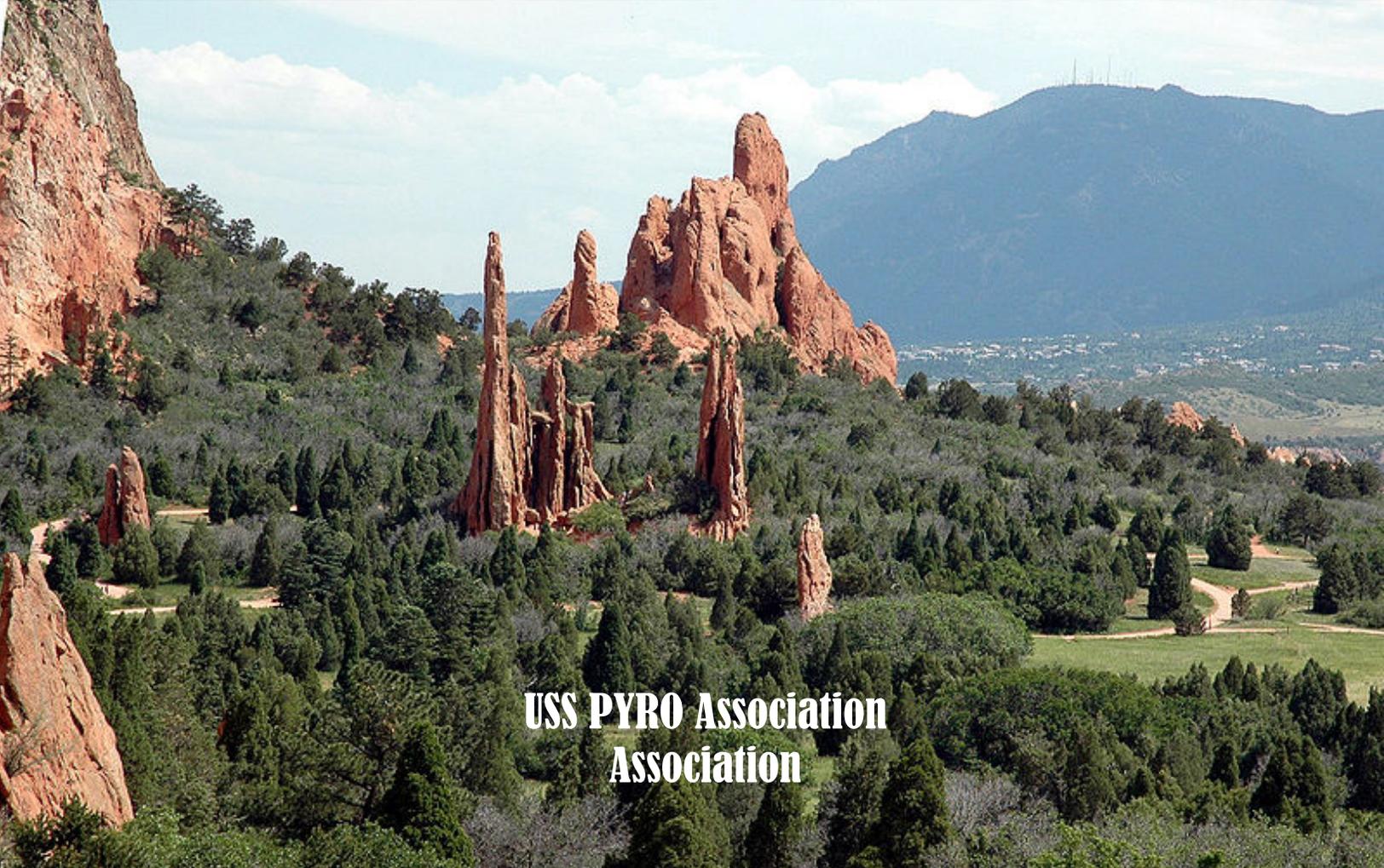




Rocky Mountain High Colorado Springs, CO



USS PYRO Association
Association

Rocky Mountain High

USS Pyro Association 2009 Reunion

Colorado Springs, Colorado

May 12-16, 2010



Wednesday 12 May 2010

6:00 PM Welcome Aboard Reception.

