

2015 Piper Reunion

Cleveland Ohio

Thursday, 23 July through Sunday, 26 July 2015

with welcome aboard party on Wednesday, 22 July for early arrivals

5 April 2015

Dear Shipmates:

Our 2015 Piper Reunion is confirmed.

A form for registration is part of this Piper Report. Please fill it out and return it as soon as you can.

The events dates are Thursday, 23 July through Sunday, 26 July, but we will host a welcome aboard party on Wednesday 22 July for early arrivals.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW

We will be staying at the “Hampton Inn Cleveland—Downtown”. The name is very important when making your reservations. The number to call is 1-800-Hampton to reserve your rooms. The rate is \$119.00 per night, which for a downtown location is very good. I hope you will chose to stay there so that we can be together as a group 24/7. In the past, when we stayed at different hotels, there was a disconnect among us. Please call in your reservations as soon as possible. Don’t wait, as we need to know who and how many are going. Refer to USS Piper SS 409 or use group code “USS”

PLEASE SEE REGISTRATION FORM AND RETURN IT ASAP

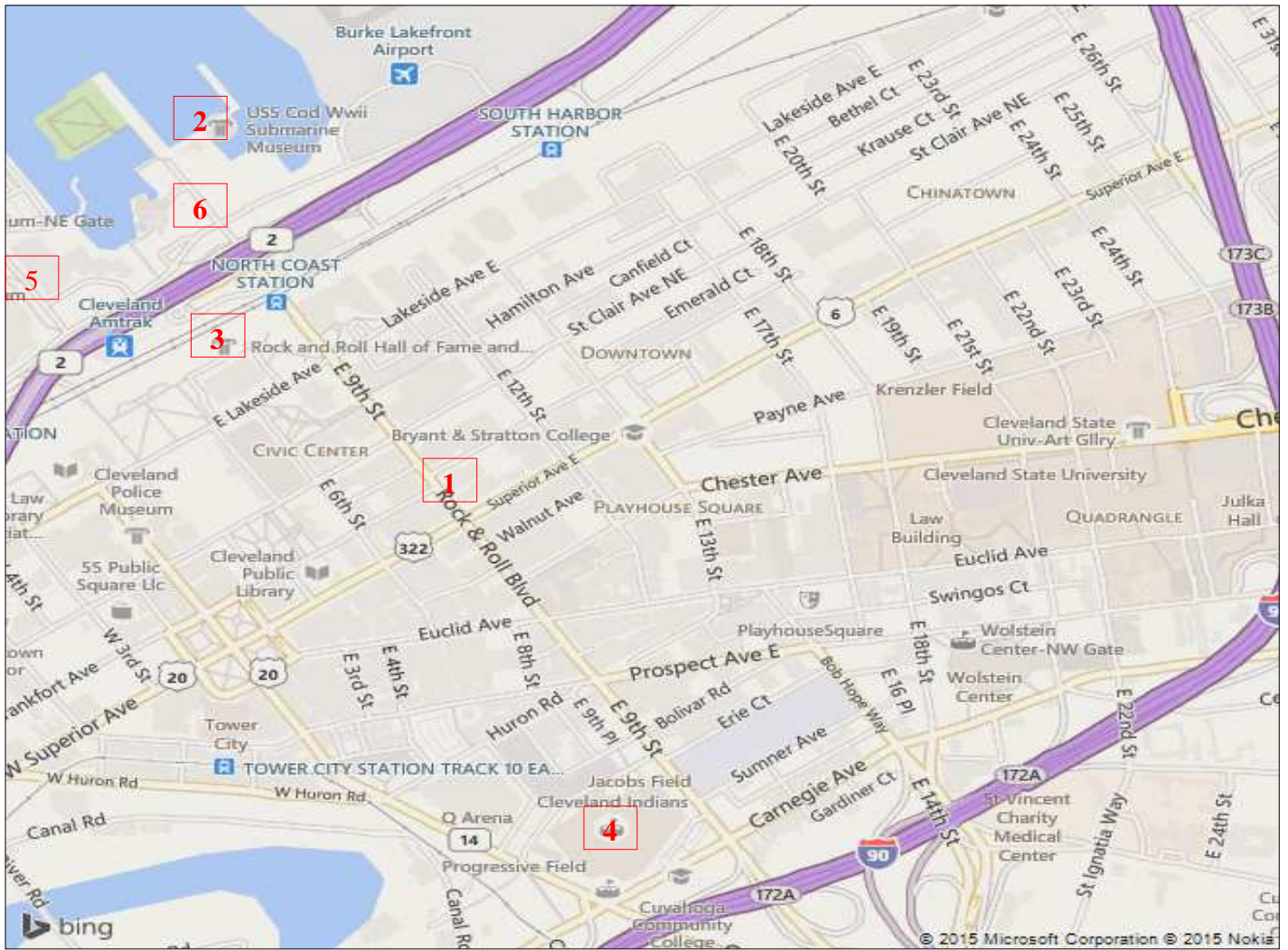
For those of you who don’t know, the USS Cod (SS 224) www.usscod.org/ is moored there, and I toured her with Kucharski a few years ago. Wow! You will feel like you’re stepping onboard a functioning diesel boat...because you will be. The engines run and this boat is so well kept that it could get underway tomorrow. This is a boat you have to visit. Their crew is very enthusiastic about us coming there for our reunion. They have special activities planned for us as well.

