

Volume 2 Number 1

Spring 1999

Reunion '99' St. Augustine Florida

The reunion in St. Augustine was a huge success. The reunion was held at the Radisson Ponce De Leon Golf and Convention Resort. We had 105 shipmates attend, with a total in attendance of 195. Our largest attendance ever. The facilities were fabulous, and we probably had more first timers attend than ever before. We had shipmates come from as far west as California and as far north as Canada. We had our first golf tournament and everyone seemed to enjoy historic St. Augustine. Many compliments were received from our shipmates. Our host Charles Herndon SN (60-63) and his lovely wife Ann want to thank all the reunion shipmates for coming to sunny St. Augustine. Thanks Charles and Ann for a job well done.

Reunion 2000 Charleston South Carolina

During our general meeting in St. Augustine, our next reunion site was voted to be in Charleston, South Carolina. Shipmates, only you can make our reunion a success. How? By attending! Get ready, we need and hope to see you in Charleston. You can't imagine the happiness of shipmates when they see their buddies for the first time in so many years. Some of us make this a commitment, won't you? You may not know this, but a shipmate is waiting to see you. Make plans and make a commitment to join us at our next reunion in Charleston, South Carolina. Start making plans now so you don't have an excuse then. In the late summer/early fall of 2000 meet us in Charleston and renew old friendships and make some new ones.

Hats - Shirts - Reunion Books - Rosters

We are hoping that with our plea for donations we will be able to offer these items for mailing to our shipmates. Examples would be: to order hats we need a minimum order of 36 hats from the manufacturer. The hat is of high quality with the picture and name of the ship. The charge for the hat is approximately \$10.00, and the box and mailing cost are approximately \$6.00, making the total cost around \$16.00.

Golf type shirts, (light blue - hard collar), with the name of the ship over the left breast pocket cost \$23.00 with package/mailing another \$6.00.

Reunion books from St. Augustine with shipmates pictures can be bought from our publisher for \$15.00.

We don't have a cost for Association rosters, but a guess would be \$4 - \$5. Are you interested in any of these items if we made them available to you?



From The Signal Bridge

Help! Donations Needed

Shipmates, we are in dire need of additional Funds. It is long overdue, and we need a scheduled NEWSLETTER. In the past we were unable to have a newsletter because we did not have enough money to cover mailing and printing costs and yet be able to have enough funds to schedule a reunion every two years. Mailing costs alone account for much of our budget. Reunions only generate enough funds to barely put a reunion together. There are many hidden costs to put on a reunion. Shirts, hats, name-tags, etc, have to be paid for with the order and we normally use registration money to cover these items (penny pinching) and only order the bare minimum. Many of you ask for hats and shirts and we are unable to carry these items for lack of money.

We are asking you to donate any amount that you can afford. During our general meeting in St. Augustine, our membership voted and opted, rather wisely, for donations versus dues. I totally agree, and this is why I am pleading for your help. As usual, the shipmates at the reunion opened their pockets and were very generous. Our own **Peter Perego RDC (59-62)** pledged \$1000.00, and delivered. Several others were also generous with their donations. Knowing some of our members are on fixed incomes and cannot donate, we are asking those of you who can, to help us so we may have a NEWSLETTER that our membership so richly deserve. As a crew, the **ROAN** sailors were never second best to any ship, **WE WERE THE BEST**. Please help so that we may keep our "**ROAN**" family together and informed. Send your donations to the:

USS CHARLES H. ROAN DD-853 ASSOCIATION
C/O RICHARD F. SOUZA
6396 MANASSAS COURT
PENSACOLA, FL 32503-7530

Looking for shipmates

We started with three shipmates, we now have 594 members on our roster. This is a never ending search and we can't do it alone, we need you. We advertise in most all military magazines regarding our reunions, but the biggest way we obtain names and leads are through you. Those of you with computers can help us by looking for some of our shipmates using last known addresses or home towns. If your local newspaper has a reunion column please help us by inserting our reunion dates. We're issuing a challenge to the crew members who served aboard the ROAN from 1966 until her decommissioning in 1973, to get together, as teams or individuals, to seek their shipmates. This is by far our smallest group of known shipmates. We need help to find these shipmates; won't you help us?