- Arrive in Colorado Springs at your leisure. Log in and get reacquainted with old (and young) shipmates in the hospitality room. · Remainder of the evening free to explore Colorado Springs attractions, shopping and entertainment

Thursday 13 May 2010

9:00 am ~ 3:00 pm AIR FORCE ACADEMY & GARDEN OF THE GODS TOUR/Memorial Service

- Enjoy a relaxed, hassle-free tour to the 18,000-acre Air Force Academy. After we pass through the North Gate, you will view Diamond Lil, the B-52 Bomber. Next - a lovely scenic overlook off North Gate Road. You're in for a treat in visiting the exquisite 17-spired, interdenominational chapel where we will remember departed shipmates at a Memorial Service. Afterwards, you travel to the Garden of the Gods Park, the most photographed site in the United States and one of the world's greatest natural wonders. Fantastic formations jut skyward at heights of over 300 feet. Several stops will be made to view such spectacular monoliths as Balanced Rock and the Kissing Camels. Includes Transportation, Tour Guide, and lunch at AFA/Academy Club.
- Remainder of the day free to explore Colorado Springs attractions, shopping and entertainment.

Friday 14 May 2010

- 9:00 AM ~ 3:00 PM **GAMBLING FOR THE GOLD**. Here's a tour that will take you back in time to the event that put the Pikes Peak region on the map, when cowpoke Bob Womack struck pay dirt 100 years ago. The cry "GOLD" reverberated around the world, and "Pikes Peak or Bust" was the rallying response of thousands that poured into the West in search of quick wealth. By 1900, Cripple Creek had a population of 55,000. Today it has dwindled to less than 4,000 but bustles again with excitement as a new gaming center. · Remainder of the day free to explore Colorado Springs attractions, shopping and entertainment.

Saturday 15 May 2010

- 10:00 AM Association business meeting
- 11:00 Noon ~ 6:00 PM Free to explore Colorado Springs attractions, shopping and entertainment.
- 6:00 – 6:30 PM Group/individual photos; cocktails
- 7:00 **Awards Banquet:**
- 7:30 - 12:00 PM **Dancing,**

Sunday 16 May 2010

Saddle up Old Paint and head home

2010 Reunion

Participating members and guests

Gary **Barton**
Larry and Dorothy **Buggeln**
Jared **Cameron**
Billy and Myra **Eckstine**
Loyd and Mary **Ellis**
Jerry and Mary Lou **Eddinger**
Bailey **George**
Al and Shirley **Hansen**
Johnny and Barbara **Hinson**
Gary and Ruby **Jaeger**
Ron and Shirlene **Kynaston**
Vanessa, Mark, Alexandria,
Marcos and Antonia **Miera**
Tom and Carol **Moulton**
Bob **Parrott** and Mary Jane **Green**
Bill and Jackie **Peregrin**
Joe and Sybil **Psuik**
Ray and Marie **Roberts** (Guests)

Tom and Elaine **Sanborn**
Jon, Zan and Nikki **Sinatra** plus friend
Kayla.
Larry and Karen **Sheipline**
Bob **Smiley**
Ken **Stokes**
Jasper and Lavonne **Strunk**
Felix and Rose **Tafoya**
John Wichtrich
Robert **White**
Doug and Linda **Wisher**
Vance and Bev **Worrell**

Remembering the fallen

The annual memorial service honoring departed — but not forgotten — members of the Pyro Family is in many ways the most meaningful moment of our reunions, yet one we all wish were unnecessary. But time continues to take its toll. For 2010, the ceremony of remembrance was held amid the at the stunning U.S. Air Force Academy Chapel.

Honored in Colorado Springs



Thadie L. Bowen (AE-24)
Roy E. Chapman (AE-24)
Albert A. Mitchell (AE-24)
Gerald R. Poppenga (AE-24)
William E. Roe (AE-24)
George C. Saolund (AE-1)

SALUTING THE MAN AND WOMAN WHO MADE IT HAPPEN



Jaeger

It's been a recent Pyro custom to stage a photo of a besieged reunion chairman with 'irate' members shaking their fists at him in protest of perceived problems with the gathering arrangements. But when the time came for that traditional shot in Colorado Springs, the crew, normally not exactly a complaint-free bunch, would not even pretend to be upset with Gary Jaeger and his jewel of a bride, Ruby.

And with good reason: Gary — along with Ruby, who says she 'only helped out with the computer work,' but every one suspects did a lot more — did a bang up job is selecting a site, making picture-perfect arrangements for tours and planning a truly memorable banquet.

Thanks, Gary and Ruby! You've set a new standard for a job well done!



