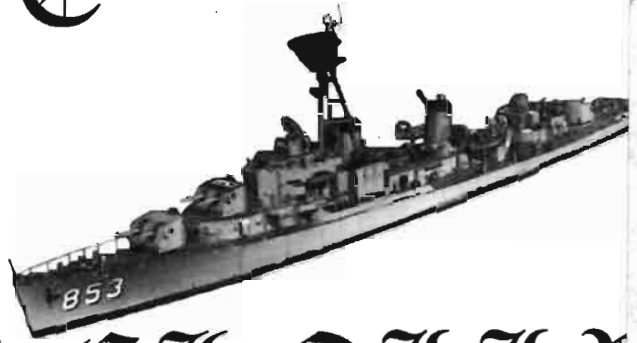


THE



JOLLY



CHOLLY

Volume 8 Number 1

Spring 2005

Lieutenant William Charles Fitzgerald
U.S. Navy
28 January 1938 - 07 August 1967



Vietnam War Memorial - Washington, D.C.
Panel 24E - Line 86

USS C. H. Roan Association Board of Directors

Please remember these shipmates in your
thoughts and prayers

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| | President | |
| Richard F. Souza | SMC | 58-66 |
| | Treasurer | |
| Carl Wishart | QM2 | 57-60 |
| | Secretary | |
| Ed Semcheski | RM2 | |
| | Chaplain | |
| Frank Manasseri | RM2 | 61-64 |
| | Editor | |
| Joe Lambert | EM2 | 62-64 |
| | Web Page-Master | |
| Ron Lucchesi (Richardson) | FTG3 | 66-68 |
| | Historian | |
| Richard A. Calabro | EN3 | 66-68 |
| | Board | |
| Gordon Anthony | YN3 | 61-64 |
| John Betchie | FN | 46-47 |
| Bob Boorum | YN1 | 56-59 |
| Jerry DePasquale | BT3 | 49-52 |
| Sal Genova | QM2 | 52-55 |
| Bob Hansen | TE3 | 57-59 |
| Tony Hudalla | LTjg | 59-62 |
| Frank Locastro | YN3 | 53-57 |
| Bob Marshall | LT | 59-61 |
| Henry Rossi | SK2 | 57-60 |
| Tom VanPetten | LTjg | 58-61 |
| Ray Ward | CO/CDR | 65-67 |
| Bob Willet | BT2 | 63-66 |

Binnacle List

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|
| Anne Betchie wife of John Betchie | FN | 46-47 |
| Doug Porkorney | BT2 | 62-66 |
| Brad York | SHSN | 66-68 |

*May We Never Forget Our Departed
Shipmates Who Served With Us Faithfully
and Gallantly*

Taps

| | | | |
|--|------|-------|-------|
| Mary Jane Calabro wife of Richard Calabro | EN3 | 66-68 | 1/05 |
| Frank Cifarelli | SK2 | 56-58 | 12/04 |
| Richard Curry | BTCS | 70-72 | 5/04 |
| Roy Finkbiner | RD3 | 47-52 | 11/04 |

CAPTAIN

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Charles H. Hayden | CO/CDR | 62-63 | 1/05 |
| Sonny Johnson | | | 02 |
| Charles L Koch | FT2 | 56-58 | 01/04 |

CAPTAIN

| | | | |
|---|--------|-------|-------|
| Jack Nuttal | CO/CDR | 57-59 | 11/04 |
| Charlotte Roan - Sister-in-law of Charles H. Roan | | | 11/04 |

Shipmates

Only through your generosity can we keep this ship afloat. The board has voted over and over not to charge dues, but we still need money to function. Each edition of "The Jolly Cholly" costs us about \$1000.00 to print and mail. Enclosed you will find an envelope to place your contribution in to mail back to the association. We are hoping our shipmates will help us to keep going by contributing to the association. Whatever you can afford will be greatly appreciated, and will also help us to continue the comaraderie we had when we served on the U.S.S. Charles H. Roan DD 853. Make checks payable to: CHARLES H. ROAN ASSOCIATION.

Thank you



FROM THE SIGNAL BRIDGE

Well Shipmates our 8th reunion is behind us and it was the largest in attendance so far. We had a great time in Cranston, RI with suburb accommodations and the property was all and then some. We had shipmates come

from as far as Brazil. The only sorrow I had was to answer questions as, "where is so and so or I wanted to see so and so". Shipmates it's disheartening for me not to be able to answer those shipmates wanting to see you. I would ask those who have never attended a reunion to make it your business to attend at least one reunion, and why not make it Branson. MO in 2006.

Dallas and Pat Rees are our hosts in Branson. Both of these people have already begun the preliminary tasks to make our reunion in Branson our biggest and best yet. Branson, by all my reports is a very veteran and military friendly reunion city. Branson offers a wide variety of entertainment shows that hosts many popular and famous entertainers. It may be best for you to stay a few extra days to get it all in. Make it a point to be in Branson next year.

Our ship store has many items to choose from. Wearing our logo is a great way to advertise who we are. In many cases, we have found shipmates by them seeing a hat, shirt or a jacket worn by one of our shipmates. It's also a great way that the Association can gain a few dollars of profit.

Many of our shipmates support the Association in many different ways. There are too many names to mention, but in your hearts you know who I am talking about. This Association enjoys success because of YOU. This is not a one man operation. Reunions, newsletters and financial support come from many of you. All I have to do is ask and you are there. To all of you go my heart felt thanks as I could not do this alone. We are truly a Roan family of shipmates. Thank you

Your generous support has kept us financially solvent. With this in mind, donations are always welcome big or small. Your support is deeply appreciated.

Special thanks go out to John & Cheryl Cook, John & Elinore Griggs, Dallas & Pat Rees, Rene & Margaret Savoi, Willard Varner and Tom Vella.

My e-mail address has changed, my NEW e-mail address is souza6@cox.net

New Members

Charles K. Edmunds
Fromberg, MT

Ken Mayen
Poughkeepsie, NY
SO3 56-57

Thomas J. Taggart
Bakerstown, PA
FTG3 59-61

Howard Timblin
Jamestown, NY
SHSN 57-59

Harold C. Stevens
Las Vegas, NV
65-68

Richard A. Williams
Ashville, NY
DCFN 52

Larry B. Wilson
Fort Wayne, IN
ETR3 65-67

Missing Members

We have lost touch with these shipmates. Mail is returned marked "Moved left no forwarding address" or "Undeliverable." Do you know how to contact these shipmates? Help us find them. We hate losing shipmates.

Albert A. Green
Braintree, MA
LTjg 63-64

Joseph P Guzman
Harve De Grace, MD
GM1 55-56

Ronald Knoll
Gloversville, NY
FN 46-48

Richard W. McLaughlin
Stoney Point, NY
RMC 61-65

Robert E. Smithson
Virginia Beach, VA

Contacts

Association President

Richard F. Souza
6396 Manassas Ct.
Pensacola, FL 32503-7530

(850)476-1350
souza6@cox.net

Web Master

Ron Lucchesi
16675 Kildare Rd.
San Leandro, CA 94578

(510)278-7177
ron.lucchesi@kp.org

Letters from Loved Ones

Dear Richard and
Members of the USS Charles H. Roan Association,

On behalf of my family and myself, I wish to express our sincere gratitude for the beautiful floral arrangement from the USS Charles H. Roan Association. It was exquisite. The Military Guard is unforgettable.

I want to thank you, also for the friendship shown us during the past few years and your visits. My husband looked forward to these visits with such great anticipation. It would be a time of remembrance and camaraderie with the crew he so loved.

My husband Captained three destroyers - but the MAIN reflection was always with the "Jolly Cholly." His most often used quote was "take care of the men - and they will take care of you." And so he lived both as a U.S. Naval officer and as a retiree.

In time, I will have the lovely picture of the sailor with the USS Charles H. Roan insignia properly framed.

I thank you again for the respect, honor and friendship you have always shown both to my husband and to me.

God Bless

Most sincerely,

Anne M. Nuttall and Family

Captain John Nuttall

CO/CDR 57-59

Dear Mr. Souza,

Received "The Jolly Cholly." Roy was looking forward to seeing the article (V7 #2 Fall 2004, page11) but passed away just about a week before it arrived. He thoroughly enjoyed the reunion and was quite excited that the next reunion would be even closer to our home.

I'm glad that he (and we) could be there. Thank you for all your fine efforts in putting this together. You did an outstanding job.

Sincerely,

Pauline Finkbiner, wife of

Roy Finkbiner

RD3 47-52

Dear Richard & Joe,

It's my very sad duty to let you know that Charlie died this afternoon from his most recent illness of a brain tumor. He was home from the hospital where he wanted to be and was surrounded by love from all of our children I was wondering if I could please get at least five copies of "The Jolly Cholly" Vol 6, Number 1 of Spring 2003 that you, Joe made the report of the eleventh Commanding Officer of the USS Roan? I know that the children would deeply value and appreciate it. Will send more details of arrangements when they are complete.

Thank you both so very much for all your kindness'..

Sincerely,

Ann Hayden, wife of

Captain Charles Hayden

CO/CDR 62-63



Flags and Signals

Joe:

Here is a copy of Captain Hayden's obituary from the Washington Post.

