

Volume 2,
Issue 1
Reunion 2007!

Thomas C. Hart Line

You Gotta Have Hart!

*The newsletter of the Thomas C. Hart Veterans Association
Dedicated to the sailors who brought a great ship to life!*



SECOND REUNION IS CBDR!!! TIME TO SIGN UP!!!

Yea, so I was a ship driver... Nashville, 26-29 JULY 2007 is constant bearing, decreasing range! Summer is coming, and before things get too crazy, please take a moment, mark your calendar, and send in your registration to take advantage of some great tours. SEE INSIDE....

**New Website up and running, with a new address;
WWW.THOMASCHART.ORG**

There's only ONE
story...
2007 REUNION!



New Website Up and Running

New look, new info, same bell on the home page!

Stop by and take a look. Our webmaster has been busy giving the website a makeover these past few months. If you haven't stopped by lately, take a look. Plenty of content to remind you of the crew, the reunion, and a great ship.

You can find info on shipmates, post some "no-kidders" (aka sea stories), read about T.C. Hart the man and even keep up with what the ship is doing today in the Turkish Navy. Stop by and take a look. It is your website and we're always looking for suggestions to improve!

President's Corner

Register Now! - REUNION 2007 - NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Don't miss this one! Click the link below to view the Reunion brochure. All of the tours are listed and the sign up form is included. Just click the link, print the brochure, select the optional tours, and mail with your check to the address listed on the registration form. **You'll need to call the hotel at 1-800-21-GUEST or 615-885-4030 and make your reservations.** Other than that, our reunion planners will take care of the rest! When you make your hotel reservations, be sure to mention you're with the **HART** so you can get the special room rate of only \$89/night. See the link below for the Guesthouse Inn. While the official dates are 26-29 July, the brochure has some optional activities for the early arrivals on Wednesday. If you can't attend for the whole four days, come when you can. Our Association meeting is Saturday morning and the great banquet is Saturday night. **The registration fee is the only "mandatory cost" and the banquet cost is included in the registration fee.**

About the cutoff date of June 25th showing on the Reunion Brochure:

We need all hands to understand that the cutoff date of June 25th that appears on the Reunion Brochure is primarily for the tours! IT IS NOT A CUTOFF DATE THAT MEANS YOU CAN NO LONGER SIGN UP FOR THE REUNION!

June 25th is simply the date our planners have to pay the tour folks a deposit to lock-in the tours. We just want all hands to understand that this cutoff date in no way implies that reunion registrations can't be accepted after that date. You can sign up for the reunion and the tours after that date if necessary (although the earlier the better). We do know that a few may not be sure of their schedule until a five or six weeks prior to the event. We want you to come, even if you have to wait until after June 25th to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact us or our planners, John and Sherry. Do keep in mind that if you are signed up for tours and you cancel out of them after June 25th, the cancellation policy would apply.

Attached is the Reunion brochure/ registration forms. Take a look and please sign up NOW!

Notice a lot of white space? Please, send in an article!

This newsletter is dedicated to get the word out about the crew of the finest warship in the Fleet. From the snipes to the twigs, SWOs, Chops, deck-apes, and, of course, the families, this letter is for you to get reconnected with shipmates. We are shooting to publish three times a year. Send any suggestions for articles, written material (sea-stores encouraged!), photos and announcements to

Thomas.C.Hart@cox.net.

Todd Black

Treasurer's Report

Randy Groen

As of April 29th 2007, The treasury of The Thomas C Hart Veterans Association has \$1549.77 in it. Since the August report, we have received \$1180.00 in dues and \$.19 in additional income. As you can see by this, your dues are our major source of funding. Thanks to all of you who have become members or who have renewed your membership. There are a few of you out there whose membership has expired. If you became a member in 2005 and paid for only 2 years, I'm talking to you. If you haven't renewed, you are no longer a member of the T. C. Hart Association. If you want to renew or if you want to become a new member, it's easy to do. All you have to do is go to the T.C. Hart web-site, fill out the membership form and pay your dues on line. It's that simple. If you prefer, you can print out the membership form and mail it, with your dues, to me at the address on the form. If paying on line, please be sure to fill out the membership form even if you are renewing. It is the only way we can verify that all your information is correct.