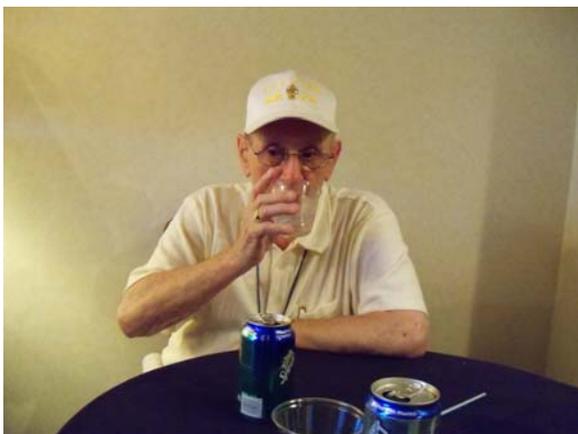
Hospitality Room and Welcome



Members gather for suds and chips



Linda Wisner greets a new arrival; Lloyd Ellis dips some chips.



Vance Worrell and wife, Bev, sip sodas.

Hospitality Room and Welcome



Felix Tafoya greets a shipmate; John Wichtrich, Bob Smiley and Gary Barton catch up.



Myra Eckstine, Stokes and Ann Miller; Ruby Jaeger, Mary Ellis ad Myra Eckstine



Lavonne Strunk toasts with a Coke; Jackie Peregrin, Felix Tafoya, Gary Jaeger and Bill Peregrin.

Hospitality room



Mary Ellis, Ken Stokes and Myra Eckstine; John Wichtrich (L) and Bill Peregrin (R) chat with Jon Sinatra, son of AE-1 sailor S. John Sinatra.



Lavonne Strunk with Jackie Peregrin; Bailey George



Larry Shepline with Lud Muller; Plank owners Al Hansen and Bill Peregrin.

Hospitality room



Ann Miller and Ruby Jaeger; a reunion memorial quilt created and contributed by Lavonne Strunk that was auctioned off at the banquet.



Ann Miller, Ruby Jaeger, Linda Wisner, Bev Worrell and Elaine Sanborn 'reward' reunion host Gary Jaeger; Billy Eckstine and Jasper Strunk chat.



Al Hansen; Ann Miller and Bev Worrell.



Tour and Memorial Service



Bailey George saddles up for a tour; Vance Worrell and Bill Peregrin converse.



Bob Parrot and Mary Jane Green; (L) Lavonne Strunk and Bill Peregrin



Linda Wisher and Ann Miller; Tom Moulton and Sharon Hamlin.



Tour and Memorial Service



The boys (and girls) on the bus.



The Tafoyas, Wishers and Worrells; John Wichtrich and Tom Moulton.

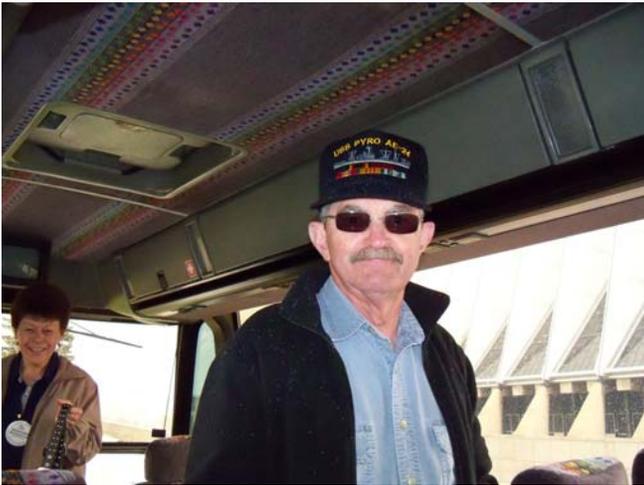


The Worrells and Strunks; the Hinsons and Millers.

Tour and Memorial Service



Jerry Eddinger's guest, Ray Roberts; Al and Shirley Hansen.



Ken Stokes; Loyd and Mary Ellis.



Fred and Sharon Hamlin; Bailey George.



Tour and Memorial Service



The Jaegers; the Peregrins. (L).



Bob White; Tom and Linda Moulton.



The Strunks; the Parrots

Tour and Memorial Service



Snow falls as the group arrives at the Air Force Academy campus.

