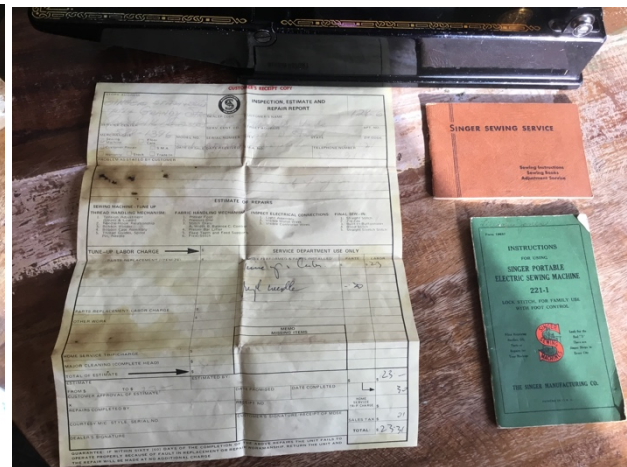


Our Servicemen Featherweights  
Leslie Dyes Wade USCG and Thomas Benjamin Stone USMC

This article features two of our favorite machines and each with a unique ownership history.

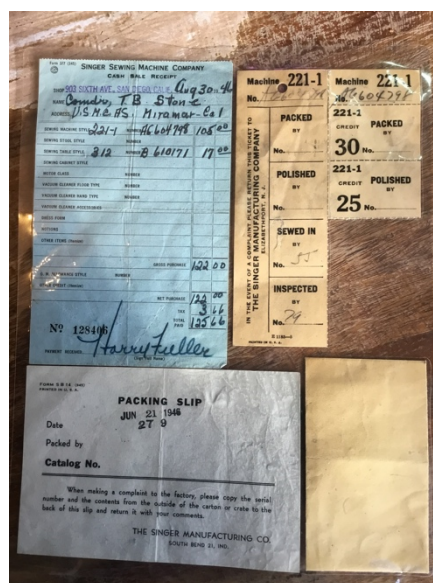


The first **AF876644** was manufactured April 1st, 1941, April Fools Day. This Featherweight was purchased by *Leslie Dyes Wade* of Norfolk, Virginia. Leslie was a lumber buyer/ inspector for the United States Coast Guard prior to and during World War II. He and his wife Paula (Harrell) made frequent trips to Columbia, Bolivia, and Brazil. He carried this Featherweight with him on his buying/ inspecting trips to South America as evidenced by its numerous stickers & shipping labels. We wouldn't dream of restoring this case!



# Our Servicemen Featherweights Leslie Dyes Wade USCG and Thomas Benjamin Stone USMC

The second **AG604798** born February 18, 1946 was purchased by another serviceman, Commander Thomas Benjamin Stone United States Marine Corp Air Service stationed in Miramar, California near San Diego. Miramar Air Service might sound familiar as it would become the home of "Top Gun" and the movie of the same name starring Tom Cruise. Cmdr. Stone served in both WWII and in Korea.



Cmdr. Stone was born and raised in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, home to the infamous Military prison where his father was employed as an electrician. He married Elizabeth McKeen of Fort Riley, Kansas. Her brother was also a bomber pilot flying the B24 & B25 in both World War II and the Korean War.

Their Featherweight has unique features not often seen that remain with the machine. The first is a unique inspection mark on the bottom of the machine found only on early 1946 machines, the letter "D" enclosing the numeral "8". The second is a corrugated lid liner/packing. These liners would most often be removed by the buyer - not in this case! In addition it has also has its original purchase receipt dated Aug. 30th, 1946 and the machines original inspection label sheet, and its original packing slip dated Jun, 1st, 1946 and finally its original key envelope! As noted on the receipt, it was purchased with a Model 312 Featherweight table for \$17!



Our Servicemen Featherweights  
Leslie Dyes Wade USCG and Thomas Benjamin Stone USMC

We call these machines our "Servicemen" and are proud to have added them to our collection. They are two very wonderful and unique Singer Featherweights!

\* Pictured with Cmdr. Stone's Featherweight are the Model 312 Featherweight table (sorry I couldn't remove Pam's sewing stuff and her old 1090S Bernina. Yes, for piecing her quilts she removes the Bernina and puts her Featherweight in the table! \* Also pictured is an original Navy Fighter Weapons School "Top Gun" pilot's cap from Miramar Air Base!