

# USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



## News Letter

Vol. II, No. 23

August 2010

### From The Secondary Con

It is with regret that I resign as President of the USS ROCHESTER Association. Once again, I have been given the opportunity to serve at the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, and I do not feel that I can do justice to the Association continuing as its President. I did not seek out this new opportunity, but when it was offered, I accepted with pleasure and a great deal of trepidation.

I believe the rules state that the Executive VP becomes the President upon the resignation of the incumbent. Dick Becker will be the best President we've ever had.

Since I'll be out of the country during the reunion, I won't make it to this one.

It has been truly an honor and pleasure to work with and for the Association. The Association's officers are the very best. Your integrity and sense of duty are the caliber.

Best regards,  
*Garry Phillips*

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### USS ROCHESTER (CA124) 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 send it to [scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net).

### From The Secondary Con

Hello to all you ship mates:

This is a little bit hard to get this note started as there are a fair amount of you that I know, have met, have heard about or hope to meet in the near future. Before I go any further, I'll tell you that I am Dick Becker, and I was your Executive VP of the Association. Our President, Garry Phillips, who you all know has spent a fair amount of time over in Iraq and has been very involved in everything that is going on over there, has been offered the chance to go back, and has accepted this challenge.

Per the Association Bylaws, he has moved me up the line and made me the President. When that took place, the board and officers offered the position of Executive VP to Ed Willis and he has said yes. Most of you know Ed from being one of the driving forces behind the reunion in DC two years ago and I'm sure he will do a super job with us. I also have received word that our Master at Arms (Jim Young) isn't feeling well and will be stepping down. Once again we met and have offered the position to Bill Berkley so you will have a batch of new faces when you get to the reunion.

I am really overjoyed with this up coming reunion, do to the fact that you will be coming up to my home stomping grounds. My wife and I live about 4 hours NW of Milwaukee and think this is really a fun place to be. I hope you all agree with me on that, and I am really, really looking forward to seeing you in September.

Have a safe trip!  
*Dick Becker*  
*Your new President*

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## A Shipmates Request

After I got out of the Army in 1947, I joined the USNR. I served on the USS Rochester for a two week training cruise in the Atlantic Ocean with a goodwill stop in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I was a Radio striker and my combat station was in CIC room. I was wondering if there is a longitudinal cross sectional view of the Rochester showing its interior views. If anyone has or knows of such a view, please contact me. Thank you!

Tom Robins  
215-343-2184  
2151 Palomino Dr., Warrington, PA 18976

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### Association Officers

|                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Richard Becker, President             | Ed Willis, Executive VP             |
| Gordon W. Cargill, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP | Donald Schnirel, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP |
| Joseph S. Hill, Sec./Treasurer        | Frank West, Chaplain                |
| Bill Berkley, MAA                     | Larry Stone, Storekeeper            |
| Louis DiRusso, Director               | Merlin A. Scheller, Director        |

Association website:  
[www.USSRochester.org](http://www.USSRochester.org)

Rochester Museum and Science Center  
[www.rmsc.org](http://www.rmsc.org)

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### TAPS

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  |
|-------------------------|----|------|-----------------|-------|
| David "Red" C. Anderson | NC | 2010 | E               | 52-55 |
| Robert E. Arterberry    | MO | 2009 | 5 <sup>th</sup> | 52-55 |
| Archie H. Baldrige, Sr. | AZ | 2010 | X               | 53-55 |
| Louis A. Becker         | IL | 2002 | CR              | 50-53 |
| Cecil F. Blankenship    | AL | 2007 | C               | 47-48 |
| John C. Gustrson        | AZ | 2008 | M               | 52-53 |
| Ralph Ivie              | KY | 2008 | ?               | ?     |
| Delbert Lorenson        | MI | 2009 | ?               | 48-48 |
| Anthony J. Nepivoda     | SC | 2010 | Fox             | 50-53 |
| Jack D. Ritterbush      | CA | 2006 | R               | 53-56 |
| Frederick E. Townsend   | IN | 2010 | E               | 49-52 |

## Chaplain's Corner

### FREEDON

While celebrating Independence Day, I took time to read accounts of the men who signed the Declaration. Men lost their wealth, homes and some lost families. They were committed to the concept of independence and freedom. Willingly the price of their decision was paid.

