

# Turner Times

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

APRIL, 1998

## CAPTAIN PAULY INTERVIEWED BY TIMES

Captain Pauly tells the *Turner Times*, "My two years in command of the Turner were the best years of my 30 in the USN." When he was relieved, it was a "very sad day". Don had spent 15 years preparing himself for destroyer command. He thought, given the chance, he could build a "can do" spirit in a good crew, excel in every

*"I genuinely loved that ship and everyone aboard."*

task, and have a happy ship. To his credit, and the credit of the officers and men serving under him from 1966 to 1968, his expectations and dreams were right on the money. Commendatory messages poured in and COMMANDER SIXTH FLEET commented to the effect, "Send the TURNER if you want a destroyer to do it right the first time." Don's comment was, "The OUTSTANDING crew of the TURNER deserved that reputation."

Regarding the crew, the captain says they worked hard, they worked efficiently, they believed in what

they were doing, they said they would be ready and they were. The *Turner Times*, and all of us in the TURNER Reunion Association are proud of Captain Pauly and the TURNERMEN who went to sea with him. You held up, and carried to the wire, the sterling TURNER reputation that we all had a hand in and are proud of.

After being relieved, Don commanded CORTRON EIGHT with its six "Dealey" class DEs. Next he worked for Admiral Stansfield Turner in the Pentagon. While in

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## MY TURNER TIMES

BY CAPTAIN DAVID E. BUCK USN (RET.)

If ever there was a greener Ensign to report for active duty than me, I want to meet him! I arrived on Turner in June of 1957 to pay off a debt - three years of active duty in exchange for the Navy Scholarship to college. Right off, I knew it would be a long debt. XO Kleist terrified me; BMC Ferro was older than dirt, but told me where quarters, muster, the forecandle and First Division were located. Hey, I was the FIRST LIEUTENANT! Heck, I was too green to know that there wasn't a Second, Third or Fourth Lieutenant. I was proud to be 'First'.

In my first few months, I found out I could live without sleep; I

counted every Turner foul weather jacket; I learned to drink horrible coffee; I became 'in charge' of the forward refueling station; best of all, I found two officers to whom I could turn with questions and actually get honest help. LTJG Mel Edwards knew everything and LT Bill Garcia brought a lighter side to duty showing you could actually laugh while doing 17 simultaneous jobs. Thanks for being there, you two.

In the months that followed, I became ASW Officer after school in Key West, became fascinated by sextant navigation to the point that I succeeded in taking over Navigator duties from XO Kleist and then qualified as a crypto watch officer. NOW I was to the point where there was no

time for sleep whatsoever. Stand your 4 on 8 off; spend off watch hours in "crypto" and "shoot the stars" at pre-dawn and sunset hours. I think I discovered early on the value of a really good chief - they can do so much and make Ensigns actually look good. Thanks chief!

From the arrival terror and insecurity to later cautious confidence, I progressed to Gunnery Officer, Officer of the Deck, Command Duty Officer and Air Controller. I look back at one night among them all as perhaps the defining moment of my early debt paying years. As OOD at about 0130 one dark night, with Turner out front of two large carriers in the Mediterranean at 24 knots in a

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## CAPT. PAULY (CONT.)

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this assignment he was selected for Captain. He was called away from this position to replace the Chief of Staff for Commander Cruiser Destroyer Force Seventh Fleet, embarked in the cruiser PROVIDENCE. His predecessor had been killed.

Very soon, Don found himself in combat along the coast of Vietnam engaging in nightly gun duels with shore batteries and attacking coastal targets. Due to the absence of the Admiral, in the two week period before the cease fire, Don became the Task Force Commander with 56 cruisers and destroyers. For his performance during this period, he was recommended for and subsequently received the Legion of Merit with Combat V.

After five years as the military head of Scientific and Technical Intelligence in the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency, Captain Pauly retired. Since then, he has been employed as a program manager for Singer-Link and worked for a small defense contractor for several years, setting up a computer system which permitted the Navy to track munitions shipments. More recently, having become interested in income tax problems, he went through H & R Block training. He worked for them as a tax preparer going on to qualify as an Enrolled Agent - similar to a CPA in Income Tax. Today Don does the taxes for over 200 regular clients in the H & R Block PREMIUM office.

