Thomas C. Hart. And I never knew how well someone who spent his Navy career “in the dark” could sail a “ship”, great job Andy! I would also like to thank Capt. Skip Mac Michael for taking the helm at the war college and getting us out of Pearl Harbor during the blizzard. The choppy seas and snow were unbelievable...as was the simulator, or should I say greatest video game I have ever had the privilege to be in. And that’s just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the tours. As for the food... If you went hungry it was your own fault. The hospitality room was always stocked, the restaurants were great, and the banquet...the banquet had more food than you could eat. On a more personal note. It would be great to see more of the “younger” shipmates attend, especially the Med Cruise “86” crew. Except for some officers there aren’t many of you guys joining the party. I put out an attendance challenge at this last one and the Med Cruise “75” crew won. I know that the “86” crew was a bunch of liberty hounds and loved touring new places and enjoyed a good party. Let’s do it again! For those of you who weren’t able to make it for one reason or another you missed a great time. Really start planning so you can attend the next one in 2017. As the years go by we have more and more shipmates go on the Eternal Deployment. You don’t want to regret having the opportunity to visit with them and not taking it. It’s not just a get together for “an elite few”, it’s a chance to reignite old friendships and make new friends and tell lots of great sea stories. If you really want to come I have no doubt

that if you can make the time we as a team can help you figure out how to get there. During the reunion we hold a business meeting where things such as by-laws, budgets, and membership are discussed. This also is where we select the options for the next reunion, and where you have a chance to submit your thoughts and ideas. The possible sites for the next reunion are Minneapolis MN, Charlotte NC, and Prescott AZ. I think any of them would be fantastic. Your input is important to the organization and we want you to share it, and to be a part of this great TCHVA crew.

Steve Garcia

Notes from the Secretary

Hi Shipmates,

Where has the time gone? Here we are in another fall season and the eventual turn of another year! Seems like only yesterday that we were underway on another Mediterranean or Gulf deployment. I hope this year has been good to you and yours and I hope 2016 and beyond is even better!

We've just finished up a fantastic reunion in Newport and we had many first time attendees! What a joy it was to reunite after so many years. It's really a funny thing but the time just seems to evaporate when you come face to face with a shipmate from the past. It's as if you are "back in the good ole days" once again. What an experience! Our hope is that everyone can experience that feeling again!

Also, this time of year brings out the call to renew / begin your membership with TCHVA. We are pleased to announce the members voted to not charge new members for the remainder of 2015. That means a \$20 membership fee paid in 2015 will grant membership thru the end of 2017! Please consider joining us for the first time, or renewing your membership now.

Just think about it shipmates; if everyone decided to join us/renew, our membership roll would be near 400! - pretty awesome. Our members are collaborating to keep the memories of a great ship and fabulous crew alive and vibrant! I hope you can be a part of that effort!

Check your membership status: <http://www.thomaschart.org/id100.html>

Join/Renew membership: <http://www.thomaschart.org/id33.html> or use the form at the end of this newsletter.

All the best, *Garry Collins*

Final Farewell

Capt. Wesley Smith, The commanding officer of the guided-missile cruiser USS *Philippine Sea* (CG-58) died Oct. 10 in a house fire at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida. The NAS Jacksonville Fire Department arrived at the home of Capt. Wesley Smith around 8 p.m. Saturday and found the 50-year-old unresponsive. Smith was transported to Naval Hospital Jacksonville, where he was pronounced dead, according to a Navy statement. Smith joined the Navy in March 1990 and served as a surface warfare officer. He took command of *Philippine Sea* in October 2013 after commanding the guided-missile destroyer USS *The Sullivans* (DDG-68). Smith is originally from Virginia and is survived by his wife and two children. Local media reported the cause of the fire is still under investigation, as is the exact cause of death.



FINANCIAL REPORT THOMAS C HART VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Here is the Thomas C Hart Veterans Associations Financial Statement for the period from January 1st through September 30th. It includes all funding and expenses that were paid or deposited in the Association's Checking Account from January 1st through the end of September 2015. This period includes the September TC Hart Reunion held in Newport Rhode Island. In the past, the finances for our reunions were handled by the person organizing the reunion. This was either a member of the association or the Reunion planner the association hired. This year was a little different. We used the TC Hart Website and paypal account for the registration process and so most of the funding for the reunion and some of the expenses went through the TC Hart checking account. The reunion expenses listed in the report include... 2 checks totaling \$3500 that I sent to this year's reunion organizer, Ron Koshko. I also used the TC Hart account's credit card to pay \$288.77 for the banner hanging outside the Hospitality Suite (of which \$36.18 was refunded); \$483 for the Mansion Tour and the Topiary Garden tours; \$392.00 for box lunches: \$1800 for the banquet and a check for \$207.09 to reimburse for the lunch payments at the Scratch Restaurant. All other reunion expenses and payments received at the reunion should be listed in Ron Koshko's Reunion Expense Report.

