

# USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



Vol. II, No. 10

# News Letter

May 2007

## From Secondary Con

*Garry Phillips*

There has been a minor change to the chain of command to the Association. It's only temporary and we look forward to the safe return of Garry.

### SHIFTING COLORS

Dear Gang: On Wednesday, March 21, I accepted a job with the Department of State to go to Iraq and work on a project in Baghdad. The project will take about a year or possibly a little longer. I would like your approval to pass the duties of President of the Association off to Dick Becker, our able Executive Vice President. I am afraid to try to remain as President while out of the country, since I will be working at least 60 hours a week. I don't want the Association to suffer because of me

The job came upon me very quickly and they want me NOW. You know how that works. I believe that we can still make a difference in Iraq, and I also believe very strongly that we will regret it if we don't make that difference. The situation in the Middle East is critical.

The reunion committee consists of myself, Ed Willis, Chip Chipley, and Pete Russell. Ed has said that he will assume the role of coordinator of the reunion, and Betsy and the other wives are here to give him a hand. A friend of mine who is a professional event planner has been giving us advice on planning the event.

The by laws say:

"The executive Vice President is a senior Officer second only to the President. The Executive Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or incapacity to act.

A. Supervise the activities of the Designated Reunion Meeting and be responsible for coordinating the activities of Committee Chairmen involved with reunion affairs.

B. Supervise the activities of the Budget Committee.

C. Make detailed written quarterly reports to the President."

Dick has served the Association in a variety of ways and is highly respected by all who know him. I have touched base with him and he has agreed to take over while I'm away. I would ask that you approve this shift of responsibilities and give Dick the same support that you've given me.

Thank you, and best regards, Garry

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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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## From Secondary Con

*Dick Becker*

Don't everyone get excited on me now. Our Pres Garry is just fine, but he has passed the helm to me for the next year. As most of you that know Garry, know he has always been a proud worker for his country. The Navy and then around the White House till he retired. Well either the government made him an offer he couldn't refuse, or he just wasn't ready for that retirement stuff yet. As you are reading this article, he is off in Bagdad doing his thing. Something about " If I tell you what I'm doing, I might have to kill ya," I guess I don't think it is that bad, but he really was all pumped about it and was looking forward to going. Well for all the years I spent doing my watches on the bridge, and never got to even toot the horn, now I get stuck steering the ship. With the board of officers you have and the job they do, I should be able to do this with my eyes closed.

I'm sure this will be brought up someplace else in the newsletter, but in case it isn't, On behalf of all the members of the Association, you should be proud of yourselves. We have reached and actually pasted our goal of \$2500 for our plaque which we will dedicate at the reunion in Washington DC. This just goes to show how much everyone loved the old "ROCH". Thanks again to everyone.

I really look forward to helping keep this organization the fine group it is.

*Thanks, Dick Becker*

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## Rochester Museum & Science Center

When Robert E. Black joined the USS Rochester Association, Joe Hill sent him the following letter. It reminded me of a great extension of our Association. The Museum in Rochester NY has on display many of the artifact from the ship. If any shipmate has an item that would be of interest to the museum please contact any of the Association Officers to make arrangements for donation.

The Association interface with the museum is our 2nd Vice President:  
Donald E Schnirel  
81 Dale Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150-4309  
Tel. 716-692-7314  
e-mail. [dschnirel@aol.com](mailto:dschnirel@aol.com)



Good Morning Robert,

WELCOME ABOARD

Thank you for sending a copy of the certificate you received on the Mediterranean cruise. We will keep it for the history of USS ROCHESTER (CA 124).

I wish to take a moment and welcome you aboard. The association is a very close unit of shipmates. Even though members may have been on board during different years, and perhaps did not know one another, we still bond together during our reunions. We all realize that we are not getting any younger, and all agree that Rochester was a most wonderful ship. It was indeed truly a pleasure and experience to have served on board her. The officers were truly gentlemen and today we still have a few who are members of the association.