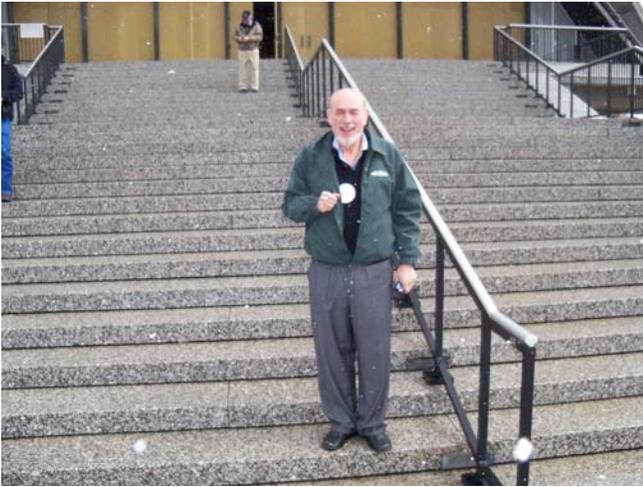


The scene behind the chapel; escort officers await the Pyro.



Entering the chapel.

Tour and Memorial Service



Cameron and the Ellises on the chapel steps.



Myra Eckstine and Mary Ellis; Bill and Jackie Peregrin.



Billie Eckstine and Bailey George.

Tour and Memorial Service



Ken Ellis; the Hamlins.



Myra Eckstine and Rose Tafoya; Doug Wisher and his new camera.



Ray Roberts, Felix Tafoya, Loyd Ellis and Rose Tafoiya; Johnny Hinson greets an Air Force officer.

Virginia City/Carson City Tour



Ruby Jaegar with Jerry Eddinger; the Hansens



The Millers; former aviator Sanborn with the jet set.



Tafoya and Stokes line up and crew enters chapel.



Memorial Service



Chapel staff greets us; Association Chaplain Worrell with Air Force chaplains.



Ruby Jaeger and Lind Wisher; Tom Sanborn and Gary Jaeger.



The Parrots and Millers.



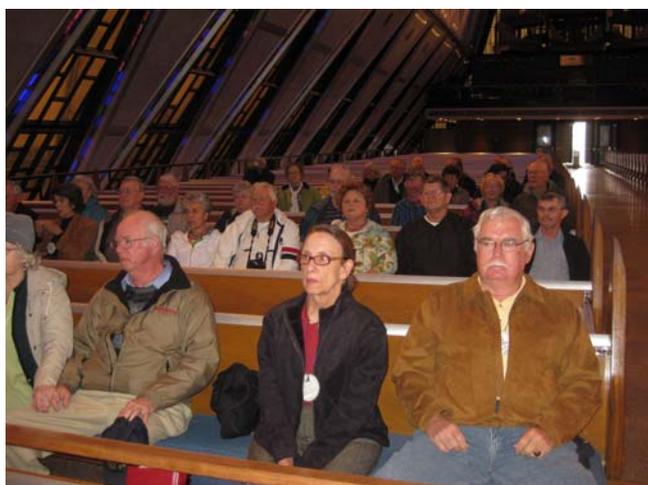
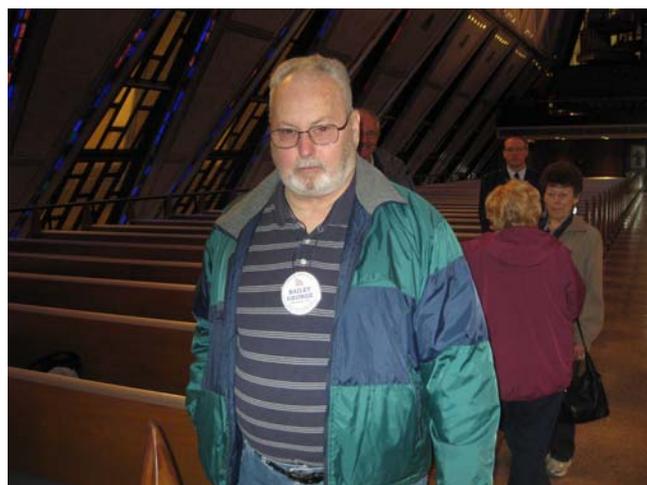
Memorial Service



Shirley Hansen; Jackie Peregrin, Ron and Shirlene Kynaston.



The Tafoyas and Bailey George.