The other details of the Financial Report are as follows:

The Miscellaneous income of \$.19 is a deposit that was made by Paypal when we opened our account with them. It was their method of verifying that we truly did have access to the account that they were depositing money into. Since opening the Paypal account and creating the link through the T.C. Hart web-site, almost all dues have been paid using Paypal. It's a quick, easy and convenient method for our members to pay their dues. The only down side is that we do have to pay a fee for each deposit. So far that fee has totaled \$38.08 for over \$1100.00 of dues collected. The only other expense incurred since August is the \$119.00 fee for our web-site.

April 2006 Financial Report			
	income	expenses	total
Starting Balance August 31 2006			\$ 527.06
Income			
Misc	\$ 0.19		
Dues	\$1,180.00		
total	<u>\$1,180.19</u>		\$1,707.25
Expenses			
Pay Pal		\$ 38.08	
Web Site		\$ 119.40	
total		<u>\$ 157.48</u>	1579.77
Ending Balance April 29 2007			\$1,549.77

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY'S VISIT

By Randy Groen

The T.C. Hart's first major cruise was to the Mediterranean in 1975. Before entering the Med, she took a side trip to the North Atlantic. The first stop was Portsmouth, England and the second was Stavanger, Norway. This story is about Stavanger. Since this all happened almost 32 years ago, my memory is not entirely clear of all the details of this visit, but I'll tell it the way I remember it. I'm sure my fellow shipmates will be quick to correct and forgive any misstatements.

We were told that the purpose of our stop in Stavanger was because the city was hosting a celebration, on the 4th of July, in honor of the 200 year anniversary of the launching of some ship that had brought the first large group of settlers from Norway to the United States. We were also told that former US Vice President Hubert Humphrey would be there to give a speech. He was there because he was of Norwegian decent. For those of you too young to remember Humphrey, he was the Vice President under Lyndon Johnson. His political career started as the Mayor of Minneapolis, Minnesota and then as a US Senator from Minnesota.



L-R, Commander John D Rohrbough (CO), Randy Mayer, Randy Groen with Vice President Humphrey

To get into the port of Stavanger, you have to sail down this long fiord. The fiord and the town were gorgeous, high mountains, green pines and deep blue skies and water. We pulled into port on July 3rd and were almost immediately granted liberty. A group of us hit the beach, and the first person we met was from Texas. He worked for an oil company that was setting up some rigs for offshore oil drilling. He said that the Norwegians weren't very friendly and very few of them could speak English. Turned out that this oil man was pretty obnoxious and so we eventually ditched him.

We went to a bar and started to mingle with some of the local people. At first they were a little cold toward us until they found out that we were sailors, not oil men. Being that Stavanger was a sea port and most of the residents were sailors or were related to sailors, they seemed to feel a kinship toward us. Everyone that I met could speak English as it was a required subject in their schools. We found out that there was a large contingent of oil people from America that were staying in Stavanger when they weren't working on the off shore oil rigs. The locals weren't too impressed with them and pretended they couldn't understand them.

The 4th of July party was held on the pier next to the ship. As it turned out, it wasn't a party for the town at all. The party was organized for the oil people and their families and I don't recall any Norwegians being there. Not all the oil people were obnoxious and they were happy to see some new faces from the states. I recall some of my shipmates getting together with some of their daughters. The ship crew served food and drink and there were speeches given, including one by Hubert Humphrey. All in all not a bad party, though not quite what I was expecting

Sometime early on our 5 day stay in Norway, some of our ship's officers met Hubert Humphrey and his entourage. He was curious about the ship and so they invited him to take a tour. When he heard of this, The Captain made it clear that he was not very happy about it, but the damage was done. Liberty was canceled and we were put to work preparing the ship for a "vice presidential inspection." The visit apparently went well. There were two of us that were from V. P. Humphrey's home state of Minnesota. The other was Randy Mayer. Quite a coincidence that the only 2 crewmen from Minnesota were both named Randy. We both were in our dress uniforms and met with the former vice president. More than 20 years later I met his son, Hubert H Humphrey II (Skip) when he was running for Governor of Minnesota. He remembered his dad's trip to Norway. Skip lost the election to Jessie Ventura.

