



The



JOLLY

CHOLLY

Volume 1 Number 1

Winter 1995 - 1996

From the Signal Bridge

Reunion 1995

Our third reunion was held in Washington, D.C., this past September. The reunion was a huge success due to a lot of hard work and dedication by some of our shipmates. I would like to thank Ray Ward, Bob Boorum, Joe Trainor, Bob Marshall and Brian Woodward for their unselfish sacrifices to make the

reunion one that we can all be proud to have attended. We also owe thanks to the women behind these men. These wives sacrificed time and energy to assure the success of the reunion. From an old Signalman "BRAVO ZULU" (well done) to all involved.

Reunion 1997

Our next reunion will be held between July and September in 1997, in Buffalo, New York. Jerry Depasquale of 155 Lincraft Rd., of Lackawana, New York 14218 is spearheading this reunion. If you can lend a hand, please contact Jerry. Our attendance at the reunions have been great, however we missed those individuals who for one reason or another have not joined us. Many of our shipmates attend the reunion to meet you and share moments which can never be

relived. Many bring photos, momentos and above all themselves to share experiences of a lifetime. We would like to see all our plank owners. The owner of the hand made replica of the ROAN, living in New York is surely missed (Please contact me.)

We now have over 500 members and our goal is to reunite as many shipmates as possible. Only with your help can this be possible.

“Fightin’ Fitz”

Many of you received invitations to the christening of the USS Fitzgerald. Some of you may be wondering why. William Fitzgerald was a naval officer who served aboard the USS CHARLES H. ROAN in the early 1960’s. Lt. Fitzgerald was killed in action in Vietnam. Brian Woodward made contact with the family and the Skipper of the Fitzgerald concerning the christening. The USS CHARLES H. ROAN crew was asked to become part of this historical moment. Approximately 30 ROAN crew members made the trip to Newport, R.I., to be part of this very special ceremony. Also of note; some of our shipmates sailed aboard the Fitzgerald on one of her sea trials. A very special man lending his name to a very special ship.



USS FITZGERALD DDG-62

Named to Honor

“Protect Your People”

Lieutenant William C. Fitzgerald, USN

who was posthumously awarded “The Navy Cross” the Navy’s highest decoration for valor, for his selfless and heroic actions while under attack from a numerically superior Viet Cong force on 7 August 1967.

Is the motto of Fitzgerald and is symbolic of the devotion Lieutenant Fitzgerald showed toward those under his charge, and is the single most important lesson that any good leader must learn.

Keel laid: 9 Feb. 1993
 Launched: 29 Jan. 1994
 Alpha Trials: 28-29 Mar. 1995
 Bravo Trials: 16-19 May 1995

Significant Events

Charlie Trials: 13-14 Jun. 1995
 Crew Moved Aboard: 28 Jul. 1995
 Sail Away: 28 Sep. 1995
 Commissioning: 14 Oct. 1995
 Newport, RI

Specs

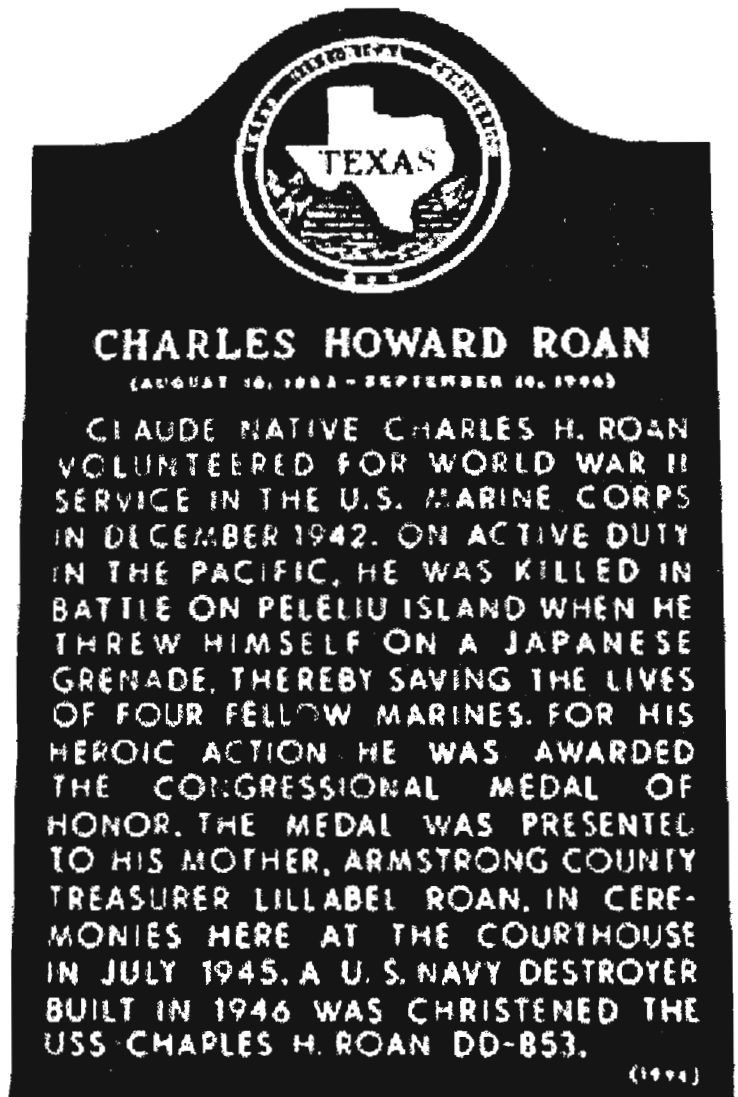
Length: 505’4”
 Speed: 30+ knots
 Displacement: 8580 Tons
 Stopping Distance: 30+ to 0 1000 Ft
 Crew: 315 Enlisted 23 Officers