The USS ROCHESTER (CA 124) is fortunate enough to have an exhibit room at the Rochester Museum & Science Center, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, New York 14607-2177. Within the exhibit are items donated by shipmates. The builder's model of Rochester is also there. If you can take a day or so and visit the museum and Rochester exhibit. Should you decide to make the trip, please call or e-Mail the following person and he will make sure the exhibit is open on the day you arrive:

Mr.. Brian Nagel  
Curator of Regional History  
585-271-4552 X 353  
email: [brian\\_nagel@rmsc.org](mailto:brian_nagel@rmsc.org)

Again Robert, Welcome Aboard. Please feel free to contact me or any of the other officers listed in the Copy address.

Regards,  
Joe Hill, Sr.  
Secretary/Treasurer

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## Editors Column

*Gordon Cargill*

One of the main reasons for putting out a News Letter is to keep in touch with shipmates and their family. This is where the comradery, of that time spend aboard the USS Rochester, and the lasting friendships that have survived. Occasionally letters, or e-mails come in from shipmates and family that say it all.

## Member Comments

Dear Joe and Judy,

I've just received my copy of the February Rochester Newsletter, and enjoyed reading it. It's my link to Ronnie's two years on the Cruiser 124. It brings back many memories. I'm so happy you've kept me on the mailing list. It's so nice to read the comments of some of the crew members. I love their "smooth sailing" and "following winds" talk. I hear from Ron Tarbox at Christmas each year - otherwise I just have your newsletter to keep abreast.

Ronnie served 7-2-56 to 7-12-58 as the Engineering Officer, and Joe, if I remember right, you worked in his office. It was such a nice reunion with you to, the one reunion we attended in St. Louis sometime in the 90's. Joe, you've done a great job all these years being Secretary and Treasurer, and that's a big task.

I've appreciated your special cards and notes over the years. I'm 83 and still drive and take care of the house. Both daughters live in Florida and space their visits home each, twice a year. I use both a walker and a quad cane.

Enclosed please find my \$50.00 check " To Honor the Roch" in Ronnie's behalf, and have a wonderful time 2008 in Washington, D.C.

*Love, Eddie Z"*

Comment, LCDR Ronald J. Zavodny, USN (Ret) passed away on 4-30-05.



I was just aboard for two years (55-56) as a PFC, Cpl, and Sgt, but it was a big time in my life. The travel for a country kid was a great part of my later career. Oddly though, I only went to Sea School to get the Blues uniform free. I also received the China medal off Taiwan and it set me apart from most Marines. The reason for this note is I am sending a check for the Memorial Plaque in the amount of \$100.00. Bless all of those on the sea.

*Respectfully, Gene Dixon.*



When Wendell Baroch passed away, he had already had paid his 2007 dues. Joe Hill was ready to return the \$25.00 check to Mrs. Baroch when she said to apply the funds to the Memorial Fund of the Rochester, and that it was in memory of Wendell and his days aboard the USS Rochester. What a wonderful tribute this is to Wendell.



Joe Hill received the following note from Jim Hanley.

Sorry about being late with my dues again, memory slippage (old age) will do it.

I'm sorry I wasn't able to make Branson. We had our money tied up taking an eight day Mexican Cruise with 12 of our family members. Our family is our most precious gift from God. We had a wonderful trip.

*Your old shipmate, Jim Henley*



## New Members

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

Felix Fappiano, FN, R Division  
Commerce, CA, DOB 51-54  
Dwight C Morrison, CPL, Marine Division  
Custer, WA, DOB59-60  
John L Nowicki, RD2, OI Division  
New Hartford, NY, DOB 57-59  
Robert N Reed, SA, S-2 Division  
Thief River Falls, MN, DOB 48-49  
John M Sherman, LCDR, Gunnery  
Easton, MD, DOB 58-60  
Sherwood M Spencer, QM2, N Division  
Wilcox, AZ, DOB 55-61

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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
Wendell E Baroch	MI	2006	5 <sup>th</sup>	56-57
Billy D Beck	KS	2006	A	48-52
Vernon Christensen	OR	2007	2 <sup>nd</sup>	54-54
Crowell J Hanson	CA	2006	M	50-53
Gerald E Kelly	AZ	2007		47-48
Robert L Mason	MO	2007	B	52-56
Robert J Servis	IL	2007		47-50
Finley G Winstead	NC	2006	F	50-53

## 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.

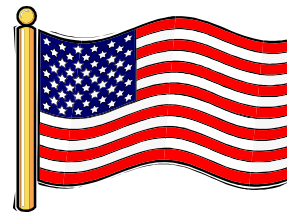
CHANGES OF ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES ESPECIALLY YOU SNOW BIRDS WHO MOVE WITH THE WEATHER

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.

