

# USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



## Newsletter

Vol. II, No. 26

May 2011

### CHIT-CHAT From the PRES

### Reunion 2012

HEY MATES (I always wanted to say that so I'd sound like a real Sailor. I guess that's what the old timers said.)

Well now that's out of the way, we can get on with some serious stuff. I've been led to believe that our membership crew, ram rodded by Pete Russell, is really breaking there hinds to try to get us some new members. I think they will be talking about that in this addition, so I won't get into it - just wanted to say a real big THANKS for all the work they are doing. There have to be a lot of dead ends and lost numbers, etc. Keep up the good job fellows!

Along with the good news, we always get a little bad also. One of our founding Fathers of the Association is ailing right now. Bill Couch is fighting some pretty nasty stuff and has been losing weight and just not doing very well. I'm sure a big prayer from all of us wouldn't hurt a thing. Keep fighting Bill!

With those parting words, all of the rest of you stay safe and be healthy. Talk to you all again soon.

*Dick Becker*

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### Association Newsletter

This newsletter is published quarterly by the USS ROCHESTER Association. The Association's Officers encourage questions and comments. You may contact the Editor by writing Gordon Cargill, 11485 Luz Place, San Diego, CA 92127-1229. If you would like to submit an item of information or a story to the newsletter, mail it to the address above or email it to [scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net).

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Watch out San Diego ~ the USS Rochester is coming back! We are thrilled that you have decided to come back to America's Finest City for the 2012 Reunion. With a little background work, site visits, and lots of discussion, the Committee has negotiated a great deal with the Horton Grand Hotel in the heart of Downtown San Diego. The reunion committee: Jerry and Marilyn McCloskey, Frank and Jean Dayak, Don Parker, Gordon, Marge and Cindy Cargill have recently met and selected a hotel for our reunion in San Diego, California – the Horton Grand Hotel. The scheduled dates are from **Monday, October 8, to Friday, October 12, 2012.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDER; PUT A REMINDER IN YOUR CELL PHONE, OR ANY OTHER METHOD YOU MAY HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOU PLAN NOTHING ELSE FOR THESE DATES.**

A few items I want to mention about the hotel:

- ~ guest room rate of \$125.00 single/double
- ~ room rate is available three days prior and after our reunion dates
- ~ it is a beautiful Victorian hotel located in the heart of downtown San Diego near the bay, Petco Park and the Gaslamp District
- ~ within walking distance to over 150 restaurants within 6 block radius

More information will follow in the next newsletter.

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## Progress of Shipmate Search

In the February Newsletter we presented a status report on our effort to contact shipmates who are not members of the Rochester Association that we began following at the 2010 reunion in Milwaukee. Since that report, John Blevins who lives in Boise, Idaho volunteered to search for “B” and “M” Division shipmates that we have identified from official Navy Department records gathered and researched in the early 1990’s by Dennis Winkle (X Div), Farrell Ferguson (Fox Div) and others. Thus, we now have 14 Association members involved in this service project and 7 months under our belts. Thanks again to all for your service to the Association.

From approximately 300 non-member shipmates on our lists we, collectively, have made phone calls or sent letters to 165, thus far. As of the end of April, 20 new members have joined up, and another 28 interested shipmates are (we hope) completing the applications they requested when they were contacted. Of course, during this exercise, we are also discovering the news of the passing of many of our non-member shipmates (please see Joe Hill’s TAPS entry, this newsletter). Once again, if you would like to help us, please take a few minutes to fill out the SHIPMATE SEARCH FORM included in the Association newsletter and send it in...browse through your cruise books and other mementos for clues...help us address the membership shortfall that was discussed in Milwaukee. We still could use a few more “hunters” from the Gunnery Department (2nd thru 5th Divisions), Engineering (A and R Divisions), and “X” Division. If you have some time to spare, please join our happy band by calling (703)569-7733 or e-mailing peterussell@cox.net .

Thank you,  
*Pete Russell (E and Fox Divs, 58-61)*



## Chaplain’s Corner

### GOD CARES

Recently I observed a sparrow close by my patio door hop and skip around. As I watched, it flew to a nest. Later, I carefully looked into the nest and observed some eggs. The mother bird has been observed going in and out of the nest. Today, another peek into the nest and the baby birds are hatching and squirming as they break out of the shell!

This reminds me of how God cares for all his creation. Jesus asked the question, “Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid, you are worth more than many sparrows.” (Luke 12:6-7 NIV)

The challenges we face as shipmates in our senior years are many. The storms of life may come, but God cares for us in our situations. Watching the little sparrows is a reminder again of how God lovingly cares. Be encouraged, because He cares.

*Frank West, Chaplain*  
[fawest@jps.net](mailto:fawest@jps.net)

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### From a Shipmate...

Pete Russell sent along a photograph he snapped in 2008 of a plaque honoring the USS Rochester, located above the north end-zone of the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. He and his wife, Julie, were attending the 50th reunion of his USNA Class of 1958, and just happened upon the plaque along the wall above their seats at the football game (however, note the incorrect dates in the inscription)."



