

USS RANKIN NEWS

ISSUE #13 • THE NEWSLETTER OF THE USS RANKIN ASSOCIATION • MARCH 2009



AKA-103

1945-1947

1952-1968

LKA-103

1969-1971

GOLD E

1960-1961

USS RANKIN REUNION

**September 17-20,
2009**

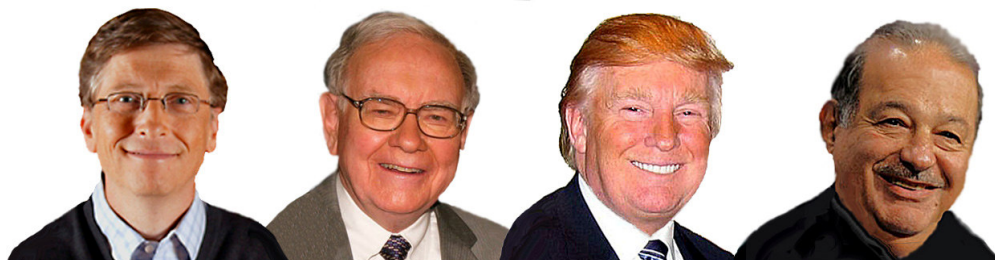
NORFOLK, VA

SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS

CLUES

This little story might help you if you're not having much success with the Word Scramble on Page 8:

The captain of the Rankin ordered his boatswain to the bridge. "The uniform of the day is whites. Why is that seaman amidships in dungarees?" asked the Old Man. "Sir, he doesn't want a gator hashmark on his leg," said Boats. "He's the snipe on a Papa boat, and he's topside 'cuz his coxswain told him to titivate his engine before he goes on liberty." The captain thought for a moment and said, "The uniform of the day is whites." "Aye, aye, Sir," the grizzled old sailor replied.



Financial advice from Bill Gates, Warren Buffet, Donald Trump & Carlos Slim: "Give generously to The USS Rankin Association. It will make the world a better place."



ANNUAL FUND DRIVE



The envelope that brought you this newsletter also brought a colorful paper about our Annual Fund Drive. We hope you will read that paper carefully and make whatever contribution you think is suitable. You can see a list of 2008's contributors inside on Page 4. The number of contributors is up by 5% from last year. Thank you!

We have no annual dues or initiation fees, so our funding depends almost exclusively on contributions from shipmates. Thankfully, these contributions have been generous over the years, so we can run an operation that every Rankin sailor can be proud of.

Every year we are more and more convinced that we have one of the best, if not *the* best reunion and reconnection groups for a ship of the Rankin's size. Our web site is second to none, and our reunions have been nothing but spectacular. Any member can get a personalized directory of all his shipmates, including current contact information where we have it, not to mention a wide assortment of hats, shirts, ship's pictures, etc. And every year we mail four newsletters like this one, with a copy to every shipmate, family member or friend in our database. We hope you like them.

Our policy is to provide full and honest disclosure of all financial information. A six-year financial summary

appears on page 2 of this newsletter.

You may notice that 2007 and 2008 were very good years for contributions from members. That's because we made special drives among our Shareholders in both those years. Shareholders are shipmates who contribute \$100 or more to fund activities over and above the day-to-day operating expenses of the Association. Thanks to these special fund drives, we now have about \$10,000 in a "rainy day" CD, and about \$5,000 set aside for capital expenditures and special projects. We're well set in these two areas now, and we don't envision making any Shareholder fund requests for quite a while.

What we need this year is increased contributions to operating expenses. Our operating budget is \$12,000 for 2009, or \$1,000 a month. That money brings you these newsletters, our web site, and all the other things that it takes to keep the organization running. No money goes for wages and salaries, though many people put in tremendous effort to keep our operation running.

To fund our budget, we need you to be especially generous this year. If you didn't contribute in 2008, please consider contributing now. If you sent us something last year, please consider sending a little more this time. Our lifeblood is the checks from our members—if you can afford it, we could use a larger check this year. Thanks in advance for your help.

2008 YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT

Thanks to generous contributors and good financial management, the USS Rankin Association is in excellent financial condition.

Our financial story started in early 2003, when George Berninger, John Feeley, Jack Raso, Bob Reynolds, and Skip Sander chipped in \$25 each to buy stamps and whatever else the newly-formed organization might need. As other shipmates were found, they were invited to chip in their own \$25.

One thing led to another, and over the next six years, USS Rankin shipmates have contributed more than \$70,000 to the Association.

A full year-by-year summary of these contributions, plus other revenues and all our expenditures, ap-

pears at the bottom of this page.

Over the years, about 80% of our expenditures have gone to keeping in touch with members: our web site, postage, office supplies, telephone, printing and copying, mailing services, etc. The rest is spread over a wide range of categories. We try to spend money frugally, and usually we succeed.

