

USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



Newsletter

Vol. II, No. 22

May 2010

USS Rochester Reunion Milwaukee

September 23-26, 2010

Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel & Convention Center
4747 South Howell Ave. Milwaukee, WI. 53207 (414) 615-8001

Almost two years have gone by since our last great reunion of 2008 in DC.

It is with great excitement and expectations that this year we meet in Milwaukee to renew old acquaintances and perhaps make new friends and reminisce the times spent aboard our beloved ship ROCHESTER.

Below are the plans for the duration of our stay, as well as a registration form. Please look them over and join us as the outline promises a fun time to be had by all.

Watch List At The Reunion

John Rigoni and his crew have done a fantastic job in putting together a great reunion package. One of the few remaining tasks left to be completed is the staffing of the Watch List for the Registration Desk. If you are attending the reunion and would like to assist in registering the incoming shipmates and guests please contact John and volunteer an hour or two of your time. It would make registration time a lot easier on everyone.



Crew News

The cadets are busy! We just had our Italian dinner and silent auction which was a great success. We will be participating in a ceremony for a Vietnam Vet (who lost both of his legs) in Brockport in May. The cadets have been asked to do the colorguard and they will also be doing a Flag Pass and presenting the vet with a flag flown in Afghanistan. We will also be participating in the Memorial Day parade. As for training , they have been learning Naval history through Jeopardy and they are learning team building through games such as human battleship and human chess.

We have one cadet that is preparing to leave for the Air Force in June and another who is looking to join the Marine Corps.

Mary Roat
LTJG USNSC

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

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.



A Shipmates Note

Shipmate Al Majewski wrote the following note and inserted with his dues payment:

"I would like to get together with my shipmates. I have a hard time with my legs. Wish every one safe sailing and Happy New Year."

Al Majewski

Ski #3 Boilerroom, FN."

Al was aboard ship from 1948-1952. His address is 17 Clifton Ave., Binghamton NY 13905.

Tel 607-722-2597

Request From A Son

Hi,

I am looking for any information or pictures which have my Dad - Bobby (Robert) Glen Taylor. He served on the Rochester during the Korean War. Any help would be appreciated.

Regards,

Rick Taylor

klty@infoteam.net

Tucson, Arizona

The son of a shipmate is inquiring of information and or pictures of his father, Robert (Bobby) Glen Taylor. Unfortunately he was not a member of the Association and therefore we have no information on him. If anyone is familiar with Bobby Taylor and would like to share information they can contact his son, Rick Taylor.

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.

Proud To Be A Veteran

I am proud to have been a Cruiser Sailor
In the service of our nation
I served in Korea on the U.S.S. Rochester
And a forty gun mount was my battle station

I have an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy
And a handful of medals I prize
I have photos of my ship and shipmates
And good memories as you might surmise

I am proud to be an American
And to live in the Land Of The Free
I salute all who have served our country
And protected our liberty

On Veterans Day I feel proud inside
Knowing that I was part of it all
And when they play our national anthem
I stand up straight and tall

I listen to the speeches on Veterans Day
And watch the throngs of people who crowd
To view the parade honoring veterans
And when they cheer our flag I feel proud

But my proudest moment came to me
When a sweet old grey haired lady said, Son
Thank you kindly for serving our country
And for all that you have done

Submitted & Written by Jess Johnson

Association Officers

Garry L. Phillips, President	Richard Becker, Executive VP
Gordon W. Cargill, 1 st VP	Donald Schnirel, 2 nd VP
Joseph S. Hill, Sec./Treasurer	Frank West, Chaplain
Jimmy Young, MAA	Larry Stone, Storekeeper
Louis DiRusso, Director	Merlin A. Scheller, Director

Association website:
www.USSRochester.org

Rochester Museum and Science Center
www.rmsc.org

Chaplain's Corner

CARING FOR SHIPMATES

A basic concept drilled into Company 864 during boot camp in 1951 was caring for one another. We were proud of how individual hang-ups were set aside and we could function together. A bond was built among the new recruits. Later I have learned the concept taught in Leviticus 19:24 that "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." This concept was affirmed by Jesus when he stated, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Matthew 22:39)

As an example of application regarding the principle, I loaned a shipmate a towel to use on vacation in 1953 and forgot about the loan. After 35 years while he was visiting his home in one of the Southern states, he discovered among his mother's items my towel, neatly folded in plastic. He has returned it to me with an apology. Apology accepted! (True story)

We have continued a caring support role for the past 55 years! There is a real sense in which all our shipmates are neighbors. How can we best demonstrate the concept taught in boot camp and that is a basic teaching of the Bible? I hope to see you at the Reunion!

