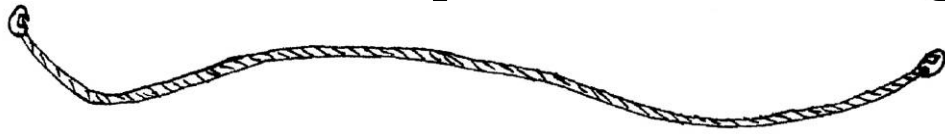


Buddy Line



Newsletter of Fraternal Order of Underwater Swim School, Key West, Florida

February 2002

See You at Little Creek Reunion 2002

Friday May 3rd:

Arrive and check in at Navy Lodge, BOQ/CBQ, campground or off base hotel. You must have a base sticker or get a visitor's pass. There will be a reunion registration list at the pass office at Gate 4 for those without a current military ID card. **The pass office closes at 6 pm.**

1500-1700

Check in with reunion committee at the CPO Club and have a cool one. The CPO Club is located on the Amphibious Base at Hewett Dr. & 7th St.

1800-2200

Ice Breaker at the CPO Club. Dress very casual. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, draft beer and wine provided. This is the time to get together with old friends, swap stories, see who is in worse shape than you, and just have a great time! A word of caution though; drinking and driving is dangerous. The state of Virginia standard is .08 BAC and the Navy now has no tolerance for this offence. So drink moderately and give your car keys to a designated driver. Avoid a costly and embarrassing situation.

Saturday May 4th

0900-1030

Continental Breakfast at the Focsle Club followed by business meeting, election of officers and discussion of concerns and sites for 2004 reunion.

1300

Tentative visit to EOD or SpecWar Unit, Little Creek.

1830-2200

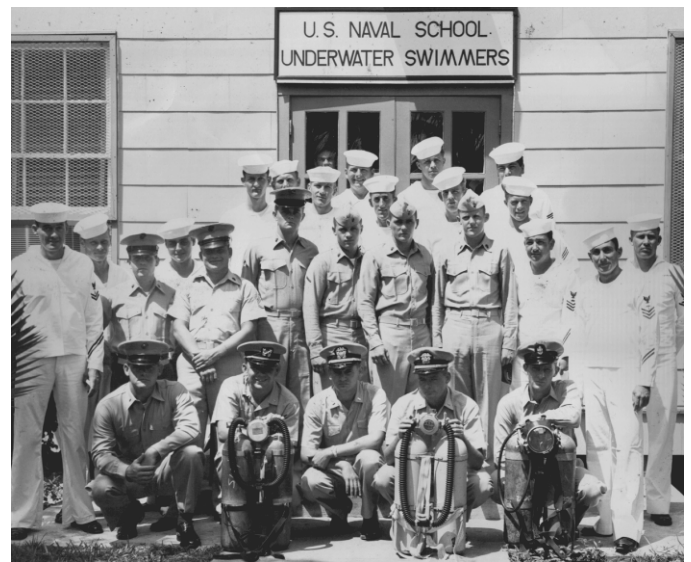
Banquet Buffet at Gallery Room, Focsle Club. Dressy casual. Speakers: Tom Hawkins, Bob Rieve, Joe Kennedy, Don Stone. Master of Ceremonies: Bob Clark.

Sunday May 5th

0900-1100

Visit to the Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit. See the latest in navy diving and salvage apparatus. Learn about the up coming salvage operation for the USS Monitor, the union ship that changed naval warfare forever.

E&E back to home base



FO/UWSS has more than tripled in membership in the last two years. This increase is the result of the efforts of many members. The Buddy Line has been a good way to spread the word, and will continue to be so with the members' help. We need more pictures and stories from you in order to continue to put out an interesting newsletter. Remember, bring your class pictures and other photos from UWSS to the reunion, where they will be scanned into our computer for future publication. And don't forget the stories for Scuttlebut Corner.

President's Corner by Don Stone

Working with the reunion committee to iron out all the details of the reunion really has been keeping me busy. In turn, I have been asking Bob Clark, who is handling many of the details on base, to do all kinds of necessary things. He has been in the right place at the right time to get things done. When a problem arose that we couldn't find the solution to, we had expert help and advice from Bob Rieve and John Kirby.

Chip Provaznic applied for the visit to the Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit and Berny Diggs got notices about FO/UWSS in a great number of service and veterans publications. As a result of the notices, I have been getting many phone calls and e-mails from former students and staff and have sent out many Buddy Lines to these guys.

