



# AMPHIBIOUS FLEET NEWS



FALL

2011

## Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum

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Sam says  
"Get to Work Sailor!"



## Work Continues on Restoration

Warm 2011 greetings from the USS LCI713 and the Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum! Lots of exciting events have been happening on board the LCI in the last few months. We obtained the services of several new volunteers and they have been getting lots of items crossed off the work list. Here is a sampling of some of the recent developments:

Sam Kimpton, a former USN Boatswain's Mate, took over job of making the LCI "ship shape". He completely cleaned out & organized the Bos'uns Locker. On another project he installed fancy knotwork "coxcombing" on the handrails of the ladder to Troop Compartment 4. After installing the coxcombing, it was given coats of varnish to keep it looking sharp and it adds a look of nautical pride to the whole space.

Volunteer Larry Baumann, working with Woody Woodruff, installed the new Kubota 7 kw diesel electric generator and connected it to the electrical system. Larry, a pro electrician, is the perfect man for the job. He even obtained tech manuals for the generator so installation went off without a hitch.

Several projects were done by volunteer Woody Woodruff and 2 new welders: Chris Rentz and Bruce Mulligan. They installed the new safer boarding ladder, a new battery tray in the engine room, fixed leaks in the foc'sle, and plumbed the new ship's head and sewage system from the officers' head. The head is almost complete and should be working by the end of October!

New preservation work has been done in the ships double bottom tanks. Chris Jones, owner of a local salvage and repair company, was hired to assist in patching and preserving leaking tanks on board. These were dried out & prepped for coating with a chemical rust preventer on their inside surfaces. It stabilizes the rust so it won't continue to waste away. After the product cures, closed cell blown-in foam will be installed. Chris will be the prime contractor handling this effort. AFMM Treasurer, Mark Stevens, has been of great help in finding rust treatment for the tanks. Mark spent several days inside the first tank to be treated, and painted the entire tank interior on his own. Thanks Mark!

John Gillon and Jerry Gilmartin made a copy of a folding table in the Clipping Room. The new one is mounted in Crews Mess, and is the pattern for 2-3 other tables to be made next. These tables will be attached to the bulkhead, and will be able to stow up against the bulkhead when folded.

# AMPHIBIOUS FORCES MEMORIAL MUSEUM

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On the web.  
[www.amphibiousforces.org](http://www.amphibiousforces.org)

Editor: Jerry Gilmartin

**AFMM Organization:** Our Mission is: to collect, preserve, protect and perpetuate the history of Amphibious Forces from World War II to the present, to educate the public on the rich naval maritime heritage which has played a large part in this country's history, to serve as a resource available to educational institutions, veterans organizations and other museums and to serve as a tribute to the Amphibious Forces and remembrance of their sacrifices.

Our museum's centerpiece is the USS LCI (L) 713 which represents all that we strive to honor. The 713 is not only our primary display and restoration focus, but a housing for all of our display artifacts, documentation, photographs and other educational materials.

If you have any artifacts, stories, photos or documentation that you'd like to share or donate, please contact us.

## Life Jacket Memorial Program

**Help us restore the 713!**

***In exchange for a \$250 dollar donation, we will permanently mount a lifejacket with an inscribed plaque. The lifejackets are authentic Navy issue kapok vests. They will be mounted with steel brackets to the overhead in crews mess, troop #2 or crew quarters area. The plaque is 1 7/8" x 8" gold aluminum plate attached to oak strip which is attached to the jacket. You may specify up to 3 lines and 30 characters per line of text. Contact us for details.***



Sample Jacket in overhead  
and  
Close up of plaque



LCI629 Troop Officers Stateroom  
shows Jackets in overhead brackets  
(upper right)



Sailors wearing Life Jacket in  
action

### **Bi Annual Elections results:**

The bi-annual election ballots were mailed out in February to all members in good standing.

Thank you all for voting! We have a new board of directors: The complete board of directors list is: Charles Kellogg, Dave McKay, Jerry Gilmartin, Gordon Smith, Jerry Ubigau, John Gillon, Larry Bauman, Mark Stevens and Rick Holmes. The new board elected the officers at the regularly scheduled board meeting on April 16, 2011. We also raised over \$3500 for the AFMM from monies returned with voting ballots! Thank you all for your support!

