

USS HADDO (SSN 604)



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April 1996

Wow! I'm way behind on getting this newsletter together - sorry, everybody. April kind of crept up on me, and the absence of recent contacts kind of let the whole thing slip my mind. Anyway, greetings one and all. I'll get right to the news, most of which arrived back in November and December. Again the reminder... If you have addresses for non-listed former crewmembers, please send them on to me:

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The News...

Last edition prompted a flurry of letters and a few phone calls, mostly in November and December.

November 6 a note arrived from Leroy Kreider noting a new address. The mailing list has been updated - Thanks, Leroy.

November 7 a note arrived from Calvin Elam providing a change of zip code. Florida is still growing fast enough to made such changes a fairly frequent occurrence, Calvin noted.

November 8 was a letter and a donation to the newsletter come in from William Austin. Bill thanks Leroy Miller for getting him on our mailing list. Bill served on four other boats in addition to Haddo, to which he reported in December 1966: USS Rock (AGSS-274), USS Pickerel (SS-524), USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619). Bill would like to find Jack Maddox, an RM1 who served on Haddo in the mid-late '60s. Can anyone help?

John and Betty Viney sent a card and donation to the newsletter which arrived on November 28. The Vineys asked that I correct an interpretation I made of an earlier letter they had sent - the Tom Owensby that are looking for was a Haddo crewmember, circa late '60s / early '70s. Anyone our there remember?

A letter from the yacht Desert Star (aka Mike and Linda Lintner) arrived November 28, along with a donation to the newsletter. Since the last newsletter, the Desert Star has left Ireland, visited the Canary Islands, and, as of the Lintner's last note, was holed up in Antigua, having ridden out tropical storm Iris (without damage) in August.

On December 8 a note arrived from Dave Crannell, providing a new address. Thanks, Dave.

Also on December 8, an oversized envelope of Haddo memorabilia arrived from Dick Bymes. Included was a December 17, 1964 article from the Camden (NJ) Courier Post noting Haddo's commissioning and a history of New York Shipbuilding Company that built Haddo and numerous other Navy, commercial and merchant ships, including the world's first (and only?) nuclear powered cargo ship, the N.S. Savannah. (Dick, I'll forward your materials to the Submarine Museum to see if they're interested. Thanks for sending them!)

On December 9 a letter and donation arrived from Rick DiSalvo, who is, if I understand the envelope correctly, now an Attorney at Law. Rick would like to see a reunion happen one day and volunteered to help work on setting one up. In addition to some great nuclear "gallows humor" which I can't repeat, Rick noted he has seen "Country" Howk, Graessle, Brian and Karen Vawter, and the Stevers, off and on. Thanks for your great letter, Rick - after reading it, my wife understands me a lot better.

On December 17, I had a phone call from Alan Precht, who had been on our "address unknown" list. Don't recall how Alan heard about the newsletter, but in any event, he provided addresses for Dean Larsen, Doug Covert and Pat "Rat" Finnegan. All have been added to the master mailing list - Thanks much, Alan. On a sad note, Alan indicated that Mike Doherty passed away some 10 years ago at age 36.

Having obtained a phone number from Alan for Pat Finnegan, a long lost friend, I called him that same night - December 17. Pat is "back home" in northern Minnesota and has been there since 1979 after a brief time in Alaska after Haddo. He operates the boiler plant for a college in Bimidji. Great talking to you, Pat!

On December 18, Christmas cards arrived from Jack & Jan Garrison (whom I saw last year in Hershey, PA), Jack Nobbs & Family, Rod & Terri Taft, and John Almon & Family (John will retire from the Navy in July '96, with 30 years of service). Thank you, one and all!

December 22 brought a note and donation from Paul Callahan, along with a change of address. The master mailing list has been updated accordingly. Thanks, Paul.

Also on December 22, a Christmas card arrived from Jeff Summy with a change of address. Mailing list is corrected. Thanks, Jeff. Jeff is Assistant Plant Manager at the Sequoyah Nuclear Station near Chattanooga.

And Finally, on January 10, a note arrived from Walt Sullivan with a change of address. So noted. Thanks, Walt.

Contact with the Submarine Force Library and Museum...

In February I received a letter from LCDR T. Hewn, USN, Officer in Charge, Historic Ship Nautilus SSN-571, thanking me for my donation of the many pieces of Haddo memorabilia that many of you have sent me over the years. The letter requested that I formally and officially transfer to the Museum those items I had previously sent. I gladly did so and extend to all of you (somewhat by proxy) the Museum's thanks for the materials, which contributed significantly to the Museum collection - now officially with the Navy's acknowledgment. I've really got to get to the museum myself.

Credits, Thanks and Miscellaneous ...

A thought from the address list department: If you are on e-mail accessible by internet (company e-mail system, AOL, CompuServe, etc.), and would like your e-mail address listed in the mailing list, please send it to Mike of me. Mine is wjc001@aol.com; I'll add to the list and publish those that we receive.

Envelopes and postage paid for in part by generous donations of Bill Austin, J.J. Viney, Mike Lintner, Rick DiSalvo, and Paul Callahan. Typing and address list maintenance by Bill Cook. And thanks to the Submarine Museum for recognition of all the men of Haddo's past.

Down Scope! Next edition, November '96.

Mike Gann
Author/Editor