

# USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



Vol. II, No. 11

## News Letter

August 2007

### From The Secondary Bridge

*Dick Becker, Acting President*

Hi Mates:

Well its that time of the year where things are slowing down some. Sort of like coming home from a cruise to Japan, and sitting waiting for the next one to start again. Of coarse we do have those people that are usually busy doing things to keep us going and make things work.

This year the busy ones would be Ed Willis and crew, Pete Russell and Chip Chipley and of coarse the lady's that put up with them, and others behind the stage. As you will see in other parts of the Newsletter, the reunion in DC is coming along just fine and will be rolling around soon, so starting putting those pennies away for the big event. It should really be neat doing the dedication of the plaque for the old "Roc".

At this point now, I need a little favor. All of the people that donated to the plaque and all the regulars at the reunion, and EVERYONE, lets call just one person that we knew on the ship that we might not have talked to for ever, and see if we can get them to come to this one. Once they find out how much fun we have, they might be hooked.

Now back to our workers. Be sure to look at the ships store menu and see that Larry and Mary Stone are still working hard as usual trying to bring us different things to show off the ship. I did that for a while and it's a job folks. Also, we have the guy that controls the purse strings, and let me tell you he holds a tight reign on them. There probably

aren't any days go by that Joe and Judy don't get mail asking about this and that and sending in dues and things. Then there is our publisher. Man I'd hate to have to publish the Newsletter. By reading it, you see what a SUPER job Gordon is doing. Over all you can see that the folks that run your Association are doing a top notch job. Thanks again and see everyone soon.

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### Reunion in Washington DC

Our next reunion is scheduled to be in our Nations Capital. The committee is now being chaired by Edmund Willis with Chip Chipley and Pete Russell as his able body assistants. The committee has tentatively set plans for the first weekend of October 2008. The first priority is always to set up the hotel and dates. It's a good time now to start planning to attend, as Washington is a great place to visit. There is a lot to see and do in this city. Watch for future News Letters to give more detail.

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### Association Officers

Garry L. Phillips, President	Richard Becker, 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
James Young, MAA	Larry Stone, Storekeeper

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  
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(858) 592-9366

[scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net)

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## The Navy Log Needs You!!

The Navy Log is a computerized permanent register of anyone who has served in the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marine past or present. It is maintained at the Navy Memorial in Washington, DC. Anyone may access it by going on-line to [www.lonesailor.org](http://www.lonesailor.org). When we ran a search for those listing *Rochester* as a duty station only 150 names came up. Since the ship's company numbered 1,200 over a period of 15 years there are a great many shipmates who have not taken advantage of this opportunity. It's a way to memorialize your service, and to call attention to the ship. Think of your grandchildren or other descendents being able to read about you in the future.

You prepare your own entry by completing a form on paper or on-line with your name, rank, service dates, significant tours of duty, and awards. Go on-line and key in the name of one of the Rochester Association officers for an example of how the register works. The register is maintained by volunteers, but does require time and resources, so a donation of \$25.00 is requested to make the initial entry. After that initial entry you can add your photograph and memories of your time aboard ship. The stories make great reading.

For more information and the form write: U. S. Navy Memorial Log, P. O. Box 96570, Washington, DC 20077-7685, or call (202) 737-2300, extension 730. You can also e-mail: [ahoy@lonesailor.org](mailto:ahoy@lonesailor.org).

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## Reunion 2008: A Capital Event

Rochester shipmates and spouses are invited to **Washington, DC** for the 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the ship's company on **October 2-6, 2008**. The Reunion committee has been hard at work for several months already and has contracted with the Holiday Inn-Rosslyn in Arlington, Virginia for rooms and reunion facilities. The hotel is just across the Potomac River from the Georgetown section of DC and there is a splendid view of the river and the city from the hotel.

Washington and surrounding environs have much to offer travelers: the U. S. Capitol, the Library of Congress, the Supreme Court, the National Archives, and the famous monuments along the federal mall; the eighteen museums of the Smithsonian Institution; the National Gallery of Art and several other important galleries; the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; a number of theaters offering comedies, dramas, and musicals; and a safe and convenient transportation system.