We thank Captain Pauly for sharing his thoughts and experiences with us. "I genuinely loved that ship and everyone aboard." So says Captain Donald E. Pauly, USN Retired, about the TURNER and his TURNERMEN.

## FROM THE OF THE PREZ

Welcome to our second newsletter since Reunion 97. We hope you enjoyed our kickoff with the Volume 1, Issue 1 in December. Since that time we have located a number of new-found alumni, thanks largely to the efforts of editor/publisher Peter Varley ('66-'69). Greetings to our new readers.

Planning is well underway for our next gathering in Las Vegas, August 24th-

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28th, which hopefully will be our largest one yet. In this and future mailings you will be provided with more particulars. We have an ace-in-the-hole with Turner "alum" and Las Vegas resident Dave Buck ('57-'60) on the scene to "cover the waterfront" for us during this planning period.

It is important to keep the effort going to seek out former shipmates and friends and remain in touch with those we have located. How

treasured have been the reunions so far, to meet former shipmates, and other Turner-men too. Please make an effort to come, and encourage your shipmates to show up. We cherish each gathering. Maybe that old friend of years ago may not be around next year; you know, Father Time moves on.

The Turner experience may or may not have been a pleasant one, with the camaraderie, liberties together, and sense of mission on the one hand, and the family separations and hardships of shipboard life on the other. But the people you shared the fun and the difficult times with are what make the memories, and make the reunions indeed heartwarming events. Each one of us formed the fabric of a Turner crew at one period of time; each one of us contributed in a unique way to the great reputation of the ship; each one of us can be proud of that privileged association. We all had something to offer and each have a story to tell.

Have a happy, successful, and fulfilling 1998; look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.

# SHIPMATE DAUL

BY PETE VARLEY

As you know, part of the process of locating shipmates involves looking up names and addresses and sending postcards to people whose names match that of a "lost" shipmate. At times the postcards are returned by someone in the household who says that the person to whom we sent the card has died, with no other information included. Then, to ensure that we have located our shipmate, it's my job to send a follow-up letter to whoever returned the postcard. We ask if they can verify that the person who died did, indeed, serve in the Navy and aboard the Turner.

In November, we sent a postcard looking for Norman Daul, FTG3, who served aboard Turner with me in the late 60's. The card was returned saying Norm died of a heart attack in November of 1992. I sent the usual follow-up letter which was recently returned by Mrs. Alvin Daul, Norman's mother. To the bottom of her letter, she had pasted an old newspaper clipping showing a picture of Norman and stating that he was currently serving aboard the USS Turner. Although the clipping was yellowed with age, as it had to be at least 30 years old, I immediately recognized Norman, his face frozen in the time capsule of newsprint. Mrs. Daul went on to write "Thank you for your condolences. If Norman was alive, he would be at the Reunion. He talked of the Turner all the time and was proud of serving on her." Smooth Seas, Shipmate Daul.

# MY TURNER TIMES (CONT.)

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16 destroyer bent line screen, a screen reorientation maneuver was ordered by the Admiral requiring Turner to dash at high speed back through traffic to a new station. ALWAYS BEFORE, I would calculate the Turner's move, call the Captain and he would come out and watch over things! On this night, I did my calculations, called Captain McMullen and he merely said "Call me when you get us to the new station." Ooops, talk about bristles up and down one's spine! After nervously, but successfully, maneuvering Turner to her new spot at high speed, avoiding dark shapes and carriers, I honestly felt then I could do just about anything. Quite a mix of pride and early responsibility.

As my tour neared completion and my debt to the US Navy paid, I was offered the opportunity to augment to the active Navy and stay on! Wow! What to do? Continue with this new found life or return to the truck farm in Maine? Easy choice - I stayed. And what do you suppose the Navy had in store for me then? I received orders to the USS Notable as the XO! Me? What? XO? After

finally learning how to do most of what Turner had for me, I was right back where I started 3 years ago - wondering if I could meet the next challenge ahead. I later realized that this feeling occurs with most every duty change.