Frank West, Chaplain
fawest@jps.net

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
Gerald A. Barca	PA	2009	F	50-53
John (Jack) D. Brandt	WA	2010	R	51-55
Carl F. Christman	CA	2010	M	52-54
James P. McBride	CA	2009	T	57-?
George B. McDonald	MS	2009	X	49-50
Jack Nickum	OH	2009	5 th	52-56
Donald R. Shortreed	CA	2007	Fox	50-54
Bobby Glenn Taylor	AZ	2000	6 th	50-53

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

Plan of the Day for Thursday, September 23, 2010

1200 – 1630 Ship's Store opens (Bisque Room)

1400 - 1700 Registration Desk Open

1500 Arrivals and check-in

Lodging/Reservations: Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel or go to 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 & 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)

Airport: General Mitchell Intl. Milwaukee (MKE). Chicago O'Hare (ORD) is approximately a 90 minute drive to Milwaukee on I-94.

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. (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 Opens

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. 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 Opens (Creole Room)

1400 - 1600 Registration Desk Opens

1400 - 1700 Ship's Store Opens

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 Opens

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 Opens

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 Heidleberg 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. (Cocktail hour at the Edelweiss bar)

Menu Options:

Dinners include Salad, Rolls and Butter, and Seasonal Dessert and a complimentary glass of wine.

Option #1 - Flame Grilled Steak & Rosemary Roasted Chicken Breast, Garlic 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 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 Opens (Creole Room)

1300-1500 Hospitality Suite Opens (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

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"

**USS ROCHESTER (CA-124) ASSOCIATION NATIONAL REUNION
SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2010**

**Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel & Convention Center
4747 South Howell Ave. Milwaukee, WI. 53207 (414) 615-8001**

HOTEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUGUST 25, 2010

Last Name _____ First _____ Tag Name _____
 Rate/Rank _____ Division _____ Years on board _____ To _____
 Spouse/Companion: Last Name _____ First _____ Tag Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____ E-mail _____
 Emergency Contact _____ Phone () _____
 Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Lodging/Reservations: Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel or go to www.ussrochester.org go to "reunions" and click "Link to Wyndham Hotel" at the bottom of page click on "Make reservations for this event" or you may register by phone. 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).

Airport: General Mitchell Intl. Milwaukee (MKE). Chicago O'Hare (ORD) is approximately a 90 minute drive to Milwaukee on I-94.

Special needs: (dietary or physical handicap) _____

Fees:	<u>Each</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Date</u>
Registration	\$20.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/23 -Thurs</u>
Milwaukee City Tour (9/24)	\$65.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/24 -Fri</u>
Great Lakes Naval Training Center (9/24)	\$35.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/24 -Fri</u>
Oktoberfest/Old Heidelberg Park (9/24)	\$20.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/24 -Fri</u>
Milwaukee City Tour "short tour" (9/25)	\$50.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/25 -Sat</u>
Edelweiss Scenic Dinner River Cruise (9/25)				
<i>Option #1 Grilled Steak & Chicken</i>	\$90.00	x _____	\$ _____	
<i>Option #2 Sugar Cured Salmon</i>	\$80.00	x _____	\$ _____	
<i>Option #3 Grilled Vegetable Stack</i>	\$75.00	x _____	\$ _____	
Oktoberfest/Old Heidelberg Park (9/25)	\$20.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/25 -Sat</u>
Gateway to Greendale Tour (9/25)	\$45.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/25 -Sat</u>
Historic Cedarburg (shopping) (9/26)	\$20.00	x _____	\$ _____	<u>9/26 -Sun</u>
Association Banquet (9/26)				
<i>Option #1 Filet Mignon (9 oz)</i>	\$39.00	x _____	\$ _____	
<i>Option #2 Orange Roughy</i>	\$34.00	x _____	\$ _____	
<i>Option #3 Chicken Wellington</i>	\$37.00	x _____	\$ _____	
<i>Option #4 Baked Vegetable Lasagna</i>	\$31.00	x _____	\$ _____	
Farewell Breakfast Buffet (9/27)	FREE	x _____	\$ <u>\$0.00</u>	<u>9/27 -Mon</u>
GRAND TOTAL			\$ _____	

If you can help at the registration desk, or buses, please check box.

Make checks payable in full to USS ROCHESTER ASSOCIATION and mail this form to:

Joseph Hill, Sr., 4011 Ditty Road, Cookeville, TN 38506-7663

Tours include bus and lunch where indicated; we need at least 40 people per bus. If a tour is cancelled due to lack of participation, a refund will be sent to you after the reunion.

