



THOMAS C. HART LINE

YOU GOTTA HAVE HART

Vol. 3 Issue 35

December 2023

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T. C. Hart Veterans Assoc. Officers 2023-25		
President	Steve Holliday	DC1 (85-90)
Vice Pres.	Bill Tylock	EM2 (78-83)
	Dan Vasconcellos	FTG2 (77-82)
Treasurer	Dennis Paul	HM1 (91-93)
Secretary	Garry Collins	LT (86-89)
Historian	Ron Church	FTG2 (73-77)
Storekeeper	John Ebata	BTFN (86-90)
Newsletter	Dave Neimeyer	LTJG (75-77)
Webmaster	Todd Black	LT (87-90)
Chaplain	Mike Garcia	FTG2 (77-79)
Chairman	Phil Leblanc	HT2 (73-76)

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FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Happy Holidays Shipmates!

Yes, believe it or not, it's that time of the year again. I hope everyone enjoyed a safe and healthy Thanksgiving. I have so much to be thankful for. First, we have been getting great reports from our Founder/Secretary and friend, Garry Collins! Please keep those prayers flowing. He is a testament of answered prayers. Secondly, our Shipmates with the support of their families made it possible to celebrate our Ship's 50 th Anniversary Reunion with the highest TCHVA attendance on record.

Our schedule is back on track now and our next Reunion will happen in 2025. As mentioned in our last Newsletter, the location of our next reunion was between Branson, Missouri or Portland, Maine. The majority of the Shipmates at the reunion was in favor of Portland, Maine. With that said, the Officers on the Board will be focusing our planning efforts in the Portland, Maine area. If you have or never been to Maine, you do not want to miss this one. Portland, Maine and the surrounding areas offer an abundance of great attractions to discover and enjoy.

Our planner, Sherry from One Complete Reunion is retiring, so we are searching for another Reunion Planner. A huge thank you to Dave Neimeyer for taking the lead in the search. Once we know more and commence any further planning, we will keep you informed.

I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Year's!!! Bring on 2024!!! May the joys of the Holiday's fill your homes and more importantly, your heart.

All the Best in 2024!!!

Steve Holliday DC1 (SW) (85 – 90) TCHVA President

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT:

Hello Shipmates,

Happy Holidays to all!

Bill Tylock EM2(SW) 1978-1983

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FINANCIAL REPORT THOMAS C HART VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Current Balance is \$4013.17

Expenditures: [web.com](#) \$14.95 two transactions.

Received \$97.51 from a complete Reunion.

Dennis Paul HMC(SW/AW), USN, Ret SMDR 1991-1993

Treasurer USS Thomas C. Hart Veterans Association

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CHAPLAIN'S NOTES

Hello fellow shipmates,

It was great to see all of you at the reunion this year. It was a blessing to be there and meet many new and old friends. A number of our shipmates could not make it due to health problems. Our thoughts and prayers are with them. Our shipmate and friend Steve Garcia was able to overcome much of his health challenges and he was there to stand next to us for pictures and to enjoy the fellowship. Garry Collins is going through quite a trial right now. Please keep all of our friends and shipmates in your thoughts and prayers over the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Mike Garcia

FINAL FAREWELLS

Glenn E Marshall (GMG2 while on the Hart). The news of Glenn's passing reached us just after the reunion. Glenn truly loved the Hart. Here is a link to his obituary. Fair winds and following seas shipmate.

[Glenn Elmer Marshall Jr. Obituary \(1956 - 2023\) - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania \(tjfluehr.com\)](#)

Go to the Hart website, eternal deployment section, for updates and listing of shipmates who have passed away. Additional information on rate/rank and time on board for those who have passed would be appreciated.

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Comments and items for the newsletter can be sent to Dave Neimeyer at dave@neimeyer.org or 9026 Haaf Road, Fogelsville PA 18051-1717

If you are on facebook, consider joining the USS Thomas C. Hart FF 1092 group, with its 736 members and hundreds of photos and posts.

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REUNION 2025

Portland, Maine – Sept or Oct 2025

As we noted in our last newsletter, Sherry of "A Complete Reunion", who planned the last few Thomas C. Hart reunions, has retired and closed the company. We've decided to go with Armed Forces Reunion/Book My Reunion as the reunion planner for our 2025 reunion.

AFR/BMR will coordinate with the hotel to arrange for special room rates, a hospitality suite, the banquet, and all the other amenities we've seen at past reunions. We will probably use the Best Western-Merry Manor Inn for our rooms, hospitality suite, and banquet. We will be on our own for planning tours, although AFR/BMR will put us in touch with local tour companies. The Merry Manor Inn also provides a great resource for arranging tours.

As Garry Collins recovers, I will be filling in as our point of contact for the reunion planning. What would you like to see and do at our Portland reunion? Do you want 3 days of tours, or should we cut back there? What sites would you like to see? The Maine Maritime Museum, Fort Williams lighthouse, tours of downtown Portland, a harbor cruise, and the Maine Military Museum are all fairly close to the Merry Manor Inn. Bath Iron Works, L.L. Bean outlets, and other attractions are a bit further, but could be worked in if there is interest. It's up to you! Let us know your ideas. It would be best to post them in our facebook group page so others could chime in, but you could also send your ideas to me at dave@neimeyer.org.

