

USS ROCHESTER (CA-124)



Association



News Letter

Vol. II, No. 14

May 2008

From The Secondary Con

Garry Phillips, President

An incredible story of courage....

"Navy Chief Petty Officer Saves Life of Air Force Pilot in a Horse-Back Riding Mishap"

An Air Force fighter pilot assigned to the 415th Flight Test Squadron at Edwards Air Force Base narrowly escaped serious injury recently when he attempted horseback riding with no prior experience. He mounted the horse, unassisted, and the horse immediately began moving. As it galloped along at a steady and rhythmic pace, the pilot began to slip sideways from the saddle.

Although attempting to grab for the horse's mane he could not get a firm grip. He then threw his arms around the horse's neck but continued to slide down the side of the horse. The horse galloped along, seemingly oblivious to its slipping rider. Finally, losing his grip, the CAPT attempted to leap away from the horse and throw himself to safety. His foot became entangled in the stirrup, and he was at the mercy of the horses pounding hooves as his head and upper body repeatedly struck the ground.

Moments away from unconsciousness and probable death, to his great fortune a United States Navy Chief, shopping for beer and Cheetos at a nearby K-Mart, heard the blood-curdling screams and immediately risked his own safety as he used his ingrained training, instincts, strength, and decision-making skill to quickly determine the best course of action . . . with one great tug, he unplugged the horse!

Garry Phillips

As you can see, our president still has a sense of humor.

From The Secondary Bridge, II

Dick Becker, Acting President

Hope this finds you all well and getting ready to head to D.C. I have a question for everyone that is going. Have you all contacted at least one shipmate to see if they are going also? Might surprise you how many might not be thinking about it yet or might not have even heard of it yet. There are some out there that aren't members, but might come out to D.C. for the dedication of the memorial anyhow. It would really be fun if we can load the place with a bunch of old sailors. All indications are that this is going to be a great reunion. I've only missed one reunion since it all started and really look forward to seeing everyone and meeting new people that I didn't know or that were not on when I was. If any of you plan on maybe coming out a day early to get all set up and look around a little, if you would think about helping with some of the little things that will needed to be done that first day, hunt me up or one of the committee and we will really appreciate the help. Hope to see a bunch of you there.

Museum Update

In the last News Letter, an article was included that Pat Maxwell, Assistant Librarian of the USS Rochester Museum in Rochester, NY had submitted a grant request to digitize, preserve & create an online virtual exhibit of USS Rochester memorabilia. The proposal did make the first cut of 48 finalists. Unfortunately, the grant was not approved. This now leaves a void in trying to preserve the memory of our ship. If any of our shipmates has an idea or suggestion on how this task can be completed, or has experience in finding and submission of grant proposals, please let any of the Association Officers or Pat Maxwell know. There must be funding out there that someone is familiar with for this important task.

Reunion 2008: A Capital Event

The USS Rochester Association will convene its 10th reunion on October 2-6, 2008 in Washington, DC. Registrations should be forwarded to Joe Hill as soon as possible to assist in planning by the arrangements committee. Attendees need to make hotel reservations directly with the Holiday Inn-Rosslyn in Arlington, Virginia (703) 807-2000. Be sure to mention the Rochester Reunion when booking your room to get the group rate. Already the early birds have locked in 35 rooms. Keep in mind that later on we will have to release any rooms not booked, so we urge you to act promptly.

The U. S. Navy Memorial is set to host the dedication of the USS Rochester memorial plaque on October 3rd. We still need a couple of volunteers to relate short anecdotes of their time aboard the ship, including memorable liberty ashore. If there is a good vocalist in the group, it would add to the ceremony if he or she sang the national anthem. During the meeting the host may call for the projectionist to display on the screen someone's entry in the Navy Log. The number of shipmates entered there is still low. You have time to enter yours at no cost (www.lonesailor.org). A photographer will be present to take photos of groups and individuals, some at the statue of the Lone Sailor.