Our Editor

Joe Lambert, EM2 (62-64) has graciously agreed to be our editor. Joe needs material so that our NEWSLETTER can be both informative and interesting. As in any newsletter, it will be up to you to send him items, pictures, facts etc, that we can share with our shipmates. All these items will be returned to you.

Joe Lambert 5373 N Normandy Chicago, IL 60656-2158

e-mail chief9bullie@earthlink.net

Sick or in the Hospital (Binnacle List)

Please inform us if you or your loved one is sick or in the hospital so that we can publish the names. Or if you know of a shipmate that may be sick or in the hospital. Remember shipmate, we care about you.

Chaplains Corner

Frank Manasseri RM2 (61-64) has agreed to be our Chaplain. Frank is in the Ministry (non-denominational) and will be glad to hear from anyone who needs assistance for counseling, prayer, or special needs. All communication with him will be in confidence and confidential. Let Frank assist you in your time of need. Nothing is more powerful than the power of prayer. Frank can be reached at:

Frank Manasseri 16536 Looney Road Pea Ridge, AR 72751 (501)451-1031

Wanting to Locate List

We are hoping to make a list of shipmates who you would like to see or contact once again. This is how we would like this to work. We will print the name and last known address - city - area of your shipmate. We would hope that the information you provide us would be researched by any shipmate who lives in that area. Hopefully, our shipmates will see your request and look in the local phone book or use his ingenuity to search for the shipmate in his area.

Trivia Quiz

What is the only flag or pennant which can fly above the U.S. Ensign?

Where is/was the steering light located on the **Roan**?

What line is always present aboard a ship but never used?

What flag or pennant flies 24 hours a day aboard a U.S. Navy ship?

(answers on page 5)

USS Charles H Roan DD-853 Association Board of Directors



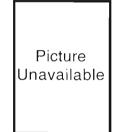
Richard F. Souza President SMC 58-66



Carl Wishart Treasurer QM2 57-60



Ed Semcheski Secretary RM2



Frank Manasseri Chaplain RM2 61-64



Joe Lambert "Jolly Cholly" Editor EM2 62-64



Gordon Anthony YN3 61-64



John Betchie FN 46-47



Bob Boorom YN1 56-59



Jerry DePasquale BT3 49-52



Bob Hansen ET3 57-59



Tony Hudalla LTjg 59-62



Frank Locastro YN3 53-57



Bob Marshall LT 59-61



Tom VanPetten LTjg 58-61



Ray Ward



Henry Rossi SK2 57-60



Bob Willet BT2 62-66

Please fill out and mail to us the following information. We're trying to get a handle on all our members so we can always maintain communications. Don't assume we have this information. Fill this form out and mail it today and know we have that information. This way you're assured of knowing whats going on. Also when old shipmates are trying to find each other they can contact the association for the information they need. Mail to:

USS C. H. Roan (DD-853) Association c/o Richard F. Souza 6396 Manassas Court Pensacola, FL. 32503-7530

Roster Update		
Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code

Telephone #	Fax # _	
E-mail Address		
Rank/Rate while aboard the Roan		
Years served aboard - From to		
Spouse / Fiancee's name		

Trivia Answers

- 1. Church pennant.
- 2. On the jackstaff.
- 3. Water line.
- 4. Commissioning pennant.

Interesting Facts About the Roan

Only 3 ships in the US Navy have lost a screw underway, The Roan was one of them.

The **Roan** had two crew members who were on the same ticket for President and Vice President of the United States. **Ross Perot** (midshipman) and **Admiral Stockdale**.

The Roan took a 58 degree list at sea.

The Roan was also in the fresh water Navy; opening the St. Lawrence seaway and sailed in all five Great Lakes.

The Roan was originally assigned to hull number 815, but construction was canceled in August of 1945.

Information Needed

We are still looking for that shipmate whose father or father-in law built a replica of the **Charles H. Roan** and brought it in their van to the Fall River reunion. We would like to have that replica at all our reunions. The replica is about 4 to 5 feet long. We would like to know if it is still in existence.

Letters

Dear Joe.

Just a short note to give you a "well done" on the recent issue of "The Jolly Cholly". I was particularly pleased to see the article on the Historical Plaque.

