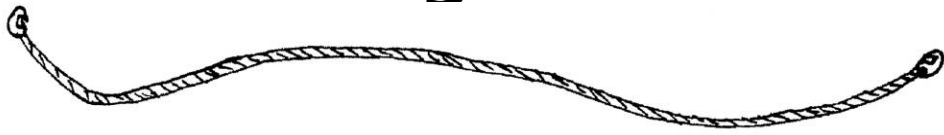


# Buddy Line



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Newsletter of Fraternal Order of Underwater Swimmers School

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February 2001

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## President's Corner by Don Stone

### DECISION TIME FOR REUNION 2002 LOCATION

More information on the prospective reunion sites has been received. It is time for the members of the Fraternal Order of Under Water Swimmers School to vote on their choice of site in order to have time to adequately plan the reunion. Choose from the following locations.

#### Roosevelt Roads, PR

Andy Anderson reports that airfare to Puerto Rico would run about \$500 from Miami. Rental cars would be needed to get from San Juan to Roosevelt Roads, a 1½-hour drive. Hotels in Fajardo start at \$100 per night for not so nice to \$200-300 for very nice. There is a base Navy Lodge that takes reservations. Guest quarters on base would be space available. The NSW unit there would support us with a tour.

#### Little Creek, VA

Bob Clark says he thinks this would be the best site and the least expensive for the following reasons. We can get nice rooms at the BOQ for \$18.50 single and \$24 double. There is a Navy Lodge that costs \$36 to \$38 per night. Also, a new Navy Lodge, just east of the NEX and only slightly more expensive, has large rooms with queen size beds, desks and living areas. Handicap and business class rooms are available. All navy lodges have kitchenettes, VCRs and cable TV. Off base hotels run \$55 to \$89 for fancy diggins.

For the banquet, we can have a fully catered buffet at the Officers' Club, including gratuity, for \$18 to \$20 per person. Many recreation facilities are available including Seal Park for picnics, beach pavilions, Gator Water Park, campground, and golf course. We can probably get tours of

several organizations at Little Creek: Seal Teams, Boat Support Units, Mobil Salvage Units, etc.

#### Las Vegas, NV

John Hobbs contacted the Circus Circus Casino and they e-mailed me 30 pages of menus and other food service information. Banquet costs depend on the number of people and the lavishness of the meal, ranging from \$24.75 to \$43.45 per person (including tax and gratuity). Room rates are \$84.00 per night. Scotty Lyons, who went through swim school in one of the first classes, says the Circus Circus is in an older, less desirable location and we probably can do better. Best prices are during the week with a Sunday arrival and a Friday checkout. He has over the years set up many military groups and they keep on coming back. "It is less expensive and there is always plenty to do." He also said that if we choose Vegas, he would help us set it up.

Coronado, CA - Still no information.



### Vote Now!

We're going to make the voting simple; just e-mail, fax, or snail mail your vote to the Buddy Line by April 1<sup>st</sup>; no April fools, no butterfly ballots, no chads. See addresses on page 2.

**Remember,  
if you don't vote,  
some other member  
will make the choice  
for you.**

**UWSS T-SHIRTS**



Dave Gholson's UWSS t-shirt was worn out, so he contacted MWR Key West to order another. He got the following prices on shirts and coffee mugs for us. These prices include shipping.

**T-shirts, Sleeveless Shirts and Tank Tops:**

Small, medium, large and X large	10.50 each
XX or XXX large	11.50 each

**Sport shirts - 3 buttons & collar, with or without pocket**

Small, medium, large and X large	16.00 each
XX or XXX large	17.00 each

*Shirts have the design on front and back and are available in white or ash gray.*

<b>Coffee Mugs</b>	7.00 each
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*Logo on one side, name or whatever on other side.*

Order by phone or mail.