Larry Thomas

LT 63-65

Charles Hilary Hayden

HAYDEN, CHARLES HILARY, CDR USN (Ret.)

USNA Class of '44. On Friday, January 21, 2005 of Rockville, MD. Beloved husband for 54 years of Ann M. Hayden. Loving father of Hillary (Guy) Knieriem, Lusby, MD; Beth (Lew) Rydzewski, Gaithersburg, MD; Jan (Bob) Mahaffey, Freeland, WA; Trish Hayden, Lake Park, FL, and Lt. Col. Charles H. (Amy) Hayden, Jr., Lawton, OK. Grandfather of Kristen and Kayce Kerr; Lew, Joe, and John Rydzewski; and Kory, Carly, and Tommy Hayden. Friends will be received on Wednesday, January 26, 2005 from 12:30-2 p.m. at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, 917 Montrose Rd., Rockville, MD 20852. Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Wednesday, January 26, 2005 at 2 p.m. at the above address. Interment Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in his name to Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville, MD 20850. Arrangements by PUMPHREY'S COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME. Please visit and sign the family guest book at:

www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com

A memorial service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on 16 March 2005 at 1:00 P.M.

Ann Hayden

Richard,

You will recall I told you I had bought an extra copy of the 8th reunion book for Captain Curran my first C.O in the ROAN.

I called today and talked to Mrs. Curran. She informed me that Captain Curran passed away September 29, 2003. They were getting ready to go on a cruise, which they both loved to do, and he took a fall the day before sailing.

I told Mrs. Curran that all of the ROAN crew would be saddened to learn of his death. I also told her I would send the book on to her. She said she wanted to keep in touch with the ROAN Association. She said he had loved the ROAN over all the ships he commanded. I believe he had three seagoing commands.

Sorry to be the bearer of the news. Please pass this on as you deem appropriate.

Your shipmate ,

Bob Boorum

YN1 54-58

Look Who's Getting Married



Hey Shipmate,

Keep up the great work—the bulletins are super! You bring us good news and some times sad but necessary news about a shipmate passing on to a better life. So with that being said I send you some good news. Pat Wisniewski and I are tying the knot. Yes! my man we are getting married on May 28th, Memorial Day Weekend. What the hell we've been engaged for 13 years. I finally got her to say yes.

Jerry (Deeps) DePasquale

BT3 49-52

At Last

by: Elizabeth Akers Allen

At last, when all the summer shine
That warmed life's early hours is past,
Your loving fingers seek for mine
And hold them close—at last—at last!
Not oft the robin comes to build
Its nest upon the leafless bough
By autumn robbed, by winter chilled,—
But you, dear heart, you love me now.
Though there are shadows on my brow
And furrows on my cheek, in truth,—
The marks where Time's remorseless plough
Broke up the blooming sward of Youth,—

Though fled is every early grace
Might win or hold a lover's vow,
Despite my sad and faded face,
And darkened heart, you love me now!
I count no more my wasted tears;
They left no echo of their fall;
I mourn no more my lonesome years;
This blessed hour atones for all.
I fear not all that Time or Fate
May bring to burden heart or brow,—
Strong in the love that came so late,
Our souls shall keep it always now!

BRANSON 2006

YAH! BABY



Activities conclude with a dinner cruise on the Showboat Branson Belle on beautiful Lake Tannycomo. We will be having a special Veteran's Salute that you won't want to miss. We have already booked passage at a special price and the show will be very intertaining for all ages. All activities planned for this reunion will be suitable for everyone. Plan to come and bring the kids and grandkids.

Dallas Rees needs your help

Needed - a small picture of you in uniform with your name, rank and dates served in the Roan on the back.

Reason - Reunion project.

All pictures are NON - returnable.

All pictures **MUST** be received by **JUNE 30, 2005.**

Mail to: Dallas Rees
P.O. Box 311
Sparta, IL. 62286

Remember to reserve August 8,9 & 10, 2006 for our 9th reunion, to be held in Branson MO.

Plans are coming along nicely for a special reunion you all are sure to enjoy. Come and find out for yourselves what "Ozark Hospitality" truly means.

Financial Report

| Last Financial Report | March 28, 2004 | Last Financial Report | November 2, 2004 |
|--|----------------|--|------------------|
| Balance of Check Book | 26,892.16 | Balance of Check Book | 16,543.60 |
| Reserve Fund-Separate account | 700.00 | Reserve Fund-Separate account | 700.00 |
| Total Assets March 28, 2004 | 27,592.16 | Total Assets November 2, 2004 | 17,243.60 |
| Expenditures: | | Expenditures | |
| Post Office | -497.66 | Post Office | -446.39 |
| Office Supplies/Equipment | -1,359.67 | Office Supplies | -859.94 |
| Small Stores | -3,488.46 | Small Stores | -1,717.68 |
| Newsletter/Reunion Materials | -2,048.10 | Newsletter | -1,142.31 |
| Reunion Refunds | -3,060.00 | Telephone/Internet | -178.70 |
| Reunion Expenses (2004) | -26,487.17 | Flowers | -171.25 |
| Total Expenses | -36,941.06 | Program for Newsletter | -720.00 |
| | | Stowage Locker | -232.20 |
| | | Total Expenses | -5,468.47 |
| Checking Account - March 28, 2004 (minus reserve fund) | 26,892.16 | Checking Account - February 28, 2005 (minus reserve fund) | 16,543.60 |
| Deposits | 26,592.50 | Deposits | 3,282.74 |
| Total | 53,484.66 | Total | 19,826.34 |
| Total Expenses | -36,941.06 | Total Expenses | -5,468.47 |
| Total Balance Checking Account November 2, 2004 | 16,543.60 | Total Balance Checking Account February 28, 2005 | \$14,357.87 |
| (Deposits include Reunion registration Funds, Donations and Sale of Ship store items) | | (Deposits include donations, Ship store) | |
| Reserve Fund (separate Account) | (700.00) | Reserve Fund (separate account) | (700.00) |
| Total Assets including reserve fund | \$17,243.60 | Total Assets including reserve fund | \$15,057.87 |

Editors note: The reason for two financial reports in this edition is because there was no financial report in the last addition of "The Jolly Cholly."

Flags and Signals

Richard,

I just wanted to drop you a line to say thank you for the thoughtful get well card I received today. Word sure does get around in the Roan Association. I only said in passing when I got the e-mail on the next reunion, that I was so disappointed in missing the last one in R.I. because of a health problem. I missed the reunion because of ongoing shoulder problems, but a recent MRI on my neck had a secondary finding. Somehow they found a macroadenoma (a tumor on the pituitary gland). Most of the time they're non-cancerous, and I feel o.k. and all the tests so far are good, so we'll just have to follow their guidelines and keep an eye on things. It just goes to show you what a great association we have when someone's a bit under the weather they're getting cards in the mail wishing them well. I can't tell you how proud I am to have served on the Roan and how lucky I am to belong to such a great association. I'm sure things will work out for me when I have such good people looking over me. It's funny, but just the other day I was saying to my wife that I can't believe that next year it will be 40 years since I first stepped foot on DD853 and I still remember it like it was yesterday. Keep up the good work. I've got to get you guys a check for all you do, and get an order in for one of your great looking jackets to match my hat and my license plate "DD853" on my '84 Z-28 Camaro. Take care of yourself and keep up the great work, and thank you once again for the card.

Brad York

SHSN 66- 68

Flags and Signals

Dear Richard,

I'm enclosing a small contribution to help you and Joe Lambert with the expenses involved in the publishing of "The Jolly Cholly." The work that you and Joe have put into this project is very commendable. You are truly great Navy Veterans and great Navy Shipmates. It was a great pleasure to have served with you and I'm grateful for all of your fine support during my tenure in the Roan.

Stay healthy and Happy Holidays,

Wally Riggs
CO/CDR 63-65

Joe,

Many thanks for the excellent write-up on Captain No. 13. My wife was so impressed with the front cover that she says we need 2 more copies to send to our 2 sons. I am mailing you some postage money and "dues" to cover the additional costs.

Looks like you had a great reunion in Warwick, RI. If my health holds up I hope to be able to attend the next reunion in Branson, but at my stage in life I don't even buy green bananas anymore.

Many Thanks Again and My Salute to You Both,

Wally Riggs
CO/CDR 63-65

Dear Richard,

Thank you and your staff for a great time at our reunion in Rhode Island last year. Each reunion gets better and better. I'm looking forward to seeing all the "old salts" from the USS Roan in Branson MO. in 2006.

With best regards,

Bill Varner
SN 46-48 Plankowner

P.S. If you ever run for president you have my vote. Lorraine would make a great First Lady. Right?

Rich,

Better to be late than never. (donation)

Best,

Ray Duval
RMSN 46-47 Plankowner

Richard,

Enclosed find a check for a pre-61 cap (blue) and something for the kitty.

In January, 01 my wife had a heart attack. Five days later they found gangrene in her colon and had to operate on her. Two days later she had a massive stroke. She is paralyzed on her right side and can't talk. The only thing she can do for herself is use a fork to eat; I have to help her in everything else. That is why I have not been able to attend any meetings, and probably will not be able to in the future. However, I would be interested in following the Roan Association and it's members.