The afternoon is free to choose from numerous attractions in the nation's capital. See list for suggestions.

That evening we go aboard the MV Spirit of Washington for a dinner cruise on the Potomac River. From the ship you have a good view of several national monuments, Old Town Alexandria, Reagan National Airport, and the new Gaylord convention center. A DJ will provide music for dancing.

At the Saturday morning Association business meeting we will select the site for the next reunion in 2010. Have your recommendations in mind. During the meeting, the ladies may take a guided trip to the Pentagon City Mall to browse the many fine stores.

That afternoon you may choose one of two tours: the Smithsonian Institution's Udvar-Hazy Air & Space Museum at Dulles International Airport. It displays many aircraft from the earliest to the present. There is also an IMAX theater with a choice of three exciting films. The other tour goes to national war memorials located on the federal mall in Washington: World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Lincoln.

Saturday evening is left free for division groups and others to renew acquaintances over dinner at local restaurants.

On Sunday there will be a repeat of the tour to national war memorials. The other tour goes to Mount Vernon, the home of George & Martha Washington. The new visitor's center at Mount Vernon provides an excellent introduction to Washington's life and times. The gift shop is tempting also.

Other Sites of Interest to Attendees who are Civil War "Bufs"

Fort Ward <http://oha.alexandriava.gov/fortward/>
Within 5 miles of the hotel, down I-395. One of the restored forts from the ring of Union Civil War forts encircling Washington.

Fort Stevens (Maryland)
<http://www.exploredc.org/index.php?id=148>
Just outside the District line, just south of Walter Reed Army Hospital. The closest point the Confederates came to capturing Washington after the battle of Monacacy.

Manassas Battlefield [Bull Run] (Virginia)
<http://www.nps.gov/mana/>
About 15 miles west of the hotel. Lectures, displays, and walking trails.

Balls Bluff National Battlefield (Virginia)
www.leesburgva.gov/about/BallsBluff/
Just north of Leesburg (allow a good portion of a day, since the ladies might want to stop and shop at the Leesburg Outlet Stores very near the battlefield (and much, much closer than Williamsburg) [see also Potomac Mills Outlets, below
<http://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlets/outlet.asp?id=14>

Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania Battlefields (Virginia)

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/frsp/fburg.htm>

About 50 miles south of the hotel (allow 2 hours driving time to get there, and all day to explore/enjoy). National Park Rangers give guided tours at Fredericksburg.

Gettysburg National Battlefield (Pennsylvania)

<http://www.nps.gov/gett/>

A guess is, about 90 miles north of the hotel (allow a full day, at the least...2 days is much better). They just opened a new visitors center.

Antietam Battlefield (Pennsylvania)

<http://www.nps.gov/anti/>

Northwest of Frederick, MD and south of Hagerstown.

Museum of the Confederacy at Richmond.

www.moc.org. 100 miles from Arlington on I-95.

Other Attractions

Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O Canal Visitors Center

<http://www.nps.gov/choh/>

On the east side of the Potomac, above Georgetown a few miles...they show how the canal was built and have demonstrations of the way they moved barges up and down the canal (allow ½ day).

Potomac Mills Outlets

<http://www.simon.com/mall/default.aspx?ID=1260>

Great shopping.

South of the hotel along I-395, about 16 miles.

(Try not to be on I-395 during rush hour traffic).

Great Falls National Park

<http://www.nps.gov/grfa/planyourvisit/directions.htm>

About 15 miles from Georgetown, and northwest of the I-495 Beltway, but still along the east side of the Potomac River. Rocky gorges, kayakers in the rapids, walking trail overlook, picnic tables, etc. (A morning or midday outing...as with Potomac Mills, avoid the Washington Beltway at rush hour).

Colonial Williamsburg.

www.colonialwilliamsburg.com. About 150 miles from Arlington; allow two full days to get your money's worth

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN EXTENDING THE REUNION TRIP TO INCLUDE WILLIAMSBURG, VA, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR YOU.

