

USS MULIPHEN (AKA-61)  
2011 REUNION  
Charleston, SC



October 6-9, 2011  
Sheraton Hotel



# CHARLESTON, SC

## 2011 USS MULIPHEN REUNION WRAP UP

The USS Muliphen (AKA-61) met for a reunion of its former crewmen in Charleston, SC on October 6-9, 2011 at the Sheraton Airport Hotel. Registration for the reunion began on Thursday just before noon, with Jerry Wotherspoon being the first in line to register. When all the registrations were completed, sixteen members and sixteen of their guests were signed in to enjoy a few days of reminiscing and sharing tales.



At 5:00 PM on Thursday, the welcome reception, which was the first official activity of the reunion took place. Jerry Wortherspoon, reunion chairman of the USS Muliphen, welcomed everyone and had each shipmate introduce himself and his spouse or guest. After introductions, the cash bar opened and light hors' d oeuvres consisting of buffalo wings and fruit and cheese trays were served. The remainder of the evening was free to continue getting reacquainted with old friends and making new ones in the hospitality room, where there was space for ship memorabilia display, snacks, cold drinks, hot coffee and lots of opportunity for story telling.



Friday morning began with breakfast in the hotel restaurant, and then at 9:00 AM the Civil War in Charleston tour left the hotel for a day of discovering the important role that Charleston played in the war. During the course of the tour, the group saw the Battery, which was fortified during the war, St. Michael's Church where they painted the steeple black to escape the Union bombardment, the site of the building where the Ordinance of Secession was signed, the Confederate Museum which houses artifacts from the war and the Old Citadel. After touring the city, the day continued with a visit to Warren Lasch Conservation Center which houses the Confederate submarine, H.L. Hunley. On February 17, 1864, this submarine successfully sank the Union Warship the



Housatonic in Charleston Harbor by ramming it. After this successful foray, she also sank with all of her crew. She remained at the bottom of the Atlantic until August 8, 2000. On this day she was successfully raised and taken to a special tank at the Warren Lasch Laboratory. Later inside the lab, the attendees had the opportunity to view this 19th century marvel. Additionally, there was a stop at the Old City Market for shopping and lunch on one's own.

Friday evening's dinner began enjoying one's favorite beverage from the cash bar, all the while anticipating a great Low Country dinner featuring fresh garden salad, cucumber & tomato salad, southern fried chicken, jambalaya, roasted



garlic mashed potatoes, fried okra, cornbread and buttermilk biscuits and dessert with coffee and ice tea. After dinner entertainment was "The Oldies Newly Wed Game." Four couples were asked questions about their lives and the winner was the couple who got the most questions correct. It was the perfect opportunity to see how much (or how little) married couples remembered about their married life.

Saturday morning again began with breakfast in the hotel restaurant and then the tour to Patriot's Point, the world's largest naval and maritime museum. The group visited the aircraft carrier YORKTOWN, the famous fighting lady of WW II fame; the Medal of Honor Museum; the destroyer LAFLEY, a participant in the WWII D-Day landing at Normandy; the submarine CLAMAGORE, one of the Navy's last diesel powered submarines; the Coast Guard Cutter INGHAM, which was in active service until decommissioned and given to Patriot's Point in 1989. Also of great interest was a replica of a US Navy Support Base in Vietnam. Here the group found a collection of exhibits, weapons and air and water crafts, all authentically displayed. Lunch was in the YORKTOWN's CPO mess. After a great day of viewing all the history that Patriot's Point had to share, the group returned to the hotel in time for the 3:00 PM business meeting. At the business meeting Jerry Wotherspoon was selected to remain Chairman of the group and Chattanooga, TN was chosen as the 2012 reunion location.





Saturday evening began with a cash bar and a photo session. The individual/couple photos were taken for inclusion in the post reunion book. At the appointed hour, the formal part of the evening opened with the playing of "Anchors Aweigh", followed by the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation. Jerry Wotherspoon welcomed everyone and encouraged each person to bring a friend to the next reunion. The meal was an excellent prime rib dinner. Following the meal, the memorial service paying tribute to deceased shipmates was held. Jerry Wotherspoon and Skip Sander, assisted by Chief (Ret) Elmer Mayes and Henry Miller, conducted the service. The annual raffle was held, and a number of prizes were awarded, including the 50/50 drawing in which the winner, Tom Sheedy, and the Association split the pot. The evening ended on a high note with everyone going away feeling good about the evening.