# TAPS

TAPS this month is a lot longer than usual. This information is from the effort of Pete Russell and his staff trying to locate shipmates that was initiated at the Milwaukee Reunion and from you completing the SHIPMATE SEARCH Form. The list shows many shipmates are no longer with us -- a GREAT reason for getting together at our Reunions.

**The following shipmates were reported to have passed away recently. If anyone has additional or different information, please let us know.**

Name	ST	Yr	Div	OnBd
Anthony J. Belli	NY	2010	5 <sup>th</sup>	51-53
RADM Robert H. Blount	VA	2009	T	47-49
James A. Brennan	PA	2005	5 <sup>th</sup>	46-47
Carol L. Brenner	TX	?	5 <sup>th</sup>	51-54
Jack B. Brown	SC	?	5 <sup>th</sup> ,CR	52-54
Thomas Brown	CA	1998	K/OI	58
Robert J. Devine	MA	2010	1 <sup>st</sup>	48-52
Lindell S. Dunbar	IL	?	S	52-55
Colurn E. Eubank	AZ	1998	?	?
Jerry B. Falls	FL	?	1,4,5	50-53
William R. Floyd	TN	?	S	47-48
Kenneth R. Frain	MO	1988	1 <sup>st</sup>	55-58
Louis R. Gabbard	OK	2009	5 <sup>th</sup>	?
John Goins	AL	2009	5 <sup>th</sup>	46-48
Joseph M. Gray	AL	2007	S1	57-59
William H. Griffith	VA	2009	5 <sup>th</sup>	47
Louis D. Hammock	WA	1991	OR	57-58
Wayne B. Harbarger	OH	2010	T	49-51
William T. Jones	NC	2003	5 <sup>th</sup>	55-58
Melvin J. Kinsman	MA	2003	FOX	53-55
Francis B. Knight	NJ	2005	4 <sup>th</sup>	54-56
Glenn R. Lantz	NC	2005	S	50-51
Clarence "Ski" Lesczykowski	WA	2011	M	?
Rodger Lomoljo	NV	1999	OI	57-59
Richard Makela	MN	1974	4 <sup>th</sup>	56-60
Willie Lee Mangum	NC	2010	2 <sup>nd</sup>	53-54
Galen Martin	KS	2007	2 <sup>nd</sup>	57-60
Brad M. Mihm	CA	?	S	50-52
Lavern N. Nowling	MN	1996	S	57-59
Wayne Elliott Orr	OR	2008	T	51-54
Ronald J. Rothweller	fl	2011	A	51-54
Anthonie M. Voogd	CA	2010	5 <sup>th</sup>	59-60
Milton R. Whitaker	OH	1996	5 <sup>th</sup>	50-53
Robert F. Wilson	NY	2004	4 <sup>th</sup>	52-55

## USS Rochester Museum

There has been a change in the stewardship of the Museum in Rochester, New York. Mr. Glen Cervone has retired as Registrar and Mr. Lea Kemp has taken over that position. The museum is a part of life of the USS Rochester Association. Unfortunately, not many of our shipmates have visited the museum or if they have, no one has reported what they thought of what the museum has to offer. I realize that Rochester, NY is not on everyone's place to travel but it would be nice if some of our shipmates were to visit the museum and put some input into the Newsletter for all of our shipmates to appreciate what is being done to remember and honor the ship we all served on.

If anyone plans to visit the museum it is advisable to call ahead to make sure that it will be open. Mr. Kemp's phone number is 585-271-4552 ext.315. His e-mail address is lkemp@rmsc.org

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### New Members

We wish to welcome aboard (again) the new USS Rochester Association members:

Name	Div	OnBd
Irving Citron	OE	56-57
James W. Edwards	OE	58-59
Roger L. Herbert	Flag	57-58
Daniel Itami	OR	57-59
RADM Paul H. Lautermilch	CIC	59-61
Richard J. Money	CR	52-53
Joe Ryan	T	51-54
Vernon R. Veron	1 <sup>st</sup> LT	57-60
Jerry Zoppi	Fox	49-53

And we wish to welcome aboard (again) previous members who have **rejoined** the Association:

Name	Div	OnBd
Roy E. Heath	OR	54-57
Earl F. Lanning	R	50-53
Robert W. Rowe		
Harry J. McDonald	R	51-57

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## Membership & Mailing Information

### **DUES FOR 2011 ARE NOW DUE!!**

*Cookeville, TN* -**Dues for 2011 are due after January 1st.** There are still a good many shipmates who have not sent in their dues for 2011. It is now time to pay your dues for the year, plus you many send in dues for next year too. Hopefully those who are behind will mail their dues in soon. If you are unsure of your status, check the address mailing label of your News Letter. An example: Pete Smith 09 would indicate your dues have been paid up for the year 2009. If you are not sure, Joe Hill will be glad to verify your membership status. Joe can be reached at 4011 Ditty Road, Cookeville, TN 38506-7663. Phone Number 931-432-4848. E-Mail: NiteCrawl@twlakes.net

**THESE ARE DIFFICULT TIMES AND IF A SHIPMATE HAS DIFFICULTY PAYING THEIR DUES, LET JOE HILL KNOW. THE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION HAVE PREVIOUSLY VOTED TO GRANT AND WAIVE DUES REQUIREMENTS. NO ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO INVESTIGATE.**

### **SNOW BIRDS SNOW BIRDS SNOW BIRDS**

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS ESPECIALLY YOU SNOW BIRDS WHO MOVE WITH THE WEATHER SHOULD SEND THESE CHANGES TO JOE HILL. A REMINDER VIA E-MAIL TO JOE OR A NOTE WILL DO.

