



# The Fantail Scuttlebutt

Official Publication of the

## USS Salomonie Association

Issue # 25

“Any Time, Any Where, Any Weather”

April, 2003

Spring is near and GOODBY to the winter doldrums.

It is with this newsletter that we wish all of our crewmates good health and our deepest sympathy for the loss of loved ones.

This newsletter has all kinds of new information about the Salomonie Association and what we have been doing to preserve her good name and all of the crewmembers that so proudly served on her.

On January 14, my wife (Dorothy), and I along with crewmembers, John Moliarie, Joe Cuneo, Art Blanchard and his brother attended the memorial services at Annapolis Md. at the naval chapel for Captain E. L. Beach. We were the only surface command to be present at this ceremony.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE.

If your telephone number or area code has been changed, let us know. The same for address changes.

If there is a death, and you are still getting the newsletter, please let us know so that we can enter our departed comrade on the HONOR ROLL.

Sales:

- Book \$20.00 ppd
- Hat \$12.00 ppd
- Patch\* \$10.00 ppd
- Lapel Pin \$10.00 ppd
- Bumper Sticker \$ 5.00 ppd
- We have patches on back order\*

These can be ordered from:

John D. Lichoff  
14 Morley Drive  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857-1909

DUES:

You 2003 Dues are now due.  
Please remit dues to:  
Tom Keske  
771 127<sup>th</sup> Av NE  
Blaine, MN 55434-3185

I have sent out some e-mail's and they have come back as no longer or bad address. If there has been a change in you e-mail address, please let us know so that we can correct our address book.

NEW FINDS:

Welcome aboard.

Dennis J. Ferrier	EM2	62
Vincent Shimp	PN2	57-59
Carl J. Seiberlich (RADM/RET)	CAPT	67-68
Kenneth Lawrence	RD3	66-68
Gerald Wisser	BMSN	44-45
Marvin Armour	SK3	44-46
Jeff Davis	FTG3	67-68
Brad Hutton	RM2	62-63

HONOR ROLL

REASSIGNED TO A HIGHER COMMAND:

George Steineck	61-67
Edward S Rhea	50-56
Donald Edward Wise*	MMC 63

\*(On Permanent Patrol)

\*(Went down with the USS Thresher)

Fielden J. Cress	SN	48-52
Lawrence Mandel	MM1	46-48
Millard Rittenour	SH3	60-63
Henry Jaworski		43-45
George Lathrop	RD2	60-64
Clyde Linnenkohl**		41-46
(**Original crew)		
Ordie Sober		48-50

2003 U.S.S. Salamonie Association Reunion.  
San Antonio and Fredricksburg, Texas  
May 2 – 6, 2003

The 2003 reunion will be held in San Antonio and Fredericksburg, Texas; May 2-6, 2003. We will be staying at the: Four Points by Sheraton San Antonio Riverwalk North, 110 Lexington Avenue, TX 78205; Phone (210) 223-9461; Fax (210) 223-4520; [www.sheratonsanantonio.com](http://www.sheratonsanantonio.com)

The room rate will be \$82.00 (single or double) plus 16.75%tax. There are four handicapped rooms available. When making your toll free reservation using 1-800-288-3927, mention you are on the U.S.S. Salamonie rate. This group rate is good for two days before and two days after our reunion dates subject to availability.

SATRANS runs a shuttle bus from San Antonio Airport to and from downtown hotels. You can catch it just outside the baggage claim area.

The cost of the banquet Saturday night is \$52.00. This includes a full Mixed Grill dinner, beverages, glass of wine, keg of beer, and use of a separate hospitality room on Saturday and Sunday.

We plan on keeping the hospitality room, which will be the Brazos Room overlooking the river Walk, open from 9:00 a.m. until Banquet time on Saturday and from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. On Sunday. The room is for registration, nametags to the Banquet and to the Fredericksburg Trip, meeting old and new friends and shipmates, a brew or two, and swapping of tall sea stories.