### ***The Sea Scouts give us a hand***

The Sea Scouts came out in force to give us a hand on the 713. The efforts were a part their Quartermaster certification and included coxcombing work and painting of the forecastle. Thank you Sea Scouts and Leader Pat Kelley for all the help and a job well done! The entire forecastle is now complete, and looks like the day she was built!



Coxcombing handrails



Sea scouts crew after painting forecastle



**Woody in front of the refurbished engines**

### **Those Engines are a Humming!**

Our master diesel mechanic, Woody, has been at it again. He's given the Detroit 12V71s destined for the 713 a complete going thru and has them running and ready. Thanks Woody! Now, if we could only get those funds for drydocking.....

## **New stern anchor winch obtained!**

Thanks to Wintech International Corp. and Mr. Beaux LaCoste we have a new hand winch for the stern anchor to replace the one stolen off our fantail a couple of months ago. The old one was bolted down, but the new one will be welded down. Thank you Wintech for coming to our aid!

## **LCI 713's new Anchor Winch!**



## **Volunteer of the Quarter Woody Woodruff**

Woody is a former Navy Radarman aboard USS Truxtun, and now works as a professional diesel engine mechanic in the Portland area. Woody is also our welder, plumber, engine mechanic and jack of all trades. He has been instrumental in completing numerous projects for the last year aboard ship. Woody has also encouraged several of his friends to come down and join the crew in restoring the LCI! Thanks Woody!



## Amphibious Ship of the Quarter: Attack Transport APA

Amphibious/Attack Transports were designed to sail to the site of amphibious operations carrying assault troops and support equipment. APA/LPAs had the capacity to hold a full battalion of troops. The APA disembarked troops with the ships own landing craft. The APA would then stand off the beachhead ready to evacuate troops, casualties, and prisoners of war. In order to carry out its primary mission APAs had to provide all facilities for the embarked troops including, berthing, messing, medical and dental care, and recreational facilities.

A total of 232 APA Attack Transports were built for the US Navy. There were 8 types of APA's consisting of the following classes: Heywood, Harris, President Jackson, Middleton, Crescent City, Bayfield, Alpine and Haskell class. The Haskell class of APA was the most common with 119 ships (APA-117 to 180 and APA-187 to 239) that were built on Victory Ship (VC2-S-AP5) hulls. This class was built and commissioned in 1944-1945, and provided rapidly built hulls for the invasion fleets used mainly in the final push across the Pacific. The ships were fitted to carry fully equipped Army and/or Navy units, along with a crew of about 536 officers and enlisted men. Heavy vehicles and stores were carried in the lower holds with 1,000-2,000 troops quartered in the upper cargo spaces. After World War II, the ships were configured to return troops home as part of the "Magic Carpet" fleet and then the majority of the class were quickly mothballed in both Atlantic and Pacific Reserve fleets. A few of the class were reactivated for service during the Korean War, joining their younger sisters in landings and evacuation duty for the duration of the war. The class was mostly decommissioned by the late 1950's and went back to the Reserve Fleets.