Respectfully submitted October 25th 2015

Jan 1st, 2015

Help a shipmate fund	\$274.00
Checking account	\$2559.64
Paypal Account	\$0.0
Total	\$2763.64

Oct 1st, 2015

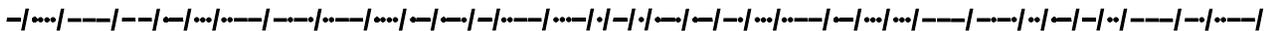
Help a shipmate fund	\$274.00
Checking account	\$1515.97
Paypal Account	\$0.0
Total	\$1789.97

Income during period

Dues	\$800
Reunion Registration	\$5060

Expenses during period

Website	\$99.50
Paypal	\$16.96
Reunion	\$6648.88
Reunion Paypal Expenses	\$99.50



Items for the newsletter, and other comments, can be sent to Dave Neimeyer at neimeyer@us.net or 9026 Haaf Road, Fogelsville PA 18051-1717

If you are on facebook, consider joining the USS Thomas C. Hart FF 1092 group,
with its 315 members and hundreds of photos and posts.

PROPOSED SITES FOR REUNION 2017

PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

Just ninety miles north of Phoenix, mile high Prescott(pronounced Pres-kitt) is set against the Prescott National Forest. With four lakes and 450 miles of groomed trails. Prescott is the original territorial capital and so has a unique place in Arizona history. The center of activity is the Courthouse Square with Whiskey Row along one side. Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday and "Big Nose Kate" once called this home. Keeping with the frontier village theme, every July 4 is the "Worlds Oldest Rodeo." During this time, there are fine arts and crafts shows followed by the Frontier Days Rodeo Parade. Great Lakes Airline provides service to Prescott Love Field, with connections from Denver and Orange County in California. The closest large airport is Phoenix Sky Harbor, with connection to the world. There are shuttles that run every hour to Prescott.

From Prescott:

Jerome – 15 minutes

Sedona – 45 minutes

Phoenix – 1 1/2 hour

Flagstaff – 1 3/4 hour

South Rim of Grand Canyon – 2 hours

Prescott's location at a mile-high elevation provides it with a perfect, mild four-season climate. Summer temperatures remain moderate, with daytime highs averaging in the 80s and nighttime lows ranging in the 50s. While the area's spring season may be a bit breezy at times, its autumns are beautiful.

Jerome is an old ghost town that has been found by the arts people and is showing a strong comeback with shops and restaurants. Sedona is a town with a strong arts and crafts community, along with being in the Red Rocks area, a new age mecca. Verde Valley has the Verde River flowing through it and in the spring is home to canoeing, kayaking, and tubing. A nice variety of lodging facilities are available, from bed and breakfasts to full-service hotels. RV camping is available at RV parks, national forest campgrounds, and boondocking in the national forest remote sites.

Websites with items of interest for Northern Arizona:

Webcam of Prescott - <http://prescottaz.tv/>

Prescott Chamber of Commerce - <https://prescott.org/>

Sedona - <http://visitsedona.com/>

Prescott National Forest - <http://www.fs.usda.gov/prescott/>

Grand Canyon National Park - <http://www.nps.gov/grca/index.htm>

Verde Valley - <http://www.sedonaverdevalley.org/>

Jerome - <http://www.azjerome.com/jerome/>

Check out the websites. They can better show the beauty of the area and things to do, than I.

Ron Church FTG2 73-77

TWIN CITIES: MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL

The Newport Rhode Island Reunion is now history. My compliments to Ron and Anita Koshko on the great job they did organizing it. My wife, daughter and I had a great time. We particularly liked the Battleship Cove and the Sunset Sailing Tours. It was also fun hiking on the Cliff Walk and touring the Mansions. But the best part for me was seeing all the Hart Veterans again. It was great to see people that I served with and the ones, and my new friends that I met at previous reunions.

Now it is time to start thinking of the next Reunion in 2017'. Three sites were picked by the attendees in Newport. The final location will be decided early next year by the Associations Officers. Prior to that there will be a rated election by the membership that the membership will use to influence their final decision. The nominees are Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota; Prescott, Arizona and Charlotte, North Carolina. Being that I am from Minnesota, live in Minnesota and that I was the person who nominated the Twin Cities in the first place, I think the next reunion should be held in the Twin Cities and I am encouraging you all to choose Minnesota too.

What does Minnesota have going for it? Plenty. First the Twin Cities Metro has population of 3 million compared to Prescott at 211,000 and Charleston at 600,000. A larger population means more amenities. The Twin Cities is a very pretty metro area with many parks, rivers, streams, lakes and wildlife preserves. There are numerous places where you can walk, swim, paddle or just sit and enjoy the scenery. The term Minnesota Nice has been used to describe the local population.