So there! I came to Turner to pay a debt and left having FOUND A LIFE. After two years as XO of Notable, I was ordered to a NATO school in Belgium to teach mine warfare for three years. I then returned to sea duty as OPS Officer of USS Tulare (LKA-112) followed by my first command - the USS Pivot (MSO-463). Three years of Pentagon duty in Personnel management were followed by a frightening year of isolated duty on the rivers of war-torn Cambodia.

I then took my second command - the USS George K. MacKenzie (DD-863), my own version of the Turner. We sailed the Pacific, did a tour in the Indian Ocean and won the battle efficiency "E". Fun days! Next came a year at the National War College in D.C. and three years as Executive Assistant to the CNO (Admiral Holloway) han-

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## How Did You Salute??



Howdy, Partner



The Lookout

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# USS TURNER DD/DDR 834 SEVENTH REUNION, LAS VEGAS AUGUST 24-28

BY DICK SHANABERGER

It is hard to believe that the Turner's seventh reunion is fast approaching—but it is!

We are doing some things differently this year. For example, it is our first visit to a "West Coast" site. The time of the year has also changed. We are meeting in the summer rather than in September or October. And we are having a four day reunion rather than a three day spree. Lastly, our reunion is taking place Monday through Thursday rather than on a weekend.

By making these changes, it is hoped that we can entice some of our newer "enrollees" (people from the 60's) and West Coast shipmates to attend. Let's make this seventh reunion the best ever!

### **Early Registration Lottery**

Near the cutoff date for registration (July 24th this year) is "crunch" time for reunion planning. How many for dinner? One or two buses? One or two guides? So, bearing that in mind, the Association is going to have a drawing for those who **register and pay by June 12th**. Their names will be entered in a drawing to win a certificate or check equal to a two night hotel stay. There will be two names drawn and prizes awarded. Your registration and check must be mailed to Armed Forces Reunion and be postmarked on or before June 12th to eligible for the drawing. This is your chance to hit the jackpot before your big one in Las Vegas!

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. has once again been selected to plan and organize our reunion. They have always done a good job for us and I think you will agree that this year's will be just as good. You can contact them at:

Armed Forces Reunion, Inc.

Patricia Slawson, Coordinator  
P. O. Box 11327  
Norfolk, VA 23517  
Phone: (757) 625-6401  
Fax: (757) 627-3807

For those of you who will be first time attendees, you are not required to attend all functions, nor are any of your guests. However, we have planned a great reunion and we hope you will all participate in our planned activities.

Remember, you are responsible for making your own hotel reservations by calling the Imperial Palace directly at (800) 634-6441. Payment for the reunion functions must be paid for, by check or money order payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc., by July 24th (June 12th for the Early Bird Lottery).

I am hoping to see all of you in Las Vegas. Any questions, you can write to me at 118 Baldwin Terrace, Wayne, NJ 07470 or call at (973) 696-0655.

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## NO SMALL PLACE

The Las Vegas, Imperial Palace Hotel and Casino is no small out-of-the-way place. It is located at the center of the Strip on 55 acres at the location of the old Flamingo Capri Motel. Its 2,700 rooms make it the largest privately owned hotel-casino, and the eleventh largest hotel, in the world. Twenty six hundred employees provide services for guests in 75,000 sq. ft. of casino, 9,600 sq.ft. of convention area, 25,000 sq.ft. of banquet space, a showroom seating 834 people, a 230 seat race and sports book with 250 color television sets, an Olympic size swimming pool with a two story waterfall, an auto collection of over 200 antique, classic and special interest vehicles, ten dining areas and a 24-hour medical facility.

We Turner Times readers are not going to fill the hotel or tax its staff, but we should have a good turnout at what looks like a good deal - quality accommodations at reasonable rates. By the way, over 10 percent of the Imperial Palace employees are disabled and the rooms are designed to accommodate hearing, vision, and mobility impaired guests, as is the showroom. Let's meet at the nickel slot machines!