Reflection was made regarding the role of the Rochester during our days of operation in Korea. There were inconveniences while manning gun turrets and functioning in a wide variety of positions. Yet, we had a warm bed and three meals each day. Our mission was to bring freedom to the oppressed people of South Korea. The role of the Rochester was accomplished.

The price of our spiritual freedom has been paid by Jesus. While speaking to the Jews who had believed in His teachings, Jesus stated, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free". The Apostle Paul addressed the issue in Galatians 6:1, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again in the yoke of bondage". The choice is ours to accept the Spiritual freedom offered to us by Jesus. The freedom was paid by His death on the cross.

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

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### Crew News

The cadets are busy this summer, 8 cadets are attending recruit training, 1 cadet is attending Leadership training, 1 cadet is attending Field Medic training, several cadets are going to the Coast Guard Station, and 1 has been accepted into the national rowing program with a chance to go on to the national team. We will be sending 2 cadets to the NYS fair to recruit. In the mean time we are working on wooden submarines and battleships that we will assign hull #s to and race them in September.

My best to everyone,  
*Mary Roat, LTJG USNSC*

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**DID YOU  
MAKE A COPY  
OF THE  
REGISTRATION PAGE  
FOR YOUR RECORDS?**

**USS Rochester Reunion Milwaukee**  
**September 23-26, 2010**  
**Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel & Convention Center**  
**4747 South Howell Ave. Milwaukee, WI. 53207 (414)615-8001**

**Lodging/Reservations:** Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel or go to [www.ussrochester.org](http://www.ussrochester.org), go to “Reunions” and click on “Link to Wyndham Hotel” at the bottom of page. Click on “Make reservations for this event” or you may register by phone. Be sure you receive your tickets for the free daily breakfast at the Courtyard Restaurant when you check in.

Make your reservations “EARLY” and mention USS Rochester for special group rates if you register by phone.  
**Group Rate:** \$99.00 plus tax 14.6%=\$113.45 per day (tax rate subject to change).

**Hotel reservations “CUT OFF DATE is August 25, 2010”**

After the cut-off date, attendees may reserve on a rate and availability basis.

**Airport:** General Mitchell Intl. Milwaukee (MKE). Chicago O’Hare (ORD) is approximately a 90 minute drive to Milwaukee on I-294/94. When making airline reservations, mention your “VETERAN” status as some will give you discounted rates.

**Reminder:** Pre-order your reunion photos/videos at discounted prices (see pricing at the end of the newsletter) at [www.RSVPvideo.tv](http://www.RSVPvideo.tv)

**Plan of the Day for Thursday, September 23, 2010**

**1200 – 1630** Ship’s Store Open (Bisque Room)

**1400 - 1700** Registration Desk Open

**1500** Arrivals and check-in

**1600 – 1800** Reception (New Orleans Center/North) - COMPLIMENTARY HORS d’ OEUVRES

“DINNER ON YOUR OWN”. THERE ARE MANY FINE RESTAURANTS INCLUDING FAMILY RESTAURANTS, IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA FOR YOUR DINING PLEASURE.