The Twin Cities are home to the Twins Baseball team, the Minor league Saints Baseball team, The Vikings Football team, The Wild Major League Hockey, The Timberwolves Basketball and the National Champion Lynx Women's basketball teams. St Paul was just awarded a MSL Soccer Team franchise. The Vikings are building a new billion dollar football stadium in Minneapolis to be completed next summer, and the new Soccer Team is in the planning stage of a new stadium in St Paul to be completed in 2018. The new Twins Baseball Stadium was just completed 5 years ago. I would like to set up a stadium(s) tour for the reunion, and get tickets for one of the games.

Other amenities and possible tours include the various museums, the World class Minneapolis Orchestra and/or St Paul Chamber Orchestra. The Mississippi, Minnesota and the St Croix rivers all have river boat cruises. We could tour Historic Fort Snelling at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers. Take a cave tour and a brew pub tour. A bus tour of the cities. I am just scratching the surface of the many options that are available.

My plan is to hold the reunion at one of the hotels at or across the street from the Mall of America; it is largest shopping mall in the country and has over 500 stores, 200 restaurants, and an amusement park. There is also putt putt golf, a bowling alley, an aquarium, a multi-screen movie theater, a comedy club and many other attractions at the mall. It is on the light rail line giving it quick access to the airport, which is only a few miles away. The mall is a great place to people watch as visitors go there from all over the world. There is a free shuttle bus that will take you to an outlet mall 8 miles to the south or to Mystic Lake Casino about 20 miles to the southeast. If you prefer to not stay at the hotel, there is also a campground about 20 miles south of the Mall.

Minneapolis St Paul International is a major airport hub with direct flights to and from many east and west coast cities, including Norfolk. It is served by Amtrak, Interstate highways I35 and I90 intersect in the Twin Cities

No matter where the next reunion is held, I intend to be there but I am asking that you do give Minnesota your serious consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at groenrandy@gmail.com I will be putting out more information on possible tours and other details as we get closer to the voting date.

Randy Groen (Stg2 1973-1976)
Treasurer Thomas C Hart Veterans Associations



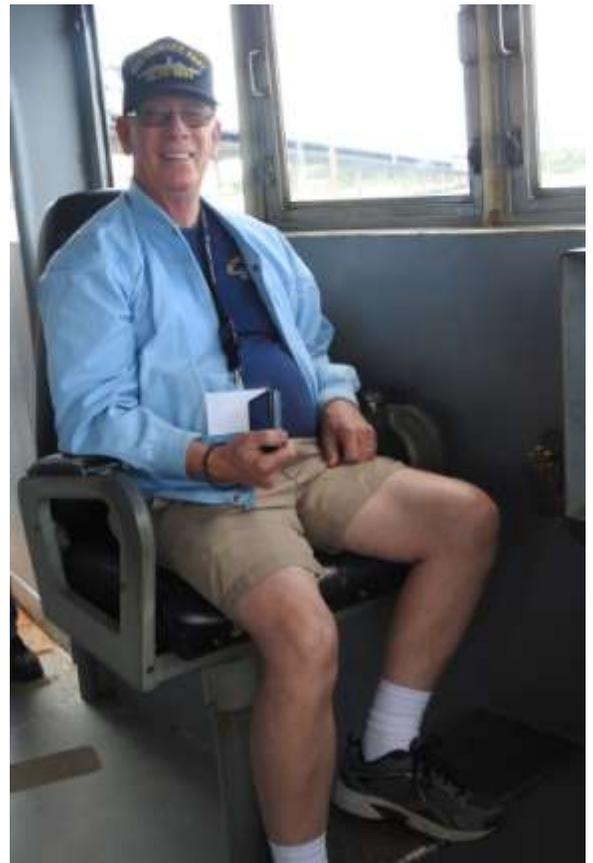
TROLLEY TOUR OF NEWPORT



STORM BREWERY & THOMAS TEW DISTILLERY



BATTLESHIP COVE, MASSACHUSETTS



ON THE USS MASSACHUSETTS BB-59



SUNSET SAILING CRUISE



CAPT. SKIP MAC MICHAELS AND WIFE JO



SURFACE WARFARE OFFICERS SCHOOL



COs LOU NICK (85-87) & SKIP MAC MICHAEL (83-85)

MED CRUISE 88



SWEETHARTS



TCHVA OFFICERS 2015-2017



TCHVA PRESIDENTS, PAST AND PRESENT



SHIPMATES ATTENDING THEIR FIRST TCHVA REUNION

Just following up on the reunion and putting out a call for some of your reunion photos. Please send our webmaster, Mark Lamboni some of your favorite reunion pictures so he can post on the website. If possible, please send pics that have been edited for website presentation (low resolution). Mark's email address is mlamboni@verizon.net. I suppose he'd take some via snail mail too (email him for his address if you prefer snail mail). If you have some "back in the day" pics that you like, send them along as well.

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

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”