Norway was a wonderful country to visit. At the time I thought the best parts were the friendly natives, the beautiful country, the great tasting local beer and the midnight sun. Even though at the time I was annoyed about all the cleaning and having to dress up for this visit, meeting and shaking hands with Hubert Humphrey is usually the first thing that I mention when I talk about my visit to Norway

Hope to see you all in Nashville where we can discuss this and other sea stories about our time on the Hart.

*The newsletter of the Thomas C. Hart Veterans Association
Dedicated to the sailors who brought a great ship to life!*

Thomas C. Hart Veterans Association
C/O Toby Layman
112 Arabian Trail
Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Email: secretary@thomaschart.org

*Not a member yet? It's easy and
cheap! Just mail \$20 for two years
dues to:*

**USS THOMAS C. HART
VETERANS ASSOCIATION**
c/o Randy Groen
2219 Friendship Lane
Burnsville, MN 55337



The Association is a fraternal organization for current or previous United States Navy Members who served aboard the destroyer escort/ fast frigate USS Thomas C. Hart (DE/FF-1092). The primary purpose of the Association is for former shipmates who share a common background of service aboard the T C Hart to enjoy camaraderie and to provide the opportunity for members to actively participate in reunions and other activities of the Association.

**WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
WWW.THOMASCHART.ORG**

Association Staff

Elected Officers

President, Garry Collins
Vice President, Vacant
Secretary, Toby Layman
Treasurer, Randy Groen

Volunteer Staff

Historian, Andy Roberts
Storekeeper, E. Scott Ruerup
Newsletter, Todd Black



Chaplain Wanted! (we REALLY need one!!!)

During the business meeting at the 2005 reunion all of the officer and assistant positions were filled with the exception of a Chaplain. What does the Chaplain do? The Chaplain will be the primary point of contact for notification of illness/death of any Association Member or T C Hart Shipmate. In addition, he will initiate contact with relatives of the infirmed or deceased and keep the Association informed via direct e-mails and the official Association Website, of specifics, regarding the illness or death. He will send appropriate get well, condolences or sympathy cards on behalf of the Association and tender his signature to the card using the "Chaplain, USS Tho-

mas C. Hart FF-1092 Veterans Association" tag line. When notified, he will report any illness or death to the Association. The Chaplain will offer the invocation at the reunion banquet. If you are interested, please contact any of the Association officers.



**USS Thomas C. Hart FF1092 Reunion
July 25-29, 2007
Guest House Inn and Suites
Nashville, TN**



Welcome to the second Reunion of the USS Thomas C. Hart FF 1092. We know you will have a great time renewing previous friendships and meeting new "old" friends. Nashville is the place for renewing old friendships and starting new ones. You will want to attend the entire event!

Be sure to call the hotel for your reservations and tell them you are with the USS Hart to get the **discounted rate of just \$89.00!** That includes a complimentary airport shuttle, deluxe continental breakfast and parking. Check the web at www.guesthouseintl.com for the complete list of amenities.

The hotel address and reservation phone number is:

**Guesthouse Inn & Suites
2420 Music Valley Drive
Nashville, TN 37214
615.885.4030**



We'll be looking forward to seeing you!

Particulars

TRANSPORTATION:

Air-Several airlines fly into Nashville such as American, Continental, Northwest and Southwest. See the list at www.nashintl.com/airlines. We recommend that you contact the airport shuttle or taxi after you get your baggage. The hotel does furnish a shuttle.

Cancellation Refund Policy: Complete refunds will be sent 30 days before the reunion minus \$15 of the registration fee per person. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER June 25, 2007.** All tours must achieve the minimum number in order to complete the tour. Gratuities for the driver are at the discretion of those on the bus. We need all hands to understand that the cutoff date of June 25th is primarily for the tours! **IT IS NOT A CUTOFF DATE THAT MEANS YOU CAN NO LONGER SIGN UP FOR THE REUNION.**

The Hospitality Room will be open starting on Wednesday and continuing throughout the reunion.