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## ATTENTION SHIPMATES

A good many members have sent in their dues for 2007. The association appreciates your taking the time to mail them in. There are still a good many shipmates who have not sent in their 2007 dues. Check your mailing label out from your name. The Year will be printed in which dues have been paid, i.e., **John Doe 06**



## Chaplain's Corner

Frank West

### FINISHING WELL

A phone call came to me this week from a lady working for an organization collecting items to be sold as a fund raiser. The organization was started by a former governor of California and provides homes for children in crisis. In my conversation I discovered the lady is 85 years old and has been making these calls for 25 years! She has a passion for the mission she is involved in.

At age 85, she could be sitting watching TV or just depressed watching the rest of her life slip away. However, she was mindful of the teaching of Moses, "Lord, teach us to number our days that we may apply our heart to wisdom". The apostle Paul stated as his life was nearing an end, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course".

As spring has come, I see the trees budding and flowers blooming, all signs of new growth. I question, what kind of growth will I have this year? We can have growth and make accomplishments regardless of physical limitations. I think of Tony Snow and Elizabeth Edwards that are moving on with life in the struggle with problems.

As we have moved into this New Year, have we targeted some growth items to accomplish in the near future? Let's set some goals and "Go for it".

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

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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  
11485 Luz Place, San Diego, CA 92127  
(858) 592-9366

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

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## 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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## The Crew News

LCDR George E. Allen, NSCC (U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps)

*Received the following notice from LCDR George E Allen, NSCC (U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps).*

Effective March 1, 2007, I will be retiring as Commander of the Rochester Division CA-124, of the United States Sea Cadet Corps. From that date forward, all correspondence and concerns are to be directed to: LT Kevin Cudney NSCC, 6 Lexington Parkway, Rochester NY 14624.

The USS Rochester Association wishes to thank LCDR Allen for his service to the Naval Sea Cadet Corp and express our appreciation for the contributions he has made to the Association. We wish him smooth sailing and following seas.

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## The Memorial Commemorative

All funds are now raised. The Association wishes to thank each and every one for their contributions. Without you, the Plaque would not be on the Commemorative Wall. Dedication is scheduled to take place during the Washington, D.C. reunion.

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### Honor The Rock

The following shipmates and wives have donated for the plaque since the February newsletter:

Ralph F. Agavino  
Eva R. Anthony - *in memory of her husband,  
William L. Anthony, X Division 1951-1952*  
Donna M. Baroch - *in memory of Wendell E.  
Baroch*  
Clarence O. Baumann  
Richard D. Becker  
James G. Biggs  
James G. Biggs - *in memory of Kenneth D. Burch,  
R Division, 1955-1957*  
James G. Biggs - *in memory of Richard C.  
Hennenfent, R Division, 1954-1958*  
RADM Robert H. Blount

Paul D. Coyle  
Rodger G. Dallmeyer  
Andrew J. Decker  
David J. DeBoer  
Edward "Gene" Dixon  
Dennis H. Donmoyer  
JoAnn Evanick - *in memory of husband George*  
Harold E. Fritz  
James B. Hughes  
Peggy Johnson - *in memory of husband, Melvin,  
S-1 Division 1949-1952*  
D.K. Moon  
Prince Moses  
Charles D. Newsham  
Frank D. Palovich  
Donald W. Parker  
Pete Parnagian  
Kenneth R. Scroggins  
John C. Snyder  
Ralph M. Spears  
Myron C. Stokes  
Dorothy M. Tatom - *in memory of husband  
Ronald, 2&3 Division, MAA, 1948-1952*  
Carol J. Vizcaino - *in memory of husband Joseph,  
S-2 Division 1948-1952*  
Dennis I. Williams  
Kenneth M. Woods  
Edwardine "Eddie" Zavodny - *in memory of  
husband Roland, Engineer Officer, 1956-1958*