Here's what we had in the bank as of December 31, 2008 :

\$3,573.12 in checking accounts

\$5,149.51 in savings accounts

\$10,621.36 in a CD

\$100.03 in a memorial account

\$19,444.02 Total

The checking account has declined substantially since December 31—we spend about \$1,000 a month just

staying in business and doing things like producing these newsletters. We rely on prompt responses to this fund drive to keep us from dipping into savings in April.

The savings accounts and the CD have been built up by contributions from Shareholders—shipmates who have sent \$100 specifically for savings—and are large enough now to tide us over any hard times we're likely to encounter. The CD is our rainy day fund—we won't cash it in unless we are in major financial trouble. We don't anticipate any such trouble, but if it comes, we're ready for it.

We use the Memorial Account in ways that will memorialize the USS Rankin and our shipmates.

The USS Rankin Association – Six Year Financial Summary

Account Description	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	6 Year Total	
Receipts								
40100 Member Contributions	\$2,025.00	\$15,257.50	\$11,858.77	\$11,679.00	\$14,837.50	\$14,718.00	\$70,375.77	83.7%
40110 Shareholder Contributions (new acct in 2009)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
40120 Contributions for Reunion	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	1,500.00	1.8%
40200 Contributions to Memorial Fund	0.00	225.00	150.00	839.79	170.00	0.00	1,384.79	1.6%
<i>Total Contributions</i>	<u>\$2,025.00</u>	<u>\$16,582.50</u>	<u>\$12,008.77</u>	<u>\$12,518.79</u>	<u>\$15,007.50</u>	<u>\$15,118.00</u>	<u>\$73,260.56</u>	<u>87.2%</u>
40300 Merchandise Sales	0.00	4,198.00	1,970.37	524.55	479.98	250.00	7,422.90	8.8%
40400 Income from Reunion Activities	0.00	186.00	200.00	126.00	0.00	157.80	669.80	0.8%
40500 Income from Outside Activities	0.00	210.00	60.00	375.00	200.00	500.00	1,345.00	1.6%
40600 Interest and Dividend Income	0.70	4.69	48.44	154.84	564.54	572.91	1,346.12	1.6%
Total Receipts	<u>\$2,025.70</u>	<u>\$21,181.19</u>	<u>\$14,287.58</u>	<u>\$13,699.18</u>	<u>\$16,252.02</u>	<u>\$16,598.71</u>	<u>\$84,044.38</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Expenditures								
40900 Accounting Adjustments	\$0.00	\$228.00	\$3.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$231.17	0.4%
50300 Cost of Sales - Merchandise	\$0.00	\$2,543.53	\$2,056.34	\$172.16	\$323.70	\$8.06	\$5,103.79	8.4%
50320 Cost of Sales - Packing & Shipping	0.00	234.91	140.11	24.75	80.90	53.39	534.06	0.9%
<i>Total Cost of Merchandise Sales</i>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,778.44</u>	<u>\$2,196.45</u>	<u>\$196.91</u>	<u>\$404.60</u>	<u>\$61.45</u>	<u>\$5,637.85</u>	<u>9.3%</u>
60110 Web Site & Computer	264.83	2,566.75	3,656.56	3,090.66	3,309.34	3,498.69	16,386.83	26.9%
60120 Searching for Shipmates	10.00	1,581.19	92.50	498.85	238.30	60.00	2,480.84	4.1%
60130 Memorabilia	0.00	0.00	0.00	282.25	231.98	675.35	1,189.58	2.0%
60210 Postage	423.45	4,270.48	2,347.23	2,285.27	1,615.93	1,319.60	12,261.96	20.1%
60220 Telephone	0.00	971.68	118.51	234.12	513.83	734.65	2,572.79	4.2%
60230 Copying & Printing	190.98	527.98	131.40	478.86	272.17	139.05	1,740.44	2.9%
60310 Office Supplies	153.61	1,470.87	2,438.23	1,420.44	2,303.94	3,370.09	11,157.18	18.3%
60320 Office Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.00	1,270.59	1,002.17	2,357.76	3.9%
60400 Reunion Expenses	0.00	1,397.40	200.00	650.91	284.93	2,744.27	5,277.51	8.7%
60500 Outside Activities Expense	0.00	155.05	0.00	0.00	300.00	575.00	1,030.05	1.7%
60600 Bank Fees	2.00	10.74	1.00	12.00	1.00	11.00	37.74	0.1%
60900 Miscellaneous	34.94	384.60	324.35	411.86	235.37	850.12	2,241.24	3.7%
Total Expenditures	<u>\$1,079.81</u>	<u>\$16,343.18</u>	<u>\$11,509.40</u>	<u>\$9,647.13</u>	<u>\$11,386.58</u>	<u>\$10,981.98</u>	<u>\$60,948.08</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Excess of Receipts over Expenditures	<u>\$945.89</u>	<u>\$4,838.01</u>	<u>\$2,778.18</u>	<u>\$4,052.05</u>	<u>\$4,865.44</u>	<u>\$5,616.73</u>	<u>\$23,096.30</u>	<u>27.5%</u>

SHIPMATES ON PARADE

Elmer Mayes, Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman (retired), was Chief Corpsman aboard the Rankin from 1962-1965. Today he serves as our Chaplain.