Check the Website: www.thomaschart.org.

Agenda

All tours include transportation, guide (when applicable) and entrance fees.

Wednesday, July 25, 2007

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Registration in Main Lobby
 12:00 PM – 10:00 PM Hospitality room open



5:30 PM – 10:00 PM **Tour #1 (Early Bird)**
 Dinner & entertainment included at the **Nashville Nightlife Theatre** - "THE BEST OF COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW" ~
 Come early and experience a celebration of Country Music from both past and present. Hear songs from many of the great artists in country music history and today's hottest superstars. Enjoy the music of everyone from Hank Williams Sr. and Patsy Cline, to the superstars of today like Sara Evans and Toby Keith!
 COST: \$46.00 (Minimum - 30)

Thursday, July 26, 2007



1:00 PM – 4:00 PM **Tour #2**
Nashville City Tour - Depart with guide on a professional guided city tour of Nashville to include a drive-by of the BiCentennial Mall, Historic Second Avenue, Music Row, Vanderbilt University, The Parthenon, etc. Tour includes admission into the Historic Ryman Auditorium.
 COST: \$30.00 (Minimum - 30)

Friday, July 27, 2007



9:00 AM – 12:30 PM **Tour #3**
Gaylord Opryland Hotel Tour with Lunch – Explore the beautiful gardens and waterfalls of Opryland Hotel while you ride on the Delta boats through the hotel's breathtaking Delta addition which features 4.5 acres all under a dome ceiling fashioned in glass. Your tour includes lunch at one of Gaylord Resort fabulous restaurants.
 COST: \$54.00 (Minimum - 30)

7:30 PM – 10:00 PM **Tour #4**
Performance of the Grand Ole Opry
 COST: 52.00 (Minimum - 25)

Saturday, July 28, 2007



9:00 AM – 10:00 AM **Association Business Meeting - Hotel**

10:15 AM – 2:30 PM **Tour # 5**
General Jackson Lunch Cruise– Includes luncheon buffet and entertainment
 COST: \$60.00 (Minimum - 25)

6:00 – 10:00 PM **All Hands Dinner Banquet**
 Registration/banquet fee covers this event. The dinner buffet will feature nut encrusted salmon filet, marinated chicken breast and roasted pork tenderloin.

Sunday, July 29, 2007

Enjoy your "fare thee wells" at your leisure in the hotel lobby or

DUE June 25, 2007

Registration
USS Thomas C. Hart
July 25 - 29, 2007

DUE June 25, 2007

This name will be used on your Name Badge

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Spouse/ Guest(s) _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Rank/rate on TCH _____ Years on TCH (ex: 86-89) _____

	Number of Persons	X	Cost Per Person =	Cost
Tour #1 Nashville Night Life	_____		@ \$46.00 =	_____
Tour #2 Nashville City	_____		@ \$30.00 =	_____
Tour #3 Gaylord Hotel	_____		@ \$54.00 =	_____
Tour #4 Grand Ole Opry	_____		@ \$52.00 =	_____
Tour # 5 Lunch Cruise	_____		@ \$60.00 =	_____
Registration & Banquet***	_____		@ \$48.00 =	_____

*** (All attendees must pay this fee-not optional)

TOTAL _____

Please identify any special accommodations you may need: Physical support _____

Special Meals _____ Other _____

SEND THIS FORM AND A CHECK (PAYABLE TO CTCM) FOR THE TOTAL AMOUNT TO:

*We suggest you make
a copy of this form for
your records.*

USS Thomas C. Hart
c/o CTCM-ACR
PO Box 25806
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

Contact John or Sherry at 719.380.1412 or email us at info@ctcm-acr.com or
fax us at 719.638.6153

Refund Policy:

Cancellations before June 25, 2007 will receive full refund less a \$15.00 processing fee. Registrations cancelled after that date will depend on vendor policies and hotel guarantees.

All tours must have a minimum of people per tour. If you register for a tour and do not attend you will NOT receive any refund.

You will receive a confirmation letter detailing your selections