### Specifications:

**Displacement** 6,873 t. (lt) 14,837 t (fl)

**Length** 455' Beam 62'

**Draft** 24' (lim) Speed 17.7 kts.

### **Complement**

Officers 56 Enlisted 480

### **Troop Accommodations**

Officers 86 Enlisted 1,475

**Largest Boom Capacity** 35 t.

**Cargo Capacity** 2,900 DWT non-refrigerated 150,000 Cu ft.

### **Boats**

21 LCVPs

1 LCPL (Captain's Gig)

1 LCPR (repair boat)

### **Armament**

Single 5"/38 cal DP gun mount

Four twin 40mm AA gun mounts

Ten single 20mm AA gun mounts

### **Fuel Capacities**

NSFO 7,780 Bbls

Diesel 970 Bbls

### **Propulsion**

Westinghouse geared turbine

2 Babcock Wilcox boilers, 465psi

double Westinghouse Reduction

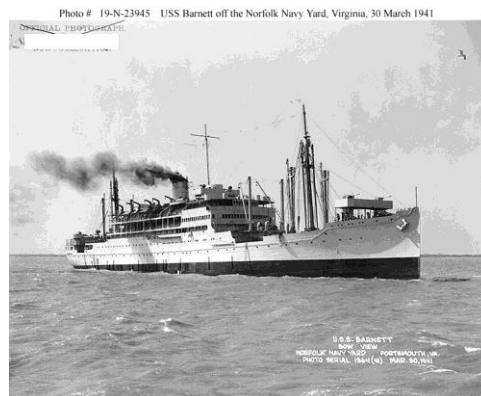
Gears

three turbo-drive 300Kw

120V/240V D.C. Ships' Service

Generators

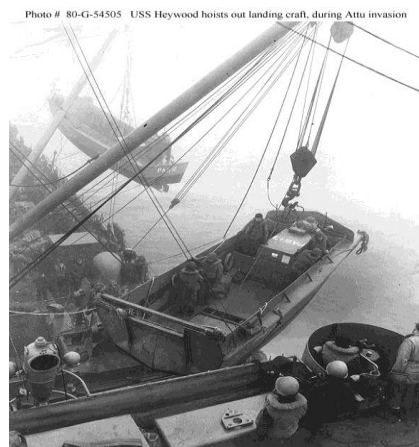
one propeller, 8,500shp



USS Barnett APA11



USS Haskell APA117



USS Heywood APA6 at Attu



Heywood loads troops to LCVP

## Heads up to all hands! LCI713 getting underway.

LCI713 will be on the move in the near future! We are reaching the end of our stay at the closed Thunderbird Inn (Red Lion Inn) next to the I-5 Bridge over the Columbia River. In the very near future, plans are to move the LCI713 to a more convenient moorage site. A lot of red tape must be cut before moving, but everything is going according to timetables and looks good for the planned move. Stay tuned to the web site for exact dates and times.

## Joke of the Quarter

The Chief noticed a new Seaman aboard one day and barked at him to come into his office. "What is your name sailor?" was the first thing the Chief asked the new guy. "John," the new guy replied. The Chief scowled, "Look, I don't know what kind of bleeding-heart, liberal pansy stuff they're teaching Sailors in Boot camp today, but I don't call anyone by their first name. It breeds familiarity and that leads to a breakdown in authority. I refer to my sailors by their last name only - Smith, Jones, Baker - that's all. I am to be referred to only as 'Chief.' Do I make myself clear, sailor?" "Yes, Chief!" "Good! Now that we got that straight, what is your last name?" The new guy sighed and said, "Darling. My name is John Darling, Chief!" "Okay, John, the next thing I want to tell you is..."



Battleship USS Indiana BB58

## Quiz of the Quarter:

Match the WW2 ship name to her nickname. First correct answer to reply gets a free LCI 713 Hat! Reply by US Mail letter to the AFMM.