Elmer was born 83 years ago in Ellwood City, PA, and raised in Canton, Ohio. He graduated from high school in 1943, enlisting soon thereafter at Cleveland, Ohio. After Recruit and Hospital Corps training at Great Lakes, Illinois, he was assigned various duty stations in preparation for assignment to Base Hospital 4 during the Okinawa Offensive in 1945. On returning to the United States he was assigned as a reservist to the Navy Reserve Station in Canton, Ohio, while attending Kent State University.



Then he went to U.S. Naval Hospital, Philadelphia before transferring to the 2nd Marine Division, FMF, Camp Lejeune, NC in preparation for duty in Korea, for which he never was called. He transferred to NAS Seattle before converting to regular Navy and being transferred to MCS, Camp Pendleton, CA for duty with 1st MarDiv. Then he had recruiting duty in Beckley, West Virginia, enroute to the Optical School at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. Upon completion of Optical school, he was assigned to the Naval Hospital in Quantico, Virginia, prior to assignment to USS RANKIN. While at Quantico, he was promoted to

Chief Hospital Corpsman.

While aboard RANKIN, in addition to duties in Sick Bay, he provided Ship's Chaplain services at the direction of the Skippers. Daily after Morning Colors, Chief Mayes held prayer over the 1MC, asking for the Lord's protection and safety of the crew.

After a three-year tour on the "Rusty Nuts" he was transferred to AOTU, Little Creek before ultimate assignment to NavOphthalmicLab, Cheatham Annex, Williamsburg, Virginia. Thereafter, he was assigned to MCB 6 at Chu Lai, Viet Nam, followed by a stint at U.S. Naval Hospital, Portsmouth. He retired from Navy active duty on Valentine's Day 1974.

During his tour at Portsmouth, he pastored two churches and was associate pastor at three others. Following Navy retirement, he worked briefly in the optical field before accepting work with the Veterans Administration. He was Hospital Housekeeping Officer at six VA Medical Centers, and was Chaplain to the Staff at each. He retired from the VA in 1994, engaging in church work, and marrying his wife, Ruth. His activities included Nursing Home and Truckstop Ministries, and Associate Pastor until accepting a position as Seniors Pastor in Saint Cloud, Florida.

Following that ministry, became Chaplain to several military veterans organizations: MCB 6 Association, Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-4 (DOFL), Casselberry Veterans, Inc., Seminole County Area Veterans Advisory Council (SCAVAC), and finally, last, but not least, The USS Rankin Association.

As a chaplain, Elmer has conducted weddings, funerals, and me-



Mayes, HMC, aboard Rankin in 1965



Chaplain Elmer Mayes, HMCS (Ret.), at the USS Rankin reunion in Stuart, Florida, October 2008

morial services; participated in parades; officiated at church services, conducted reunion memorial services, provided encouragement and counseling for the ill and bereaved, and visited in hospitals and homes as needful. Since assuming the chaplaincies, he has traveled over 15,000 miles fulfilling the necessary duties.

He resides in Saint Cloud, Florida with his wife, Ruth.

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE CONTRIBUTORS

These 287 shipmates made financial contributions to the Association during calendar 2008. Their generosity is our lifeblood—without it, we couldn't have these newsletters, our web site, our online obituaries, and all of the other things that make the group worthwhile. All 1,222 of us give them a Bravo Zulu and a Thank You!

