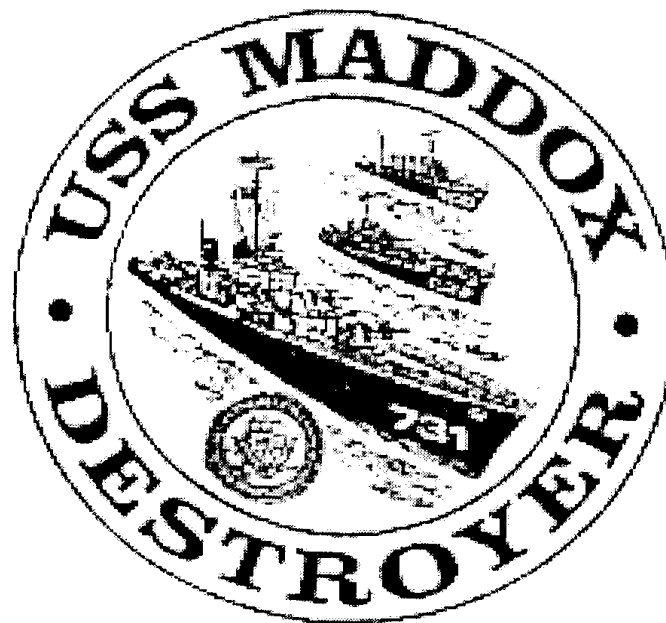




USS MADDOX DESTROYER
ASSOCIATION
12686 W. HWY 55
YORK, SC 29745-8748

TO:



USS MADDOX DESTROYER ASSOCIATION

**12686 W. Highway 55
York, SC 29745-8748**

March 2012

USS Maddox Association Officers and Board

Officers

President:	Al Raines	2012
Vice President:	Dan Holland	2012
Secretary:	Bob Wannamaker	Appointed
Treasurer:	John Bayley	Appointed
Chaplin:	Rev. Justin McMenamy	Appointed
Parliamentarian:	Cliff Gillespie	Appointed
Historian:	Roy Hyer	Appointed

Board of Directors

Jim Slattery	2012
Hoot Gibson	2012
Dennis Stokhaug	2012
Robert Graham	2012
Bob Dinwiddie	2013
Earl Miller	2013
Edward Schultz	2014

Appointed Positions

Nominating Committee Chairman:	Hoot Gibson
Reunion Committee Chairman:	Jim Slattery
Membership Committee Chairman:	Dennis Stokhaug
Webmaster:	Dennis Stokhaug
Newsletter Editor:	Kathy Stokhaug



A Message from the President

I talked with Joyce Metcalf just before Christmas and she has all the loose ends tied up for our 2012 reunion in Reno, NV. Mark your calendars for Aug. 16th - 19th. We will be staying at the Ramada Hotel and Casino, 1000 East Sixth St., Reno, NV. Our hotel has a casino and a theater, maybe there will be some good shows to attend. Reunion packets will be in the mail in March. Be sure to make your room reservations early.

Reno seems to have quite a bit going on, plenty of things to see and do, so a good time should be had by all. Many thanks to Joyce & Bill Metcalf for all they do for our association.

Just a reminder...please keep looking for any shipmates that may not know about our Association and reunions. We need them to attend, meet old friends and make new ones. If you find someone new or make contact with someone that hasn't been a member for some time, be sure to let Dennis Stokhaug (262-679-9409) know. You can also e-mail him at maddox64@aol.com.

If you have any information or an article to add to the newsletter, please contact Kathy Stokhaug (262-679-9409) or e-mail KStokhaug@aol.com. Remember, without your input she has nothing to share. Thanks Kathy for another fine newsletter. I know all the hard work that goes into making it possible.

A Visit to Vietnam

by John Bayley

In November Sandy and I traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia for three weeks. Although Vietnam probably is most associated with the war, the country is beautiful and the people are putting behind them the many years of colonization and wars and are concentrating on the present. The country is communist but with a capitalistic economy. Tourism is important to the economy and visitors are welcome. The following brief comments will focus on a few places in Vietnam that might be of interest to newsletter readers.

Hanoi is the center of the Communist government. As in the rest of the country, Ho Chi Min's presence is everywhere. Although he requested to be cremated, a large 70's architectural style mausoleum was built to house his body for viewing. Guards maintained rules and expected decorum and kept the line of visitors moving past the body to avoid intense scrutiny, so we assume it was Uncle Ho as he is affectionately called.