Smooth sailing,
John Betchie FN 46 - 47 Plankowner

Hi Joe,

Thanks for the update on the 06 reunion. I am thinking of renting a small RV and doing a little visiting around on the way out and back.

Rosalie McClintock

Joe,

Sorry I couldn't make this year's reunion. Work and family obligations, but I certainly will try to make the Branson one. I'll check some old boxes for a picture to forward to Dallas Reese. I know I have a picture album from my days on the Roan. Keep up the good work on "The Jolly Cholly"

Dan McGovern

PN3 67-69

Hi Joe,

Thanks for the update. I've been having some health problems lately, so I didn't even make the reunion in R.I., an hour or so from my home. Keep up the good work, always looking forward to the newsletters....

Brad York
SHSN 66-68

Joe,

Thank you for the information. While I will not be able to join the group in Missouri, I will get a picture to you. Do you want pix of other shipmates from my time on the Roan?

Also, I was on the Roan 69-70. I will be glad to write up as much as I can remember of what we did during my time onboard, if you want it. We did a Med. Cruise and some ops in North Atlantic and Caribbean. Was at sea when man landed on the moon.

Good luck with the reunion.

John Conley

RM2 69-70

Joe,

It's great hearing from you. I'll have to dig through my 'pictures' to find a Navy photo and get it off to Dallas Rees before June 30, 2005.

On a different matter, I don't know if you receive the Tin Can Sailor newspaper. If you do, there's a story in there about me, yes yours truly, and the TCS module. I spent Martin Luther King weekend in Chicago visiting museums and people. It was cold but enjoyable. Great towns riding the buses and trains just like The Big Apple. Take care, I'll be back in-touch later.

Respectfully,

Anne (In Spirit) and Bob Cronan

FT2 59-60

Richard,

Keep up the good work. You're pulling it all together.

Thanks,
Jerry Heinzman
LTjg

Navy Remaking Boot Camp For Recruits Associated Press - November 12, 2003

CHICAGO - Generations of recruits at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center have marched from barracks to classroom, classroom to barracks, barracks to mess hall - more than a mile and a half a day for their nine weeks of basic training.

"Two years ago, we did more marching than even the Marine Corps or the Army," said Rear Adm. Ann Rondeau, commander of the center in North Chicago.

But the nation's only boot camp for Navy enlistees is undergoing a major change - and less marching for the roughly 45,000 recruits who pass through every year is only a part of it.

Instead of wasting training time by making recruits adapt to the aging base, the base is adapting to them. The result, Rondeau and others say, should be better-trained, healthier sailors who are prepared to serve from the day they graduate.

Two years ago, recruits were allotted six and a half hours of sleep. Today, they get eight hours, a reflection that most people need that much shuteye to be healthy and to learn effectively.

Recruits no longer spend a week of their training on kitchen duty. Meals are handled by a private company, leaving more time for training in fighting, survival and counter terrorism techniques.

The two giant dining halls are disappearing, to be replaced by galleys in the barracks.

Fifteen new barracks are being built containing classroom and training areas; each will be named after a famous ship from Navy history in an attempt to imbue Navy lore in sailors from the start.

They will replace barracks with antiquated ventilation systems in which, Rondeau said, when one recruit gets sick, 70 or 80 more quickly follow.

Also slated for the wrecking ball are the base's drill halls, which were put up more than 60 years ago as temporary structures. They will be replaced by three new training halls with air conditioning, offices and classrooms and modern amenities.

The cost of all the new construction is projected to be \$798 million over nine years, said Cmdr. Tony Edmonds.

Navy officials are quick to say the new approach is intended to be more focused, not any less rigorous than the old way of doing things.

"I think the recruits are going to get a training that's more tailored to the needs of the Navy," Lt. Dan Cook said.

"Always being tired all the time and always being sick and coughing really affects your ability to effectively learn," Rondeau said. "We want people to be able to focus on making critical decisions."

I like the Navy

I like standing on the bridge wing at sunrise with salt spray in my face and clean ocean winds whipping in from the four quarters of the globe - the ship beneath me feeling like a living thing as her engines drive her through the sea.

I like the sounds of the Navy - the piercing trill of the boat-swains pipe, the syncopated clangor of the ship's bell on the quarterdeck, the harsh squawk of the IMC and the strong language and laughter of sailors at work.

I like the vessels of the Navy - nervous darting destroyers, plodding fleet auxiliaries, sleek submarines and steady solid carriers. I like the proud sonorous names of Navy capital ships:

Midway, Lexington, Saratoga, Coral Sea -
-memorials of great battles won.

I like the lean angular names of Navy 'tin-cans':

Barney, Dahlgren, Mullinix, McCloy, John Paul Jones
-mementos of heroes who went before us.

I like the tempo of a Navy band blaring through the topside speakers as we pull away from the oiler after refueling at sea. I like liberty call and the spicy scent of a foreign port. I even like all hands working parties as my ship fills herself with the multitude of supplies both mundane and exotic which she needs to cut her ties to the land and carry out her mission anywhere on the globe where there is water to float her.

I like sailors, men from all parts of the land, farms of the Midwest, small towns of New England, from the cities, the mountains and the prairies, from all walks of life. I trust and depend on them as they trust and depend on me - for professional competence, for comradeship, for courage. In a word, they are "shipmates."

I like the surge of adventure in my heart when the word is passed "Now station the special sea and anchor detail - all hands to quarters for leaving port", and I like the infectious thrill of sighting home again, with the waving hands of welcome from family and friends waiting pierside. The work is hard and dangerous, the going rough at times, the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust Navy laughter, the 'all for one and one for all' philosophy of the sea is ever present.

I like the serenity of the sea after a day of hard ship's work, as flying fish flit across the wave tops and sunset gives way to night. I like the feel of the Navy in darkness - the mast-head lights, the red and green navigation lights and stern light, the pulsating phosphorescence of radar repeaters - they cut through the dusk and join with the mirror of stars overhead. And I like drifting off to sleep lulled by the myriad noises large and small that tell me that my ship is alive and well, and that my shipmates on watch will keep me safe.

I like quiet midwatches with the aroma of strong coffee - the lifeblood of the Navy - permeating everywhere. And I like hectic watches when the exacting minuet of haze-gray shapes racing at flank speed keeps all hands on a razor edge of alertness. I like the sudden electricity of "General quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations", followed by the hurried clamor of running feet on ladders and the resounding thump of watertight doors as the ship transforms herself in a few brief seconds from a peaceful workplace to a weapon of war - ready for anything. And I like the sight of space-age equipment manned by youngsters clad in dungarees and sound-powered phones that their grandfathers would still recognize.

I like the traditions of the Navy and the men and women who made them. I like the proud names of Navy heroes:

Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut, John Paul Jones.

A sailor can find much in the Navy: comrades-in-arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman's trade. An adolescent can find adulthood.

In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea, they will still remember with fondness and respect the ocean in all its moods - the impossible shimmering mirror calm and the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow. And then there will come again a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom and chief's quarters and messdecks.

Gone ashore for good they will grow wistful about their Navy days, when the seas belonged to them and a new port of call was ever over the horizon.

Remembering this, they will stand taller and say,

**"I WAS A SAILOR ONCE. I WAS PART OF THE NAVY
and
THE NAVY WILL ALWAYS BE PART OF ME."**

Flags and Signals

Dick,

Happy New Year - Here's a little something for the Roan kitty. Thanks for all your hard work.

Best regards,
W. D. Lueck
BMSN 53-56

Richard,

I really enjoy the newsletters. When I see pictures of guys I knew from 48-52 and I can't remember the names it bugs me. I do remember Homer Graham (BM1 48-52), (spring issue, V1 #1 page 6.)

I remember the reason we highlined the pilot back to his carrier. The night before we were blacked out and planes were landing on the carrier in the dark and the only thing you could see was the landing officer in his luminous suit.

Roan was running plane guard just aft and on the port side of the carrier. I was on the starboard side almost to the quarter deck watching planes land.

This pilot came in too low and the landing officer waved him off, but his tail hit the edge of the flight deck and he went flying off the starboard side of the carrier and hit the water.

We had our whale boat in the water quickly and picked up the pilot and the radioman so they were not in the water very long. I remember getting ice cream from the carrier.

Dick Hinerman
EMFN 49-51

Dear Rich,

Just received my copy of the fall 2004 issue of "The Jolly Cholly" and always enjoy reading it through from beginning to end. Thanks for printing my letters. It was so very good to be with shipmates again, but I did find it frustrating in not being able to recognize those I used to know outright.

I attended a couple of reunions of the LST I served in during the WWII. That was back in the 70's, but they stopped having them because there were not enough shipmates around to attend anymore. I still hear from a few during the holidays, but now I can count them on ten fingers. I was one of the last three plank-owners to leave her in January, 1946. She was eventually turned over to the Chinese Nationalist Navy.

Hope to see you again in 2006. I'm in my eighties now but still going like I'm sixty. Take care and God Bless.

As ever,
John "Doc" Salisbury
HMC 57-59

Richard,

Had an emergency Saturday morning and had to leave Warwick. I didn't get to contribute or say good-bye. Sorry

John McDonald
BM3 47-50

Richard,

Thanks for doing such a great job with the Roan Association.