**Plan of the Day for Friday, September 24, 2010**

**0600** Group to meet in Hotel Lobby for Great Lakes Tour

**0615 – 1400** Motorcoach Departs for Great Lakes Naval Training Center.  
Coffee and a boxed breakfast will be provided as you board the bus. Please don’t forget to bring your “FREE” breakfast tickets. (Lunch at Potesta’s Restaurant)

*The Great Lakes Naval Training Center will allow fifty visitors from The USS ROCHESTER to attend the graduation ceremony. We will not be able to accommodate all who may want to go on this tour. Get your registration form in early. Seating will be sequentially allotted according to the earliest postmarked registration.*

**0800 – 0900** Registration Desk and Ship’s Store Open

**0800** Meet in Hotel Lobby for Milwaukee City Tour

**0830 – 1700** Milwaukee City Tour (Tour requires walking and stair climbing)

Guided City Tour of Milwaukee highlighting Milwaukee’s history and progress, its architecture, the ethnic neighborhoods, churches, and beautiful lakefront. We’ll make a stop at the Milwaukee Art Museum to watch the incredible Brise Soleil open & close (weather permitting). Other tour stops will include the following:  
Mitchell Park Horticultural Observatory – “The Domes”, Miller/Coors Brewery Tour, Lunch at Milwaukee Brat House on Old World Third St, Harley-Davidson Museum, Basilica of St. Josaphat.

**1300 - 1600** Hospitality Room Open (Creole Room)

**1400 - 1600** Registration Desk Open

**1400 - 1700** Ship's Store Open

**1745** Motorcoach departs Hotel Lobby for Oktoberfest at Old Heidelberg Park  
(\$5.00 Admittance fee payable at the gate)

OKTOBERFEST : Bavarian Festival, tasty German style food, bratwurst "Spanferkel" (young pig spit roasted over open pit) "Rollbraten" (sliced roast pork). German bands, "Schuhplatter" folk dancing, singing, yodeling and dancing. Of course plenty of Milwaukee's favorite beverage on tap.

**2130** Motorcoach departs Old Heidelberg Park for return to the hotel.

"DINNER ON YOUR OWN"

Plan of the day for **Saturday, September 25, 2010**

**0730 - 0845** Ship's Store Open

**0745 - 1400** Guided City Tour of Milwaukee highlighting Milwaukee's history and progress, its architecture, the ethnic neighborhoods, churches, and beautiful lakefront. We'll stop to see the magnificent Brise Soleil open at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Tour stops will include the following .

Harley-Davidson Museum, Lunch at Milwaukee Brat House on Old World Third St., Milwaukee's famous Custard – a real treat! *NOTE: This is a shorter version of the Friday city tour due to the scheduled business meeting.*

**0800 - 0900** Registration Desk Open

**0915 - 1400** Gateway to Greendale. Tour Historic Greendale-one of three "Greenbelt" communities in the U.S. designed by the FDR Administration. The village of Greendale is the home of Reiman Publications Visitor Center where you'll meet one of the Home Economists from "Taste of Home" magazine and the Test Kitchen. You'll love the Country Store Outlet, the Limerick Hall of Fame and the Norman Rockwell Collection. Greendale has a variety of quaint specialty shops. Lunch will be included at the Harmony Inn Greendale.

**1430 - 1630** Association Business Meeting (Creole Room)

**1715 – 2200** Old Heidelberg Park-Oktoberfest (\$5.00 Admittance fee payable at the gate)

**1730** Transportation to Old Heidelberg Park (Oktoberfest)

**1815** Drop at Old Heidelberg Park

**2230** Pick-Up at Old Heidelberg Park

**2300** Return to Hotel

**1715 – 2130** Edelweiss Boat Dinner Cruise. (Cocktails at the Port of Call Restaurant)

*Menu Options:* Dinners include Salad, Rolls and Butter, and Seasonal Dessert and a complimentary glass of wine.

Option #1 - Flame Grilled Steak, Caramelized Onion Marmalade, Horseradish and Chive Mashed Potatoes, Cabernet Reduction.

Option #2 - Brown Sugar Cured Salmon, Charred Tomato Couscous, Melted Leak and Boursin Cream Sauce.

Option #3 - Grilled Vegetable Stack, Hand Rolled Baked Pasta, Charred Tomato Sauce & Smoked Mozzarella.