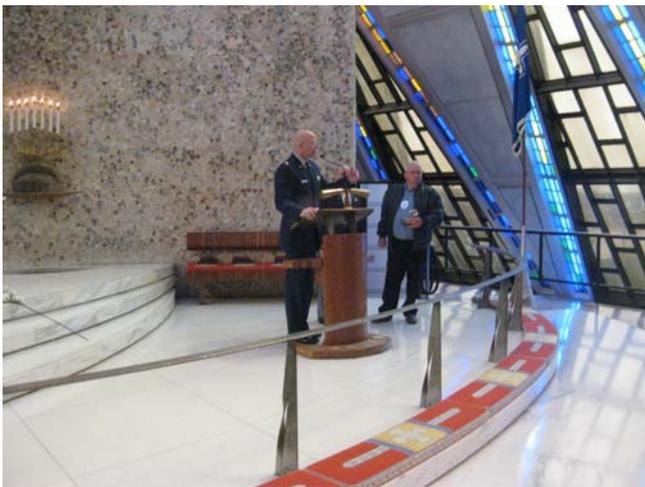
Fred Hamlin, Elaine Sanborn and Tom Sanborn; remembering the fallen.



Memorial Service



The interior of the Air Force Academy chapel.



An Air Force chaplain joins Worrell and Strunk in honoring departed shipmates.



The crew views the service and departs the chapel.

Air Force Academy Tour



The field house with an evil Air Force sentiment displayed.



"If I wanted to wear stuff that says 'USAF,' I'd have joined the Air Force," say Strunk and Cameron as Ruby Jaeger shops.



Rose Tafoya, Billy Eckstine, Jared Cameron and Felix Tafoya head back to the bus; the Hinsons tour.

Lunch at the Officer's Club



The crew enters the officer's club, finally for some.



Shirley Hansen, Jared Cameron and Ruby Jaeger; Johnny and Barbara Hinson.



The Parrot, Miller and Wisner table; the Moultons prepare for lunch.



Lunch at the Officer's Club



The Hamlins; Ken Stokes



The Peregrins; Cameron, the Hamlins, Moultons and Hinsons wait for chow.



Lunch for the crew.

Garden of the Gods Tour



A lot of rocks in the garden...



Plank owners chat while the Tafoyas pose.

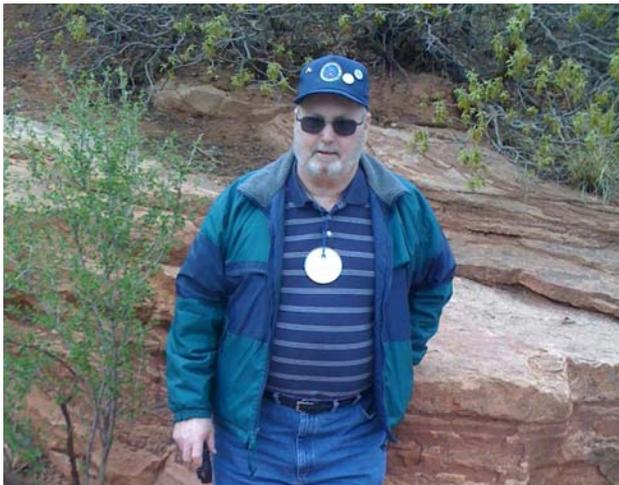


Snapping shots of the Garden of the Gods...

Garden of the Gods Tour



Gary Jaeger with our guide; Roberts with his pipe.



"We got rocks in Texas, too," says George; Sharon Hamlin on the bus.



Shopping at the Garden of the Gods Trading Post.

Cripple Creek Tour



The scene enroute..



Ann Miller, Ruby Jaegar, Linda Wisler, Gary Jaeger and Doug Wisler at Creekside Dining; Tom Moulton in the bustling heart of downtown Cripple Creek.



Jackie Peregrin, the Moultons, Cameron, Peregrin and Wichtrich stop for a cup of Joe; Tom Moulton shills for a restaurant.

Lobby Life and About Town



Breakfast for the crew I...



Breakfast for the crew II...



Breakfast for the crew III.

Lobby Life and About Town



Larry Shepline with inset of wife Karen, who attended her first Pyro reunion; Eckstine sets off.



Downtown Colorado Springs and shopping.