Leonard Martinoli and Family
RM2 61-64

Hello Lorraine and Richard,

It was a great pleasure to see you at the reunion in August. Thanks for all of the hard work you put in making these reunions so successful. I was glad to see from the last Roan paper that the hurricanes didn't damage your home too badly.

All the best in 2005,
Charlie Wingo
LTjg 62-63

Hi Richard,

Just a few lines to tell you and your crew what a great job you're doing. Keep up the good work.

I'm sorry I missed this reunion, but after two cancer operations and a hip replacement it's pretty hard to get around.

Here is a check for your kitty. It isn't much but I hope it will help. I just want to say "Hi" to Mike and Davie and all the guys in the machine shop.

Bill Marshall
EN3 49 - 52

Hi Rich,

Enclosed is a check for a few items I ordered from the Ships Store - the remainder is a contribution for the "Association." I enjoy reading all the info in "The Jolly Cholly." Keep up the good work Rich!

Jack Stiglianese
SN 52-56

Hello Richard,

I just received and read the Fall 2004 issue of "The Jolly Cholly" and to answer your "From The Signal Bridge" I enclose a check to help with costs. I thoroughly enjoy each issue.

My wife, Linda and I made our first reunion in Warwick, RI and had a wonderful time. We both look forward to the next one in 2006 at Branson, MO. I do hope we see you there and thank you and your team for all the work to put this on. You did a super job.

I read Oscar Roo's letter with interest as I was an ET-N aboard the Roan during the time Oscar served and I remembered him. It also brought to mind another ET-N that came aboard with me, Guy Rainer. If you have any info on Guy I would like to contact him.

In closing, again, thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,
Larry Wright
ETN2 65-66

Flags and Signals

Hi Joe,

I'm forwarding an email that I had sent to Souza regarding some info that was requested by shipmates and EE Smith's daughter. If you have her address, please forward it to me as I have a snapshot of Ed with a group from the Roan drinking Haute Tuey in the NCO club in Gitmo. She may be interested in having it for her memorabilia of her Dad.

Thanks,

Fran Merenda (spikefish@aol.com)

Ms. Smith,

Received this e-mail from one of the members of the Roan Association. If you would like to contact him his e-mail address is Spikefish@aol.com his name is Fran Merenda.

Joe Lambert

Editor - "The Jolly Cholly"

Dear Joe,

Thank you, I will respond to him with what information I have. Ed was on the Roan from 1948 to 1951 as far as I can tell. He then re-enlisted and I believe might have been on the Roan another year or two. He retired in 1968 as a Lt.

Patricia Smith

Hi Patricia,

I had made the inquiry to the editor of the Roan's newsletter "Jolly Cholly". In the latest issue, Volume 7, Number 2, I read of Ed's Passing, but the info regarding his service aboard the Roan was missing. I had served with Ed from 1948 to 1951 and offered that info to the Roan Association officers so that they could update their records. I also asked for your address because I have a photo with a group of shipmates (all at about age 19 & 20) which includes Ed. If you would like to have it for your photo album, I'd be happy to send it to you

Fran Merenda

Mr. Merenda,

I understand that you were wanting more information on Ernest E. Smith, Lt. U.S.N. Ed was my husband of 23 years. Although I did not know him during his Military Career, I know that he cherished every moment and would have loved to continue his service. He passed away on December 24, 2003 and will be buried at sea, which I can not bring myself to do at this time. He began his military career as a Seaman Recruit and advanced to Lieutenant. He served on the Roan I know from 1948 to 1951 and I believe after he re-enlisted he spent another year or two. He spent his time in the military on a number of different ships - USS D. J. Buckley, USS Hemminger, USS Enterprise, USS Chicago. He also was an instructor at the Fleet Anti-Air Warfare Training Center in San Diego, California. He was awarded the following medals during his active service:

Navy Good Conduct Medal (with 4 bronze stars)

Navy Occupation Medal (Europe)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Cuba)

Korean Service Medal

United Nations Service Medal (Korea)

National Defense Service Medal (with 1 bronze star)

I hope this information will assist you in identifying Ernest E. Smith.

Thank You,

Patricia Smith

Hello sir,

I was looking on the internet the other day and I had found a site that showed pictures of a C.H. Roan reunion. There were a lot of people in them and even a couple of plank owners. I wanted to show it to my dad but now I just can't find it. I'm hoping that you might know where it is and if you do could you send the URL to me so I can show him. It would be greatly appreciated.

My dad has cancer and a very serious lung disease. My mother has cancer also and quite frankly we are not sure how long we are going to have either of them. My motive here is to bring back some memories to my dad and hope- fully re-vitalize our relationship, father and son. When I think of that old ship he served on and all the stories he has told me I cry like a child. He is a very loving and giving Christian man now and I want nothing more than to bless his later days with good memories. His time on that ship seems to be some of his best. He spent his 21 birthday swimming with his shipmate buddy in a pool in Singapore. That was 50 years ago and 10 years to the day before I was born (I was born on his birthday). If you have any ideas or opportunities that I could take advantage of I would just love to hear them. I don't mean to intrude or sound demanding of someone who doesn't even know me but time is not on our side here and I want to honor my dad. My mother has vowed that if there is another reunion; they are going to make it a priority. Thanks,
Charles K. Edmunds Jr.

Hello Charles,

I know all about cancer, I just returned to work last week. I was off one year fighting cancer, and the good news is that I am in remission. My prayers are with them both. I know the emotional and physical toll it takes on you.

I believe the page you are looking for is for the 2002 reunion held in Norfolk, VA. I had removed the link, but have now added it back in. Look for the link on the PHOTOS page. Let me know if you are still having trouble. Our next reunion is planned for Branson, MO in 2006. If you feel comfortable giving me your address, I'll see that your dad gets a card from the USS Charles H. Roan Association.

If there is anything else I can do for you, please let me know.

Regards,

Ron Lucchesi

Thank you, sir.

Those are the exact pictures I was referring to. I hope he sees someone he remembers and I really hope we can get my dad to that reunion.

I don't know how well they will be in 2006 as their health is not too good but he would enjoy that to no end. My mother is having her pancreas and her gall-bladder removed Monday which is going to render her a total diabetic and this is her third cancer surgery. I hope they are able to go, I want to come along and meet some of the other men who served on that ship. Thanks again and God bless you,

C.K. Edmunds Jr.

USS Fitzgerald DDG 62
is named in honor of
Lieutenant William Charles Fitzgerald, USN,
who was posthumously awarded the
Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism on
7 August 1967 in Vietnam.



The Commissioning Pennant of the USS Charles H, Roan is mounted on a bulkhead in the wardroom of the USS Fitzgerald.



The upper brass plate reads:
Commissioning Pennant of the
USS Charles H. ROAN (DD 853)
hauled down upon her transfer to the Turkish Navy
21 September 1973 at Newport, R.I.

The lower brass plate reads:
Presented to
USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62)
Commissioned 14 October 1993 at Newport, R. I.
in memory of
Lieutenant William C. Fitzgerald, USN
by his ROAN shipmates

Lieutenant William Charles Fitzgerald, USN



CITATION: Award of the Navy Cross

For extraordinary heroism on 7 August 1967 while serving as senior advisor to Vietnamese Navy Coastal Group SIXTEEN in connection with combat operations against the communist insurgents (Viet Cong) in the Republic of Vietnam.

When Coastal Group SIXTEEN was taken under a coordinated attack by numerically superior Viet Cong forces, Lieutenant Fitzgerald established communications with the Vietnamese Navy commanding officer, and attempted to coordinate assistance with free-world forces in the area. The enemy fire soon became too intense for the outnumbered base defense force to resist successfully and the Viet Cong completely overran the base. Aware that his bunker was the only remaining source of resistance, Lieutenant Fitzgerald requested an artillery barrage to be laid down on his own position and ordered his men to evacuate the base toward the river. He gallantly remained in the command bunker in order to provide cover fire for the evacuating personnel. Before Lieutenant Fitzgerald could carry out his own escape, he was fatally shot by the Viet Cong aggressors. By his fearless dedication to duty, courage under fire, and heroic actions in defense of the base, despite overwhelming odds, Lieutenant Fitzgerald served as an inspiration to all persons engaged in the counterinsurgency effort in Vietnam and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

LT - O3 - Navy - Regular
29 year old Married, Caucasian, Male
Born on Jan 28, 1938
From WORCESTER, VERMONT
Length of service 6 years.
Casualty was on Aug 07, 1967
in QUANG NGAI, SOUTH VIETNAM
HOSTILE, GROUND CASUALTY
GUN, SMALL ARMS FIRE
Body was recovered

Lieutenant William Charles Fitzgerald

28 January 1938 - 07 August 1967

“PROTECT YOUR PEOPLE “

USS FITZGERALD is named in honor of Lieutenant William Charles Fitzgerald, USN, who was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism on 7 August 1967 in Vietnam

Bill Fitzgerald was born 28 January 1938 in Montpelier, Vermont, second child and first son of Louis and Mildred Mary Fitzgerald. His father was a career Navy man who retired as a Chief Petty Officer. Bill grew up in the local area and graduated from Montpelier High School in June 1956. Following graduation, Bill followed in his father's footsteps and enlisted in the United States Navy. As an enlisted sailor, Bill served in **USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (DD 823)**, **USS HUGH PURVIS (DD 709)**, and **USS GEARING (DD 710)**. Bill also served with **Utility Squadron SIX** at NAS Norfolk, Virginia, while working on the Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter (DASH) program. Seaman William Fitzgerald eventually earned selection for officer training and was appointment to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

During Midshipman Fitzgerald's days at Annapolis, he became well known as an outstanding leader and athlete. Bill Fitzgerald excelled in Naval Education, softball, football, fencing, basketball, and tennis. Additionally, Bill developed a great sense of camaraderie with his peers, and from his enlisted experience he had an intuitive grasp for being a great naval officer. Midshipman Fitzgerald earned his commission in the U.S. Navy on 5 June 1963. After graduation from Annapolis, Ensign Fitzgerald reported to **USS CHARLES H. ROAN (DD 853)**, where he rose from "Boot Ensign" to Weapons Department Head, a position of great responsibility. Following ROAN, Lieutenant Fitzgerald reported to Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, California, where he attended counterinsurgency training. Upon completion he was assigned duties as the senior U.S. advisor at Costal Defense Group SIXTEEN in Vietnam. This group's compound was located adjacent to the village of Co Luy, near the delta of the Tra Khuc River, and about 70 miles southeast of Danang. In this position, he advised the South Vietnamese Navy on defense measures and on the

capture of military supplies and contraband destined for Viet Cong forces.