A highlight of the reunion will be the dedication ceremony for the *USS Rochester* plaque at the Navy Memorial. The ceremony will include the playing of taps for the departed, followed by photo opportunities at the statue of the Lone Sailor. We plan a dinner cruise on the Potomac River. For the reunion banquet we've invited as speaker the dynamic Joe Campa, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (not confirmed yet).

This is a high rent area, but we're holding the line on costs, even though October is a busy time in Washington with Congress in session and other conventions meeting there. We estimate that a couple will spend just under \$1,500.00 (singles just under \$1,000.00) not counting transportation to and from the city. That covers hotel accommodations, food, tours, dinner cruise, and the like for the four full days of the reunion. This is a good time to begin setting aside your reunion travel funds.

More information will follow in the next newsletter, along with registration forms.

Reunion Committee:  
Ed Willis ([willis885@verizon.net](mailto:willis885@verizon.net))  
Chip Chipley  
Pete Russell



## Editors Column

*Gordon Cargill, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*

The Washington DC reunion is an excellent time to try and increase the membership in the USS Rochester Association. There are shipmates, that all of us would like to reunite with. Just remember a friend, a liberty, a party, a school, or any event that reminds you of a certain shipmate. Have you seen or heard from him recently? Wouldn't it be nice to meet with him again? You now have a great opportunity to see if a reunion with an individual is possible. If you know of such a shipmate, contact them and try to get him to attend. It takes away the awkwardness of getting together. At the reunion there are a lot of people to make meeting one another an easy situation.

If you know of such a shipmate, contact him to find out if he will be attending the reunion. If you do not know their address or phone number, there is a good place to start. Contact Joe Hill, you can find his e-mail, phone number, or address on the membership roster. He will be more than happy to let you know the phone number or address of a shipmate you would like to meet with at the reunion. Contact the individual and invite him to meet in Washington DC in October. If he is not a member of the Association, invite him to join. Just think back to the first time you attended your first reunion and the excitement of meeting shipmates you may not have seen in a number of years.

Let's get out and find missing shipmates that you would like to meet with and make this next reunion the most attended. Just think, if everyone of us could contact just one shipmate to attend, what a great reunion this would be.

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*I received the following note from Anne Hamilton:*

Thank you and the Officers of the USS Rochester Association for the invitation to be an Honorary Member of the Association, which I am honored to accept. I look forward to reading future news of the Association from the News Letter. My very best to the Officers and members of the Association.

*Very truly yours,  
Anne N. Hamilton*

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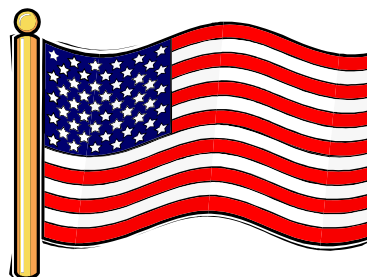
## Membership & Mailing Information

*Cookeville, TN* - The association runs on its active membership. Dues for 2007 should be mailed in soon after January 1st. Of course you may mail them in now and also pay 2008 if desired. There are a number of shipmates who have not sent in their 2007 dues. Hopefully, those who are behind will be able to bring them up-to-date. If you are unsure of your status, check the address mailing label of your newsletter. An example: Bill Jones 06. 06 would be the year your dues have been paid up to. Joe Hill will be glad to further verify your membership status. He will be glad to talk to you. Joe can be reached at 4011 Ditty Road, Cookeville, TN 38506-7663. Phone: 931-432-4848. E-Mail: [NiteCrawl@twlakes.net](mailto:NiteCrawl@twlakes.net)

Joe will also provide members' addresses and phone numbers upon request.

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES ESPECIALLY YOU SNOW BIRDS WHO MOVE WITH THE WEATHER

Please let Joe know your new mailing addresses, phone numbers and e-Mail addresses. Notification of changes will keep the mail following on a steady course.



## Museum Update

*Don Schnirel, 2nd Vice President*

On Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, I visited the Rochester Museum and Science Center in Rochester, NY. I met with Gian Carlo Cervone who is the Senior Registrar for the items that they have received for the USS Rochester CA 124 display. I also delivered to him the Dress Blue Uniform worn by Wilbur Dutcher, FA, at the Commissioning Ceremonies of the USS Rochester in 1946.