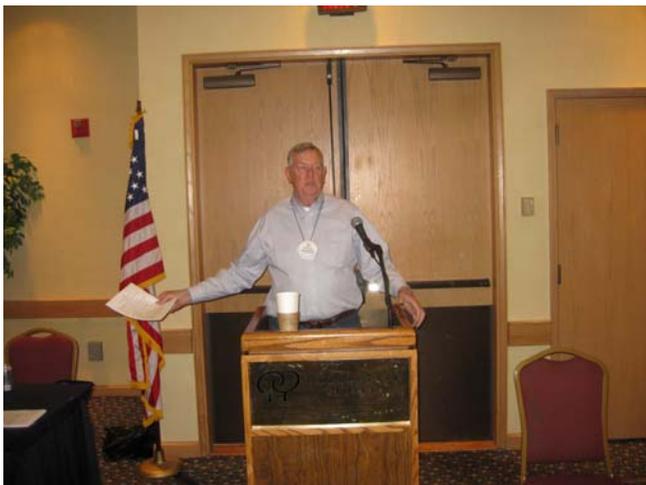


Fred Hamlin relaxes; Al and Shirley Hansen dine.

Membership Meeting



After Chaplain Worrell's benediction, Cameron opens meeting.



Secretary Wisner (L) and Treasurer Sanborn report.



Members take in the meeting and Al Hansen speaks.

Couples and Chums



Ruby and Gary Jaeger; Bailey George



Billy and Myra Eckstine; Lavonne and Jasper Strunk.



Mary and Loyd Eliis; Myra Eckstine, Jared Cameron and Mary Ellis.

Couples and Chums



Shirley and Al Hansen; Bailey George and the Hansens.



Myra Eckstine, Ken Stokes and Mary Ellis; Johnny and Barbara Hinson.



Bon Parrot; Lud and Ann Miller.

Couples and Chums



Jackie and Bill Peregrin; Jerry and Mary Lou Eddinger.



Ray and Marie Roberts; Doug and Linda Wisner.



Vance and Bev Worrell; the Ellises and Hinsons.

Couples and Chums



Bob Smiley and Jared Cameron; plan owners Kynaston, Parrot, Eddinger, Peregrin and Hansen.

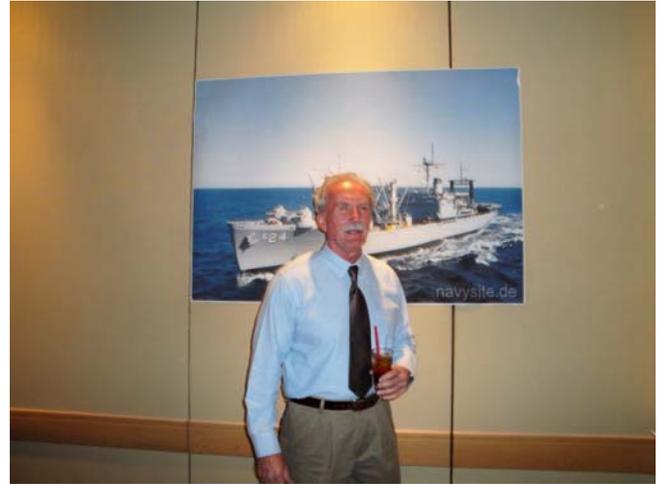


Tom and Elaine Sanborn. Jon and Zan Sinatra, friend Kayla and Nikki Sinatra.



Lloyd Ellis, Jon Sinatra and Billy Eckstine; The Mieras: Mark, Antonio, Alexandria, Marco and Vanessa, who served on AE-24 at the time of her (the ship, not Vanessa's) decommissioning.

Couples and Chums



John Wichrich; Bob White



Sharon and Fred Hamlin; Felix and Rose Tafoya



First crew, last crew: AE-24 plank owners with photo (L) join final crew representative Vanessa Miera.

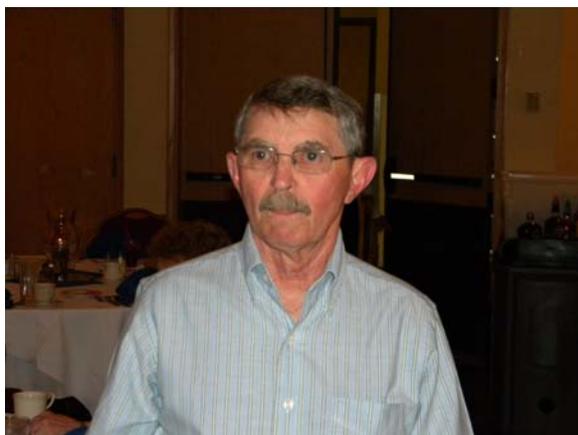
Couples and Chums



Tom Moulton, Carol Moulton and Frank Fanning; the Moultons.