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## MEMORY BOOK NEWS

At every reunion, the Reunion Association contracts with the Dunning Company to produce a color reunion memory booklet. Dunning Company has a photographer come to our banquet dinner. They, then, take pictures of all attendees and guests. They also take candid photos of the reunion. A memory booklet of these photos is offered for sale, as are photographs of each attendee. There is no obligation to purchase either the book or individual photographs.

### **1997 BOOKS**

The design has been completed on the Turner Memory Books for the

1997 Reunion. As soon as the printer has completed the order, the books will be shipped to all who ordered them.

### **1998 BOOKS**

If anyone wishes to pre-purchase a 1998 booklet (approximate delivery date of March, 1999), send your order to:

Dunning Company  
P. O. Drawer 759  
Theodore, AL 36590  
Phone: (205) 653-7486

The cost is \$20. VISA and Mastercard are accepted.

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## MINI-REUNIONS

One of the purposes of our reunions is to be with people who share our common experience of serving on one of the best destroyers to ever float! All boasting aside, we also come together to renew friendships and meet with the shipmates who were closest to us.

Why not have a Fore and Aft Fire-rooms mini reunion? Damage Controlmen could get together and spend an evening trying to start a P-500 or a Handy Billy. Maybe the Gunners Mates should take *aim* on meeting and *shooting* the bull. It is NOT too late to work up something special for Las Vegas. Here's what some others have done.

For the last several reunions, we have made a successful effort to gather the officers who served with Captains McMullen, Ditto and Lockee. It took some doing, desire, leadership and work, but it was well worth it, resulting in a rewarding experience. We recommend it!

As another example, this past October, three shipmates who hadn't seen each other in nearly 30 years, met in Jacksonville. DC1 Bob Kendrick, SFM2 Robert Pritchett and DC2 Pete Varley were all members of the Shipfitter's Shop in the late 60's. Also, all three first became aware of Turner's reunions only last year and made the 1997 reunion their first.

After reliving some of the best and busiest moments, we recalled our fellow Shipfitter Shopmates who sweated, strained, unplugged com-modes, welded bulkheads, held damage control drills and, in general, made the Turner a better place for all of us. Fortunately, many of them have been located.

Ed (SFM3) and John Sizemore (SFFN) attended the reunion in 1996. This past year we also located Dave Towasnicki, DCFN, and Ken Stephenson, SFP2 (and his brother Mark). Listen guys, Bob, Robert and

Pete all hope that more of us can convene in Las Vegas this year. After all, the more, the merrier. And Varley will even pay for a round! You wouldn't want to miss that once in a lifetime event!!

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## CALLING ALL SHIPMATES (ESPECIALLY OFFICERS)



Part of our effort to locate our shipmates involves gathering as much information as possible to aid in our search. If you remember any information about where your fellow shipmates attended school, their original hometowns or where they lived after leaving Turner or the Navy, please forward that information to us.

As officers were sometimes members of the same college or academy class, we're especially interested in hearing from our officers and asking that they provide as much information as possible about their fellow officers to help us in our location efforts. With that information, we can contact colleges and college alumni associations for any information they may have about our shipmates.

Information can be sent to Pete Varley. Pete's contact information is in the upper left-hand corner of page

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## ROSTER UPDATE

Last summer, our roster listed 635 shipmates that had been located through the combined efforts of all our current members. At that time, Pete Varley volunteered to locate shipmates that may have served with him during the late 60's. Although we warned him, he discovered that this involved many hours of research, grunt work and just plain perseverance.

We gladly sent him the 5 spools of microfilm containing photostats of our duty rosters for the years of '65 through '69. Armed with paper and pen, Pete spent many hours at the local library, reading the grainy microfilm and copying the full names, ranks/ratings, service numbers and years aboard for every shipmate who was on the Turner during those years. When he was through, he had a list of 1,044 shipmates! It seems a lot of sailors passed over the brow during those 5 years!