At about 0300 on 7 August 1967, Costal Group Sixteen's compound came under

vicious attack by two Viet Cong battalions. The assault began with an intense mortar barrage followed immediately by the advance of troops. Fitzgerald, the senior American commander, immediately ordered a retreat of the civilians within the compound. Because of the compound's location adjacent to a river and the aggressors position, the only escape route was via water in small boats. Lieutenant Fitzgerald and three others delayed their retreat as long as possible in order to provide covering fire and to direct fire from surrounding friendly forces. Many calls were made to orbiting gunship aircraft, artillery units, and "Swift"-type fast river patrol boats to provide defensive fire. The Viet Cong attack, however was swift and well coordinated. It soon became apparent that the South Vietnamese forces were decimated and that the American bunker was the sole remaining source of resistance. As the situation deteriorated, Fitzgerald ordered his last three remaining defenders to retreat while he used arms fire to cover their escape. Fitzgerald was mortally wounded in this action.

In honor of Lieutenant William C. Fitzgerald's loyal and selfless dedication to his people, he was posthumously awarded the U. S. Navy's highest decoration for valor The Navy Cross. Additionally, he was awarded the Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign ribbon bar.

LT Fitzgerald is survived by his wife Betty Ann, and their children who continue to reside in and around Montpelier VT. Mrs. Fitzgerald was designated sponsor of the ship named for her late husband and continues to be active in both official and unofficial ship functions.

USS Fitzgerald's motto -

“ PROTECT YOUR PEOPLE “ -

is a lasting tribute to the sacrifice Bill made for the people he commanded



Shipmate

(The Naval Academy Alumni Magazine)

April 1994

Pres., Robert L. Harper. .

A brief, almost miraculous, break in this year's hard winter provided a sunny sky and abnormally warm temperatures for the launching of FITZGERALD at Bath Iron Works on 29 January. Our Classmates, the Fitzgerald family, and the many others who journeyed to Maine for the event enjoyed a thoroughly successful and profoundly inspirational day.

Many members of the class of 1963 began that weekend with dinner at the Daniel Stone Inn in nearby Brunswick on Friday night, organized by Bob LaGassa. A special feature of the evening was the showing of a video made from movies taken in the Second Company during our midshipman years, with Bill Fitzgerald appearing prominently. Highlights included intramural sports, Hundredth Night 1963, and our graduation. Joining our Classmates was Al Green, a shipmate of Bill's aboard ROAN.

Several of our hardier Classmates arrived at the building way at 0500 Saturday to participate in the driving of the wedges to lift the ship onto the launching cradle which that afternoon would slide down greased rails into the Kennebec River. When the guests began assembling shortly before noon the temperature had risen into the 40's, and the clear skies gave everything an especially sharp, crisp appearance which locked the scene indelibly into everyone's memory. The two rows of VIP seating set aside for the Class of 1963—66 seats in all—were filled to capacity. The Class and several of Bill's shipmates from ROAN were recognized during the ceremony. It was especially fitting that among the guests were three men from Bill's command in Vietnam, whose lives he had saved by the courageous acts, which led to his death.

The featured speaker at the ceremony was our Classmate VAdm. Dave Robinson, who was recognized by Senator Bill Cohen of Maine as the only other member of our Class to be awarded the Navy Cross. I'm glad to be able to share with you some excerpts from Dave's excellent speech:

The christening of a ship carries with it special and unique significance. Those who go to sea have always named their ships. They've recognized and honored their relationship with the sea by giving their ships names intended to inculcate the spirit and tradition of their profession and calling on the oceans of the world. It is an official baptism, timed to be the last act before a ship departs her secure place on land-locked ways and enters her life buoyed by the seas. She is launched and begins her history no longer just a number on a set of drawings but baptized with a name and carrying with that name the spirit and quality of her future service to our country.

This ship is the eleventh of the ARLEIGH BURKE class. Each of these ships is named to honor sailors of special meaning to our Navy. Heroes and seamen all, they embody the highest standards of service to our Nation and Navy.

No namesake is more fitting for a ship of this class than my friend and classmate Lieutenant William Fitzgerald. When Bill and I were Plebes together, the world was a very different place. It was 1959, Bill had already served as an enlisted man for three years after leaving his home in Montpelier, Vermont, for a life at sea. We were in the midst of the Cold War; the raising of the Berlin wall, the Cuban missile crisis, and Vietnam were all ahead of us.

When we graduated, Bill went to sea on the destroyer CHARLES H. ROAN and married Betty Ann Dalton from Barre, Vt. Then, like so many of us, he was called to war in the Republic of Vietnam leaving behind Betty and two young daughters. August 1967 found him assigned to a Naval Advisory Group in the Military Assistance Command, serving with Vietnamese Navy Coastal Group 16 southeast of Da Nang. Here war found him and faced him with overwhelming odds.

We were fighting against the Viet Cong in those days, employing a blockade against arms movements—Operation Market Time. The Viet Cong had experienced setbacks over the previous months and in order to regain credibility in the countryside, they massed a series of attacks on U.S. and Vietnamese installations. Before dawn, two battalions assaulted Bill's base, vastly outnumbering the defenders. The spare words of Bill's citation for the Navy Cross he won that day paint an extraordinary picture of heroism and sacrifice. As the citation reads "The enemy fire soon became too intense for the outnumbered base defense force to resist successfully and the Viet Cong completely overran the base. Aware that his bunker was the only remaining source of resistance, Lieutenant Fitzgerald requested an artillery barrage to be laid down on his own position and ordered his men to evacuate the base toward the river. He gallantly remained in the command bunker in order to provide cover fire for the evacuating personnel. Before Lieutenant Fitzgerald could carry out his own escape, he was fatally shot by the Viet Cong aggressors."

Bill's courage, indomitable spirit and selflessness serve as the touchstones for this ship named in his honor. At the same time, the USS FITZGERALD will honor his sacrifice. His personal sacrifice and that of his family were extraordinary. His son, Neil Wade, was born just three weeks before his death. He indeed serves as an inspiration to us all, and I can think of no more fitting sponsor for this ship than Betty Ann Dalton Fitzgerald, Bill's wife. Her example of courage, spirit, and selflessness endows this ship equally with Bill's.

Such a legacy is altogether fitting for this most modern and capable warship. She was built to go in harm's way and prevail, reflecting the highest art of American technological ability and shipbuilding skill. She truly embodies the extraordinary advances we have witnessed

in the thirty and one-half years since our graduation. But she remains a destroyer in the finest sense of the term. This is a ship with tremendous capabilities and flexibility, able to fight up, down and out. Her weapons are the most advanced in the world, capable of taking the fight to the enemy and equally capable of defending against great odds. American designers and the craftsmen of Bath Iron Works are producing an outstanding testament to our industrial skills and abilities. They've made a jewel.

She was designed to defend our Nation against the enemy that as Midshipmen Bill and I thought we would fight some day. It was a calculating and powerful enemy, the Soviet Union. FITZGERALD and others of her class were, in truth, designed to defeat an enemy who had built a world-class navy with alarming speed. It was a navy that seemed at one point capable of facing us with overwhelming odds. It was an enemy capable of threatening our Nation's very existence and this ship was built to make that enemy doubt any chance of success in arms against us.

Today, we have put behind us this ominous threat of global war and the destruction of all nations. But it is no comfortable peace. Nations once clamped behind an Iron Curtain now struggle on an open stage to define their governments, their societies, even their borders. Nations once euphemistically called "clients" find themselves free actors before a critical audience and struggling to gain the freedoms and fulfill the obligations of truly sovereign states. It is an uncertain world faced with uncertain futures for millions of its citizens.

In this world, a ship such as FITZGERALD is needed more than ever. As she would have deterred an aggressive Soviet Union, she now deters those nations who would seek dominion over others through force of arms. She deters conquest and aggression and, in so doing, protects the peoples of the world.

