



My name is William Vincent, I am the new USS Cusk SSG 348 Newsletter editor. A little bit about me.

I joined the Navy in June of 1953 after graduating from San Mateo High School. After completing bootcamp, I was assigned to the U. S. S. Essex (CVA-9). In October 1953, we deployed to West Pac, returned in May of 1954. Korea was still official but all was quiet. We returned to West Pac in September. In April of 1955, I had the opportunity to volunteer for submarine duty. It was the dream of a life time. I left the Essex in Sasbo, Japan and came home for 14 days leave than reported to San Diego for my sub physical and evaluation. After I was accepted for submarine duty, I was assigned to the USS Cusk (SS 348) stationed in Port Hueneme. We were one of the submarines that were developing the Regulas missile system. I was assigned to the auxiliary gang. I qualified in July of 1956. In September we went to Mare Island for an overhaul. We left Mare Island in February of 1957. We took a trip to Alaska to test the ship after overhaul. After Alaska we had our homeport changed to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. In June, 1957 I was discharged. My boat name was "Vinnie the vulch."

When I enlisted in the Navy, I came in what was called a 4x8 program, which meant that I served 4 years active and 4 years in the reserve. I did not have to drill at this time.

I started college in September of 1957. In January of 1958, I decided to affiliate with the active reserve (I needed the money). The first unit I drilled in was Sub Div. 12-31 at Hunters Point. A lot of the people that are now in the Mare Island Base were in that unit and the ones we merged into.

In June of 1961 I was graduated from college and my hitch was up from reserve. Here I was, no job, no money, no nothing. Jobs were hard to come by at that time so in January of 1962, I signed up with the reserve. I put in 31 years plus 4 active ones for a total of 35 years. I retired from the reserve in February 1989.

I landed a job with Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. in Sunnyvale. I had gone to college to become an artist. The job I landed at Lockheed was in the Technical Publications Department. In the 35+ years I was at Lockheed, I worked on all types of art, publications, and presentation material—originally hand drawn but later moving to very sophisticated computer platforms.

I retired in February of 1998. It was a great ride. Along the way, I got married, had a couple of kids, and got divorced. I have two kids, one step child, and three grandchildren. I have a lady, who has put up with me for 23+ years. She is my best friend, my buddy, and everything else.

In September of 1998, while on a Cusk reunion, I was introduced to USSVI. I joined the San Diego Base of USSVI in 1999. Shortly, I got a call from Lon Schmidt D-10 Commander and an old shipmate wanting to know why I was in San Diego Base and not in Mare Island Base. I told him I did not know that there was a base in Vallejo, but that I would transfer. In August I became the editor of the base news-

letter, of which I renamed the Pump Room. I am still the editor.

In 2003 I became a charter member of the Dolphin Base in San Jose, CA. I assumed the office of treasurer for the base. I also had a hand in the design of the base logo.

My plans for the Cusk newsletter is to make it no more than 10 pages. This is the most I can send through the mail for a 37-cent stamp. Should you wish to put anything in the newsletter, you can contact me:

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**Cusk Newsletter Editor**  
**10249 Ainsworth Dr.**  
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**(408)749-8541**  
**e-mail wvincen1@pacbell.net**

#### **Shipmates**

**It is my sad duty to inform you of the passing of shipmate Jesse Kelley. He entered into Eternal Patrol on Wednesday, September 1, 2004. No information on services at this time.**

**It is also my sad duty to inform you of the passing of shipmate Sam Lyons. He entered into Eternal Patrol on Friday, October 4, 2004. Burial was held at Baxter Springs, Kansas on October 9, 2004. Both Sam and Jesse were good friends and shipmates.**

**Sailors rest your oars.**



#### **USS CUSK 2004 REUNION RECAP**

Well another reunion has come and gone. I can tell you, and I believe I can speak for Marty as well, it didn't seem like two years have gone by since we started our planning. As they say, time flies when you're having fun. And it was fun! Sure we put in a few extra hours and had some frustrating moments with various vendors, etc., but the prize was definitely worth the effort. I think everyone would agree that the '04 reunion was a huge success.