At 5:15 p.m. on Saturday we will all gather in the Brazos Room for group photographs by Overstreet Studios. You will then be able to order prints: 5”X7” prints are \$15.00 ea; 8”X10” prints are \$25.00 ea. There will be a postage and handling charge of \$2.00 for the pictures.

The adjacent Santa Fe Dining Room for the Banquet will be open at 6:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 7:00 p.m.

The cost of the Fredericksburg Day Trip by bus is \$53.00. This includes a boxed continental breakfast to eat on the bus, the bus, a seat at the U.S.S. Salamonie Memorial Wall Commemorative Plaque Dedication, a tour of the Museum, and a German Buffet Lunch at the Fredericksburg Brewing Company.

The bus will leave the Hotel at 9:00a.m. The U.S.S. Salamonie Memorial Plaque will be dedicated at 11:00 a.m. Followed by touring the Museum. At 1:30 we will have lunch at the close-by Fredericksburg Brewery. AT 2:45 p.m. the bus will take us on a reserved tour of the “Pacific Combat Zone” Museum Annex. We will be back at he Brewery by 3:45 p.m. for a last minute “head” stop before heading back to San Antonio at 4:00 p.m. Our private dining room at the Brewery will be ours until 4:00 p.m. for those who just want to hang out or to go shopping. We will be back at the Hotel by 6:00 p.m. for those who want to fly out Monday night.

The cutoff date for room, banquet, and Fredericksburg Trip reservation is one month before the start of the Reunion; i.e. April Fools Day! We need to get the final count to the Hotel, bus company, the Nimitz Foundation and the Brewery by the second of April.

Send your payment for the Banquet and Fredericksburg Trip to:

John W. Cooper  
411 College Blvd.  
San Antonio, TX 78209  
(210) 828-3165  
[jcooper@stic.net](mailto:jcooper@stic.net)

Further information on the Reunion, the Hotel, San Antonio, or the Admiral Nimitz Museum is in the January “Fantail Scuttlebutt” or at the Web Site [www.salamonie.homestead.com](http://www.salamonie.homestead.com)

See y’all in San Antone!

John Cooper

THE USS SALAMONIE NOW HAS A HOME.

[www.salamonie.homestead.com](http://www.salamonie.homestead.com)

There is a little town in Indiana called Warren, Indiana.

Its motto is "SMALL TOWN WITH A BIG HEART."

We found this to be so true.

The town is located on the Salamonie River, In Salamonie Township, The school is called Salamonie. A lot of the businesses are called Salamonie. They have Knight Civic Center with a Salamonie Museum.

Tom Keske and I contacted these people after we found about them on the web.

They invited us and our wives to visit them the first weekend of February.

We met with the Kiwanis club for a breakfast meeting. Then we had lunch with the Huntington County Veterans and then a tour of their museum and town.

That evening we had a supper meeting with several civic groups, town fathers, news media and interested guests.

We were impressed with what they had to offer and decided that this is the place and they want the USS Salamonie to be its official home.

We took some memorabilia that we had and donated it to the museum for a start with the hope of getting more.

They are dedicating one room as the USS Salamonie and veterans room.

On Saturday March 08, 2003, Myself, My wife, Dean and Carmella Bayliff and Cecil Blain went back to present more gifts to the museum. We had the Holiday flag that was flying the day the ships was decom'd and gave it to them along with some other items.

If anyone has anything that they would like to donate to the museum in their name, please send it to me and I will make sure it gets there and your name is attached to it.

They also have Salamonie Days the weekend of the fourth of July.

This year they are having a USS Salamonie Float in the parade and would like to have as many of us there that can make it and to ride on the float.

They will have a contingency for the city at our reunion in Texas representing their community and telling us briefly about themselves.

[www.salamonie.homestead.com](http://www.salamonie.homestead.com)

We now have our own web site on the Internet and I think this site is one of the best webs of any ship that I have ever seen and we are constantly adding more to it and information for all veterans with several links.