Shipmates, don’t let this important event be one you look back on and say, “I wish I had gone.”

Tulips are sprouting out front here in the northeast, so for those of you who have endured this winter, enjoy the nice weather.

Regards,

Frank



Locations

1. Hampton Inn Cleveland—Downtown
2. USS Cod Submarine Museum
3. Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
4. Cleveland Indians Ball Park
5. Great Lakes Science Center
6. Steamship William G. Mather Museum

The *USS COD Submarine Memorial* is a National Historic Landmark and is located on Lake Erie in downtown Cleveland, Ohio at the western edge of Burke Lakefront Airport and about one block east of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. See: <http://www.usscod.org/>

USS PIPER (SS409)

Reunion of the Crews--Cleveland, Ohio

23-26 July 2015

Shipmates:

The schedule is set for our reunion. Tom Kucharski has done a great job setting this event up for us. Please return your registration form and your check to Mike Hubbard as soon as you can. As we've done in the past, if you have a cash flow issue, you may send in a deposit of at least 50% of the fees and pay the balance on arrival. The most important thing for us is to get your forms in as soon as possible, as we have to meet certain guarantees of attendees.

Thank you,

Frank

Wednesday 7-22-15 Early Arrival Welcome Aboard (Plan to be Determined)

Thursday 7-23-15 Meet at the USS Cod for Brunch
Then next door to world famous Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
Late afternoon--Meet at USS Cod for Barbeque
Then to the Cleveland Indians vs. Houston Astros at 7:00 pm
Persons attending _____ @ \$29 per person = _____
(Tickets are \$39 each. Piper Association will pay \$10 difference)
(We have a block of 30 seats so please respond asap)

Friday 7-24-15 Brunch at the USS Cod, then over to the Science Museum and a tour of a Great Lakes Freighter
or time slot could also be used for a trip to the Casino.

Saturday 7-25-15 Cleveland City Trolley Tour—Very Good Event
Persons attending _____ @ \$23 per person = _____
Reunion Banquet/Dinner Polka Party with a Live Band & Dancing

Sunday 7-26-15 Farewell Brunch at USS Cod

All Brunches, Barbeque, and Farewell Dinner, including Hospitality Suite and Drinks:
Persons attending _____ @ \$100 per person = _____

Reunion registration fee:
Persons attending _____ @ \$10 per person = _____
TOTAL: _____

I am remitting \$ _____ for events as indicated above.

Send as soon as you can to:

Michael Hubbard
271 Elm Street
New London, CT 06320

Who Will Be There?

Ed Cushman & Darlene
Mike Hubbard
Frank Whitty, Mary, Patrick & guest
Larry Boutelle & Barbara
William (Beetle) Bailey
Charles Swartz & Cathy
Miles Schmidt & Linda
Everett Wilcox
Gary Pittman
Tom Kucharski & Char
Larry Heckelsmiller & Susan
Richard Fohn
Gerald Harring & Guest
Ralph (Zoomie) Norman
Terry Welsh & Ann
Preston Douthitt

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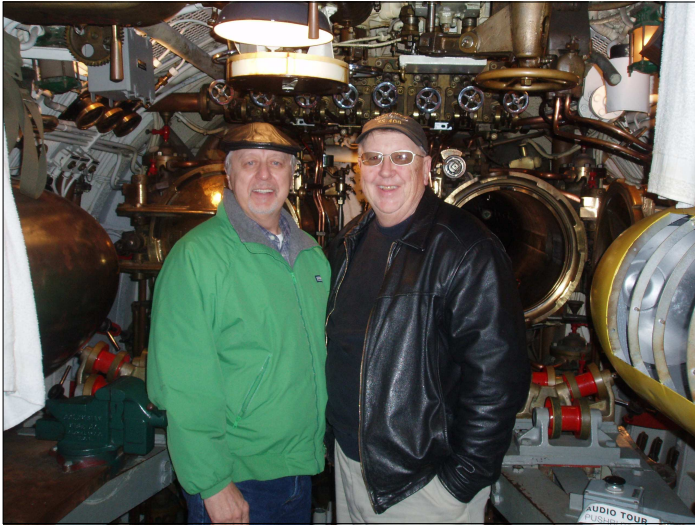
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Tom Kucharski and Frank Whitty aboard the USS Cod in December of 2011

Cleveland City Trolley Tour

More than 20 miles of facts and fun are covered in Trolley Tours' well known City Sightseeing Tour, one of the most reliable, pleasant and convenient ways to see Cleveland. The comprehensive 1 and 2 hour narrated tours include [The Flats](#), a river port where the Cuyahoga River meets Lake Erie; Cleveland's North Coast Harbor featuring the world's only [Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum](#) and the [Great Lakes Science Center](#); [Downtown Cleveland](#), with its mix of historic and modern architecture; The [Warehouse District](#) with loft apartments, restaurants & galleries in downtown's oldest and newest "neighborhood"; [Ohio City](#), with both Victorian homes renovated by "urban homesteaders" and the [West Side Market](#), one of the world's largest indoor/outdoor food and produce markets; the Gateway Sports complex; [Playhouse Square](#), the nation's largest theater restoration project and 2nd largest performing arts center; The [Cleveland Clinic](#), one of America's premier medical centers, [University Circle](#), a focal point for our cultural, educational and medical institutions and a drive through the historic [Cultural Gardens](#), saluting the ethnic groups who have built our community. Your 2 Hour Tour concludes with a brief stop at the [Rockefeller Greenhouse](#) and a return to town along the Lake Erie shoreline back to our station.