Here's some of the highlights. I'm sure I'll miss something, but everyone who attended can fill in the blanks:

Wednesday, September 1 was registration and welcome. Most everyone arrived sometime that day and were pleasantly surprised by the elegance of our venue—the Hyatt at the Arcade in downtown Cleveland. Hyatt Corp. spent about \$60,000,000 on renovating the building and shops; and it showed. Many VIP's and Celeb's who visit Cleveland stay at the Hyatt as do the Cleveland Browns when they play in town. Mike Fallat found that out the hard way when the Hyatt asked him to move to another room so the Browns could use his. Ah, but all's well that ends well and Mike received much deserved compensation for the inconvenience as well as a miniature football helmet autographed by Browns head coach Butch Davis.

Thursday we "sailed" on the Goodtime III. A well found vessel that took us around the various twists and turns of the Cuyahoga river. On our way, we encountered many of the bridges that cross the river and it was interesting to see them raise to allow us to pass.

Out in Lake Erie, we obtained an excellent water view of the USS Cod (SS 224) and while passing Burke Lakefront Airport where the National Air Show was scheduled to take place over Labor Day weekend, we were treated to the landing of the largest aircraft in the world that I'm designating as "RRBP" (Really, Really Big Plane).

On Friday, we "hit the streets" of Cleveland via a streetcar type trolley tour which took us through many of the downtown and nearby neighborhoods including "millionaires row" and University Heights, home of our museums and the world renowned Cleveland Orchestra.

Later on that day, a memorial service for Cusk crew members on final patrol was held aboard the Cod. The Air Force even cooperated by doing an impromptu fly-over as taps were being played.

The memorial service was followed by an all-you-could-eat chicken and rib dinner prepared by Tony Roma's, and by the looks of the food left over, our crew did a fine job at chowing down. A number of Cuskers decided to sleep on board, and

the Cod crew did an excellent job in making sure the bunks they slept in were the ones they had on Cusk and were all squared away.

Saturday evening was our big event; the Grand Banquet. It was held in the rotunda of the Arcade and we had the entire magnificent structure to ourselves. The food was excellent, especially the dessert which was definitely "death by chocolate." Which was fine for most of us and especially for our "duty chocoholic" Mary Hrbacek.

Dr. John Fakkan, the "Skipper" of the USS Cod, provided us with a fascinating presentation including some original color footage of Cod on patrol during WWII.

Shirley Wethering later mentioned to me that she and others felt that the dinner venue was "like being in our very own palace with the outside world far, far away."

Sunday the men and women split up and each had their own breakfast meetings. The ladies listened to a speaker from the Hospice of the Western Reserve here in Cleveland and the men discussed where to have the next reunion. It was decided to hold it in Branson, Missouri in September 2006. (Specific dates to be announced) Shirley and Delmer Wethering have graciously agreed to act as reunion coordinators.

We also give kudos and thanks to Bill Vincent and Lu Mitchell who have agreed to take over the Cusk newsletter from Sam Lyons who had done such a great job in the past.

We then said our final goodbyes, (sniff), with the hope of seeing everyone from the Cleveland reunion and many others as well in Branson, MO.

Thanks for allowing us to help arrange this fine get-together.

--Nelson & Marty Kirsch

### Minutes on Cusk Business Meeting

Meeting commenced at 10:00 with a brunch and opening raffle by Nelson Kirsch. Raffle prizes were as follows

1. McCormick won a beach chair, (gave it to Mike) Mike gave it to Art Thompson)
2. Art Thompson won a shirt from Cleveland.
3. Bill Hrbacek won the submarine flag.

### Inputs from Nelson on reunion items

1. There is approximately \$1,000 left in the reunion fund that Nelson is rounding off as soon as possible. Transfer of funds to next hosts ASAP.

2. The extra goodies from the reunion hospitality room will be given to the USS Cod for their support.

3. It was brought up by Nelson approximately 10% of addresses came back returned by U.S. mail. (Recommend taking the individuals off after the next mailing if no response).

4. Recognized that Bill Vincent accepted taking over the newsletter from Sam Lyons. There was approximately \$300 that was left over.

5. Donations are to be \$10.00 per yr as in the past.

6. Bill Vincent will send out the first newsletter possibly in October and also send an e-mail to contact and update our list of shipmates.

7. All were asked to put their names on any e-mail sent to whomever to recognize new and old shipmates. i.e., Joe F, Mike F Bill B, etc. This will help out Bill Vincent and others.