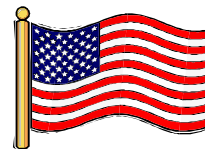
Colonial Williamsburg from Arlington, Virginia
By car: about 150 miles (3 hours) via I-395 to I-95 to I-64 (See www.mapquest.com)

Williamsburg is midway between Richmond and Norfolk on I-64 (exit 238). After exiting, look for the America's Historic Triangle directional signs (blue with red-and-white "ribbon"), where you'll notice the Colonial Williamsburg logo. The signs will direct you to the Visitor Center (address: 101A Visitor Center Drive (Hwy 132Y)). Once you purchase your admission pass, you can either take the complimentary shuttle bus or walk to Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area.

Convenient access via major airlines is possible with more than 200 flights, including nearly 30 non-stops, arriving daily to three international airports just 25 to 45 minutes away: Newport News-Williamsburg (PHF), Norfolk (ORF), and Richmond International (RIC). Each has rental car and limousine services. You would want to leave from Reagan Washington National Airport which is close to Arlington, VA.

Amtrak serves the Williamsburg Transportation Center with a connecting train from Washington, D.C. The center is just blocks from the Historic Area and provides car rentals, a cab stand, and Greyhound Bus connections. You can board AMTRAK at Alexandria, Virginia and save going into Washington, DC. Roundtrip fare for seniors is about \$70.00. Trip is 3 hours, 17 min. (See www.amtrak.com)

Greyhound bus goes from its terminal in Washington, DC to Williamsburg in about 5 hours with one transfer. Roundtrip fare for seniors is about \$40.00. (See www.greyhound.com)



**USS Rochester (CA 124) Association
National Reunion
Holiday Inn-Rosslyn, Arlington, Virginia 22209
October 2-6, 2008**

Thursday, 2 Oct 08

1500 – Arrivals and check-in

The hotel is located in the Rosslyn section of Arlington, Virginia, just across the Potomac River from Washington, DC. Complimentary parking for those who drive. National Airport is close by; take a taxi to the hotel (\$12-\$15) Dulles Airport is an hour out by Super Shuttle, \$35 each; and BWI Airport is even farther, about \$65. The hotel does not provide shuttle service to airports.

1400 – 1630 – Rochester Registration Desk open

1200 – 1630 – Ship's Store open

1700 – 1900 – Reception in Hospitality Suite
Announcements by Garry Phillips or Dick Becker and reunion committee

Friday, 3 Oct 08

Breakfast on own

0800 – 0900 – Registration Desk Open

0800 – 0900 – Ship's Store Open

0930 – All hands (and spouses) bus to Navy Memorial in Washington, DC

1100 – Dedication ceremony for Rochester plaque; Taps for the departed

1200 – Photographs at the Lone Sailor statue in the plaza

1300 – Buses return to hotel. Lunch on own.

1300 – Choice of events (return to hotel by metro) e.g., 1300-1600 *International Spy Museum* recommended (buses will swing by on their return from the Navy Memorial) return to the hotel on your own—metro, taxi.

1400 – 1600 – Registration Desk open

1400 – 1700 – Ship's Store open

1400 – 1600 – Hospitality Suite open (coffee & snacks)

1800 – 2300 – Dinner cruise aboard MV Spirit of Washington

Saturday, 4 Oct 08

Breakfast on own

0730 – 0845 – Ship's Store open (last call)

0800 – 0900 – Registration Desk open

0900 – 1100 – Business meeting (selection of Reunion site for 2010)

0930 – 1200 – Ladies shopping trip to Pentagon City Mall via Metro

1330 – 1800 – Tour A: Air & Space Museum

1330 – 1800 – Tour B: Memorials

1400 – 1600 – Registration Desk open

1400 – 1600 – Hospitality Suite open

Evening: dinner and entertainment on your own

Sunday, 5 Oct 08

Breakfast on own

Ship's Store closed (see Larry Stone if needed)

