

USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



Vol. III, No. 9

News Letter

February 2017

From Secondary Conn...

Garry Phillips

re-un-ion/rē'yoonyən/

Noun - an instance of two or more people coming together again after a period of separation.

Any reunion is fun, but there is something special about military, especially ship, reunions. Few things are as much fun as meeting up with someone you have not seen in 40 or 50 years and rehashing sea stories - some of which may be true! At ROCHESTER reunions, the most common question one hears is, "Do you remember ... ?"

I was witness to the most gripping "meetings" one can imagine at a ROCHESTER reunion in Las Vegas. Two former shipmates and their wives met up just outside my hotel room, and the questioning began. Through the door, I heard:

"When were you on board?"

"1953 and 1954."

"Me too"

"What division were you in?"

"B Division."

"Really! Me too!"

"What's your name?"

"Bob ..." (He gave his full name.) "What's yours?"

"Damn, Bob! Don't you remember me? I'm Bill...!"

By the time I opened my door, they were hugging and cuffing each other on the back. The reunion in Charleston is an opportunity to get together again with our old shipmates and buddies. Come on out and join in the memories and the fun.

...and on another subject...

The Association must elect or reelect four executive board officers at this year's reunion. The board provides guidance and direction to the Association President and officers. Shipmates are encouraged to volunteer to serve in this capacity. We are in special need of a 1st Vice President who has the responsibility of publishing the newsletter AND a 2nd Vice President who coordinates The Association with the Rochester Museum and Science Center.

...and just one more thing...

At each of our business meetings, we select a city to host the next reunion. While there is no hard and fast rule, we try to alternate east and west coasts, and then go to a city in the middle of the country. If we follow suit, next time (2018) we will head out west. Principal considerations for the host city include accessibility, affordability, and accommodations. As a footnote...if you want to nominate a location in your vicinity, it does NOT mean you have to be in charge of it. Please be thinking about where you would like to go for the 2018 reunion. Hope to see you in Charleston!

Chaplain's Corner

TRAINING

Training is a basic fact of life. We first crawl, then walk and soon run. We go through the education phase of life. Then comes boot camp where we are trained to wash a white cap in bucket of water and get it ready for inspection. Then we make it to the Rochester and another level of training takes place - chow line, showers, quarters and assignments. Now comes duty stations and general quarters. Remember the drones being launched 0% the fantail for gun practice? We were put through many drills to train and prepare for whatever may happen.

To train is a biblical concept. For example, "train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it" Proverbs 22:6. Experience of life demonstrates we have to continue in training. In our senior years come our support systems of using a cane or other things that help to keep us going. The psalmist states, "Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain a heart of wisdom". Psalm 90:12

May our Lord Bless you in the training you may be going through.

Prayerfully submitted,
Frank West, Chaplain
fawest@att.net

ARE YOU ALL SET FOR THE CHARLESTON REUNION?

This is to let you know that all “official” arrangements are complete for our rescheduled reunion visit to Charleston, SC, **Thursday, March 16th 2017 through Monday, March 20th 2017** at the Crowne Plaza Charleston Hotel, 4831 Tanger Outlet Boulevard, North Charleston, SC 29418. The **special room rate of \$129** plus applicable taxes per night, the schedule of the tours, the entrée selections for the banquet, and the overall itinerary remain the same as was previously planned. Are you “dialed in?”

You might be interested to know that a majority of Shipmates, guests, and wives who were coming in October responded that they will be there in March, and a good number of new participants will be joining us for the festivities. To reiterate, **returning attendees** do not need to re-register with Joe Hill...you’re “on the books”. **New attendees** will find a reunion registration form in this newsletter. Please complete the form and send it in so we can get your tour tickets and name badges prepared, and your banquet entrees ordered. The Association needs this information by **February 16th 2017**.

A reminder: please make your hotel reservations - call the hotel directly at **843-744-4422**. Tell them you are attending the Rochester Reunion (booking code is RCH). Make sure they quote you the special rate of \$129 plus applicable taxes. We have reserved a room block of **40 rooms** at this rate, which is applicable 3 days prior to and 3 days following the official reunion dates, as before. The **hotel reservation cutoff date is February 16th, 2017**. Thereafter, reservations will be on a space available basis.

If you have any questions or need assistance making your plans, or with the registration form (for new registrants), please call or e-mail Pete Russell at 703-569-7733, peterussell@cox.net or Joseph Hill at 931-432-4848, nitecrawl@twlakes.net.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Charleston for this, the Thirteenth National Reunion of the U.S.S. Rochester (CA-124) Association.
HUZZAH!



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. 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.

Association Officers

Garry L. Phillips, President	Pete Russell, Executive VP
Steven van Westendorp, 1 st VP	Vacant, 2 nd VP
Joseph S. Hill, Secy/Treasurer	Frank West, Chaplain
William W. Berkley, MAA	Betsy Phillips, Storekeeper
Frank Dayak, Director	Merlin A. Scheller, Director
Charles L. Chipley, Jr., Director	Donald K. Moon, Director

Association website:

www.USSRochester.org

Rochester Museum and Science Center

www.rmssc.org

Ship's Store

Betsy Phillips is waiting for your order for items from the Ship's Store. Use the enclosed Order Form to make your selections and have your items before the cold weather gets here. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Phillips at Eliz_Phillips@yahoo.com or calling 731-336-4090.

If you would like to see our entire line of USS ROCHESTER (CA-124) items, or if you desire a larger size than what is listed here, please go online to www.WSSRochester.org or contact me via the email address or phone number listed above. I'm looking forward to helping each of you find just the right item to show your ROCHESTER pride!

Betsy Phillips

Change of Address, Email, and Phone Number

To keep the mail flowing to your in box, please file change of addresses both mail and email, and/or phone numbers with Joe Hill. This should keep the information flowing without interruption in service.

Association Dues

Membership Dues for 2017 were due on January 1, 2017. Your current status is noted near your address on mailing address block. If there is a **2015** or **2016** after your name, PLEASE send in your PAST and CURRENT DUES (only \$25 per year) or let us know your intentions.

Donations Received

The Association wishes to thank the following people for their generous donations:

Mark E. Buchman donated \$25.00

Harold F. Ford donated \$75.00

Jess Barosa paid his 2017 dues. Along with his dues was a note: "The USS ROCHESTER gave me my early start back in 1956. Retired in 2014 after 59 years in the kitchen." A business card included with his renewal of membership was from Marriott - Jess Barbosa Certified Executive Chef, Kansas City Marriott Downtown, Kansas City, MO.

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
Robert E. Crabill	TN	2017	Fox	50-52
John R. Elder	NC	2016	5 th	46-47*
John R. Thompson	MA	2016	S-2	47-50

Spouse

Mary Stone	IL	2016	wife of Larry Stone
Beryl Hufford	IL	2016	wife of Marvin Hufford

*Plank Owner

New Members

New Associate Member:

Julia Ruby – wife of Pete Russell

From The Members...

I suspected this all along!!!

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so, too, do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full.

Researchers say this slowing down process is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!!

Now when I reach for a word or a name, I won't excuse myself by saying "I'm having a senior moment." Now I will say, "My disk is full!"

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names.

So, please forward this to your friends; they may be my friends too.

Submitted by

Raymond Boucher, E Div. 51-55