**1715** Meet in Lobby for Dinner Cruise

**1730** Transportation to Edelweiss

**1750** Drop at Edelweiss Bar for cocktails (Dinner Cruise)

**1845** Transfer to Edelweiss Dock

**2100** Pick-Up at Edelweiss Dock

**2130** Return to Hotel

Oktoberfest at Old Heidelberg Park – 1730 departure – 2300 return. May make adjustments as needed.

"DINNER ON YOUR OWN"

Plan of the day for **Sunday, September 26, 2010**

Ship's Store opens as requested (See Larry Stone)

**0945- 1500** Meet in Lobby for Tour of Historic Cedarburg  
Historic community north of Milwaukee featuring Cedar Creek Settlement including artisan shops, Cedar Creek Winery, & many other specialty shops on several blocks. This tour will be very much enjoyed by both men & women.

**1430** Meeting place for return in Cedarburg to be designated by driver.

**10:00** Potawatomi Bingo Casino Free Shuttle departs main entrance of Hotel

**1430** Potawatomi Bingo Casino Free Shuttle departs Casino for 1500 return. Meeting place at Casino will be determined by shuttle driver.

**1000-1200** Hospitality Suite Open (Creole Room)

**1300-1500** Hospitality Suite Open (Creole Room)

**1800** Cocktails in New Orleans Ballroom

**1900-2300** Banquet Dinner - *Be sure to bring your dinner selection ticket and raffle tickets.*

*Menu Options.*

Dinner includes: Soup du jour, Garden Salad, Rolls & Butter, Warm Apple Strudel with Vanilla Sauce for Dessert, and Beverage.

Option #1 - Broiled Filet Mignon (9oz.), sauteed mushrooms, breaded onion rings, baked potato and vegetable du jour.

Option #2 - Orange Roughy, Broiled fillet with lemon-chive butter, steamed red potatoes and vegetable du jour.

Option #3 - Chicken "Wellington", mushroom filled chicken breast wrapped in puff pastry, wild mushroom sauce and vegetable du jour.

Option #4 - Baked Vegetable Lasagna, topped with marinara sauce, portabella mushroom and accompanied by grilled vegetable ravioli, asparagus and broccoli.

***NOTE:*** A PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER will be present at the banquet dinner. You may place orders of the event as listed below.

Reunion Photo/Video prices

Group photo

\$15 for 8" x 10"

\$18 for 11" x 14"

\$30 for photo memory book comprised of candid and group photos taken at the dinner.

\$30 for DVD includes color guard, speeches, interviews and any other events captured at the dinner.

Purchase both memory book & DVD for \$50 (\$10 savings) or all three items (8"x 10" group) for just \$55 (\$15 savings)

***Pre-order discount - Order by August 26, 2010 and get an additional 10% off.***

To order go to: [www.RSVPvideo.tv](http://www.RSVPvideo.tv)

Plan of the day for **Monday, September 27, 2010**

Hospitality Suite Closed.

**0600 - 1100** Farewell Breakfast (New Orleans Center/North)

**“MAY YOUR SAILING SEAS BE CALM, AND A GENTLE  
BREEZE BE AT YOUR BACK”**

**“UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN”**

## Empty Places

*By Connie Lorenson*

There is an empty chair  
by the kitchen table,  
where once sat a man  
strong and able.

There is an empty EZ chair  
where a man took rest,  
after a hard day's work  
where he did his best.

There is an empty bed  
where a man once slept,  
now it's the place a  
wife has often wept.

There are two empty  
eyes that once could see,  
a piece of furniture  
while looking at a tree.

There are two empty hands  
strong no more,  
hands that once held  
a gun in a war.

He served his country  
with never a brag,  
proud of his battleship  
flying the American flag.

There was a man who once  
proudly stood,  
for God and Country and  
all that is good.

There is an empty seat  
in church by his wife,  
where he worshipped and loved  
God all of his life.

There are empty places  
in hearts and a home,  
a family filled with memories,  
is not left alone.

*Dedicated to Delbert Lorenson*

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## Donations

Bill & Ellie Couch have made a donation of  
\$25.00 to the Association.