0800 – 0900 – Registration Desk open

1000 – 1200 – Hospitality Suite open

1000 – 1500 – Tour C: Mount Vernon

1000 – 1500 – Tour D: Memorials

1300 – 1500 – Registration Desk open

1300 – 1500 – Hospitality Suite open

1900 – 2300 – Reunion Banquet

Color Guard from Navy Yard, Washington

Cutting of the reunion cake

Recognition of USS Rochester Sea Cadet detachment

Speaker (to be announced)

Music by DJ from Fort Belvoir

Monday, 6 Oct 08

Hospital Suite closed

0700 – 0900 – Farewell breakfast

0800 – Chaplain's remarks at breakfast

1100 – Check-out

Fair winds and a following sea!

If Hannibal Had Only Had A Jeep!.... So Begins Chapter 3 of: IBM's Shadow Force

Atlanta, GA – Author William Louis Robinson, an IBM retiree, is please to announce the publication of his book, IBM's Shadow Force (\$27.95/ ThomasMax Publishing). This 224 page narrative history describes one of IBM's most illustrious and secretive organizations that protected America, helped NASA put man on the Moon and spawned today's Internet Shopping ATM Transactions, e-Bay Operation on On-Line Banking.

Included within the book are space-age computer and weapons systems details never before shown to the public. The reader gains an insider's view of highly sophisticated technical proposal writing techniques that made Federal Systems successful for decades. Lessons for today's business community.

IBM's Shadow Force is the first book ever written about this semi-clandestine organization operating under the IBM corporate umbrella. This little known group of 10,000 was an invisible technical giant comprised of thousands of scientists and engineers that advanced man's knowledge and capabilities in military command systems, undersea warfare, aerospace computers and America's intelligence operations. These experts from IBM's Federal Systems organization, supported NASA's projects from its beginning: Mercury, Gemini Apollo, Space Shuttle and Skylab.

Each chapter of IBM's Shadow Force focuses on one aspect of Federal Systems fifty-year history of service to the government. If Hannibal had only had a Jeep explores the collection of intelligence information for survival in future battlespace.

Before the organization was sold in 1994 to Loral and eventually to Lockheed martin Corp. in 1996, FSD personnel were instrumental in transferring precursor technologies and know how to international business in Japan, Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom's banking operations as well as domestic city/stat projects such as SPRINT, New York City's Police Dispatch System and a special operations system for the

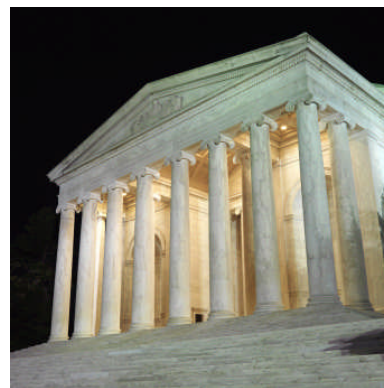
New York Stock Exchange. IBM's Shadow Force is now available from Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com as well as from the publisher ThomasMax.com and other booksellers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

William Louis Robinson spent seventeen years with IBM's Federal operations in marketing and management. He authored two self-published titles and published two acclaimed books on government contracting and technical proposal writing. He has written dozens of company business plans and NASD prospectuses as an independent business consultant and Registered securities representative. He lives near Atlanta George, plays golf, collects chess sets, builds grandfather clocks and restores antique furniture. He is a US Navy World War II and Korean veteran. William really began his writing career on the USS Rochester, believe it or not. As a yeoman in the Exec's office he wrote many letters for the crew to obtain hardship discharges in the 1946-49 time frame. All were approved by BuPers and gave him great satisfaction in being able to provide this service.

For more information on Bill Robinson, please call 770-664-9048, visit his website at www.wlrobinson.com or send an email to wlrobinson@earthlink.net.

The book will retail at \$27.95. Bill will make it available to all former shipmates at \$23.95; provide a signed copy and free shipping – more than a \$3.00 savings.