Sunday morning brought an end to the reunion, and as everyone said their good byes, they were already looking forward to next year in Chattanooga, TN. Dates will be May 21-24 at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel. It will be another great reunion, so we hope to see all of the 2011 attendees back and bring a friend!



## 2011 USS MULIPHEN Reunion



**Autry, Herman & Nancy**



**Baer, Richard**



**Ebert, Gary & Patti**



**Elder, David & Ruth**



**Ellas, John & Neva**



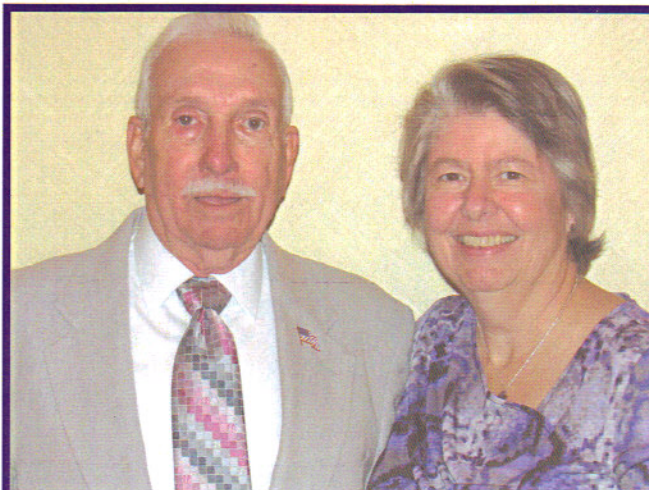
**Finley, James & Billie Jo**



# 2011 USS MULIPHEN Reunion



**Gross, Louis & Connie**



**Hollins, George & Rachel**



**Markley, Richard & Faith**



**Martin, Edward & Louise**



**McCaffrey, Edward & Theresa**



**Olcefski, David & Barbara**



# 2011 USS MULIPHEN Reunion



**Wiant, Ronald & Joan**



**Wotherspoon, Gerald & Elizabeth**



**USS MULIPHEN caps for sale**



**USS MULIPHEN T-Shirts for sale**





# 2011 USS MULIPHEN Reunion



**Shipmates arrive at reunion**



**Registration begins**



**Gerald & Elizabeth Wotherspoon**



**Herman & Nancy Autry**



**Friends catching up!