Adkins, John G.....	BT3.....	1953-1954
Allen, Leslie*.....	SFP3.....	1963-1966
Allen, Paul M.*.....	ENS(SC).....	1946-1947
Anderson, Harry V.....	BTG2.....	1945
Anderson, Julian A.....	BM2.....	1967-1968
Anderson, Richard C.....	IC3.....	1953-1956
Anderson, Ruth I.....	See Note 1	
Austin, William H., Jr.*.....	LCDR.....	1958-1960
Ayasse, Ralph F.*.....	SMSN.....	1959-1962
Bagwell, Harold W.....	SM3.....	1960-1961
Baire, Ronald E.....	SK1.....	1968-1971
Baisden, Robert.....	YN3.....	1954-1955
Ball, Montague G., Jr.....	LTJG.....	1962-1965
Ballou, Joseph F.....	LTJG.....	1957-1958
Barth, William A., Jr.....	EN1.....	1954-1956
Beaty, M. Paul, Jr.*.....	PN2.....	1957-1959
Beck, John W., Jr.*.....	LT.....	1963-1964
Becker, Jerry T.....	CAPT.....	1970-1971
Beeler, David L.....	ETN3.....	1963-1966
Belmore, Brainard J.....	CDR.....	1956-1958
Berkman, Eugene M.....	LT(MC).....	1963-1964
Biance, William T.....	GM3.....	1961-1963
Biersteker, Bruce J.....	EN3.....	1953-1956
Black, Roy H.....	BMSN.....	1952-1954
Boyles, Eugene E.....	SHSN.....	1959-1961
Bradley, David W.*.....	QM3.....	1964-1966
Brady, Robert E.....	LTJG.....	1952-1953
Breslau, Jill S.*.....	See Note 2	
Brewer, Carl D.*.....	SN.....	1959-1962
Brisbois, Ed.....	See Note 3	
Brown, James A.*.....	BM1.....	1965-1967
Brown, Rodney C.....	LTJG.....	1965-1968
Buchanan, Carl R.....	YN3.....	1954-1955
Buck, Nelson D.....	ET2.....	1957-1960
Buckner, Paul H.*.....	EN3.....	1957-1958
Buddle, Henry J.....	SN.....	1964-1966
Burbey, Mark G.....	EM2.....	1953
Burke, Dennis G.....	FN.....	1964
Burke, John J., Jr.....	EN2.....	1966-1970
Calomino, Dominick, Jr.....	FN.....	1967-1969
Capley, Bobby W.*.....	SFP3.....	1961-1965
Carrick, Marshall L.....	QM3.....	1952
Carroll, Melvin L.....	ETR3.....	1955-1956
Casto, Mark J., Jr.....	ENS.....	1957-1958
Cayo, Richard F.....	BTC.....	1958-1962
Christensen, W. Vincent.....	LTJG.....	1945
Coccaro, Richard C.....	CAPT USMC.....	1970
Couch, Ernest C.....	EMCM.....	1968-1970
Cramer, Charles E.....	BM3.....	1966-1968
Crane, Roger H.*.....	MR3.....	1957-1959
Cregan, John D.....	LTJG.....	1954-1955
Cromack, Dan.....	LTJG.....	1963
Dawson, Patrick F.....	S1C.....	1945-1946
Decker, John A., Jr.....	SF2.....	1960-1962
Deegan, Robert F.....	LT.....	1963-1965
Deep, David.....	See Note 4	
Desnoyer, David M.....	EM2.....	1957-1961
Devault, Robert L.*.....	SM2.....	1959-1962
Devroe, William P.*.....	SK3.....	1963-1965
Dikdan, Norman J.....	MM3.....	1945-1946
Doherty, Hugh J.....	SN.....	1959-1961
Domowski, Edward J.....	SK3.....	1969-1971
Domurat, Benjamin W.....	LTJG.....	1969-1970
Dougherty, Alexander J.....	EN.....	1953
Dousman, Mike.....	FTSN.....	1962
Dovre, Howard A.....	LTJG.....	1960-1961
Draper, Frank B.....	SN.....	1961-1964
Durand, Thomas J.....	QM2.....	1959-1962
Dwyer, William J., Jr.*.....	BM3.....	1961-1965
Edmisten, Jimmie W.....	EMC.....	1961-1965
Ellett, Frank T.*.....	LTJG.....	1960-1961