Ship's Store

Larry & Mary Stone

Ahoy there !!

Welcome to Spring. With the Winter we all had (and some of you are still enjoying the last blasts of Winter), we've certainly earned this Spring weather. Just the right season for a USS Rochester windbreaker or sweatshirt. Do you have your "Official" BBQ apron yet? Personalization is available for \$7.50 extra.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

We have had occasional inquiries about the "My Grandfather's Ship" white or gray T-shirts and sweatshirts. These will be available as Special Orders. To order please contact your Ship's Storekeeper since the price will depend on the size. Also, since we will not stock the shirts, there will be a slightly longer lead time.

USS ROCHESTER SHIP'S REUNION

October 2008 In Washington DC

At our last Reunion (in Branson) we had a great crew of volunteers. We're looking forward to working with a great group again this October. The hours of coverage for the Store will be published; and we'll do our best to accommodate that schedule. We usually have a lot going on in the Ship's Store: raffle / door prize tickets, Piece of the ROC planks distribution, selling regular stock items, etc. And we'll likely have some sale items as well.

Hope you all will be able to join us in DC in October,

Your Ship's Storekeepers
Larry & Mary Stone



Chaplain's Corner

Frank West

REMEMBERING

The 1952-53 Korean cruise book caught my attention as I gave thought to this article. It concluded with, "We shall not forget the living together, fighting together, working together and playing together that went into a cold five months, 5,000 miles away from our native shores". As I reviewed the book, many good things came to mind.

I am reminded of the Psalmist David who stated, "I remember the old days, went over all you've done, pondered the ways you've work. Teach me how to live to please you, because you're my God".

(Psalm 143:5)

I often remember the lives of those that enriched mine while on the "Roch". I looked at the photo of the Bible Study class and some of those shipmates helped mold me and continue to be very close friends. I am amazed at the way God brought shipmates into my life to help develop me into what I am today. It is so insightful to ponder the ways God works in our behalf. Some of the shipmates are no longer with us but I pause to give thanks as I remember their rich fellowship. Let us not forget the past as we look forward and plan for the future.



Association Officers

Garry L. Phillips, President
Gordon W. Cargill, 1st VP
Joseph S. Hill, Sec./Treasurer
James Young, MAA

Richard Becker, Executive VP
Donald Schnirel, 2nd VP
Frank West, Chaplain
Larry Stone, Storekeeper

This newsletter is published quarterly by the USS ROCHESTER Association. The Association's officers encourage questions and comments. You may contact the Editor by writing Gordon Cargill
11485 Luz Place, San Diego, CA 92127
(858) 592-9366

scotsmann31@sbcglobal.net

Association website:
www.USSRochester.org

New Members

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

Johnny I. Cacciatore, SN, Fox Division
Riverview, FL, DOB 53-54

John "Kirk" Ferguson, CDR, X & N Division
Riverside, CA, DOB 59-61

Billy J. Head, CS3, S-2 Division
Savannah, GA, DOB 54-54

John G. Joanides, SN, 5th Division
Miami, FL, DOB 54-58

George N. Kachigian, CAPT, S-4 (D.O.)
Coronado, CA, DOB 58-59

Robert E. Lauver, PH3, X Division
McAlisterville, PA, DOB 55-57

Richard "Dick" L. McArthy, Lt. Gunnery Division
San Clemente, CA, DOB 57-59 (*Ret as Captain*)

Joe Denver McCune, CAPT, CR,E & 2nd Divisions
La Costa, CA, DOB 52-54

John C. Reinholtz, SKSN, S-1 Division
Dansville, NY, DOB 60-61

Raymond J. Reynaud, CS3, S-1 Division
Las Cruces, NM, DOB 50-53

John W. Richey, SN, OI Division
Honobia, OK, DOB 58-61

Martin Vigil, RD3, K Division
Albuquerque, NM, DOB 49-52

TAPS

The following shipmates were reported to have passed away recently. If anyone has additional or different information, please let us know.