See you in Portland in 2025!!

Dave Neimeyer

HART IN HISTORY – FIRST MED DEPLOYMENT

Part 1

Aarghhh Mateys, and it's underway and shift colors on the Hart's 1975 trip to the Mediterranean

- 18 June 1975: depart Norfolk, independent steaming to England. On one of the first nights at sea we were treated to a bright green sparkling of bioluminescence in our wake, while overhead the sky was completely clear, with every star sharply punctuated, like billions of diamonds on a vast expanse of black velvet. As an independent transit we were unable to refuel, and so arrived in Portsmouth very low on fuel. There were several discussions between the Captain and the Chief Engineer as to whether to fill our empty fuel tanks with sea water as ballast to maintain stability and keep the ship from riding too high in the water.

- 27 June - 1 July: Portsmouth, England, with tours ashore of Adm. Nelson's flagship HMS Victory, Longleat House, London, Stonehenge, Bath, and other sites. Not a bad place, despite the warm beer and "Wimpyburgers". Who was the sailor who asked for "something imported" when asked what kind of beer he wanted, and was given a Budweiser?

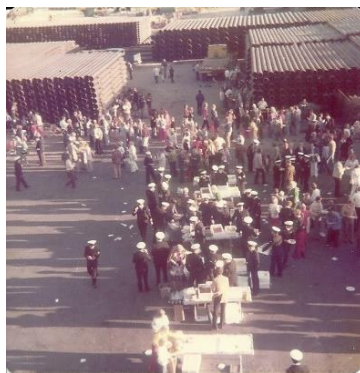
- 3 - 7 July: Stavanger Norway, to celebrate the immigration of the first Norwegian settlers to the US. Hart hosted a big 4th of July party for the townspeople, and also hosted Senator Hubert Humphrey. When Senator Humphrey got to the wardroom, he hinted pretty strongly that he was ready for a strong drink. Captain Rohrbaugh finally told him that Navy ships are "dry", thanks to an act of congress, and that he was welcome to try to change that when he got home. Senator Humphrey noted that there was an election coming up, but maybe after that.... Some things never change.

- 12 July: eight hours in Rota Spain. XO's plan was to give half the crew the morning off so they could get to the Exchange, get something to eat, etc, then let the other half go in the afternoon, with underway about 5 PM. First sign of bad things ahead was when many of the first shift were late returning, and many begged the question "What do you do with a drunken sailor?" By the time the second shift was due back, the ship was hard pressed to muster up enough sober sailors to man the sea and anchor detail. Luckily, the engineers "discovered" a broken part that required several hours to replace, thus allowing the rest of the crew to sober up.

- 14-19 July: Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Beautiful scenery, great food, balmy weather, good drinks, a sailor's delight

- 26 July-5 August: anchored in Augusta Bay Sicily. Anchor watch standers will probably never forget the calls of "Ah-goose-ta Ra-dee-oh" constantly coming from the comms. Near enough to Syracuse, Sicily, Italy for liberty by boat runs. Lots of Greek ruins. Lots of Roman ruins. Lots of Christian ruins. Lots of good restaurants and bars.

- 7 August: swim call in the open ocean at anchorage near Kithira Greece. When asked why he wasn't swimming, the Postal Clerk replied: "I have an agreement with the sharks: they don't drink in my bars, I don't swim in their ocean."



THOMAS C. HART DE/FF 1092 VETERANS ASSOCIATION



TCHVA relies on your continued support to help build the Association and keep the great memories of T C Hart alive! You can continue to help by referring other shipmates to us and letting us know when you have an email address, phone number or some other bit of info that may help us locate our shipmates. The success of the Association depends on the active support of our members!

You can stay up to date with current events and happenings by visiting our website at www.thomaschart.org

THOMAS C. HART VETERANS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Check your membership status: <https://thomaschart.org/tchva-member-listing/> If your name does not appear here then your membership expired before 2022 or you were never a member.



If a shipmate told you about the TCHVA, please tell us who: _____

Tell us about yourself and your service aboard USS THOMAS C. HART (DD/FF 1092)

First Name: _____ M.I.: _____ Last Name _____

Rate/Rank on TCH: _____ Division: _____

Year Reported: _____ Year Detached: _____

Current Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell/Work Phone: _____

Current Email address: _____

Spouse Name (if desired): _____

Dues are only \$10 per year. We have chosen to collect for two years (\$20) at a time to reduce the administrative burden on our all-volunteer staff. Thanks for your understanding and support. You may join for any additional years if desired.

I am sending in \$ _____ Please begin/renew my membership!

Mail this form and check or money order to:

USS Thomas C. Hart Veterans Association
C/O Dennis Paul
6490 Big Cheese Rd
Natrona, WY 82646

Note: If you have any difficulty printing this form, please just write the requested information on a short note and include with your payment. We'll make sure to muster you in. Thanks!