It has been fun for me to get calls and letters from guys like Martial Lemay and Don Morris, who were fellow instructors at UWSS and whom I hadn't spoken with since the early 1960's. It also gives me great satisfaction to know that men who were green ensigns and SA's when they went through the school, went on to have distinguished naval careers, some retiring as senior officers. Many give UWSS credit for giving them a good start on their careers.

Speaking about distinguished naval careers, in the last edition of Buddy Line I mentioned that there were two ensigns in that May 1961 class that went on to retire as O6. I was wrong; there were actually four from that class that retired as O6: Joe Kennedy, Bruce Hulbert, George Coughlan and Peter Wells. I hope I got it right this time!

UWSS was a unique experience, and I am proud to have been a part of it.

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We were saddened by the loss of our dear friend, Nancy Pence, wife of FO/UWSS member Dick Pence, in December. Nancy was very special to Art and me as she and Dick, introduced us, and were best man and matron of honor at our wedding at the Naval Station Chapel in Key West February 1960. She will be greatly missed.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Membership 2/1/2002

85 paid members
6 paid FO/UWSS Boosters
62 associate members

Dues received	450.00
Logo item sales	216.00
Interest earned	5.04
Buddy Line expense	-118.00
Account Balance 2/1/2002	1843.14

FO/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/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/UWSS Officers

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

Buddy Line editors are Don and Art Stone.

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Diving from the U boat – Carl Schultz is assisting J Stanley and Martial Lemay.

Reunion Accomodations

Amphib Base

The new **Navy Lodge** has beautiful large rooms with kitchenettes for \$64.00 per day. Retired individuals can make reservations one month in advance. Phone numbers are 800-628-3335 and 757-464-6215. A few of the rooms they are holding for us are still available. We have to send them a room list for these saved rooms, so if you want to stay there, email or write Don Stone (address on page 2) with name, rank, social security number, and number of guests for each room. We must have this information by March 1, 2002.

The **Campground** has wooded sites with full hookup and cable TV. There are restrooms, a playground and laundry facilities. If you want to stay there, contact Don Stone early.

Ft. Story

RV campground and cottages are available but you must reserve early. They take reservations up to a year in advance. Phone 757-422-8818.