The grand total is not refundable for any reason after September 6, 2010. You may wish to consider trip insurance to cover loss of pre-paid transportation and registration fees due to illness or interruption.

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

VETERANS BENEFITS

In this economy, it is important to take advantage of all the benefits and services that are available to you. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has a lot to offer former service members and their survivors to assist them in these hard times.

The main categories of assistance include medical care, monetary benefits based on service-related illnesses, monetary benefits based on financial need and unemployment, burial benefits, and monetary benefits for surviving spouses.

Medical Care: If you have never enrolled in the VA Health Care System, you should consider enrolling. If you qualify, the VA provides a full range of preventive outpatient and inpatient services. Once you enroll, you can be seen at any VA facility across the country. There are many ways to qualify to receive this medical benefits package. To find out more, call 1-877-222-8387 (VETS). You can also go online to <http://www4.va.gov/healtheligibility/> to complete and submit a basic eligibility form.

Compensation benefits (monetary benefits based on service-related illnesses): If you have a health problem that began during service or was caused by an incident in service, you may qualify to receive monthly compensation benefits. To be considered for this, you must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. You can apply by filling out VA Form 21-526, *Veterans Application for Compensation and/or Pension*, or by completing an online form at <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp>.

Pension benefits (monetary benefits based on financial need and unemployment): If you served at least 90 days with one day during a recognized period of war and are over 65 or unemployed due to disability, you may qualify to receive monthly pension benefits. To be considered for this, you must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, have family income and net worth below a prescribed limit, and not be disabled due to your own willful misconduct. A higher rate of pension may be payable if you are confined to your home (housebound) or require the help of someone to assist you with the activities of daily life (require aid and attendance). You can apply by filling out VA Form 21-526 or completing the online form as mentioned above.

Burial benefits for burial in a National Cemetery: These benefits include a gravesite with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate at no cost to the family. Burial benefits for spouses and dependents include burial with the veteran, perpetual care, and inscription of the name and date of birth of the deceased on the veteran's headstone at no cost. Eligible spouses and dependents may be buried even if they die before the veteran does. For more information about eligibility to burial in a National Cemetery, visit <http://www.cem.va.gov/bbene/eligible.asp> or call 1-800-827-1000.

Burial benefits for burial in a private cemetery: These benefits include a government headstone or marker, burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate at no cost to the family.

Monetary burial allowance: Some veterans may qualify for a monetary allowance to offset funeral costs. You may be eligible if you paid for the burial or funeral, have not been reimbursed, and the veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. In addition, the veteran must have *either* died from a service-related condition; been in receipt of or entitled to receive compensation or pension at the time of death; died while hospitalized by VA or under VA contract care; died while on authorized travel at VA expense; or died on or after October 9, 1996, while a patient at a VA-approved state nursing home. To apply you can fill out VA Form 21-530, *Application for Burial Benefits* and attach a copy of the veteran's discharge document (DD Form 214), death certificate, and funeral/burial bills. You may download the form at <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/> or call 1-800-827-1000 to have one mailed to you.

Monetary benefits for surviving spouses: There are two types of monthly benefits available to the surviving spouses of veterans who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. These benefits are Dependents Indemnity and Compensation (DIC) and Death Pension. A surviving spouse can apply for either of these benefits using VA Form 21-534, *Application for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Death Pension and Accrued Benefits by a Surviving Spouse or Child*.

DIC Benefits: DIC benefits are payable to the surviving spouses of veterans whose death was related to their military service. A higher rate of DIC may be payable if the surviving spouse is confined to his/her home (housebound) or requires the help of someone to assist with the activities of daily life (requires aid & attendance).

Death Pension benefits: Death Pension benefits may be payable to the surviving spouses of veterans who served at least 90 days with one day during a recognized wartime period and whose deaths were not related to their military service. In addition, the surviving spouse must have family income and net worth below a prescribed limit. A higher rate of death pension may be payable if the surviving spouse is confined to his/her home (housebound) or requires the help of someone to assist with the activities of daily life (requires aid & attendance).

These are only some of the benefits that VA has to offer. For more comprehensive information on all the benefits potentially available, please visit <http://www.va.gov> or call 1-800-827-1000 to speak to a Veterans Service Representative. You can also view the 2010 edition of "*Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors*" online at http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp.

To find out more about what may be available to veterans or survivors living in the state of California, visit the California Department of Veterans Affairs website at <http://www.cdva.ca.gov> or call 1-800-952-5626.

*Submitted by,
Frank West*