



# FLAMIN' CAIMAN TALES

[www.flamincaiman.org](http://www.flamincaiman.org)

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## COMMANDER'S SCUTTLEBUTT

Our Commander, John "Yeo" Fagereng, is taking this newsletter off. He is enjoying retired life when wife (Judy) allows it. Since he is now slim and trim, Judy assumes he can do more than before and is out to prove it.

## CAR RENTAL

After spending a good amount of time on the phone, we have what looks like a good deal with BUDGET RENT A CAR. The "good deal" comes with free mileage – you do have to pay for the gas you use. We can rent an intermediate size car at Springfield, MO airport for about the same price that two people can ride the shuttle bus round trip. This will give you a vehicle while you are at the reunion. The discount is available to Caiman sailors, a week before and a week after the reunion and is nationwide, so you can rent a car anywhere in the US and drive to the reunion. The Budget Discount (BCD#) number for our event is: **U078880**. Don't lose it. We can call **1-800-772-3773** and mention our Budget Discount Number or to reserve online go to [www.budget.com](http://www.budget.com) and enter the BCD on the left side of the screen below the rental information.

## HOTEL

The Lodge of the Ozarks is the place. Make your reservations by calling 800-213-2584. Rooms are \$69.00 a night or \$77.05 after tax. The room rate is good for two days prior and two days after the reunion dates. Reservations will close on April 15, 2008. After that date, rooms maybe available, but probably not at our price. Their web site is [www.lodgeoftheozarks.com](http://www.lodgeoftheozarks.com).

## ETERNAL PATROL

We have lost some more shipmates on Eternal Patrol since the last newsletter.

Kenneth Cueman (Plankowner) MoMM1(SS) 44/45  
Edward Lovejoy LCDR 48/49  
Michael Merza SD2(SS) 63/65

Sailors, rest your oars

## LETTERS

The CAIMAN Assoc. received a couple of letters recently. One was from Ken Cueman's Widow. She informed us of Kens passing and asked to stay on our mailing list. We also received a letter from John Tillson, XO 60/62, he can't make the reunion but donated a \$100.00 to help with the reunion.

**REMEMBER,  
KEEP THE WATER  
OUT OF THE PEOPLE TANK**

## ADDRESSES

We have had newsletters returned each mailing because of incorrect addresses. Now, before I accuse all of you, the Postal Service has made mistakes. Hard to believe isn't it. Please keep us informed of your current address. If we can't find a correct address with a few phone calls we will remove any returned addresses from our mailing list. I do want to thank all that have sent us their change of address. We have also started noting on the sailing list "ADDRESS UNKNOWN" to indicate returned addresses with the last known address underneath. If this is confusing, you will understand when you see the sailing list.

## REUNION TEE SHIRTS

We are introducing two new tee shirts for the reunion. These are a different material and designs. Also the process for putting the designs on the tees is different. The bad news, the process is so new that the tees only come in white.

## REUNION PRIZES

As of now we have 10 prizes plus the free rooms for the drawing. Yes, you have to be at the reunion to win. I understand the CAIMAN Sweethearts have an item for a special drawing, like the last reunion. To be fair to all, we will ensure that any tickets that the grand prize winner from the last reunion buys will disappear.

## TREASURER

Our treasurer, Ivan "Whit" Whitwell is resigning this month. He is moving to Georgia. I understand that is part of the US. As usual, the one thing that gets a sailor to move – a female. Yvonne "Georgia Peach" Smith has convinced him that he would be happier in Georgia. Our Commander, according to the bylaws, can appoint someone to fill the position. He picked me. Just like on the boat – give the extra job to the single john. My title is now Secretary/Treasurer/Storekeeper. If I don't answer the phone, I am sure you can understand why.

## SAILING LIST

We come up with another way to locate lost shipmates using the VA. Yeo and I went through the microfilm of the ships diaries again. We found some errors. Course there were the Yeo's mistakes not mine. Anyway the lost list is a little shorter now. The Sailing list has grown a bit, sorry to say mostly from shipmates on Eternal Patrol. Civilian life was hard on some of these guys. Maybe they moved to Georgia.

Sailing List: 911  
Expected at the next reunion: 545  
Eternal Patrol: 366  
Lost List: 502