

# Sirago Newsletter



Volume 12, Issue 3

August 2011

## Celebrating the Sirago

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### Shipmates:

It will be a while until we meet again (2013) and we thought that in the interim we would start a series of newsletter themes that celebrate the Sirago in various ways. In the past, we've done this with wonderful stories and will continue to do that as people submit them, but this newsletter starts a series of celebrations starting with remembering the Chiefs on the Sirago. This theme is carried primarily by the inserts to this newsletter where you will find Dex Armstrong's memories about Chief Petty Officers and also a special Roll Call of all the chiefs who were aboard the USS Sirago.

As always, I am asking that any stories you'd like to relate should be emailed to me at the address above and I'll be happy to include them in the newsletter.

Remember that as we document our stories, and other data about the Sirago and her crew, we are doing a service for posterity as all these newsletters will live long lives on the Web.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Celebration – New Newsletter Themes
- 1 More Notes on Reunions 2011 & 2013
- 2-4 Crew Notices

## Correction & Notes Reunions 2011 & 2013

Our last newsletter (May 2011) tried to recap the 2011 Reunion (the multi-boat SubRon Six Smoke Boat Sisters – SSSBS reunion) in a number of ways. I had published the names of all from Sirago who were in attendance, but I failed to note that Bob Cox (MM2 66-69) was, in fact, at the reunion. I even remember seeing him there with his dog, but somehow all paper records of him being there are non-existent. We were all pretty busy with that huge crowd so I apologize for missing his name. Here is a photo of him (and others) at the reunion on the beach. Bob is 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left in the photo below.



As mentioned before, our next reunion is planned for 2013 and the desire was to investigate the possibility of a cruise. We are currently investigating this possibility and this would be a first for the Sirago Veterans' Association so there are no promises as yet. We are hoping to have more information about this possibility in the November 2011 newsletter.

## FINDING NEW CREW MEMBERS

As I think you guys already know, the USS Sirago (SS485) probably has the best documented crew of any naval ship in the world. Rich McCamant has never stopped looking for folks we haven't found and we really only have 2-3 dozen folks (out of about 1600) that have not yet been accounted for. Sometimes you just have to take a break for a while in searching for lost crew members, but amazingly we've found one new crew member during the last month. Here is Rich's note:

MSC(SS) **Wayne R. Simpson** was actually assigned to Grampus when he spent 2-3 months TAD on Sirago in 1966 or 67 because Sirago was desperate for cooks.

He was drafted in 1965 and did a tour as a corpsman with the Marines in Vietnam before volunteering for sub duty. He was a CS3 while on Sirago and made CS1 before getting off active duty in 1971. After Grampus he served on John Marshall and George Washington. After active duty, he stayed in the Naval Reserve and retired as an MSC.

The rest of Rich's note to the crew (sent email) is not presented here as we do not include crew address information to the public (except association officers).

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## The SIRAGO TIKI BAR

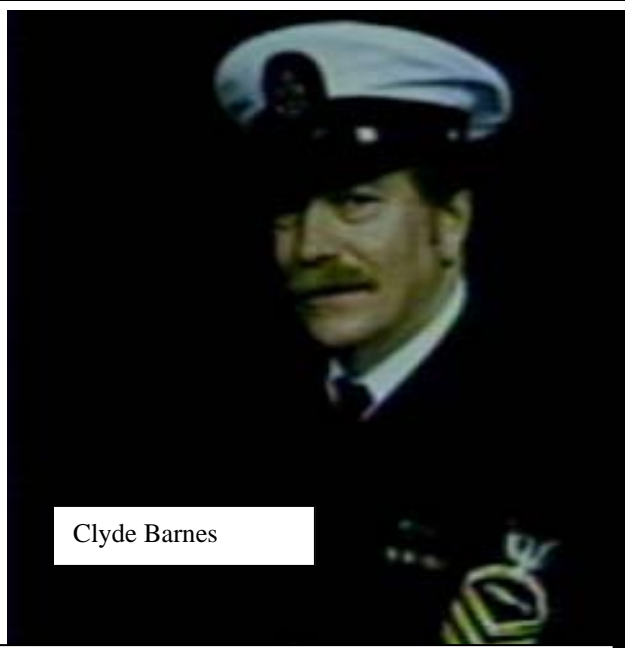
Jim McCullough (F1c 1945-1946), is shown in the photo below with his son Jim. Jim (the younger) built this Tiki-Bar by his pool and this past Memorial Day dedicated it to the USS Sirago in honor of his father, one of the very few who were aboard her in 1945. Jim (Sr.) has attended every Sirago reunion since 1999.