Deterrence is more than technical superiority, more than mere design and craftsmanship, more than the appearance of this ship on the oceans of the world. The essence of this destroyer's effectiveness is embodied in the name we are to christen her with today. Those who would do harm know the legacy of courage, sprint, and selflessness, the heroism in the name Fitzgerald. This will be the essence and strength of our Nation, this ship and Bill Fitzgerald. May it never waver.

The launching of FITZGERALD was flawlessly executed. Betty Fitzgerald, the ship's sponsor, broke the traditional bottle of champagne on the towering steel bow and watched proudly as the ship began her journey toward decades of service in the cause of freedom. The keel entered the water precisely on schedule—one minute from high tide.

Following the ceremonies, Bath Iron Works hosted a gala reception at the Atrium Inn. It was there that our Class President, Bob Harper, presented plaques of our Class crest to Betty Fitzgerald and, for the ship's wardroom, to PCO Gary Holst "77". That evening, Anne and Ron Calhoun hosted our Classmates and their ladies at a wonderful party at their home in Bath. Ron's an executive with Bath Iron

Works, and he and Anne pulled out the stops to ensure that the Class of 1963 entourage was well treated. Many thanks!

Just a few days later, I received this note from Betty Fitzgerald:

At the wedge driving some of Bill's Classmates spoke with the children and me, and others later approached us at the reception. It was a very emotional time for all that attended. The plaque you gave us with the Class of 1963 crest will join other cherished items on our wall. Please relay our thanks to everyone in your Class. You guys are one terrific bunch! It was a great way of honoring Bill. We wish we could thank each and every one of you personally. I hope to see you all at the ship commissioning.

That event is tentatively scheduled for mid-1995. I have heard that it may be held in Newport.

The parents of a Maine-native colleague of mine at the Library of Congress spotted a piece about the launching in the 6 February edition of the Portland Maine Sunday Telegram and relayed it for our information. I phoned the author, editorial page editor George Neavoll and he kindly gave permission for a reprint of the article, which appeared under the headline, "Maine-built ship salutes a hero. Bath Iron Works' new Aegis destroyer honors a Vietnam warrior." Here it is, edited to avoid duplicating other parts of this month's column:

The great steel ship loomed over the crowd at the Bath Iron Works launch site, its nautical flags rattling in the stiffcold breeze and the red and white bunting at its prow accenting the gleaming gray hull. After a week of storms, the day was bright, and an air of gaiety prevailed along the banks of the broad Kennebec. It was a day made for a ship launching.

In a ceremony that was part of naval "traditions that are older than the nation that this ship will defend," as Rep. Tom Andrews said, the mighty FITZGERALD (DDG-62) was dedicated and christened and sent down the ways. The 505-foot warship is the seventh Aegis destroyer in the ARLEIGH BURKE class built by Bath Iron Works. Maine's two U.S. senators were there, as was Vice Adm. David Robinson, Naval Surface Force Commander of the U. S. Pacific Fleet. Darla Norris, manager of special initiatives for the shipyard, struck a blow for Bath Iron Works women by being the first woman in shipyard history to conduct a launching ceremony.

Betty Ann Fitzgerald, widow of the ship's namesake, Lt. William Fitzgerald then swung the bottle of champagne that christened the ship and started the new destroyer sliding into the water. As the Bath Municipal Band played *Anchors Aweigh* many an eye glistened in the midday sun. It felt good to be an American and to be living in a State that makes ships like that. It feels good to live in a New England that makes men like Bill Fitzgerald—an authentic American hero. His story is told in *Brown Water Black Berets: Coastal and Riverine Warfare in Vietnam*, a Naval Institute Press book by Thomas J. Cutler.

Neil Wade Fitzgerald, the youngest of the couple's three children, was only three weeks old when the news arrived of his father's death. The other children, Lynda Kay and Penni Lyn, also were small. Another daughter, Candy Jean, was born to Betty Ann Fitzgerald and Donald Jarvis Sr. All four children joined their mother at the launching ceremony.

The story of William Fitzgerald and his family is an American story because it is about ordinary people doing extraordinary things. The tall, quiet Vermonter didn't set out to be a war hero, but when death looked him in the face, he knew what he had to do and he did it without hesitation. He literally laid down his life for his men, and as the scriptures say: "Greater love hath no man than this." After his death at the age of 29, his dear widow took on the challenges that suddenly were thrust upon her, and met them equally heroically. Raising her young family by herself, she showed strength of character and a courage that are evident today. When Buzz Fitzgerald, president of Bath Iron Works, said that Betty Ann had made him an honorary family member, it was plain that he was very proud of that—and one could see why.

"The fact that this ship honors a hero of the Vietnam War is a tribute to all those who fought and died for freedom in a distant part of the world," said Sen. Bill Cohen. Indeed it is and veterans of that war can be glad their fight for freedom now will be memorialized through what Maine's other senator, Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, called this "state of the art vessel that will set the standard of excellence at sea."

As it protects the peace, may none of its weapons ever be fired in anger. If they are, however let the aggressor know that in the world of ships and men they don't come any better than the FITZGERALD.

A Parents Concern

Hi Joe Lambert, Rich Souza and all ROAN shipmates,

Please excuse the computer, but I've become so accustomed to using it that I have allowed my handwriting to deteriorate in clarity in my older years. (I'll be 60 years old later this year.)

I am enclosing an article for inclusion in the Roan Association newsletter, if you feel it is appropriate to include. Two weeks have passed and we have not heard from our son since his telephone call confirming his safe arrival at U.S.N.T.C., (now RTC) Great Lakes, IL. Apparently, 'boots' are not permitted to receive, or send mail until the second Sunday after their arrival there. I don't recall that being the situation when I was there, but I was 17, and that was 42 years ago. I guess some things do change, its no longer dad's Navy.

I owe so many shipmates letters that I am embarrassed to be writing this one. It seems like raising children, accommodating their desires and needs, caring in-home for elderly parents (we lost my dad in '96. with a brain tumor), and trying to make a living didn't permit much time to do the things I would have liked to have done, and should have done. I apologize to all of those that have been so gracious to remember me with their cards and letters. Although none of you are aware, you were of great help in getting me through the illness and loss of my dad. We kept dad at home and cared for him ourselves. Some days and nights were very difficult. During his illness, late at night, I sat at my computer and wrote a continuing letter to my shipmates. When dad passed away, I realized that letter to all of you helped me deal with the anguish and feelings of helplessness that I felt, daily. The letter was never mailed, but I thank all of you for being in my memories when I most needed someone beyond my family to share my emotions with. From the boiler rooms to the signal bridge, from aftersteering to the bow, in my mind and in my heart, my shipmates silently grieved with and for me.

I was recently in Norfolk, VA, on business, and had an opportunity to glimpse the U.S.S. Wisconsin, which is now a museum piece there. Hopefully, some day I may have an opportunity to tour it.

For any of you who are not aware, Rich Souza's ship's store operation gives better service than Wal-Mart, K Mart, or the finest of the high priced specialty shops. He's reliable and quick. I highly recommend you add the ship's store to your birthday, anniversary, Christmas and any other shopping list. Another order will be on the way soon, Rich. My son thinks he should have a Roan cap and crest to go with his U.S.S. Fitzgerald cap and crest.

To those of you who may have sons, or daughters, in the current actions in the Middle East, or elsewhere "on watch" throughout the world, may God bless and protect them. And may He continue to bless and protect the United States of America.

Your shipmate,

Charles E. 'Chuck' Penrod,

STG-3 64 - 66

P.S., please accept my enclosed check to assist in the costs of the mailings of our Association newsletters.

CARRYING-ON!

THE U.S. NAVY'S NEWEST "BLUEJACKET"
CHARLES CLYDE OWEN "C.C." PENROD
Delayed Enlistment Date, 19 May 2004
Active Duty Commenced, 1 February 2005



The son of a former Southwest Virginia born mother and an Ohio born father, 'C.C.' Penrod, a 2004 high school Graduate, was one of only four in his graduating class of one hundred sixty five graduates to have committed themselves to U.S. Armed Forces service. His enlistment continues his families' histories of U.S. Military/Naval service inclusive of the Post Revolutionary War settlement of Southwest VA, and The Ohio Territory; The Civil War, WW I, WW II, Korea, Viet Nam, the Dominican Republic Crisis, the Gulf War, and the current war on terrorism in the Middle East. He is especially proud that his family histories include the battle fields of France, The Battle of the Bulge, the liberation of Belgium, the defeat of Germany, the liberation of the Philippines, and the defeat of Japan; possessors of National Defense Service Medals, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, a Purple Heart, a Silver Star and many other recognition's. 'C.C.' is the fifth family member to enlist in the U.S. Navy. The other members served in submarine service in the Pacific during WW II and Korea, aboard the U.S.S. Missouri (BB-63) and fleet destroyers during the Korean War, and aboard the U.S.S. Charles H. Roan (DD-853).