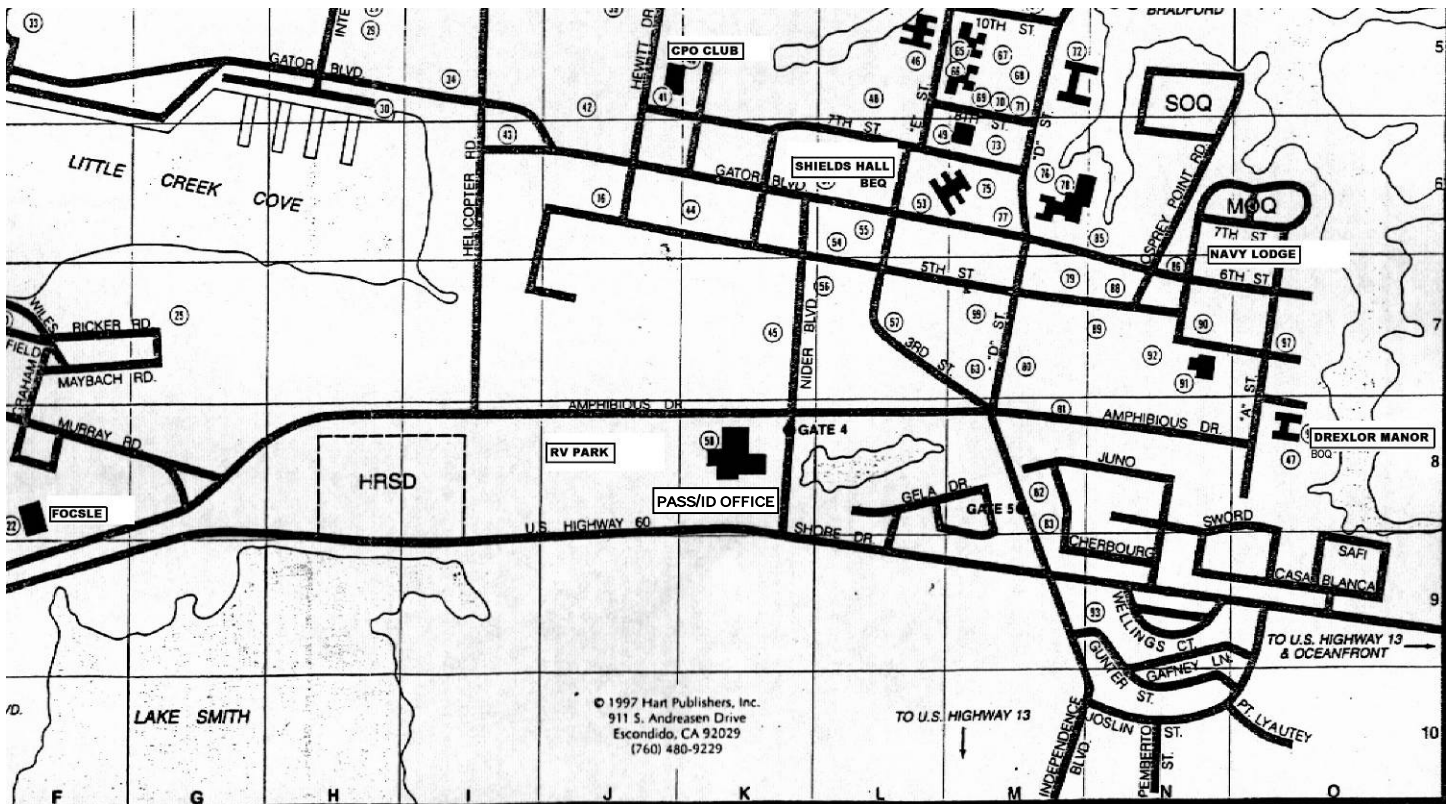
Dam Neck Fleet Combat Center

The Navy Lodge has 50 units, slightly more expensive than Little Creek. Phone 757-437-8100.

Some Nearby Hotels/Motels

Comfort Inn (Shore Drive)	800-228-5150
Howard Johnson's (Shore Drive)	800-446-4656
Days Inn (Northampton Blvd)	800-325-2525
Lake Wright Motel (Northampton Blvd)	800-228-5157
La Quinta Inn (Newtown Rd)	757-497-6620
Ramada Inn (Northampton Blvd)	888-298-2054
Red Roof Inn (Northampton Blvd)	757-460-3414

Map of central section of Little Creek Amphibious Base



Gate 4	K8	Navy Lodge	N7
Pass/ID Office	K8	BOQ	O8
Focsle Club	F8	CPO Club	J5

The way it was



Launching Swimmers (Pictures from All Hands January 1964 - sent in by Andy Anderson) Scuba divers hit the water

Scuttlebut Corner

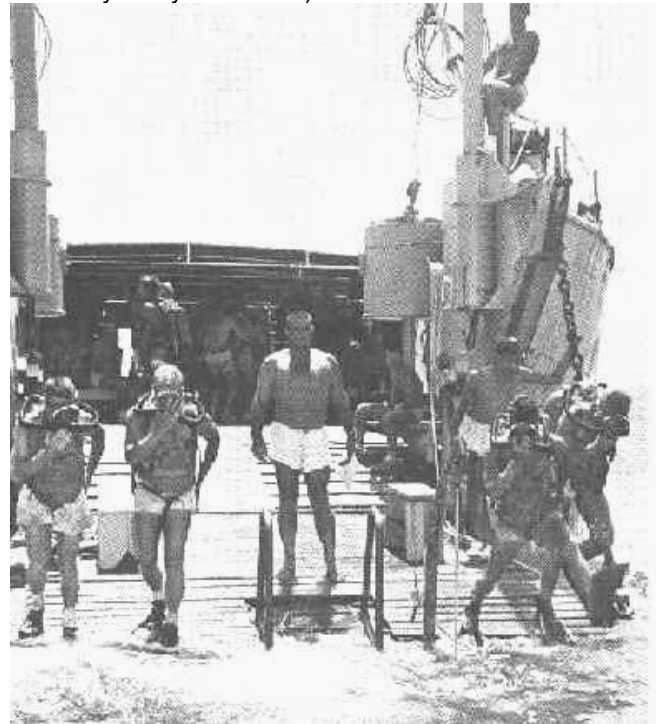
The diving navy (SEAL/UDT, EOD and Fleet Divers) is like a big family. You come in contact with the same people and organizations at different times and in different circumstances.

New FO/UWSS member, John Kirby, was a brand new FA when he reported aboard LCPR 159 to his first XO, Clarence Provaznik.

Kirby later went to UDTR; was assigned to the UWSS Boat House in 1967, and in 1968 went through the UDT diving course at UWSS.

Provasnik went through UWSS Class 4-58 and returned to serve as Training Officer/XO from 1963 to 1967, retiring from active duty in 1973 as Lieutenant.

These two guys haven't seen each other since the age of the dinosaurs, yet the now MCPO John Kirby and Chip Provasnik have both been involved with setting up our reunion.



Fraternal Order of Underwater Swimmers School
Buddy Line Newsletter
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