Then he entered all this information into a PC database. Armed with these names, Pete sat in front of his computer and began searching for shipmates using 6 different Internet name and address search sites. If there were ten or less **exact** matches, he sent each person a postcard telling him that the Turner Reunion Association was looking for him. Some names turned up 200 to 300 exact matches, so it was impossible to find these men without more information to narrow the search.

As of this writing, he's not done!! He's barely into the last names beginning with "V". However, after sending out over 1,500 postcards, the roster now has 743 shipmates on it, 100 of which were located by Pete! On behalf of our shipmates, the Turner Reunion Association thanks Pete for his efforts. Bravo Zulu!!

MY TURNER TIMES (CONT.)

The U. S. S. Turner Reunion Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to locating and keeping us in contact with our former shipmates. The Association Officers are: President Nils Rueckert (' 58 62 Vice President Harry Tice (' 57) Treasurer Mike Quinn (' 56 59 Secretary Dick Shanaberger (' 54 55) Staff Coordinator Mel Edwards (' 57 59) Editor/Publisher Pete Varley (' 66 69) 4711 Bieker Road 202 Shadowbend Drive Washington, MO 63090 Wheeling, IL 60090 Phone: (314) 239-8960 Phone: (847) 808-0460 E-mail: melbet@fidnet.com E-mail: Peter\_Varley@msn.com

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dling his decision coordination. I then was dispatched to the Persian Gulf to take command of the Middle East flagship - USS Coronado (AGF-11) for a year. Then, with sea duty over, I returned to the Pentagon for three years as Admiral John Nyquist's deputy in O&B5 developing surface warfare combat systems including HARPOON and TOMAHAWK cruise missiles. After nearly 30 years of service, I retired a Captain in 1985.

Without the TURNER years of varied duties, excellent teachings and satisfying experiences, I often wonder where life might have led me. THANK YOU, TURNER!

WE WANT YOUR STORY!

In this issue we have an article about Captain Pauly and his thoughts about commanding the TURNER and the things he went on to do. Another article, MY TURNER TIMES, is written by Captain Dave Buck. We think all our shipmates will be interested in these stories, particularly those who served with Dave and Don. These two stories are about careers in the Navy, but there

are other equally good stories and rewarding careers. We want to hear your story, too. If something sticks in your mind about a happening while you were on board, share it with us. So take pen or word processor in hand. Write it, and send it to: Mel Edwards, 4711 Bieker Road, Washington, MO 63090. Or email it to me at melbet@fidnet.com.

Your support helps us expand our services. Every time we send out a newsletter, reunion mailing or postcards looking for shipmates, it costs us money. A general mailing to all members costs several hundred dollars. Look at your mailing label. If "Dues Paid" appears under your name, your dues are paid. If not, and you want to pay them, send \$20 to Mike Quinn at 15022 Hix Street, Livonia, MI 48154. Although dues are voluntary, we can always use your help. If you can't afford \$20, we'll accept whatever you can send to help keep this association rthng. Dick Shanaberger reminds us that Turner baseball caps (\$15) and up-to-date rosters (\$3) are also available from him.

Every year we send out hundreds of postcards in an attempt to locate our fellow shipmates. So far, we've located over 700 and are hoping to find more. Unfortunately, with each mailing of a newsletter or reunion information we send, we get back a number of returns from the post office that shipmates have moved and have left no forwarding address. Please remember us when you move, or have any change of roster information. We've included a roster information coupon with this newsletter. If any of your information, such as phone number or area code have changed, or if your roster information is incomplete, please clip the coupon and mail it to Dick Shanaberger at the address on the coupon. Let's keep in touch. Thanks!!

Return to: USS TURNER DD/DDR 834 REUNION ASSOCIATION

Richard Shanaberger 118 Baldwin Terrace Wayne, NJ 07470

Or send information to Dick Via E-Mail at: DICK\_SHAN@msn.com

Personal Information: For our roster update

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank/Rate: \_\_\_\_\_ Years Aboard, From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_