He was 8 years old when he attended the 1993 Reunion of the U.S.S. Charles H. Roan (DD-853) Association, in Newport, RI. Some of you may remember him. He knows well the history behind and highly respects the legacy of the U.S.S. Fitzgerald (DDG-62). He was disappointed that he could not attend its Christening and Commissioning Ceremonies. He reads the Roan Association Newsletters before his father has a chance to read them. It was an extremely proud moment when I heard him answer his U.S. Navy Recruiter's question, "besides wanting to, I have an obligation to my country and to my family to serve". His DEP (Delayed Enlistment Program) has been long. He has anxiously awaited the eight months to pass. Of the four enlisted classmates, he is the last to leave home. Now that his time has come, his mother, his sisters, and I have cried many tears. He is the youngest of our children. He is my only son. Within him lies the future of our family name. He leaves with our utmost love and respect. His absence from our daily lives and home will cast a vast void, but we are extremely proud of him. We trust to God to keep him safe. I pray that his shipmates are as fine as the officers and men of the U.S.S. Charles H. Roan (DD-853) Association.

I am confident that many other shipmates and wives have, are, or will experience the paternal sentiment which Loretta and I are feeling. To those parents we say thank you, on behalf of all Americans who continue to live in freedom because of the willing sacrifices of our sons and daughters.

Charles E. 'Chuck' Penrod,
STG 3 64 - 66

Proud Parents

Hi Joe,

My son is a major in the army intelligence and has been deployed for 1789 days to Bagdad . Here is a picture of his office building.

Your shipmate, Bob Hansen TE3 56-59



Hi Joe,

I thought that all our shipmates may want to know that the USO is still doing a great job. The other morning my son took these pictures of John Elway and Robbin Williams ,and super model Lee Ann Tweeden. They were introduced by Chief of Staff Gen. Meyers. He said Williams and Elway were the greatest. They mixed with the troops and signed autographs. You know the guys loved the beautiful super model. These pictures were taken in Baghdad. The USO keeps a low profile so that they're safe. The troops felt it was great to have these people take time out of their busy schedule and place themselves in harms way just for them.

My son is a Major in Army Intelligence and is posted at Camp Victory, which is located at the Baghdad airport. His office is in one of Saddam's palaces. Thanks to e-mail we get to hear from him at least every other day. Even with e-mail they still need the mailman.

Betty and I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Bob



Hi Joe,

I thought that some of our shipmates might want to know that it is getting better over there. My son talked to Santa and he said it was the first time he has been there in about thirty years. He feels things are looking better. It is hard to tell by watching TV. He promised that all my shipmates would get their Christmas wishes. I think the sign above the throne says Merry Christmas in Arabic.

Merry Christmas to you and yours,

Bob



Flags and Signals

Rich,

Enjoyed the latest newsletter as I always do. Great stuff and warm memories. Hope you and yours have a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2005.

Regards,

Bob Lee

RD1 63-67

P.S. Here's a few dollars for the kitty.

Howdy Souz!

Got the paper - Lots of interesting things in there. Sorry I didn't make it down to Florida. I called after the storm but couldn't get through. Glad you all made it alright. I haven't gotten a letter off to the general yet. Maybe a card in the next week or two. Seems like time gets away from me so fast any more. Maybe because I live in Arkansas and I move slower.

Your friend,

Perry "Woody" Woodman

RD1 65-67

Dear Richard,

I just completed my "cover to cover" reading of the fall issue of "The Jolly Cholly." Thanks for your efforts.

My wife and I enjoyed the reunion at Warwick very much and look forward to future reunions. All the events were very interesting and great fun. I can't say that the Navy is taking very good care of the old "Newport Naval Base." Looks like it's just about obsolete except for the War College area. Enclosed is my check for the Association.

Thanks again,

Bob Hedrich

MM3 54-55

Dear Mr. Souza,

I am sending you an order form and a check. I will write a letter to Joe Lambert c/o "The Jolly Cholly" and I will send you a copy.

My husband was in a trance reading the two letters from the men on the ship when the collision with the Brownson occurred. He said it was like being there again. He said I could see the sharks all over again. He's so excited about ordering his jacket etc. and so am I!

This has been so great and has brought Dick so much happiness to reconnect with his shipmates. Thank you for your kindness and for the great telephone call. We enjoyed talking to you.

Sincerely,

Carol Steed-Williams wife of

Richard Williams

DCFN 52

Dear Richard,

Keep up the good work, you and our elected shipmates do the USS Charles H. Roan proud.

Sincerely, your shipmate,

Dave "Willie" Williams

DC2 68-71

Hi Richard,

I called you about the coasters. I had 5 made and they came out nice, so I'm sending you one. I'll have more use for the coasters than anything else, remembering the Roan every time I set something on it. The person said if you get a scratch on it, just use furniture polish on it.

Anyway, the cover of the reunion book is nice, great job, I think it's the nicest one that we ever had. It's got color.

You and everyone else connected with the reunions are doing an excellent job. You got my vote. My wife and I wish you and your wife a Merry Christmas and a safe one.

Me having a stroke is not the best thing as you can see by the writing, but I try the best I can. I don't have a computer.

Shipmate,

Vic Kaidan

MM3 52-55

Dear Richard & Lorraine,

Just a few lines to say hello and hope you are both well. It was great, as usual to see you and all the other so very nice people at the reunion in August. I am so glad that Rene wanted to be part of it all and now I look forward to seeing you all at the next one (God willing.) I am so proud to tell our family and friends all about the wonderful time we have. My first one was in Buffalo NY and my first visit to Niagra Falls. I truly feel blessed being able to see so many wonderful places because of your reunions. Have a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to seeing you in Missouri.

Sincerely,

Margaret and Rene Savoie

SH3 61-63

Hello Richard,

Here is my order for a license plate holder and a donation. I do enjoy "The Jolly Cholly", keep it up!!

I will try to make the next reunion in Branson.

Jim Wallin

QM3 64-67

Dear Richard,

I have finished reading "The Jolly Cholly", and it has been a great pleasure.

I am sending a check for 15.00 with this note. Please keep up the good work. The reunion was most enjoyable. I hope to see you in Branson.

Thanks again,

Jim O'Dea

EM2 54-57

Flags and Signals

Hi Richard,

Here's a few dollars for the kitty. Keep up the good work.

I served in three cans, the Damoto DD 871, one year, the E.A. Greene DD 711, four years, three months and came aboard the Roan in Newport in March, 52 to November, 56. Bobby Boorum gave me my papers back to the States. We were in Greece at the time.

Reading "The Jolly Cholly" brought back lots of memories, good and bad. The bad is the departing of shipmates. I read about Joe Sloboda, Danny Webster and now Captain Curran. He was a good skipper and a sailors, sailor. The morale was very high with him at the helm.

Also George Ayers, GM3. Our division played the Second Division soft ball in Portugal and he was the pitcher. We lost!!

Ed Smith, as Joe Slaboda called him, "easy Eddy" was a mild mannered guy. We served together for four years in the little old radar shack. Pulled a few liberties, foreign and stateside together.

Going over the 04 reunion in R.I. I see a few shipmates, Joe Conti, Al Marsh, Robert Klotz and Robert Boorum who attended. Richard I have a book with all the names who served on the Roan under Captain Curran on the 1952 "Operation Mainbrace" off Norway. It might help bring a few more to the table. Let me know.

Thanks again, God speed,
Robert "Bobby" Bollander
RD2 52-56

Dear Richard,

How are you? Just received "The Jolly Cholly" today. Wow, what great stuff!

I'm so sorry I missed the reunion in R.I. Like I told you in my last letter, the timing was lousy. Richard, I would like to contact Frank Manasseri if possible. Do you have his address or e-mail address? Sure would like to get in touch with him. That's all for now and here is something for the "Pot."

Your Shipmate,
Vic Lattanzio
RD2 62-63

Dear Richard,

You people do so much and so well; you are to be commended. Would it be possible to get a new roster update, plus a list of all the deceased?

Love you all for all the good work you do.

Sincerely,
Charles E. Stevens
MMFN 52-53

Hi Chief,

As usual a great issue of "The Jolly Cholly." Please accept this 25.00 check to help out for future issues.

Bruce "Ray" Larsen and I are in contact via e-mail. It's always great to hear from him, Keep up the great work Chief. Your shipmate,
Don Quirk
MM3 61-63
God Bless America and the Troops.

Richard,

Thanks so much for your dedication and leadership. I wish I had known about the previous reunions. We had a great time.

Tom and Holly Rainey
MM3 64-67

Hi Richard,

I was glad to read that you had only a little damage during the hurricane. The reunion was great at Warwick, RI. I'm enclosing a check for the Association. Job well done.

John Griggs
TMSN 51-52

Hi Richard,

Very glad to hear you and yours came through the hurricanes okay. Here in Atlantic Beach, we only had high winds and power outages. This season was one for the books, wasn't it!

There was a "Typo" in my letter on the raffle prize. It's 2000.00 not 200.00. Enclosed is another small donation to help out in the wonderful job you all are doing.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Shipmate,
Frank Thurlow
EM2 56-58

Richard,

The reunion was great. My wife and I had a great time. We are looking forward to Branson. I am glad that you got thru Ivan O.K. Enclosed is a little something for the Association. Hope you and Lorraine have a great holiday.

Tony DeNiro
SN 58-60

Hello Richard,

Thank you for a great job. It's people like you and many others that should be proud of what you do. Here's 20.00 for the ships kitty.