See: <http://www.lollytrolley.com/city.htm>

Great Lakes Science Center

Whether it's your very first visit or you're already a familiar face, we welcome you to Cleveland's Great Lakes Science Center! See and touch hundreds of hands-on exhibits, visit the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, immerse yourself in our six-story Cleveland Clinic OMNIMAX® Theater, climb aboard a historic Great Lakes freighter and marvel at science demonstrations performed right before your eyes.

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

The greatest stories and biggest names in rock and roll shine on at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio. The experience includes 4 theaters, multiple interactive stations and 7 floors of exhibits that tell the story of the world's most powerful art form. - See more at: <http://www.rockhall.com/visit-the-museum/plan/#sthash.u7PPIfyQ.dpuf>

Admission:

Adults: \$22

Seniors (65+)/Military: \$17 (with ID)

Hours: Open every day from 10 am-5:30 pm. Open Wednesdays until 9 pm. Open Saturdays until 9pm from Memorial Day through Labor Day

Steamship William G. Mather Museum

When the Steamship *William G. Mather* was built in 1925 by Great Lakes Engineering Works in Ecorse, Michigan, she was considered the latest word in ship design, propulsion, navigation equipment, and crew accommodations. She was the flagship of The Cleveland-Cliffs Steamship Company fleet until 1952.

Cargo

The *Mather* left the shipyard on July 24, 1925, for Ashtabula, Ohio, to load her first cargo, coal, for delivery to Lakehead, Ontario, Canada. The *Mather's* principal trade pattern was iron ore from the Lake Superior region delivered to steel mills in lower lake cities such as Cleveland. Sometimes she backhauled coal from a Lake Erie port to a Lake Superior port.

From loading docks built higher than the vessels they service, cargo flows by gravity into a ship's cargo spaces. Cargo flowed into the *Mather's* four holds through the eighteen hatches on her spar deck. Unlike numerous self-unloading vessels (ships equipped with powered belts and booms to discharge cargo) now plying the lakes, the *Mather* possesses no unloading equipment. She relied on shore machinery for unloading. At many lower lake destinations, iron ore was unloaded by giant grasshopper-like Hulett unloaders. No longer necessary because of the increase in self-unloaders, much unloading machinery has been dismantled. Though disassembled, two Hulett unloaders can still be found on Whiskey Island in Cleveland, Ohio. Efforts are being made to preserve them as part of the Great Lakes heritage.

Engines

As built in 1925, the *William G. Mather* was powered by a four-cylinder quadruple expansion reciprocating engine of 2,300 horsepower. Steam was produced in coal-fired boilers. The ship was repowered in 1954 with a cross-compound steam turbine that developed 5,000 horsepower. The boiler is now fueled by oil. The system was designated as a historic landmark in 1995 by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

In 1964, the *Mather* became the first Great Lakes vessel to have fully automated boiler controls which were developed and produced by Bailey Meter. They were monitored and operated by the engineer on watch from an engine room console. The installation was so successful that Cleveland-Cliffs made similar modifications on its other ships, and other shipping companies undertook similar projects. This is also a part of the historic landmark designation.

The *Mather* also received a bow thruster in 1964. This is a reversible propeller near the bow that forces water to one side of the ship or the other, thus moving the ship's bow. A bow thruster increases maneuverability and reduces the need for tugboat assistance. Once again, this is also a part of the historic landmark designation.

Crew

Originally, the Steamship *William G. Mather* was designed to accommodate a crew of 38 plus the captain. In her later years, the switch to oil fuel, engine room automation, changes in the maritime requirements, and economics reduced the *Mather's* crew to 29 in 1964.

Ships' crews are grouped into three departments: deck, engine, and galley. The captain (or master), although officially in the deck department, is at all times responsible for the safety of the vessel, crew, and cargo. The deck department handles navigation, loading, and unloading. The deck crew includes mates, wheelmen, watchmen, and deckhands.

The engine department maintains the ship's engines and other machinery. Engineers, oilers, and wipers make up the engine department. Most members of deck and engine departments on the Great Lakes stand watches. That is, they work four hours and have the next eight hours off, around the clock.

All these people depend upon the galley department to prepare and serve three meals a day and provide clean linen. The galley department includes the steward, second cook, and porter(s).

See:

<http://www.greatscience.com/exhibits/steamship-william-g-mather/history-facts.aspx>