Draft: 20’10”
 Propulsion: 4 LM2500 Gas Turbine Engines
 100,000 Total Shaft Horsepower
 Acceleration: 0 to 30+ 3 Min
 Beam: 66’6”
 1 - 5” Gun Mount 20 Rounds Per Min

2 CIWS Mounts 3000 Rounds Per Min
 90 Vertical Launch Missiles
 AN/SPY - 1D Radar Capable of Tracking 200 Targets Simultaneously at over 200 miles

Historic Plaque

Crew members who were at our second reunion were asked the feasibility of obtaining a historical plaque for mounting at the State Courthouse in Claude, Texas honoring Charles H. Roan. The plaque at the time would cost some 500 dollars. In a matter of minutes a collection ensued and 500 dollars was collected. Immediately Charlotte and Henry Roan (Charles brother) were contacted and the Texas Historical Society was notified and official papers submitted to obtain this plaque. Well, two years later and many phone calls, letters and contacts including a reissue of the original check and an additional 150 dollars from the association because of a price increase, we finally obtained the plaque. This past July, in a very special ceremony the plaque was officially dedicated at the courthouse by military and civilian dignitaries. Henry and Charlotte Roan attended this ceremony and were proud that our association supported and accomplished this very worthy deed. The Roans send their heart warming thanks to all of our shipmates.



Interesting Facts

Setting up our newsletter is going to take a little help from all of you. Do you have any short stories or information that would be interesting to publish? How about telling your shipmates about the time between leaving the ROAN and now in your life. Send this information to me and I will insert this in future newsletters.

DID YOU KNOW ? ? ? ?

- In the history of the Navy the USS CHARLES H. ROAN DD-853, was one of only 3 U. S. Navy ships to have lost a screw while underway.
- The ROAN took a 58 degree list off of Block Island.
- A fire destroyed the inside of the pilot house, (the heat so intense that it crystalized portholes and melted metal), but the ship was operational and at sea some three weeks later.

Seeking Shipmates

Our association is constantly looking to find other shipmates. We will run a column advertising for some of these friends. What we are asking for is if you read a name and a location we would hope that if you live in the general area that you would help us search for these men. If you would, look in your local phone book and call the same listed

name to inquire if this is the individual in question. Many friends have been found in this manner. Most people move back to their home of origin. If you would take the time to help us we would sure appreciate your effort in this search. Do you have a name and address that we can use in future columns?

Last Word

We would like to run a binnacle list (sick list) so that our prayers and concerns may be shared with our shipmates who are ill. We also need the names of our departed shipmates, may we never forget those shipmates who served with us faithfully. Please send me the names of the above mentioned shipmates.

May you all have smooth seas and following winds!

Richard F. Souza

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Pensacola, FL. 32503-7530
(904) 476-1350

ALWAYS ON OUR MIND



Richard Calabro New Jersey plate.



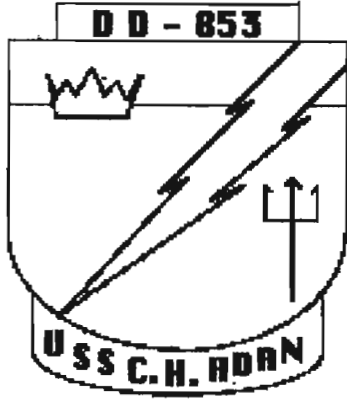
Ed Semcheski's boat PA.



Bob Davis, *U.S.S. Charles H. Roan DD-853*, 1948-1952.



Martin Kichar's car.



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