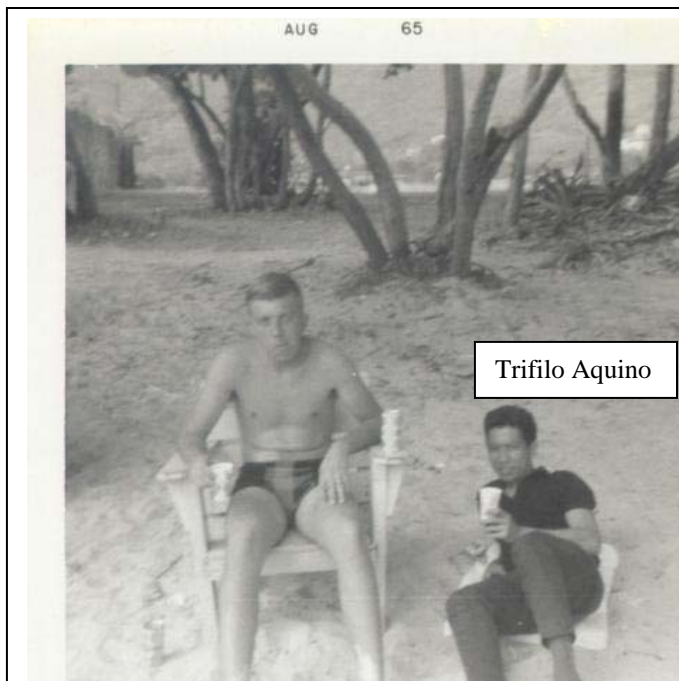
## ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES

Trifilo Aquino	TN	63-68	Died 13 December 2008
Clyde Barnes	TM1	60-64	Died 24 August 2009
Larry Cerutti	SM1	63-66	Died 8 October 2005
Donald Flint	EMFN	62-62	Died 16 July 2011
Charles LeCompte	SA	49-50	Died 21 March 2008
Carl Robinson	EN1	66-70	Died 11 March 2010
Robert Steele	TMT3	50-51	Died 27 February 2011
Lester Thompson	TM2c	45-45 plank	Died 13 December 2003
Bill Uptgraft	SN	53-57	Died 3 December 2010

*Sailor, rest your oar....*



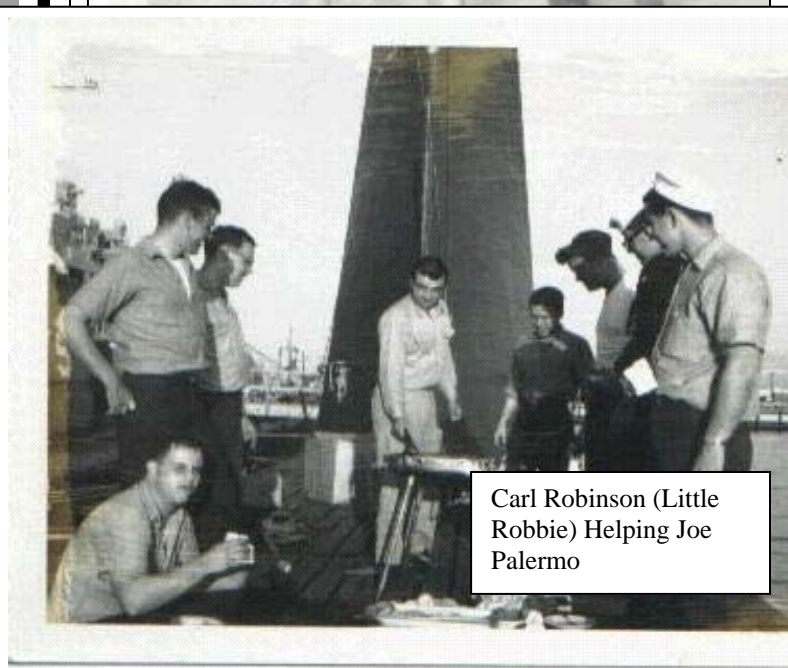
Clyde Barnes



Trifilo Aquino



Donald Flint (recent)



Carl Robinson (Little Robbie) Helping Joe Palermo



Uptgraft (left) with Feasel, Thomas, and Wharton

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