Name	ST	Yr	Div	OnBd
Henry "Hank" Ayers	ID	2008	Fox	51-54
Ralph H. Clayton	AL	2000	A&M	51-55
Charles E. Gamble	FL	2008	?	50-51
Donald W. Gore	KY	?	?	?
John Hofstetter	KY	2006	4 th	50-52
William J. Hontz, Jr.	PA	2008	Fox	49-52
Stanley R. Milowski	CT	2003	?	?
John L. Nowicki	NY	2008	OI	57-59
Robert "Bob" R. Sells	OR	2008	T	46-49*
Demetrius I. Vellis	HI	2007	X.O.	57-58
Harlan Yarbrow	NM	2007	R	52-54

*Plank Owner

Association Project

SHIPMATES - SHIPMATES - SHIPMATES.
A suggestion has been made that at the reunion in Washington DC, an AUCTION be conducted that would benefit the Association. Items for this AUCTION, has been suggested, to be donated by the shipmates. The theme for any item donated must be of NAVY or MARINE background that would be in concert with the USS ROCHESTER. If any shipmate has an item that he would like to be donated, please contact Dick Becker at 1-715-263-3452 or e-mail windyridge@cltcomm.net so that he can keep a list of items donated. He has graciously accepted to co ordinate this effort.



Donation

The following communications were received from the families of shipmates listed in TAPS.

It is with sadness that I report the death of my beloved Jimmy who passed peacefully at home August 24, 2007. We were married 64 years and have great memories of Rochester days. Jim was Executive Officer during '1957-19958".

Your newsletter promises a memorable reunion. If you have one here in Hawaii some day, I'll be there with bells on!

Please use the enclosed check in the amount of \$50.00 where it may help.

To all Shipmates and their families, I send a big ALOHA!!

*Fair Winds,
Mrs. Coralie Vellis*

Joe Hill received a phone call from Tomas R. Milowski, son of Stanley R. Milowski. We talked for quiet a while. Today I received a note and a check in the amount of \$10.00 payable to USS Rochester Association. The note reads:

"Dear Mr. Joe Hill,
Thank you for talking to me on the phone. I know it's not much, but I hope it will help! Thank you.
Signed: Thomas R. Milowski.
P.S. "In memory of my Dad". Thank You.

New Commanding Officer USS Rochester (CA 124) Sea Cadet Division

Welcome Aboard!

Mary Howell is the new Commanding Officer of the USS Rochester (CA 124) Sea Cadet Division. The USS Rochester Association Officers look forward to working with you and the Rochester (CA 124) Sea Cadet Division



Membership & Mailing Information

DUES FOR 2008 ARE DUE NOW

DUES FOR 2008 ARE DUE NOW. THERE ARE 119 MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT SENT IN THEIR 2008 DUES. THIS CREATES EXTRA WORK ON THE TREASURER AND EXPENSE ON THE ASSOCIATION BY HAVING TO SEND OUT REMINDERS.

The Association runs on its active membership. Dues for 2008 should have been mailed soon after January 1st. Hopefully those who are behind will mail their dues in soon. If you are unsure of your status, check the address mailing label of your News Letter. An example: Bill Jones 08 would indicate your dues have been paid up for the year 2008. Joe Hill will be glad to verify your membership status. Joe can be reached at 4011 Ditty Road, Cookeville, TN 38506-7663. Phone: 931-432-4848. E-Mail: NiteCrawl@twlakes.net

Joe will also provide members' addresses and phone numbers upon request.

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

Please let Joe know your new mailing addresses, phone numbers and e-Mail addresses. Notification of changes will keep the mail following on a steady course.

SHIPMATES that have received a copy of the News Letter, and are not members of the USS Rochester Association are invited to the reunion in Washington DC in October. It is also an invitation to join the USS Rochester Association and keep informed of what your shipmates are doing and information on what the Association is doing. Please complete the Membership Application, included with the News Letter, and mail to Joe Hill.