This has all been brought about from our trip to Warren, Indiana

Mr. Tom Applegate designed and set up and installed the web for us as a courtesy of himself and the City of Warren. Tom is a 1SG/ U.S.Army (Ret) and Veterans Officer for Huntington County.

Tom is our Webmaster and for his wonderful service we have made him an honorary CPO of the Sal. We also gave him a Ships hat and Lapel Pin for his outstanding work.

The main person for getting this whole program together is MS Marilyn Morrison. She is our official liaison for the Salamonie and the Museum. Without her this program would have never gotten off the ground. She is the Town Clerk of Warren, IN.

She also has two people who work very close on this project and they are Janice Jordan and Karen Herr

LETTER:

The Board of Directors of the Knight Civic Center, as well as the Warren community as a whole, has been energized with a new project as we truly feel that a part of history has been found and has been brought home

From the initial contact with John Lichoff to the week-end spent with John and his wife Dorothy and Tom and Joyce Keske, those involved have had a sense of purpose in planning to honor those who served our country aboard the USS Salamonie.

It has also led to a more general sense of honoring area veterans as well as an educational resource center, based around a USS Salamonie

exhibit, is becoming a reality although still in the planning stage.

The Warren area has always had a strong connection to the Salamonie River as evidenced by Salamonie School, Salamonie Church of the Brethren, Salamonie Mill, and much more

In fact, the Town of Warren was settled in 1833 on the banks of the Salamonie and the original Town plats originate out from the river.

Town leaders, business leaders, and area citizens alike send thanks to the USS Salamonie Association, it's leaders and members in deciding to become a part of our community.

It's indeed an honor to be able to serve those who have served us. Welcome to Warren, a "Small Town with a Big Heart".

"We're glad you're HOME."

Marilyn Morrison

Letter:

U.S.S. Salamonie Association Members,

When I volunteered to build a website for the U.S.S. Salamonie Association, I had no clue the amount of hours I would eventually put into it before it was finished. And I still don't know, because it isn't finished yet. I work on it almost daily, adding a picture here, a page there, and adding a crew member's name to the list or, sadly, adding a name to the list of those shipmates who have been assigned to a higher command.

Since February 7<sup>th</sup> 2003 when the site went on the Internet, there have been over 500 hits; The fastest -growing website I've done. It averages 13 hits per day, and one day saw 40 hits. I hope those of you who have used the site have found it informative and helpful, as well as a trip down memory lane. I am very proud I had the opportunity to do this for you.

I feel like I can call you "shipmates" since John Lichoff has assigned me the honorary rank of CPO, based on my Army retired rank of First Sergeant E8, and I hope John will allow me to purchase a U.S.S. Salamonie Hat which I will wear proudly.

I also hope all of you will consider me your personal Veteran's Service Officer, since that is my full time job. If you have any problems with VA claims or questions about VA benefits, feel free to contact me. Many questions can be answered by logging onto my website at [www.huntington.in.us/county/veterans](http://www.huntington.in.us/county/veterans) or you can contact me personally by e-mail at [Tom.applegate@huntington.in.us](mailto:Tom.applegate@huntington.in.us) or by telephone at 260-358-4863 (work), 260-359-4400 (fax) or 260-375-2035 (home). Those of you in Indiana may find your local Veterans' Service Officer by visiting the website of the Indiana Veterans' Service Officers Association (also one my web sites) at <http://invsoa.homestead.com>

Hope to meet you someday.

Tom Applegate

Thank you Marilyn and Tom for your letters to the Crew of the USS Salamonie AO-26.

Now that we have our own service officer, I hope that you will use this resource.

Also the keynote speaker for the reunion.

Captain Seiberlich (RADM/RET) will tentatively be our speaker if he can make it. He will be abroad and if he can make connections he will be there. If not he will try to be there for the Plaque presentation. He was the last captain of the Salamonie.

Please check out our website. Several new links and addition and changes have been made.

May good health prevail to each and everyone and to your families?

Respectfully yours:

John D. Lichoff