


The Compton at war



Commissioned November 4 1944
Decommissioned—September 27 1972

USS Compton Organization

Bob DiMonte – President
1048 Meadson Circle
Pensacola FL 32506
850 492-3483
bobdimo@cox.net

Ed Capozziello—Vice President
1161 Laidlaw Ave,
Franklin Square NY 11010
516 458-0497
ecap6407@optonline.net

Joe Napoli – GM/Treasurer
129 Mallard Dr.
Monroe Twp, NJ 08831
609 409-7678
jsnap29@comcast.net

Mike Taylor – Secretary
733 California SE
Albuquerque NM 87108
505 266-2707
kikiweber50@icloud.com

- Chaplain

William “Doc” Eames
149 Farmhouse Ct
Manorville NY 11949
631 878-7570
kbkapops@aol.com

Compton Board of Directors:

Phil Prekel—Northeast Region
39 Perrin Drive
Wayne NJ 07470
973 598-5897
philipprekel@optimum.net

Jerry Sample– Western Region
3 Crest Ct
Hickory Creek TX 75085
940 321-2271
bp152@batteriesplus.net

Jack Heidecker –Newsletter
54 Mt Top Court,
Hazle Township PA 18202
570 450-5545
Jack555@ptd.net

All Newsletter, pictures and
articles should be sent to:

Jack Heidecker
“Compton Newsletter”

COMPTON CORNER

Happy New Year. I, as most of you, are ecstatic to put 2020 in our rearview, I am very optimistic about 2021, as the Covid119 vaccine makes its rounds and we begin to feel comfortable traveling again.

All the updated contracts are in place for “Reunion 2021”, in Saratoga Springs, New York, and we are looking forward to moving back to normalcy, there still will be a small amount of uncertainty when traveling. I urge all of you to get the vaccine, when it becomes available. I have taken dose #1, and experience no side effects.

The last issue of the newsletter, and our WEB site, has all the information and costs for our upcoming reunion. It’s time to make your hotel reservations and mail your checks. The Embassy Suite, is looking forward to hosting our reunion, and they have been very accommodating in meeting and exceeding our needs. I’m sure you will find this to be an exciting and interesting reunion experience.

During this reunion, we will have election of Officers, our traditional Memorial service, and discuss reunion 2022, and our banquet with Karaoke. We will see if Compton has talent.

I would like to thank all the shipmates that have helped in keeping the Compton Association alive. It takes a huge effort to do the everyday tasks. Thank you.....

As we prepare for the coming year, we need to reflect on the many things we are grateful for. Stay positive and stay safe.

May God watch over each of you, and your families, and may He protect the men and women who continue to go in harm’s way. God bless America.

Fraternally,
Bob DiMonte



The “Compton Newsletter” is available in color—on our below WEB site Webmaster, Phil Prekel has posted 48 past newsletters from February 2009 to the present on our below listed Internet Website...

WEB SITE: www.usscompton705.com

USS COMPTON DD-705

May 3-5th, 2021 Annual Reunion Registration Form

Embassy Suites Saratoga Springs, New York
86 Congress St., Saratoga, NY 12866
(518) 290-9090

The Compton rate will be honored 1 day-Pre/post reunion

Members name Rank/Rate _____
Spouse/Guest Name _____
Use back for additional guests _____

Meal selection: Filet Mignon _____ Chicken Breast _____ Halibut _____

@\$65.00 per person Total _____

Number taking Tour (Lunch Included) _____ Total _____
@\$90.00 per person

Total amount _____

Cut Off date is April 3th, 2021.

Please mail check and form to: **USS Compton Assn., P.O. Box 6621
Monroe TWP., NJ, 08831-6621**

Grand Ballroom 7:00PM

Choose one of the following:

1. Grilled Filet Mignon with
Wild Mushroom Demi Glaze, Onion Risotto, Roasted Asparagus
2. Pan Seared Halibut with
Butter Pecan Apple Sauce, Steamed Rice, Broccoli
3. Wellington Farms Chicken Breast
Saltimbocca

All Entries come with Dinner Rolls & Butter, House Garden Salad with Balsamic Dressing, Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaf Coffee, Hot water with Teas, Juices and Sodas.

Lemon Meringue Pie with Blueberry Sauce

USS COMPTON –DD 705

2021 Reunion Agenda
Saratoga Springs, New York

May 3 -5, 2021

Monday 1200 Hospitality room opens Big Red & Peerless Rms

Tuesday 0815 Meet in the Lobby

0830 Bus departs for Saratoga Battlefield

1115 Departs for Dutch Apple Cruise and lunch on the Hudson River

1200-2PM History cruise tour of the River and Albany , NY

2:15 -4PM General tour of Albany and {time permitting}, photo stop at
NY State Capital building. Depart for Hotel

TBA Hospitality room opens

Wednesday 0900 Hospitality room opens Big Red & Peerless Rms

1000 Business meeting State Seal Ballroom

6-7PM Cocktail Hr Skidmore room

Note: We can utilize the Hotels complementary bar
until 730PM, then cash bar

7PM Banquet Grand Ballroom

Invocation and presentation of the colors

Music, Karaoke and Dancing

Thursday Breakfast and depart for home

Be Safe and Be Healthy—See you next year

Fellow Compton sailors: please send me your pictures from your days on our ship.
I promise to send them back the very next day, after I receive those special memories.