Jim Domanus
FN 56-57

Hi Richard,

Just a few lines to say I'm in good health and wish you the same. Hope the storms didn't effect you much. I feel sorry for all the people up there in Florida. I made it with the Roan only once, right after the Dominican Republic. I also went to "Expo 67" remember. Its funny how time goes by so fast. Well Richard, good health to you and I hope and pray to see you at the next reunion.

Israel D. Quintana
ENFN 64-65



Item #1
Embroidered Golf Type shirts
 (with pocket)
 Blue/Gold Lettering
 White/Blue Lettering
 Tan/Brown Lettering

USS Charles H. Roan
 DD-853

M/L/XL—\$26.50
 XXL/XXXL—\$30.00



Item #6
Ball Cap
 White hat with grey ship and gold lettering
 or
 Blue hat with gold ship and lettering
 with either
Before 1961 silhouette
 or
After 1961 silhouette
 both
\$15.00
 (please indicate hat color and silhouette preference)



Item #3
Tote Bag
 Royal Blue/Ash
 Ships Logo
 Pocket 14X17X5
\$12.00



Item #9
License Plate Holder
 with ships name
 USS Charles H. Roan DD-853
\$20.00

SHIP'S

Send all orders to:

Richard F. Souza
 6396 Manassas Ct.
 Pensacola, FL 32503-7530

*ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE -
 Mostly by Priority Mail

*except for item #7, Winter Jacket, the
 shipping charge on that item is \$10.50



a b

Item #8
Ships Photos
 Approximately 8X10 Black and White
 Pre-Fram before 1961 - 8a
 After Fram 1961 - 8b
 only a limited amount in stock Not Framed \$10.00

| Qty | Item # | Description | Size | Color | Price/Each | Total |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------|------|-------|------------|-------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total of Order | | | | | | |



Item #2

Wind Breaker Jacket

Navy Blue Embroidered with ship silhouette and ships name on back in Gold lettering

M/L/XL — \$48.50
XXI/XXXL — \$50.50

NOTE: These jackets run **SMALL** so order accordingly.



(Back of jacket)



Item #7

NEW ITEM - Winter Jacket.

The same ones that the Blue Angels wear. Very sharp looking with the back Embroidered. A Patch/Crest (or both) and your name can be added to the front for additional cost (see add on items.)

Jackets are fitted at the waist so order accordingly.

NOTE: Add \$10.50 to below prices for shipping.

| | |
|--------|---------|
| M-L-XL | \$52.00 |
| XXL | \$55.00 |
| 3X | \$58.00 |
| 4X | \$62.00 |
| 5x | \$66.00 |
| 6X | \$70.00 |
| 7X | \$74.00 |

STORE

| ADD ON ITEMS | |
|---|--------|
| for | |
| Item 2 - Wind Breaker Jacket | |
| or | |
| Item 7 - Winter Jacket | |
| Sew on your name 1 line (Specify how you want it.) | \$5.00 |
| To sew on each Patch/Crest | \$3.00 |
| Each Patch/Crest (item 4 or 5) | \$6.00 |



Item #4

Golf Towel

Dark Blue - Ships logo
(limited amount left)
\$12.00



Item #11

Embroidered Sweat Shirt

Birch color
Blue Embroidery
S-M-L-XL - \$20.00
XXL - \$22.00
XXXL - \$24.00



Item #10

Flag Pin

U.S. Flag with
USS Charles H. Roan DD-853
Black Lettering- Gold Trim approximately 1"x 1"
Great quality good looking
pin with our ships name on it. **\$6.00**



Item #5
Patches

Right/Left Arm U.S. Ensign
a. Right \$5.00
b. Left \$4.50
c. U.S Navy Eblem - \$6.00
d. Ships Crest - \$6.50
e. Octopus Patch - \$6.50
(To sew on any of the above - \$5.00)

Flags and Signals

Dear Richard,

Just a note to thank you and your staff for the great job you are doing. Enclosed is my order for a flag pin and some additional for a donation. Merry Christmas. Best regards,
Your shipmate,
Ed Siebert
EM2 57

Hi Richard,

First I would like thank you on the great reunion, it was my first one and not my last. I met two of the guys I worked with in the forward engine room. The Roan was a great ship to be on and I am proud to have served in her.

My next question is the people that took the pictures, how can I get in touch with them, it is taking a long time for them to send the pictures and book.

Richard, you and your crew did a great job,
Thanks,
Robert Svopa
MM2 56-58

Richard,

I always look forward to receiving "The Jolly Cholly", when it reaches me here in the warm California sun. Richard, you Ron and the others involved publish a well-produced mini-mag. I often think about my days aboard Roan whether it was cruising the Med. or sailing the Caribbean. I can recall in 1967 the evaps broke down as we were patrolling off the Israeli coast during the 67' Israeli/Egyptian war. We were out of fresh water for 31 days. The salt-water showers didn't help. I shot some great super 8 movies aboard ship, and on the beach in France, Italy, and Malta. That cruise and the entire year will always hold a special place in my life. There were some great memories and lasting friendships. Enclosed is my check. Keep going.

Take care,
Ron NaSal
YN3 66-67

Dear Dick,

Just a note to send something for the kitty. Sorry I missed the last get together, I enjoy reading "The Jolly Cholly" and seeing the new guys that I haven't seen or heard from in years. I made the first reunion in Fall River. I met an old friend Mickey Mouse which I am sorry to say will miss him. We talked often before he died. I see by the new names Bill Fillinger ... Rene Savoie which I haven't seen in years, but glad they are aboard. Also say hi to Henry Rossi for me, I am down here in sunny FLA ... love it. Been here since 95.

Len Hersey
SFM3 59-62

Dear Dick,

Well, I guess the best team won. But we'll be back again next year. As bet, enclosed are my checks for you and the Association. If the PATS are in it next year, we'll make the same bet. Take care, and I'll be talking to you.

Your shipmate,
Bob Crisci
RD2 60-63
GO EAGLES

Hi Dick,

I was feeling so good about the Eagles winning the Super bowl that I feel that we should raise the bet a little. How about a \$25.00 bet, and in addition, how about the loser also contributing \$ 25.00 to the Roan Association. Let me know how you feel about this new bet. I know it must be tough backing a losing team, but maybe next year the PATS will make it again. If I don't hear from you by game time via E-mail, I'll telephone you. Take care, and I'll be talking to you.

Your Shipmate,
Bob Crisci
RD2 60-63

NOW HEAR THIS!!!

Don't forget to send Dallas Rees those photo's from when you served in the Roan. Dallas would like to make this another great reunion and he's asking for our help. Send those photo's to:

**Dallas Rees
P.O. Box 311
Sparta, IL. 62286**

Don't forget he needs them by JUNE 30, 2005.

From After Diesel

I have wanted to do this edition on Lt. Fitzgerald for quite some time, but space has always been a factor. As you can see, this edition is 28 pages, the largest yet, but I believe for a very good cause. I served with Lt. Fitzgerald, but being a snipe it wasn't like I knew him. Throughout your life you very seldom have that close a contact with a true hero and I wanted those of you who didn't know him to learn a little bit about LT. William Fitzgerald.

The article on page 17 from "The Naval Academy Alumni Magazine" (sent to me by Captain RiggsCO/CDR 63-65) speaks to who Lt. Fitzgerald was. All of us who really knew Lt. Fitzgerald or merely served with him like me should be honored to have been in his presence. All the material for the piece, except for the Naval Academy Alumni Magazine article, was gleaned from the "net." The photo on page 13, of the Roan commissioning pennant, was sent to me by LCDR Bice the XO of the USS Fitzgerald. Ltjg Brian Woodward who served with LT Fitzgerald in the Roan, presented the pennant to the Fitzgerald. I had asked Brian to write up the story behind the presentation but he passed away before he could do it. If any shipmate knows the whole and correct story behind the presentation of the pennant, please feel free to tell it in a future edition of "The Jolly Cholly." Won't it be great if CC Penrod (page 20), after he completed boot camp were assigned to the USS Fitzgerald. That's like coming full circle.

How about our "Soon to be Newly Weds" on page 6. - Pat and Jerry. I'm sure I speak for the entire Association when I say "ALL THE LUCK AND LOVE IN THE WORLD TO BOTH OF YOU." If you send me photos of the wedding, they'll be in the next "Jolly Cholly." To both the Penrod's (page 20) and the Hansen's (page 21), thanks for sharing with us. You have a right to be proud, and we all thank your sons for the job they're doing.

REUNION "06" Keep it in mind. All you western shipmates don't have an excuse now. Dallas Rees is bringing the Association to you and seems to be doing a hell of a job. August 8,9,10, 2006 - Block out those dates now. Meet us in Branson and we'll show you a great time.

Your Jolly Cholly Editor
Joe Lambert
5373 N. Normandy
Chicago, IL. 60656-2158

(773)631-8821
chief9bullie@earthlink.net

Roster Update

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Country / Territory _____

(Most information that is missing from our records is from this area – Please help us update our files)

Telephone # _____ Fax # _____

e-mail address _____

Rate and/or Rank while aboard the Roan _____

Years served aboard — From _____ To _____

Spouse / FiancÈe's name _____

USS Charles H. Roan DD-853



Joe Lambert
5373 N. Normandy
Chicago, IL. 60656-2158

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHICAGO, IL.
PERMIT NO. 227

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