Engel, David M.....	EN3.....	1963-1967
Falker, Raymond J., Sr.*.....	MMFN.....	1964-1967
Fields, Michael J.....	IC3.....	1959-1961
Fleming, F. Donald.....	LTJG.....	1958-1960
Forde, Hugh J.*.....	MMFN.....	1961-1962
Fowler, Joseph.....	DK2.....	1957-1959
Frost, RADM S. David.....	LT(SC).....	1958-1959
Fulton, Michael M.*.....	LT.....	1966-1968
Gagne, Donald P.....	SKC.....	1955
Gardner, George D.....	MR2.....	1968
Garner, Austin*.....	RM2.....	1967-1970
Gaskell, Edward P., Jr.*.....	LT.....	1954-1956
Gauthier, Leo A.*.....	ET2.....	1958-1961
Gilbert, George E.....	EM2.....	1957-1960
Giles, John O.*.....	BMSN.....	1957-1959
Gimpel, Earl R.*.....	CAPT USMC.....	1952-1953
Ginn, Raymond E.....	MM3.....	1956-1958
Given, Philip R.....	LCDR.....	1970-1971
Goebel, Peter H.*.....	RM2.....	1958-1960
Golfman, David M.....	SN.....	1961-1963
Goligan, Fernando.....	E-4.....	1952-1957
Goodall, Leon S.*.....	ENS(SC).....	1947
Gorham, John P.....	SN.....	1959-1962
Grant, Gerald M.*.....	EM2.....	1958-1960
Griffith, Samuel.....	BM2.....	1968-1970
Guerrere, Frank S.....	F1C.....	1945
Gully, Stewart E.*.....	LTJG.....	1957-1958
Guthrie, Sidney E.....	EN3.....	1967-1971
Hack, John D.....	SN.....	1961-1962
Hadley, Nelson B.*.....	EM2.....	1963-1966
Hailey, James E.....	F1C.....	1946-1947
Hakala, John M.....	ETR2.....	1961-1963
Hallman, Herbert E.....	WT3C.....	1945-1946
Hand, William R.....	LTJG.....	1959-1961
Hanson, Gunnar F.....	SFM3.....	1952-1953
Hardegree, Howard L.*.....	ENS.....	1960-1961
Harris, Stephen K.....	LTJG.....	1969-1971
Hatten, Fred L.....	RM3.....	1964-1966
Head, Hillyer T.....	S2C.....	1945
Heenan, R. Dennis*.....	LTJG.....	1952-1953
Heffelfinger, Karl W.....	FT3.....	1960-1961
Heian, Bob.....	See Note 5	
Hennings, L. William, III*.....	LTJG.....	1964-1966
Henshaw, Robert L.....	FA.....	1963-1964
Hickey, William A., III*.....	LTJG.....	1969-1971
Highsmith, Percy L.....	BTFN.....	1953
Holbrook, Hilliard B., II.....	LT.....	1960-1961
Houser, Dennis W.....	BMSN.....	1963-1965
Hoyt, Gerald L.....	BM2.....	1952-1954
Hungerford, James M.....	LT.....	1952
Hurwitz, Alfred Y.....	S2C.....	1946-1947
Icardi, Edward W.*.....	EN2.....	1965-1967
Izyk, James J.....	RM2.....	1960-1964
Jacobs, John H.....	LTJG.....	1963-1964
Jannie, William C.....	BM3.....	1956-1958
Jenkins, Neil*.....	DC1.....	1961-1967
Jeron, David P.....	EM3.....	1953-1955
Johnson, Donald V.....	CS2.....	1952-1954
Johnson, Luther*.....	LT.....	1960-1962
Johnson, Verne D.*.....	SK1.....	1952-1954
Jones, Iver L.....	DC1.....	1954-1957
Jordan, Homer.....	SN.....	1962
Joyce, Harry H.*.....	RM3.....	1945-1946
Kanavel, Robert F.....	HMC.....	1953-1955
Karper, Diane H.....	See Note 6	
Keith, Robert E.*.....	ENS.....	1953-1955
Kell, George C.....	YNC.....	1957-1959
Kersh, RADM John M.....	LTJG.....	1958-1959
Kinsley, Thomas S.....	FT3.....	1956-1959
Kling, Arthur H.....	COX.....	1945-1946
Knight, James R.....	CAPT USMC.....	1961-1963