**



**Gerald & Elizabeth Wotherspoon**



# 2011 USS MULIPHEN Reunion



**David & Ruth Elder**



**Ronald & Joan Wiant**



**Louis & Connie Gross**



**Edward & Theresa McCaffrey**



**Raffle drawing**



**Tom Sheedy winner of 50/50 drawing**



# 2011 USS MULIPHEN Reunion



**Herman & Nancy Autry**



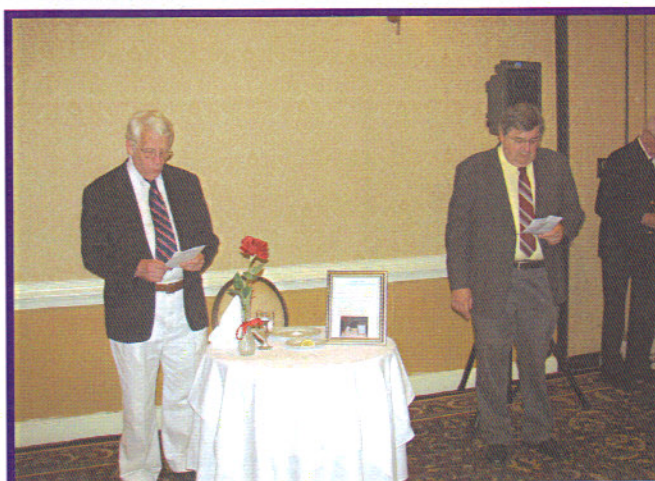
**Memorial Service begins**



**Memorial Service**



**Memorial Service**



**Memorial Service**



**Remembrance Table**





**USS MULIPHEN/RANKIN CREWMEMBERS  
ON BOARD USS YORKTOWN  
CHARLESTON, SC**



## Personal Photos



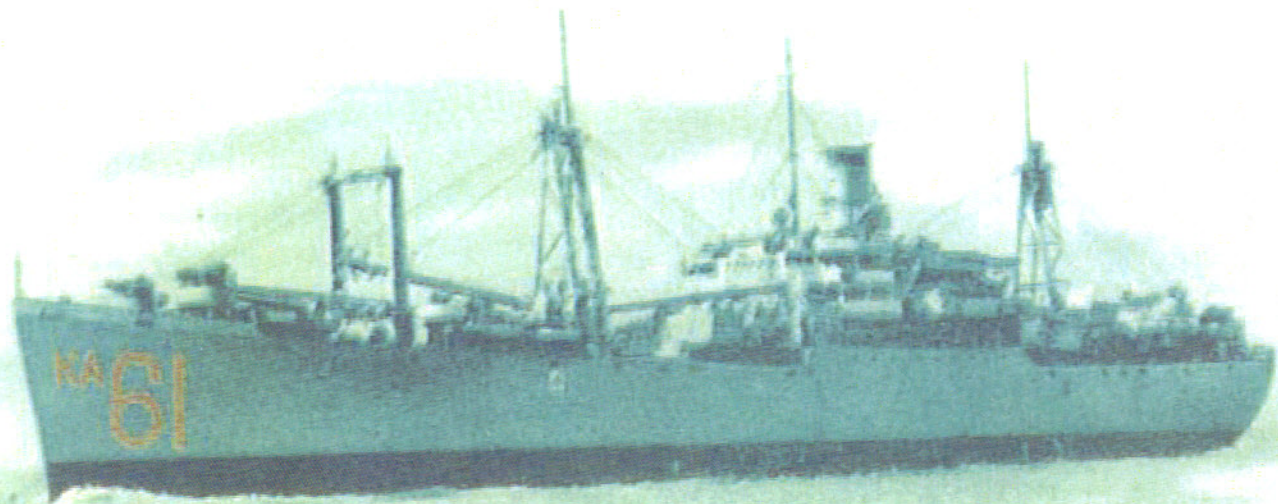
**Larry Flickinger**



**Larry Flickinger, Greg Bunich,  
Ron Johnson-Med 1952**



**Larry Flickinger & Ron Johnson**



**U.S.S. MULIPHEN (AKA 61)**





**USS MULIPHEN (AKA-61)**





**Jerry Wotherspoon**

## **A Special "THANK YOU" to your Reunion Coordinator**

*In appreciation of the dedication and service you have shown in working with us to bring together the USS MULIPHEN Reunion, we want to extend to you a hearty "Thank You". Being a part of your reunion this year has been a pleasure and we look forward to working with you in the future.*

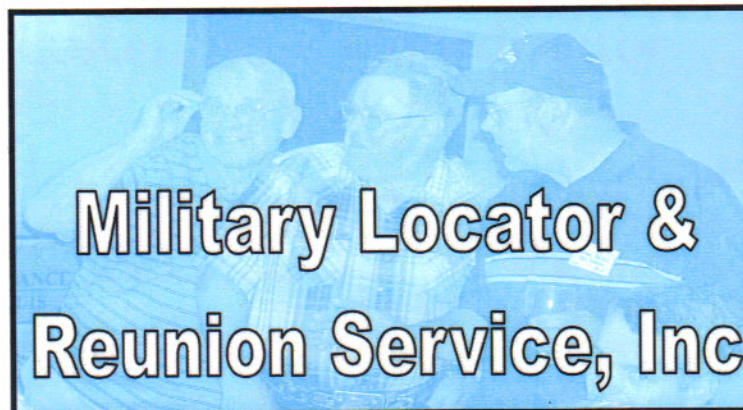
*Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc*

*Larry & Brenda Eckard*





**Larry & Brenda Eckard  
ML&RS, Inc  
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