MWR Graphics Department  
 Building A515  
 Naval Air Station  
 Key West, FL 33040  
 Phone: (305) 293-2976

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

**Membership 2/19/01**

**56 regular members (4 still unpaid)**

**34 associate members (4 paid FOUWSS Boosters)**

Account Balance 11/4/00	\$ 1,115.72
Dues received	150.00
Interest received 9/30/00	6.39
August Buddy Line expense	-65.20
Account Balance 11/4/00	1,206.91

**FO of UWSS Mission**

The Fraternal Order of Underwater Swimmers School was formed in order to keep lines of communication open between personnel of the armed forces who were staff or students at the Navy Underwater Swimmers School Key West, Florida. Associate membership is open to family, friends, and associates of UWSS students and staff who share an interest in the goals and activities of the FO of UWSS. Associate members will not have voting privileges.

One of the most important reasons for our existence as an organized group is to plan for and participate in biannual reunions, which will be held at various locations to be selected by members' votes.

**FO of UWSS Officers**

President .....	Don Stone
Vice President.....	Andy Anderson
Secretary/Treasurer .....	A. Dee Clark
Historian .....	Erasmio Riojas

Buddy Line editors are Don and Art Stone.

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fax: (850) 913-0602

**From the editors:** We need your stories and pictures to continue getting out an interesting newsletter. You guys have had fantastic, funny, and scary experiences in your naval careers. How about sharing them with us. After publication, material will go to our historian unless you request it returned to you.

Doc Riojas has requested that contributions to the FOUWSS archive be sent to him at 4819 Meadowglen Dr., Pearland, TX 77584. Or e-mail him at [elticitl@mi-vida-loca.com](mailto:elticitl@mi-vida-loca.com). He has a web site for FOUWSS at <http://members.spreed.com/travel/laloula/uwss/uwssindex.htm>



**Class Procter monitors wet PT**



**Students show their appreciation at graduation**



**What goes around comes around**

**Scuttlebut Corner**

Dick Pence recognized “Curley” Crowell in a picture in the last Buddy Line and it reminded him of this story.

Dick writes, “There was some testing of a developmental ordinance item off the Dry Tortugas and swim school was providing diver support for recovery ops. Joe Destafono and I were sent down from EOD 2 in Charleston and we all embarked on an ATF and cruised down to the test site, which was an area with 120 or so feet of water over a smooth sand bottom.

“The item being tested was basically a solid stainless steel slug about 8’ long and 16” diameter weighing about 1800 pounds. When air dropped by high speed aircraft at low altitude, they were burying themselves in the sand bottom. After two were lost, at a million some each, we recommended they attach a hundred feet of yellow polypro to the tail.

“The third one was found after an extended tow search from the ATF and the ship moored over it. Due to the 130’ table and to get some reasonable working time, it was decided to rig Jack Brown masks at 20’ and 10’ for decompression stops.

“After a couple days working on this thing, Curley and I were down and as we headed up, about 20 feet off the bottom we got out of the muck that we were stirring up into water with 100’ visibility. Looking up, we could see several small sharks circling the descending line in the rising bubbles. Apparently Curley had a distinct dislike of sharks, because he became very reluctant to continue towards the surface.

“I convinced him to continue to the first stop, and when we had finished that stop I popped to the surface long enough to tell them what was going on, so they put a couple of guys into the water just to harass the sharks away from the descending line till we could finish the 10’ stop. Still, Curley’s head never stopped swiveling.

“I guess if you are the one bothered by sharks, it’s not funny, but for the observers, it was hilarious.”

**Put your pictures or stories here in the next issue!**

**Membership Application**

**Fraternal Order of Underwater Swimmers School**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates & Class # at UWSS: \_\_\_\_\_ or Associate Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Send copy of class picture if you have one. 2 Year Membership \$25.00

Make check to A. Dee Clark, Treasurer and mail to 1315 Garner St., Nacogdoches, TX. 75961

**The way it was....**



**Graduation**

**Taps**

HMCS Joseph (Doc) D'Angelo, USN Ret., 59, of McHenry, Ill, died Jan 15, 2001. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Marilyn, three children and 10 grandchildren.

He served two tours of duty in Vietnam, the first with the US Marines and the second with Seal Team 2. He was also a member of UDT-21. For the past 15 years he has provided trophies and medals for the UDT/Seal races, swims and horseshoe tournaments as well as plaques for our last reunion. He also hosted yearly Christmas dinners for recruits from Great Lakes NTC who could not be home with their families. He was a very generous man and will be greatly missed. (from Bob Clark)

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