Built by the French in 1896 to house political prisoners, the Hao Lo Prison Museum ("Hanoi Hilton") is interesting although much of it was torn down to build the Hanoi Central Tower Skyscraper. The remaining third of the original building has various exhibits of torture and solitary confinement cells. The American prisoners' cells didn't resemble the ones described by our returning prisoners of war and several photos showed John McCain in a comfortable hospital room surrounded by caring and concerned Vietnamese doctors.

Nha Trang probably would not be recognized today by American military personnel who went to the beach there for R and R during the war. Although the main city is still old Vietnamese, the coastal area is now becoming an international resort area (unfortunately?) filled with stylish restaurants, sophisticated hotels such as the Sheraton and Marriot and a planned Greg Norman resort/golf course.

In Ho Chi Min City (formerly Saigon) the War Remnants Museum which is located in the former U.S. Information Service building is a propagandist portrayal of the war. Outside the museum many U.S. airplanes, tanks, artillery, and jeeps left behind

A Visit to Vietnam (cont'd)

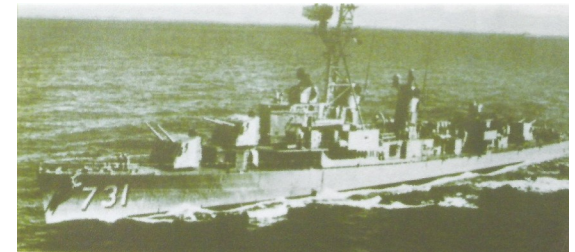
were displayed, and inside three floors of displays focused on the effects of agent orange, injured and dead civilians, protests against the war (interestingly, no mention of Jane Fonda) and bombed villages.

Tank and helicopter
War Remnants Museum



The Maddox/Tonkin Gulf display included a picture of the ship and President Johnson with the following explanation: "The U.S. administration escalated the war. On August 2, 1964 the U.S. Army fabricated a story about the so-called Gulf of Tonkin Incident accusing falsely the Navy of Vietnam Democratic Republic of having attacking the U.S. Destroyer Maddox to give the U.S. Congress pretext for approving the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution authorizing the U.S. President to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States."

USS Maddox



The U.S. destroyer Maddox on an electronic spy mission in the territorial waters of North Vietnam Gulf. Their "special warfare" being utterly ruined, the U.S. administration carried on with "local warfare", sending the well-trained and most effective American units together with the mercenaries of their satellite countries to South Vietnam for direct participation in fighting against the liberation army. At the same time, they stepped up the war of destruction by Air Force and Navy in North Vietnam

(continued on next page)

A Visit to Vietnam (cont')



President Johnson
War Remnants Museum

The U.S. President Lyndon Johnson gave orders to attack the Republic Democratic of Vietnam, a sovereign nation, thus violating flagrantly the United Nations Charter.

Another interesting visit was the Cu Chi Tunnels. Located 25 miles from the South Vietnamese capital to the Cambodian border. Built during the war with the French, they were repaired and expanded in the early 60's. Built on many levels, these tunnels contained living areas, hospitals, artillery factories, etc. Because of their strategic importance close to the South Vietnamese capital, the U.S. expended a great deal of effort to locate and destroy them but with little success. Today visitors can descend through very small trap doors into the unlit and very claustrophobic tunnels to experience the living conditions of the Viet Cong. Nearby are bomb craters (as we saw in many places) and nasty displays of bamboo booby traps. However after all the defoliation activity there, the trees and foliage have reclaimed that area now.



Guide descending into
Entrance of Cu Chi Tunnel

(continued on next page)

A Visit to Vietnam (cont')

Today forty percent of the Vietnamese population was born after the war and the people are working to change the perception of a war-torn country to one of beauty, traditional culture and progress. Even General Westmoreland's villa and gardens in HCMC are being demolished to build a luxury apartment complex! We often heard this comment from the cheerful and friendly people as they talked about putting the past behind them. "*Things are not perfect, but they are better.*"



HOWGOESIT TRIVIA



Ever wonder what the origin is of things we say? Check them out here and throughout the *HOWGOESIT*. Just look for the sailor.

LEATHERNECK

Sailors gave the Marines this name. Way back in 1895 a stout leather collar was sewed on the Marines' coats to fend off enemy sword attacks.

A.W.O.L.

Everyone in the military knows A.W.O.L. means absent without official leave. But did you know that Confederate Soldiers were made to walk about their camp carrying a sign displaying these letters when they had been caught?

Chaplains Corner



AWARENESS OF THE DIVINE

We can probably say, that all of our Maddox Association members have reached the age of retirement (or they are close to it). It also means that, at this stage of our lives, if we ever intended to, we need to acknowledge the existence of God. Some may still find that hard to do. We are given a “free will” to accept or not to accept that as truth.