While on the **Roan** (1948-1953) I served as DCA and MPA. I had a leading shipfitter by the name of **Fitzgerald** (ME1 from WWII) who I thought came from the Montpelier VT area. Somehow I thought he was the father of **LT.Fitzgerald**. Obviously this is/was incorrect as I have never seen anything that ever indicated such a tie. It certainly was a unique coincidence. The ME1 was an older man, white hair etc.---

Keep up the good work and hope to make the reunion in "97".

Warm regards
Warren C. Hamm, Jr.
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Hi Joe,

As per your request for stories, here's mine. Left **Roan** in Nov. 1958, had a ruptured disc removed at Chelsea Naval Hospital. While there Shore Duty orders came through and spent 2 years at the San Diego N.T.C. as Brig Warden.

From there to Great Lakes for 16 weeks Elec. "B" school.

Upon completion, had orders for the U.S.S Franklin Roosevelt CVA 42 at Mayport Florida.

During a Med Cruise in 1964 we also lost a screw! Returned to Bayonne New Jersey for dry dock. The Roosevelt Air Boss made arrangements for Navy Reserve pilots to ferry us down to Mayport for weekend liberties. The Commercial Ais Lines found out and wanted to sue the government for being in competition with them.

In 1966, transferred to U.S.S. Shangri-La CVA 47. During a Med cruise we lost #4 electrical generator. A replacement was flown from Boston to the French shipyard in Toulon, France.

Installed, connected and completed load testing at 0100 Jan.27,1967, departed Shangri-La at 0600 Jan.27,1967 for Mayport and transfer to the Fleet Reserve March 3, 1967.

Put another 20 working with the Federal Civil Service as an electrician, and retired Jan. 1987.

Your shipmate

Frank Thurlow

From After Diesel

Well what do you think? I'd like to hear from you. This newsletter will be a success only with your help. We need two things from you. 1) Stories, pictures, information, trivia, we need it all. If its about the **Roan** and her crew we want it for the newsletter. I'll see that anything you want returned will be returned. Just make sure your name and address is on it. The only thing I won't print is anything I feel is slanderous. I'll respect your opinion and print it, but I will not print anything that will defame anybody or anything designed to hurt. 2) As **Souza** has stated we need money. We all know you can't operate an organization without funds. There were times that people had to go into their own pockets to get a project off the ground. We can't expect that. This newsletter has been delayed for three years because of lack of funds.

At the general meeting in St. Augustine the membership talked about anywhere between \$5.00 to \$10.00 dues. But we also strongly felt that no crew member would be left out because of need. We're all crew members and will support one and all. So anything you can afford will be greatly appreciated. Send your donations to **Richard Souza** who's address is printed in various parts of this newsletter.

You might be thinking; "Why don't they ever hold a reunion close to me"? It's because you never let us know that you wanted to host a reunion. Every reunion so far has been put together by someone who lived in that area. If you would like to do the same let us know. At the general membership meeting at every reunion the membership that is present vote on reunion proposals that members make. This year there were some very interesting sites. A very hard vote. If you want it in your local, work up a proposal and present it. If we like it we'll come visit your area. But remember this is an awful lot of work. Also keep in mind that whenever two or more members meet thats a reunion. We want to hear about it. Share your mini reunion with the rest of the crew. Some of our crew members are not able to get around to well anymore, maybe reading about your activities will help them feel more connected.

On page 6 are two letters I received from crew members after the news letter in '96'. This is what we would like to see more of. What have you been doing since we served together? Of course the best way to do that is by attending reunions. But if you can't make the reunions write to me and I'll see that your shipmates hear from you.

Keep us informed of your moves so that you receive information from us in a timely manner and we don't loose contact with you. On page 5 is a roster update. We would like you to fill that out so that we have a better data base. You can also use that to let us know that you've moved.

Below I've listed how to contact **Rich Souza** and myself. Remember, if you want it in the newsletter send it right to me. If it's something you want back let me know and put your name on it. Everything else should go to Richard, i.e. (**donations**, request for information on other shipmates reunion information, request for ship or reunion souvenirs).

Joe Lambert EM2 62-64

Richard F. Souza 6396 Manassas Court Pensacola, FL 32503-7530 Joe Lambert 5373 N Normandy Chicago, IL 60656-2158

e-mail RSouza1@worldnet.att.net Fax number (850) 857-1326

chief9bullie@earthlink.net



Joseph W. Lambert 5373 N. Normandy Chicago, II 60656 PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Chicago, IL Permit No. 227