Vance and Bev Worrell; Gary Barton



Ken Stokes; Ron and Shirlene Kynaston.

Awards Banquet



Ready to go: The podium; Eckstine presents award to Vance Worrell.



In an extraordinary act of generosity, Tom Sanborn presents a hat that once belonged to AE-1's skipper to Jon Sinatra, son of S. John Sinatra; Nikki Sinatra likely looks better in the hat than its original owner.

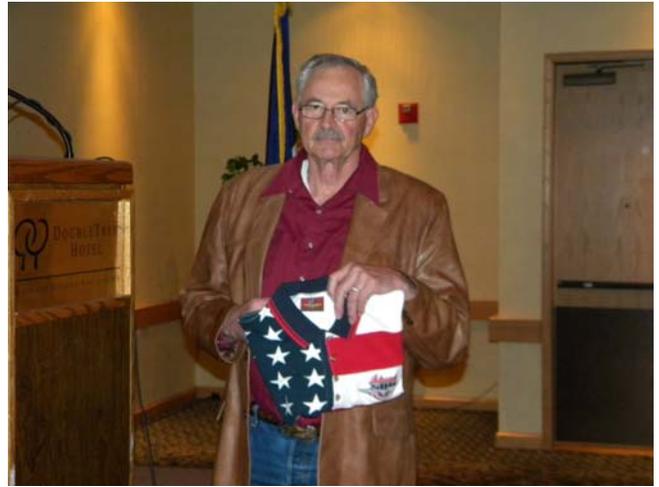


Bailey George with Lavonne and Jasper Strunk; Hansen and Peregrin with Pyro jacket.

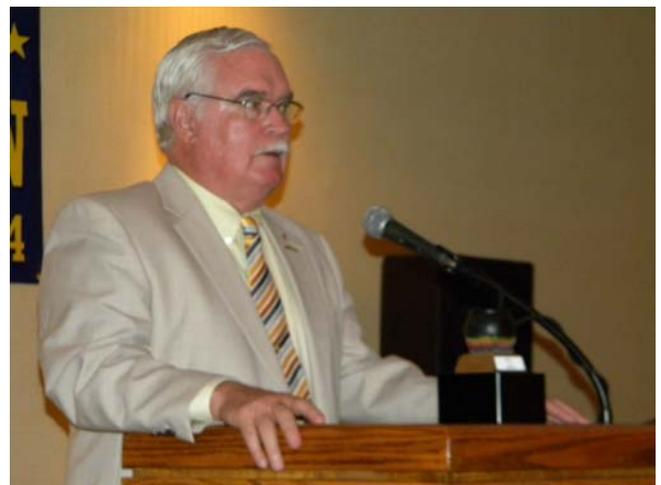
Awards Banquet



Sharon Hamlin-created necklace is won by Bob Smiley (for Peg, one hopes!) Ron Kynaston with his prize.



Bob Smiley with a Pyro plaque crafted by the late Ray Gillman; Rose Tafoya, Jasper Strunk and the quilt created by Lavonne Strunk.



Vance Worrell and Billy Eckstine; Banquet master of ceremonies Tom Sanborn.

Awards Banquet



Kiddy Cruisers: Master at Arms Strunk puts Antonio and Marco Miera to work; Gary Barton smiles.



Gary Jaeger and Frank Fanning; As Mark Miera looks on, Vanessa Miera shows plank holder Peregrin changes made to AE-24 in her day.



Frank Fanning, Vance Worrell, Bob Smiley and Bob White (L) and the crew (R) watch the auction

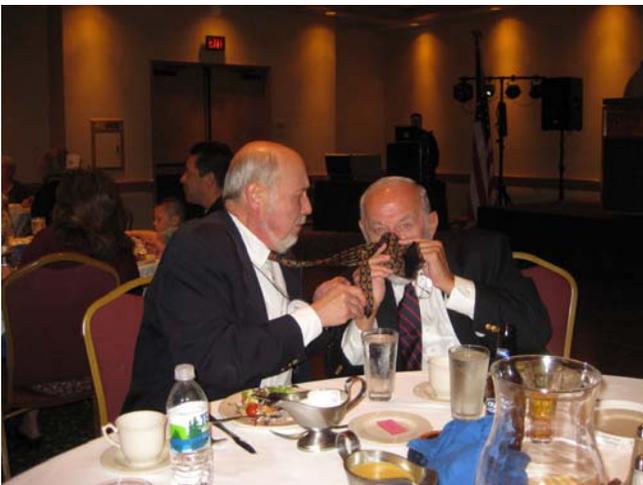
Awards Banquet



Mary Ellis, Myra Eckstine, Ann Miller and Ken Stokes; Elaine Sanborn.