8. An appreciation was made to Bill Hrbacek, for the fine work he did on the the wood flag display for material, time and labor. Bill donated all to the Cusk reunion. Also, he has the commissioning pennant and will insert same in the display case and mail it to the host of the next reunion 2006. I think the Cusk should re-emburse him for cost.

9. It was voted on and passed that the next reunion 2006 approximately September will be held in Branson, MO.

10. Mac McKenzie (FL) will obtain info on the USS Raton reunion being held in Branson and hopefully get it to Delmer and Shirley Wethering, who volunteered to host the next one. This will help them in setting up.

--Mike and Terry

### People who attended the 2004 reunion

Thomas & Susanne Arnold	Sam & Karen Lyons
James Blodin	Mark & Kay Markum
Charles Boushley	Dave McCormick
Gregory Czech & Dora Atkins	
Mike & Terry Fallatt	Robert McDowall
Louie & Peggy Gamer	Richard & Margaret
George & Arlene Harlow	McKenzie,
Chuck Harner	William McNay
Bill & Mary Jean Hrbacek	D.G. Miller
Nelson & Marty Kirsh	Ken Mount
Leo & Charlotte Kunkel	Bill & Nancy Munson
Robert & Suzy Lowry	Billy & Nancy Nix

Craig & Marie Pagden	Edward Schulze	Garry & Virginia Tucker
Ray Peckenpaugh	Harry Senior	William Vincent & Lu Mitchell
Bill & Judy Penrod	Rob & Pat Shook	William & Nancy Weisensee
Don Ruthenberg	Wayne Thomas	Delmer & Shirley Wettering
Dennis Schultz	Art & Carolyn Thomsen	

**USS Cusk Newsletter Boosters 2004-06**

( Boosters contribute money to cover the cost of the newsletter)

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Bob Dalton, Bob Lowry, Sam Lyons, Mark Markum , Richard McKenzie, Craig Pagden, Ray Peckenpaugh, William Vincent

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**Shipmates:**

I need your help. I need an update on your information for the Cusk newsletter.

First name	MI	Last name	Spouse	Address		
City		State	Zip	Rate	Time on ship	
Phone No.			<b>And most important e-mail(if there is one)</b>			

Send to:

**William E. Vincent**  
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**e-mail wvincen1@pacbell.net**

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**Booster Club**

In order to raise funds for the Cusk newsletter, I am starting a Booster Club. Anybody who sends a contribution will have their name added to the Booster Club list.

Make contribution checks to the Cusk Newsletter Fund and mail to:

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**Cusk Newsletter Editor**  
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**Pictures from USS Cusk Reunion September 1-5, 2004 in Cleveland, OH**



Wayne Thomas



Garry Tucker



Bill Vincent  
New newsletter editor



Delmer Wetering



Mike Fallatt



Marty Kirsch



Nelson Kirsch



Richard & Margaret McKenzie

More pictures from Cleveland in the next newsletter.

### Lost Shipmates

Does anyone know of the whereabouts of these shipmates? Their names appear on past rosters but their addresses can't be verified. If you know anything about these shipmates please fill out the form (appearing elsewhere in the newsletter) and mail to Bill Vincent.

Name	Rate	Time on boat
John Michael Barr		
Edward "Eddie" Bernight	TAD	68
Norwood Bridgers		
A W "AL" Covington	TM 1 (SS)	54-56
Pete Esterle		
Don Floyd46		
Roger Gile		
Don Gill	TM3 (SS)	61-52
Irving Goldberg		45
George Henry		
J.M. "Hump" Humphries		
Ernest Keeran		
Creighton Knutson		
Jim Le Blanc	YN3 (SS)	58-59
David J. La Pierre	STS3 (SS)	64-66
Vince "Mac" Mahany	IC3 (SS)	64-66
Robert Manton	RM3	62-66
Claud Marcum		
Mark K. Maynard		
Richard J. Murphy		
Robert H. Nelson	FTG3 (SS)	66-69
Darrel F. Nickerson	IG3 (SS)	66-69
Arthur O'Maelly Jr.		
Frank Quinalivan		
Roby Richards		
Herbert Rinn		
William A. Roberts		
Lee E. Rupert	MM2 (SS)	67-69
Richard E. Rusconi		
Richard Saunders		
Jullius J. Sedtal Jr.		67-69
Wesley M. Shrum		
Peter Smith		
Lavern W. Speed		
Jim Spivey	EN3 (SS)	60-62
Robert Laird Starkey		
Doug StallTJG53		
Jammie D. Tipton	IC1 (SS)	68-68
Jerry L. Weaver	TMCS (SS)	
Dennis Weller		
Robert E. Woods		

### USS Cusk on Final Patrol as of October, 2004

These are the names of Cusk crewmates that are on final patrol. Anyone who knows of others who are deceased, please send to Bill Vincent.