Thank you!

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## Ship's Store

Think MILWAUKEE!!!! OKTOBERFEST  
On the shore of Beautiful Lake Michigan. It's  
almost Reunion Time again.

Your Ship's Store will be previewing a new item  
for consideration from The Ship's Store: Hoodie's.  
We will have two on display which will later be used  
as prizes. For those folks who'd like to order some,  
we will be accepting orders. Any ordered at the  
Reunion will not have to pay a shipping charge.

Fortunately, we have not had to raise prices yet.  
And, the shipping costs have remained the same. We  
advise you all to order your things early while the  
prices are unchanged.

We have plenty in-stock items. If you order them  
now you can show up at the Reunion in high style.

One new service which will be available at the  
Reunion: Personalization on any Rochester clothing  
items. New purchases or items you've brought with  
you: \$7.50 for the first item, \$5 each for additional  
items. Mary has agreed to bring her embroidery  
machine to Milwaukee. She will donate a portion of  
each sale to our Association.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Reunion.  
John Rigoni and his team have been working hard so  
we all can have a memorable Reunion. It's going to  
be a goodie! We wish smooth sailing for us all!

Your Storekeepers,  
*Larry & Mary Stone*

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## Military Humor

*Submitted by Frank West, Chaplain*

On some air bases, the Air Force is on one side of the  
field and Civilian aircraft use the other side of the field  
with the control tower in the middle. One day, the  
tower received a call from an aircraft asking, "What  
time is it?"

The tower responded, "Who is calling?"

The aircraft replied, "What difference does it make?"

The tower replied, "It makes a lot of difference ... if it is  
a commercial flight, it's 3 o'clock; if it is an Air Force  
plane, it is 1500 hours; if it is a Navy aircraft, it's 6  
bells; if it is an Army aircraft, the big hand is on the 12  
and the little hand is on the 3; and if it is a Marine  
Corps aircraft, it's Thursday afternoon and 2 hours to  
"Happy Hour."

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## Membership & Mailing Information

### DUES FOR 2010 ARE NOW PAST DUE!!

Cookeville, TN – **A number of shipmates have NOT sent in their dues for 2010.**

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.

Dues for 2010 should have been mailed soon after January 1st. 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. 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](mailto:NiteCrawl@twlakes.net)

Please send in your dues now so that you will continue being a member of the Rochester Association, and receive all newsletters. The association operates on membership dues.

### 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. *USNSC*

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## Military Humor

"Well," snarled the tough old Navy Chief to the bewildered Seaman, "I suppose after you get discharged from the Navy, you'll just be waiting for me to die so you can come and piss on my grave."

"Not me, Chief!" the Seaman replied. "Once I get out of the Navy, I'm never going to stand in line again!"

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## Shipmates That Have Been Dropped Due to Delinquent Dues From 2008

Buckner, Harold G.  
Cacciatore, Johnny I.  
Cochran, Dean E.  
Cortez, Salvatore F.  
Deveau, Nelson J.  
Dryhurst, George T.  
Everett, Bobby J.  
Fappiano, Peter  
Hughes, Paul D.  
Jenkins, Basil W.  
Kinnick, William G.  
Lucas, Kendal D.  
Oppelt, Robert A.  
Richey, John W.  
Sanford, Clyde  
Scarborough, Daniel P.  
Steams, Sr., Edwin A.  
Witzke, Donald C.

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## New Members

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

| <u>Name</u>      | <u>Div</u>           | <u>OnBd</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Scott E. Clingen | SN 7 <sup>th</sup>   | 52-55       |
| James L. Laster  | FN E                 | 50-54       |
| Kenneth B. Owens | LTJG 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 56-58       |

## Returning Previous Members

| <u>Name</u>           | <u>Div</u>          | <u>OnBd</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Carrol E. Dugan       | GM2 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 52-56       |
| Gale (Sonnie) N. Reed | QM2 N               | 52-56       |