Ann Miller, Linda Wisner and Elaine Sanborn converse; Loyd Ellis, Mary Ellis and Myra Eckstine.



Smiley examines Cameron's tie for stains; Strunk sell tickets to Wichtrich (L) and Fanning (R).

Awards Banquet



Ruby Jaeger; the Hansens and Jaegers dine.



The Eddingers and Al Hansen; Ken Stokes and the Strunks.



Japer Strunk, Lavonne Strunk and Bailey George; Doug Wisher, Elaine Sanborn, Tom Sanborn and Gary Barton.



Awards Banquet



The Hamlins and Lud Miller; the Hinsons.



Sharon Hamlin, Lud Miller, Ann Miller and Linda Wisner; Ann Miller, Linda Wisner, Doug Wisner and Elaine Sanborn.



The Worrells; the Kynastons.

Awards Banquet



The Peregrins; the Tafoyas and the prettier Peregrin.

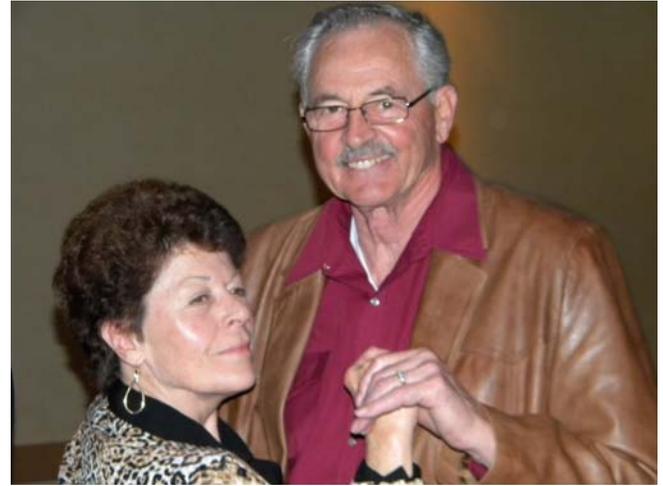


Mary Jane Green and Bob Parrot; Bailey George, Al Hansen and Gary Jaeger.



Tom and Carol Moulton; Frank Fanning and Bob White.

Shall we dance?



The Eckstines, Ellises and Parrots; the Kynastons.



The Ellises; the Parrots.



The Hamlins; dancing the night away.

Shall we dance?



John Wichtrich and Nikki Sinatra; Bill Peregrin and Carol Moulton.



Frank Fanning and Carol Moulton; Tom Moulton and Carol Moulton.



Dance 'til you drop, then take a break!

Thanks to the Photographers



Doug Wisher; Billy Eckstine



Ken Stokes; Jasper Strunk



Myra Eckstine; Jared Cameron



USS PYRO Association 2010 Memory Book



This 2010 USS Pyro Association Memory Book was edited by Jared Cameron who is solely, if reluctantly, responsible for all miscaptioned photos, incorrectly spelled names and mismatched spouses.

Photos were shot by volunteers including Billy Eckstine, Gary Jaeger, Tom Moulton, Doug Wisher, Bailey George, Bob Smiley and Jared Cameron. We 'shot 'em like they saw 'em' — often with a cup of cheer in hand and using viewfinders designed for younger eyes.

Married photographers — with some notable exceptions — tend to snap more shots of their wives than your wives out of longstanding affection, a desire to assemble background material for post-reunion department critiques and the hope of surviving to attend future reunions.

*The editor and photographers are **not** responsible for odd expressions, excessive gyrations of nether parts whether dancing or not, dubious deportment brought about by reunions with bad role models from our youth, dress inappropriate to traditional gender roles, silly head coverings, the actions of sailors whose spouses allow them to attend reunions without adult supervision or pounds added since your salad days of Naval service.*

We believe we included at least one photo of every participant, but if we missed you (or your best angle), we apologize abjectly.

Somewhat sincerely,

The editor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jared".