Koepp, Dale F. FN 1962-1964
 Kortkamp, Gary R.* LTJG 1961-1964
 Kraus, Joseph LT(SC) 1963-1964
 Kristof, Gregory M. EMFN 1965
 Laba, Richard P. YN3 1960-1962
 Laboda, Matthew EN2 1955
 Labonte, Roger S.* HM2 1963-1966
 Lafkas, James K. YN1 1956-1958
 Lane, J. Hartwell SM3 1956-1957
 Lane, Jerry L. CS3 1968-1969
 Lang, James A. SFM3 1961-1962
 Laskorski, Lawrence R. F1C 1945-1946
 Lathrop, Allen L.* SN 1957-1959
 Lawrence, Joyce W. See Note 7
 Levine, Abraham* ENS 1946
 Lewis, Raymond L. GMG3 1960-1963
 Lewis, Vincent D. S1C 1945
 Liesegang, Charles C. RM3 1964-1966
 Linner, John H.* LT(MC) 1945
 Lint, Paul C.* RD2 1964-1967
 Little, Donald S. RDM 3/c 1945
 Lobello, Thomas, Jr. RDM 2/c 1945-1946
 Long, George B., Jr. ENS 1955-1956
 Lowery, Marvin R. SN 1966-1968
 Malik, Noble M.* DK1 1952
 Maloney, William A. S1C 1946-1947
 Manders, Karl L., MD LT(MC) 1953-1954
 Mangen, Kenneth J. MM2 1959-1962
 Mansfield, Greg C. RD2 1961-1963
 Marshall, Lum C. SA 1953-1956
 May, George S. LTJG 1968-1969
 Mayes, Elmer S. HMC 1962-1965
 Mazzarini, John* RM2 1960-1962
 McAllister, Bennie F. BT3 1964-1966
 McCall, Barry R. TA 1958-1962
 McCourt, James P.* RD3 1963-1966
 McCullough, Glenn E., Jr.* CS3 1968-1970
 Melinn, Milan L. WT3 1945-1946
 Mendoza, James P. PN1 1968-1970
 Miller, H. Edward, Jr.* ENS 1962-1963
 Modesto, Paul A. Corporal 1957-1958
 Mohun, Richard A. LTJG 1959-1961
 Montalbaine, Gary E. LT 1961-1963
 Moore, Johnnie E. QM3 1955-1958
 Moretz, Charles H. SKCS 1968-1969
 Moyer, Glen I.* SK2 1957-1961
 Mullen, Kenneth T. S2C 1946
 Munch, Melvin M., Sr.* S1C 1946
 Navatto, Donald J. MM3 1959-1961
 Newell, Allen G. RM3 1959-1960
 O'Connor, John E. ENS 1952-1953
 Oroz, Dan ENS 1966-1967
 Ortolon, James C. S1C 1952-1954
 Otten, Teddy W. CS2 1953-1955
 Overbeck, B. Kenneth, Jr. LCDR 1964-1967
 Overson, Lee C., Jr. SN 1964-1967
 Peck, Theodore V. MM2 1968-1970
 Pemantel, Albert E.* CM2 1945
 Petersen, Mereanus K. S2C 1947
 Pillsbury, David N. FN 1960-1961
 Pisano, John A. SHBRE3 1969-1971
 Plumb, Edward J. BT3 1966-1968
 Pontious, Harold E.* RM2C 1945
 Port, Dale E. FTG3 1970-1971
 Portell, Carl B. MM3 1945-1946
 Prentice, Colm N. BT2 1965-1969
 Prevar, John E.* QM3 1970-1971
 Pulley, Andrew T. CSC 1958-1961
 Quinlan, Frank M.* EM2 1966-1968
 Ranes, Wayne P. RM2 1960-1963
 Raso, Jack L.* LTJG 1963-1964
 Reding, Patrick G.* RMSN 1952-1954
 Redler, Gary L. EN2 1962-1965
 Reed, Donald A. ENS 1952-1953
 Reichert, Paul L. EM3 1952-1954
 Reid, Allen B. S1C 1945-1946
 Remensnyder, William A. MM3 1968-1971
 Reynolds, Marty M. ENFN 1960-1963
 Reynolds, Patricia See Note 8

Rhodes, Fred R. YN3 1945-1946
 Richard, Norman E. YN3 1954-1957
 Richards, Patrick J. COX 1946-1947
 Rider, Carson A. MM3 1958-1960
 Riley, Robert E. DK2 1962-1963
 Robsahm, Leon E.* CS2 1952-1954
 Roe, George E.* YN2 1957-1959
 Rogan, Lawrence M. SN 1961-1964
 Rogers, Glenn W. E-2 1968-1970
 Rohrbaugh, Neal L., Sr. EMC 1961-1963
 Rollins, Carlton L. FN 1964-1965
 Rose, Meyer H. CDR 1967-1968
 Rowe, Richard P. SN 1957-1959
 Rowland, Jack* S1C 1945-1946
 Roy, Alfred J.* RM2 1962-1966
 Rupp, Jean K. See Note 9
 Sander, Louis "Skip" LTJG 1961-1963
 Satrom, Robert E. LTJG 1968-1970
 Saunders, Lyle P. SK3 1963-1965
 Savio, Leo J.* LTJG 1959-1961
 Savoca, Eugene T. RM3 1965-1969
 Schiel, Frank E. LTJG 1945-1946
 Schmieder, Raymond P. RM2 1953-1954
 Sciarillo, Lewis P. LTJG 1945-1946
 Seigel, Jerome J.* PN2 1955-1957
 Shaw, Frank H., Jr. BM2 1959-1961
 Shearl, James C.* RM1 1953-1955
 Sherer, Cecil W. LTJG 1963-1965
 Siciliano, Ercole C., Jr.* CS3 1963-1964
 Sirois, Ronald SM2 1965-1966
 Smith, Charles T.* PN3 1964-1965
 Smith, RADM Vernon C. LTJG 1956-1958
 Spicer, S. Ray* BT3 1960-1963
 Spicer, Tex R.* BT3 1960-1962
 Steger, Edward H. ENS 1958-1959
 Stewart, John S. RD3 1963-1966
 Stockwell, Glenn A. OS1 1969-1970
 Stone, David L. LTJG 1960-1963
 Stringer, Walter M.* MM3 1965-1969
 Stubbs, James D. BM3 1960-1961
 Suarez, Emilio W. SN 1967
 Sutton, James E.* SM3 1966-1969
 Swing, John P., Jr. SK2 1958-1960
 Thomas, Mark A.* IC3 1967-1969
 Thomsen, Kenneth W. EN2 1956-1959
 Torgan, Alvin N.* LTJG 1963-1964
 Toupin, Ernest J., Jr. LTJG 1955-1957
 Urband, Howard T. LTJG 1955-1956
 Vander Well, Lester N. YN3 1954-1957
 Vangorder, Albert HTC 1969-1971
 Wade, Lewis C. LTJG 1955-1956
 Wakelee, David M. LTJG 1952-1954
 Wall, Kermit F. BMCM 1968-1971
 Wallis, Clyde E. MR2 1952-1953
 Walton, Edward P. SA 1946-1947
 Weaver, Jack R. BT1 1957
 Weltner, Howard A.* LCDR 1964-1967
 White, Lyle J. LTJG 1969-1971
 Whyno, Peter P. BM3 1952-1955
 Williamson, Rodney M. QMQ3 1952-1954
 Wilson, Leslie J.* LT 1952
 Wirt, Neal H.* QM2 1960-1963
 Wisniewski, Paul S. LTJG 1961-1962
 Wood, Warren H. GM1 1955-1958
 Woodward, Robert W.* MM3 1963-1965
 Yergeau, Richard P. BM2 1965-1967
 Zimmer, Harry J.* LTJG 1958-1960