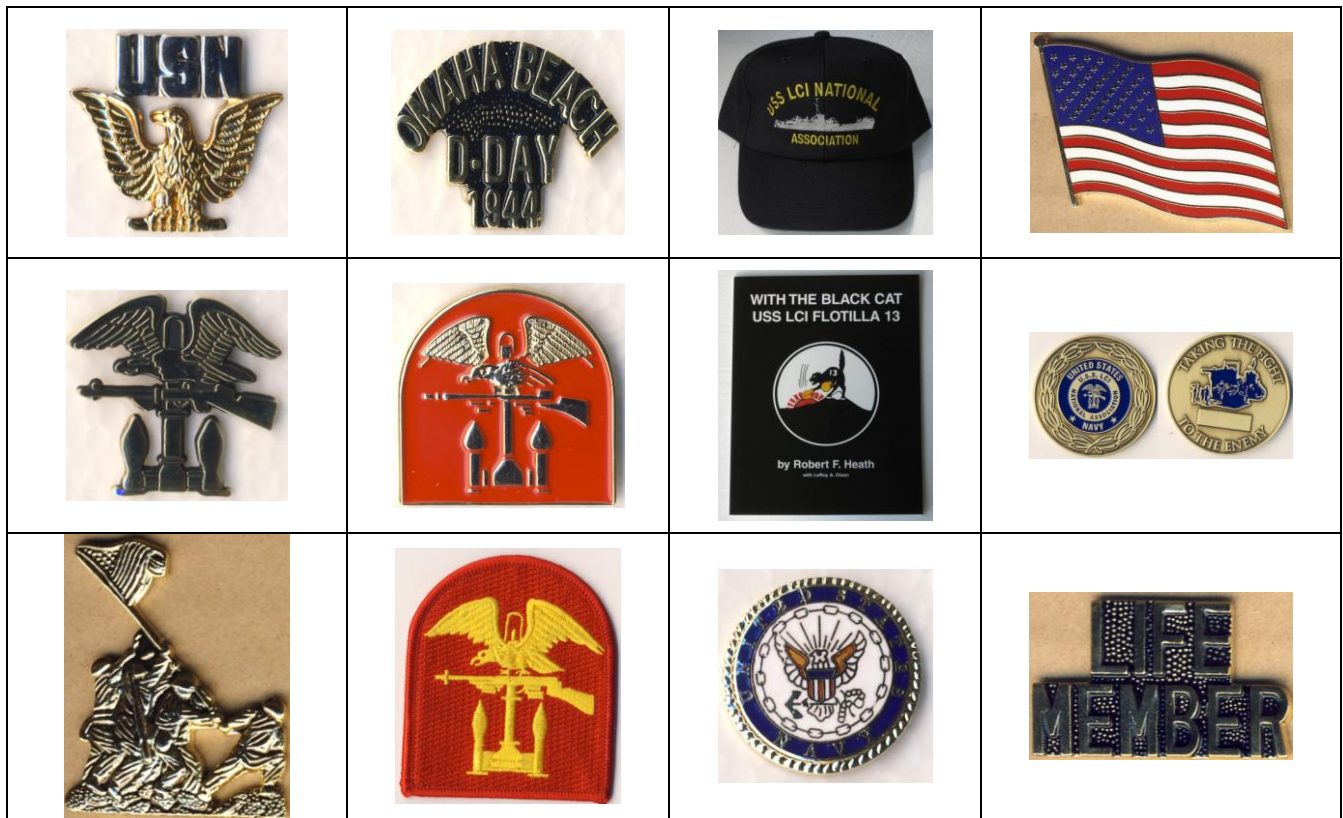
- |                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Weevee       | A. USS South Dakota BB57   |
| 2. Rebel Ship   | B. USS Massachusetts BB59  |
| 3. Prune Barge  | C. USS Tennessee BB43      |
| 4. Big Stick    | D. USS North Carolina BB55 |
| 5. Battleship X | E. USS Iowa BB61           |
| 6. Evil I       | F. USS West Virginia BB48  |
| 7. Big E        | G. USS California BB44     |
| 8. Showboat     | H. USS Idaho BB43          |
| 9. Big Spud     | I. USS Enterprise CV6      |
| 10. Big Mamie   | J. USS Intrepid CV11       |

## SHIPS STORE:

We have a number of items of interest for sale in our store including:

- Amphibious Forces related pins and patches
- USS LCI National Assoc Hats and patches
- U.S. Navy Gold Anchor or Eagle Pins
- Various script pins
- LCI Challenge Coins
- And a couple of good books:
  - o Black Cat Flotilla,
  - o Iwo Jima Recon
  - o U.S. Navy at War., Cradle of Invasion

Of course, all profits go to supporting our mission. Check out our website at [www.amphibiousforces.org](http://www.amphibiousforces.org) for ordering or call Gordon Smith at 360-256-5901





Amphibious Forces Memorial Museum  
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## «AddressBlock»



The AFMM is a federal nonprofit charitable 501 C3 organization per IRS tax code. We are an all volunteer organization, so every penny donated and all membership fee's are tax deductible and go directly toward helping us fulfill our mission.

Membership Types: Plank: \$1,000.00 (Good for life.) Mustang: \$100.00 for one year. (Life membership status for Vets of WW-II, Korea and Viet-Nam.) Yard Bird: \$20.00.

You can join by mail or via our website using a credit card.

AFMM Board Meetings are held every third Saturday of the month and are open to our membership. Please contact us for specific time and place.

Want to know more about us? If you are in the area join us Saturday Mornings at 08:30 for breakfast at Paul's restaurant, 1800 Broadway, Vancouver, Washington.

For more info please check our website: [www.amphibiousforces.org](http://www.amphibiousforces.org) or for information on visiting the 713 please contact us at 509-427-5402 or 503-266-9173.