I spent about 2 hours with Gian. He showed me the USS Rochester display and after discussing the display, we went to the basement of the Museum where he showed me how the many items are received and stored. There are hundreds of letters, reports, pictures, booklets etc., all too numerous to be displayed in the room assigned to Rochester. These items are all categorized, placed in acid-free envelopes and placed in acid free boxes for storage. All these items are handled wearing white gloves so as not to damage or leave body oils on the papers. From time to time items that are on display are rotated with those in storage.

Gian gave me an incomplete list of items that the museum has for the USS Rochester. The list is 48 pages of fine print. Gian explained to me that he would like to get these items posted on the Web so that all our members, and anyone else that is interested, could look through the items and perhaps find that they have something for the Roc that they may like to donate.

The problem getting the information on the Web is labor. Also priority. He did not ask, but hinted that perhaps we could find a member who would like to assist with this endeavor. He also explained to me how items may be donated. They should come through me and I will meet with Gian a couple times a year and deliver what I have. The items are then taken on loan. A board meets monthly and determines whether the item will be accepted. If it is not accepted, the item will be returned to the donor. This could happen if they already have several like items at the museum, or the item is too old or too worn to be of value.

I have made a copy of the inventory list and sent it to Joe Hill so he will have the list also.

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## New Members

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

Jess Barbosa, CS2, CS Division  
Kansas City, MO, DOB 52-56  
Carol L. Brenner, GM3, 5<sup>th</sup> Division  
Allen, TX, DOB 51-54  
Richard V. Guidas, RM2, CR Division  
Lakewood, CA, DOB 49-52

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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.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST</u>	<u>Yr</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>OnBd</u>
Allen L. Griep	CA	2006	6 <sup>th</sup>	51-54
James Hadsall	KS	2004	H	50-53
James C. Hamilton	MS	2007	5 <sup>th</sup>	50-54
Robert J. Radcliffe	CA	2007	MPA	54-56
Raymond G. Sims	TX	2000	Marine	52-54

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## Attention Shipmates

A good many members still have not sent in their dues for 2007. The Association appreciates your taking the time to mail them in. Check your mailing label out from your name. The Year will be printed in which dues have been paid, i.e.

**John Doe 06.**

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## Chaplain's Corner

Frank West

### TRAINING

One of the critical events aboard the Rochester was training. It was a basic after repairs had been made. I recall how planes would tow a target so our anti aircraft guns could get target practice. This was updated when we brought drones aboard and launched them off the fantail for target practice. I remember some fire drills after which our division officer would tell us in no uncertain words how we could have done better. The training was often tense and stressful. However it was critical for accomplishing the mission of the "Roc".

Training is helpful as we sail through life. I have just returned from a three-day intensive training regarding "Conflict Resolution" by using Biblical principles. It was stressful and uncomfortable. It was effective in helping me discover some blind spots in life with suggestions of how to do things better.

Why do training? It helps avoid being part of a mothball fleet slowly becoming a rust bucket but rather being retrofitted with new tools so we can be effective in the goals of life. I want to be able to say with the Apostle Paul, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course" This cannot be done without ongoing training. So train, endure pain, enjoy.

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



## Ship's Store

Larry and Mary Stone

There are still pieces of the USS Rochester deck planks that are available from the Ships Store. They are approximately 1 ¼ x 4 x 16 inches as a cleaned piece. Also available are planks that have not been cleaned. When engraved, they make a nice memento to reflect the days aboard the Roch. If you would like one of these planks, complete the Plank Redemption Form in the News Letter, and mail to the Ships Store.

For those who have received their planks and would like to have it engraved, there is an individual that has done a terrific job.

Label Up

Robin Henry

P.O. Box 2003

Cypress, CA 90630

Tel. 714-828-9114

e-mail: [labelupcwb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:labelupcwb@sbcglobal.net)

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## Honor The Rock

The following shipmates and wives have donated for the plaque since the May 2007 Newsletter:

John H. McAuliffe

Henry Box

Verlan J. Hanson

Louis A. Roybal

Joe Hill reports that the Memorial Plaque of USS Rochester is paid for. Members and wives have donated an extra \$2,388.38. These additional funds are maintained in a separate interest bearing account. A vote will be taken during the reunion to decide what the association is to do with the extra funds that were donated for the plaque.

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