NOTES:

* - Shareholder

1 - Wife of Elliott "George" Anderson, FC3, 1945

2 - Daughter of Maxwell Breslau, LT, 1952

3 - Amphibious Attack Boats, WWII, Fort Pierce, Florida

4 - Distinguished friend of the USS Rankin (AKA-103)

5 - USS Bellatrix (AKA-3)

6 - Wife of Stephen J. Karper, ENS, 1966-1967

7 - Wife of William R. Lawrence, LTJG, 1964-1966

8 - Wife of Timothy Reynolds, LTJG, 1966-1969

9 - Wife of Harold P. Rupp, LT, 1952

OUR SHIPMATES

According to rosters in the National Archives, about 3,900 men served on the USS Rankin between her original commissioning in early 1945 and her second decommissioning in 1971. An unknown number of embarked Marines were also aboard during those years.

The rosters have given us the names of most of the Navy men, and if we take the time and spend the money, we can get the names of the embarked Marines, too. A few of them are already members of our Association.

We've been pretty successful in finding our former shipmates—we have about 44% of them in our current database. Of the 4,009 people in the database:

- 1,222 Are known living members
- 424 Are known deceased
- 2,223 Are still missing
- 3,869 Are shipmates
- 140 Are family & friends
- 4,009 Grand Total

That's not bad for a group that only started six years ago! We hear from one or two missing shipmates every month or so, but we still have a lot of people to find. Walter "Buddy" Stringer, MM3 1965-1969, saw some guys in a picture from the ship, and decided to find them if he could. He did. He also found several fellow snipes by looking up names on the Internet and calling to see if they served on the Rankin. He reports that it's lots of fun to do, and that the guys you find are really excited when you find them.

If you'd like to try finding some shipmates on your own, just get in touch with Skip Sander or Buddy Stringer. They can provide lists of names and tips for finding missing shipmates. Buddy is at 631-277-4695 or at walter_s@me.com. Skip is at 412-367-1376 or ussrankin@aol.com

Give it a try, it's rewarding!



1952 – The crew lived here during the Rankin's recommissioning. Nice.



1955 – Amphibious Forces Birthday Party. Captain Munger and the officers and men of the USS Rankin, with their ladies and honored guests.



1970 – The Rankin's last Ensigns are promoted to LTJG: Britt Bromberg, Henry Orr, Bill Hickey and Lyle White. What do they look like now?

GOOD SKINNY

Nelson Buck, ET2, 1957-1960, discovered a web site with a lot of information about ships and the Navy. Visit the Historic Naval Ships Association on the Internet at www.hnsa.org

The HNSA is a group of people interested in museum ships—ships that have been taken out of service and now serve as showplaces for the public. It's a worldwide organization representing twelve nations and 175 museum vessels of all types.

Of greater interest than their ships is the knowledge base on their web site. It's full of recorded sounds, documents, handbooks, and other Navy-oriented information. In a quick tour, we found manuals for the 40-mm guns like the Rankin had, a publication on 21st century amphibious doctrine, and some radio and electronics manuals from 1945.

Snipes and deck apes might like to see the old and new technical manuals on gyrocompasses, hull cleaning, wire rigging, and so forth. There are also Navy training courses for Electronics Technician, Damage Controlman, Engineman, Fire Controlman, Gunner's Mate, Quartermaster, Seaman, Signalman, and more.

There's too much there to list, let alone describe. If you like to look at stuff like this, just visit HNSA at www.hnsa.org

WEB SITE NEWS

This wasn't a good year for our web site at www.ussrankin.org. A heartless hacker destroyed our 350+ online obituaries, and the Russian hacking community made our Guestbook so useless that we had to take it down. Our agenda for the spring and summer includes fixing both those problems and updating the online roster, which hasn't been done for several years.