Notification of changes will keep the mail following on a steady course.

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### **Request From a Shipmates Family**

Joe Hill received an e-mail from Terrie Reynolds requesting any information on her uncle, Charles Clevenger. According to Farrell Furguson he was in the 5th Division during the time frame of 1950. Terrie is interested in any photos some of his shipmates may have. She would like to be able to present him a group of pictures of him and his Navy time buddies on an upcoming birthday. If you have any pictures to send to Terrie, please identify the shipmates that are in the picture. This would mean a great deal for her uncle to have. She can be contacted at [terrie\\_reynolds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:terrie_reynolds@sbcglobal.net).

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The following poem was first published and distributed on the Rochester April 23, 1956 – Written by, Mr. Granville Spaulding Borden of San Francisco. Mr. Borden was a Civilian Shipmate.

### **TO THE USS ROCHESTER (CA 124)**

"Slugger - you're right in the pink  
As you train for your next fight  
Ever since you entered the heavies  
you've been every inch - all right

In very past encounter  
You have never lost a round  
You've won them all by knockouts  
You never have been downed

You're known as the killer from Rochester  
But you first saw light of day  
In a village known as Quincy  
In a Massachusetts bay

You come from a line of fighters  
Your Pappy he won renown  
For staying in this fight game  
Till "Old Age" knocked him down

When you were beginning to feel your oats  
Back in nineteen forty-five  
Your promoters almost dropped you cold  
To leave you more dead than alive

From nineteen hundred and forty-six  
You trained for ensuing frays  
Under several different trainers  
In many sorts of ways

In every battle in Korea  
you won victory and fame  
For your Country and her people  
And honor for your name

Credit to millions of your fans  
Even the Army Mules  
You're a game hard bitten fightin' fool  
Under International rules

Today you are ready and willing  
To take any challenge on  
Whether be represents the Soviets  
Or any Chinese Tong

More than a hundred and sixty-six million  
Sponsors will be wishing you well  
Wherever you may enter the heavy right  
God Bless you - Give them Hell".

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## Non-Payment of Dues

The following is a list of shipmates who are two years behind in payment of dues. The last years their dues were received were for 2009. As per the by-laws, "members two years in arrears will be dropped from the active list." This includes mailing of the News Letter every quarter. If any shipmate recognizes a name on the list, please take a moment to contact the person and try to get them to catch up on their dues.

Aarsvold, Jack CPL USMC.  
 Alexander, William E. BT3 - Retired USAF.  
 Anderson, Andrew C. Plank Owner.  
 Basham, Jan A. FPFN.  
 Brilla, Larry A. Plank Owner.  
 Derry, Richard L. RD3.  
 Dixon, Edward "Gene" MAJ USMC.  
 Endo, Bob S. EN3.  
 Engling, Leon C. ET3.  
 Fanning, William (Bill) J. IC3.  
 Fappiano, Felix FN.  
 Farrar, Richard G. GM2.  
 Gibbins, Van D. EM3.  
 Gladston, Paul ENS.  
 Hofius, Ray J. RD2.

Kirk, Ballard MM3.  
 Koeser, Jr. Edward L. EM3.  
 MacFarland, Charles E. BT1.  
 Plienis, Harold A. SN.  
 Porter, Jimmie A. SGT USMC.  
 Post, Lambert "Bert" ET2.  
 Reamy, Kenneth L. QM3.  
 Reed, Robert N. SA  
 Reynaud, Raymond J. CS3.  
 Sutherland, Ray H. CPL USMC.  
 Turner, Louis E. CPL USMC.  
 Velez, Adolfo (Rudy) L. SK3.  
 Welch, Thomas A. LT.  
 Whitmore, James E. RD2.

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### U.S.S. Rochester (CA-124) Association SHIPMATE SEARCH

*Dear Shipmates Attending the Reunion in Milwaukee, WI:*

We are continuing our search for Rochester shipmates who are not currently enrolled in the Rochester Association, to enable us to let them know that there is a Rochester Association that would be honored to have them as members. We need your help!

The form below is provided for you to fill in with as much information as you are able about shipmates in your Division (or on the ship) that you remember. Anything, however minor it might seem, might assist the search "committee" to locate them and make a personal phone call. When completed, please mail the form to: Pete Russell, 7415 Shady Palm Drive, Springfield, VA 22153.

If you would like to help us further, by taking a more active role in this search, please let me know.

Thank you,

*Pete*

(703) 569-7733, [peterussell@cox.net](mailto:peterussell@cox.net)

Name, Rate	Year Aboard	Address/Phone/email	Hometown	Affiliations	Other Recollections

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