However we view that, the wisdom of the old philosopher still exists in truth: **“I would rather live my life as though there is a God and die and find out there is not a God –than to live my life as if there is no God and die and find out there is a God.”** It’s impossible for us to visualize what that would be like.

If we look, we can see the divine presence in nature (in creation), but can we see it in people? The constant awareness of the divine is best recognized through the many forms of prayer that exist. It is the mercy of god that sends impulses from God that calls us to want to worship Him. It seeks His forgiveness (when it is needed), and to see the goodness in people. It is unfortunate that some, through the use of their gift of “free will”, ignore those impulses -- those signals that call us to accept the divine.

So it comes down to spending time connecting ourselves with God. We call that “prayer time”, by whatever method we choose to do it. It seems that as we march on toward the day we take our last earthly breath, we are given the gift, more powerfully, of either accepting the awareness of God or to have a final “not accepting that as truth”. It’s the awareness that keeps us focused on the doing “good” rather than our turning toward “evil”. This affects how we think, how we act, and what we say and how we

Chaplains Corner (cont’d)

influence others toward doing “good” in their lives. It becomes the central force that makes us yearn to be with and to share ourselves with those who laugh, or cry, or help others who are in need. It’s in all of these that prove we have a “**relationship**” with God

A final thought. In the second verse of our National Anthem, we have these words;...”In God is our trust”. It is also on our money.

May God sustain us in His peace and give us His strength for His work that has yet to be accomplished in our lives. Let’s continue to pray for one another, especially any of our associates or members of their families, who are sick or suffering at this time.

A Servant of the Lord,

Rev. Mr. Justin McMenamy, Chaplin;
USS MADDOX DESTROYER ASSOCIATION
3623 Harvard, Independence, MO. 64052
816-254-1528
E-Mail: JMcMe1528@aol.com

PRAY FOR THOSE DECEASED SINCE OUR LAST “HOWGOESIT”

Joe Freeman, Bill Haldane and Cdr. Robert Smith.
May our God of Mercy welcome them home.
May they rest in peace.



Maddox Memories

TSUNAMI

by Dale Lund YN2

While stationed aboard the USS Maddox (DD731) we were fortunate enough to be sent to Brisbane, Australia on a Good Will Tour. The time was September, 1957.

On the way to Brisbane the ocean was as calm as I had ever seen it, just like glass. The Captain allowed a swim call since the sea was so calm and we didn't have any military duties scheduled for this trip. We were near the Marianas Trench where the water is as deep as 7.2 miles. The Captain is required to inform the sailors as to where the nearest land can be found before we start swimming. We were informed, with a laugh that the nearest land is 4 miles straight down. A few men with machine guns were stationed along the railing to shoot sharks in case they got too close.

After leaving Australia, in the same general area of the Trench we encountered some unexpected giant swells, probably caused by a tsunami (huge swells, caused by an underwater earthquake or volcano). We were light on ballast and didn't have our hatches or portholes dogged down. It was 2230 at night and we were totally unprepared for rough seas.

I was in my office, accompanied by 3 or 4 friends. My office was on the main deck about in the center of the ship and on its starboard side. All of a sudden the ship slipped sideways in one of the giant swells and lay on the starboard side. Water started coming through the cracks in the hatch and porthole. An eleven hundred pound safe broke loose from the bulkhead and pinned one of my friend's legs to my desk that he was sitting on. Then the lights and power went out.

The force of the water completely stripped the starboard side of the ship; all the life rafts were gone, all torpedoes that were fastened in racks were gone, the motor launch was gone and the H beam davits that supported the motor launch were bent down onto the deck. I learned firsthand the power and unforgiving nature of water during this incident.

(continued on next page)

TSUNAMI (cont'd)

Meanwhile, everyone and everything loose on the port side of the ship was now on the starboard side. We were trying to get the safe off the legs of my friend. The ship had been traveling across the trough of the swell on its side. When the next swell hit, it righted the ship briefly. During this period my shipmate, Melvin, managed a hard left or right rudder and the ship miraculously turned into the swells and righted itself which saved us from going to the bottom of the ocean.

Once the ship was righted, we managed to get the safe off my friend, while working in the dark. We took the injured sailors to the officers mess deck. The ships Corpsman started patching people up. I and several others held people down on the large mess deck table while they got sewed up, without any anesthesia and by flashlight. There were no deaths and relatively few injuries considering what we had just been through.

Once again, I feel very fortunate to have survived this one. At that time no Navy ship had ever laid over more than 49 degrees and recovered.