We have our fingers crossed about fixing the obituaries—we're not sure if they've been erased or merely hidden. If they've been erased, they're probably gone forever. The guestbook is an easier problem, which we'll fix by getting a new guestbook or maybe a Facebook account.

Updating the rosters is another big challenge, but one we really need to face. For a variety of technical reasons, it's very hard just to update what we've got. With luck, we'll come up with a way to replace it with information directly from our database.

"REAL" CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

You may have forgotten it, but Chief Petty Officers are known as "the backbone of the Navy." This is how you can tell you're in the presence of a "real" Chief:

- The Chief's not afraid of the dark; the dark is afraid of the Chief.
- The Chief once visited The Virgin Islands. They are now simply called The Islands.
- Superman owns a pair of Chief pajamas.
- The Chief has never paid taxes. He just sends in a blank form and includes a picture of himself.
- If the Chief is late, then time had damn well better slow down.
- The Chief actually died four years ago, but the Grim Reaper can't get up the courage to tell him.
- The Chief can divide by zero.
- The Chief has counted to infinity . . . twice!
- If the Chief ever calls your house, be in!
- The Chief doesn't leave messages; he leaves warnings. You had better pay attention to them.
- The Chief can slam a revolving door.
- The Chief was sending an email one day, when he realized that it would be faster to run.
- When the Incredible Hulk gets mad, he becomes the Chief.
- When the Chief exercises, the machine gets stronger.
- Bullets dodge the Chief. If not, he catches them in his teeth.
- Chiefs think Ensigns should be seen and not heard, and should not be allowed to read books on leadership.
- Chiefs do not have any civilian clothes. As civilians, they keep their uniforms forever.
- The Chief's favorite national holiday is CPO Initiation.
- The Chief's favorite food is SOS for breakfast.
- Chiefs don't know how to tell civilian time.
- Chiefs dream in Navy blue and gold, white, haze Gray and occasionally khaki.
- Chiefs have served on ships that are now war memorials or tourist attractions.
- Chiefs get tears in their eyes when the Chief dies in the movie Operation Pacific.
- Chiefs have pictures of ships in their wallets.
- Chiefs do not own any pens that are not inscribed Property of U.S. Government.
- Chiefs favorite quote is from the movie Ben Hur, "We keep you alive to serve this ship."
- A Chief's last ship was always better. (This does not apply while he is aboard the USS Rankin.)
- Chiefs know that the black tar in their coffee cup makes the coffee taste better.
- A Chief's idea of heaven: Three good PO1's and a Division Officer who does what he's told.
- Chiefs think John Wayne would have made a good Chief, if he hadn't gone soft and made Marine movies.



NORFOLK REUNION, SEPT 17-20, 2009

Planning is underway for what promises to be our best reunion ever, this September in Norfolk. Our headquarters hotel will be the newly-remodeled Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, said to be the best hotel in Tidewater.

It's right on the waterfront in downtown Norfolk, which has become quite an attractive area in recent years. Downtown's amenities include dozens of pretty mermaid sculptures, placed every block or two, often in park-like settings.



View of the Sheraton Waterside

Our tours will be different from our last visit in 2004, and we think they'll be better. We're planning trips to Virginia Beach, to the Amphibious Landing Simulator at Little Creek, and to some never before seen sights around Norfolk.

Navy tours will *not* be overlooked, and we're working on some great ones. It's too early to know if we'll be successful, but we're pulling every string we know of to get a

special ship tour, hopefully of a modern gator freighter. Our ambition is to get to see some berthing spaces, the wardroom, some of the engineering spaces, and other places usually off limits to civilians. Time will tell if we reach our goal, but we plan to go for it in the Rankin's "Gold E" fashion.

We want to encourage *everybody* to attend this special reunion, even those on limited incomes or with little time to give to it. We'll definitely have an event or two where anyone can join us without spending any money, except maybe for parking, and we'll even keep *that* to a minimum.

On another front, we're working to find low-cost lodging for those who want to save on hotel costs. Our rates at the Sheraton are the lowest for any group, but we know that not everyone wants to pay them. If all you need is a safe place to sleep, we're trying to find one for you.



We want to ride on one of these!

WORD SCRAMBLE

See if you can unscramble these familiar shipboard words:

DEGRIB

DISMAPHIS

DOPIEST

KNAIRN

NEAMAS

NIGEEN

PATINAC

PINES

RAGOT

RILOSA

SANUGREDE

SCINOWAX

SHAMRHAK

TAPPABOA

TERIBLY

VETTIATI

WANTSABOI

The task is not an easy one. If you need help, you can find some in the "Clues" on Page 1.

USS RANKIN NEWS

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ussrankin@aol.com
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