Alvis, Terrell H.	Hammond, J. R
Anderson, Robert	Hannon, Robert
Ashcroft, Jerome	Hansen Max
Atha, V.	Haycroft, Geoffrey
Bautz, Jacob	Hoffman, Larry
Baxley, Ben	Hord, Paul
Bell, Robert L.	Kane, James R.
Black, John Mills	Keelin, Mike
Boberik, Donald H.	Kelley, Jesse
Brown, Lawrence	Kennedy, Robert
Bufford J.C.	Koopman, George
Campbell, George	Kosoff, Tracy (captain)
Capt. Robert E. Crawford	
Chesser, Sam	Kosoff, Tracy Monroe
Clairmont, Ramon	Langstaff, James
Comstock, Franklin	Lanquette, Norman
Conser, Herbert	Lavallee, Joseph
Cooke, Richard	Lauffenburger, Arthur L.
Cosoff, Tracy	Lego, Herman
Davidson, T.P	Lyons, Sam
Dedrick, Walter	Long, Francis
DeLozier, Tom	Ludwig, John
Dexter, Robert P.	Marchwinski, James C
Dixon, Harold	Mayfield, Stanley
Donovan, Emmett	McEwen, Edward F
Draper, Edger C. Jr.	McGaughey, Earl
Duncan, Jerry	McGinty, Merlin C
Eisenhower, Ray	Mitchell, Edwin
Eisner, Elston	Momsen, Charles B.
Elliott, Oliver	Mortenson, Evert
Emrich, Charles	Murphy, Frank
Essler, Clifford, Jr.	Murry, Earl
Farris, James L.	O'Neill, William
Fosberg, Orville	Orr, James F.
Foster, Idell R.	Parden, Lee
Ghiselin, John	Paterson, Hugh
Gilliam H.D.	Pearson, Fred
Graham, Herbert	Pennell, James
Green, D. A.	Perry, Robert
Hager, John	Pettipiece, Jack
Haken, Dave	Phillips, Dave
Hall, Sydney	Pierce, Thomas

Pippen, Merrill  
 Press, Wally  
 Pritzl, Jerry  
 Provins, Robert  
 Rogers, Steven  
 Quijada, Chris  
 Rinn, Herbert S.  
 Santee, Cyril  
 Saunders, Paul  
 Sauney, Ellsworth  
 Savino, Vincent  
 Shelp, James  
 Shipman, Bill J.  
 Smith, Eugene  
 Smithe, J. R.  
 Streit, John

Stuart, Fredrick  
 Sullivan, James  
 Summers, Paul  
 Thiry, Francis  
 Thomas, E. F.  
 Thompson, Herbert  
 Tomasich, Henry  
 Toyton Marvin  
 Tucker, Frederick  
 Turnidge, W. D.  
 Voltz, Ronald  
 Wanner, Vance  
 Webb, Robert  
 Wetmore, Irving E.  
 Weyenberg, Richard  
 Williams, Walter

Wilkie, Jim P.  
 Wright, Lowell

Wright, Vance  
 Yocom, David

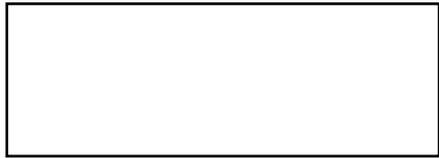


**Pictures you don't often see**

As your newsletter editor, this is my first issue of the Cusk Newsletter. I have a tough act to follow. Sam did a great job. In order for me to do as good a job, I am going to need your help. I need you to keep me informed of any changes in address, e-mail etc. Also anything you would like to see in your newsletter, let me know. In future issues, I will try to bring things of interest to the Cusk crew. Things about the next reunion in Branson MO, also I will try to bring articles about the modern submarines and the crews, stories about old times, pictures and funnies.

--William Vincent

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