LONGSHOREMEN

In the distant past when ships were unloaded the sailors passed the goods from the ship to the men "along" the shore and hence they became known as long-shore-men.

RADIO

From Latin meaning radius meaning "a ray of light". Radio waves travel like "a ray of light" going out in all directions.



Can you identify this “sharpshooter” and the car?

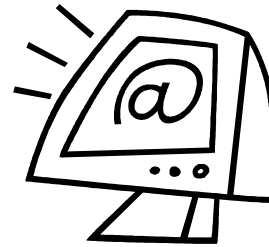
If you can identify this “sharpshooter” send me an email or give me a phone call with your guess. Then check in with the next *HOWGOESIT* to see if you were correct and read the story about him and his car. Here is a hint for you, it isn’t Billy The Kid.



In Search Of



I have recently been contacted by Alan Nelson who served on the Maddox in the late 1960’s. Alan won’t be able to attend our reunion this year but he would love to hear from anyone who served on the ship with him. You can contact him via e-mail at takeoff-a@att.net.



WEBSITE

Dennis has been finding some interesting information about the Maddox website including information about who is looking at the site. It is amazing the “hits” it gets from other countries. Here are some statistics just for the month of December, 2011 on the number of “hits” from each country:

United States	10,960	China	745
Germany	543	Great Britain	346
France	292	Canada	233
Poland	207	Japan	175
Australia	142	Netherlands	131
Taiwan	125	Norway	106
Russian Federation	96	Ukraine	87
Switzerland	83	Czech Republic	79
Brazil	77	South Korea	75
Austria	74	Denmark	57
Sweden	56	Spain	54
Singapore	52	Costa Rica	46
Ireland	46	Estonia	45
Mexico	38	Romania	33

for a grand total of 15,003 “hits” and a total of 28 different countries. He is able to see what everyone is looking at on the site (the HOWGOESIT is in the top 10), how they found the site (i.e. through searching for the ship number, referrals from other websites, etc.) There is even a copy, of the original website that Ben Gold created, that is in Spanish. If you can read Spanish try it out at: [destructores en la 2da gm, el Uss Maddox-Taringa!](http://destructores.en.la.2da.gm.el.Uss.Maddox-Taringa)

From the Editor:

I have come across some random and interesting articles that I thought might interest some of the association and I will start off with the celebration of Navy Week 2012 in conjunction with the War of 1812 Bicentennial celebration. 15 cities across the country will play host to this event throughout the spring and summer, which will include Blue Angels, Ship visits, Navy Band, Leap Frogs (Parachute Team) and much more. These events will give everyone a chance to learn about the Navy and how they protect our Country. The selected cities & month they will be there are:

Phoenix	March	Milwaukee	Aug
New Orleans	April	Chicago	Aug
Nashville	May	Toledo	Aug
Spokane	May	Cleveland	Aug
Baltimore	June	Detroit	Sep
Boston	June	Buffalo	Sep
Sacramento	July	Houston	Oct
Sioux Falls	July		

For more information go to www.navyweek.org. Let's all get out and show our support.

Another item I found interesting was a list of the Top Best Veterans Employers compiled by Civilian Job News. Listed were many employers that I'm sure we all use at one time or another including, Dollar General, General Electric (1 in 14 GE employees is a veteran with more than 10,000 employed now), Schneider International, Sears Holdings (including Sears & Kmart), Sprint, Verizon, University of Phoenix, and Waste Management & many more.. Let's all take the time to thank them for their dedication to hiring veterans.

You may have noticed some new sections in this edition of the *HOWGOESIT* and I would like to have some feedback on your opinions and thoughts on anything you would like to see added.

From the Editor (cont'd)

In the Maddox Memories I would like to hear some story about you and your time on the Maddox. Just a short story like the one Dale Lund contributed this month for everyone to enjoy. Dennis & I also hear quite often from men who have served on the Maddox or have a relative who served and would like to be in touch with fellow crewmen. I will be posting those going forward, just look for the sailor & his telescope. I will also be adding new areas as they come up. I am looking for some input from you ladies also, what would you be interested in? Let me hear from you.

I would like to thank the following contributors to this edition of the *HOWGOESIT* :

John Bayley	A Visit to Vietnam
Dale Lund	Tsunami
Dick Lagro	Howgoesit Trivia
Dennis Stokhaug	Web Site information

Without this input we would have many blank pages. Please keep it up.
Kathy

**2012 MADDOX REUNION
RENO, NEVADA
AUGUST 16 - 19, 2012
Ramada Hotel and Casino**

**Reunion packets have been mailed out.
If you have not received one and are interested
please let us know & one will be sent to you.**

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!