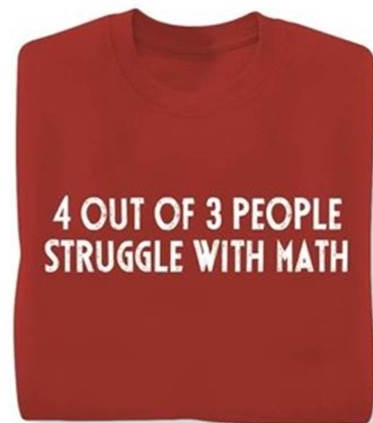
Jack Heidecker
54 Mt Top Ct
Hazle Twp PA 18202
570 450-5545

Internet Goodies

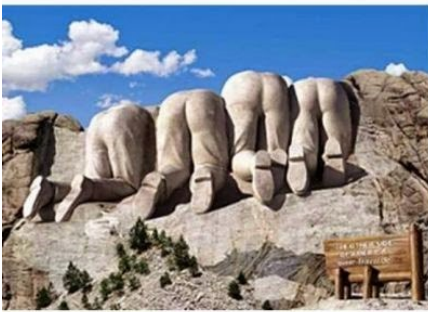


Me: (sobbing my heart out, eyes swollen, nose red)...I can't see you anymore... I am not going to let you hurt me like this again!

Trainer: It was a sit up. You did one sit up.



You know, there are some things that you just never think of like Mt. Rushmore from the Canadian side.



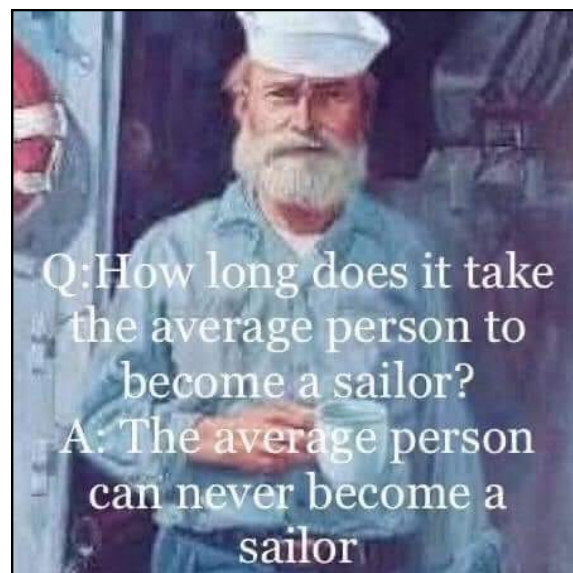
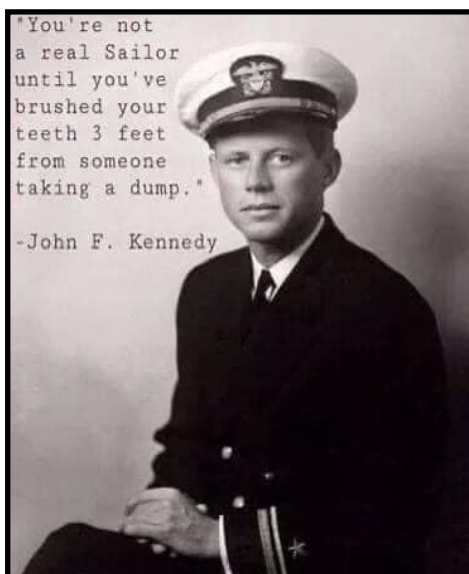
*YOU DON'T STOP LAUGHING BECAUSE YOU GET OLD,
YOU GET OLD BECAUSE YOU STOP LAUGHING*

Not to brag, but I just went into another room and actually remembered why I went in there.

It was the bathroom, but still....

When I was young, many years ago.....
I joined the Navy, Why, I don't know.....
I served My time, with Honor, and Pride.....
For this young boy, it was quite a ride.....
I went to places, I'd never dreamed.....
Time went fast, so it seemed.....
I met People, I'll never forget.....
And some, I wish I'd never met....
But as I think back on those days gone by.....
My Ship, My shipmates, brings a tear to My eye.....
I didn't know it then, never gave it a thought.....
But My time in the Navy, could not have been bought...
I guess We all feel the same, after We're out.....
The Pride We feel, that's what it's about.....
Having served our Nation, keeping it free.....
Protecting our way of life, and our Liberty...
And the Friends I made, along the way.....
Would I do it again? Any day....
And to all My Shipmates, Anchors. Aweigh.....

Received from Sheldon Chandler Sect'y, USS Gainard DD706, Our sister ship.



AUGUST 5, 2026

DEAR SHIPMATES,

I left SAIPAN IN NOV. 1945. I WAS
A 25 MAN SPECIAL FORCES FOR THE
INVASION. SHIPPED OVER FOR US NAVY
FOR 2 MORE YEARS.
PORTLAND MAINE PICKED USS ENGLISH
(696) FOR 3 MONTHS, WENT TO
BOAT SCHOOL IN NORFOLK, COMPLETED
THAT, + TRANSFERRED TO THE 705.
WENT TO BROOKLIN NAVY YARD
FOR OVERHAUL.

WE MADE THE ACY'S DOE'S ON
OUR MAST FOR THE TRIP.

WHAT HAPPEN TO THE REST OF
THE SHIPS. GAWARD 706, 734
734 THE DICKSON 708,

WE HIT ITALY 3 TIMES, TRISTE
ITALY BERIET LEBANON, MALTA,
~~ALEXANDER~~, EGYPT, LEBEON.

NEVER MADE SIGNALMAN, BECAUSE
IT WAS MARKED FOR GM.

PAUL FLYNN - S/C

35 YEARS AS A BOSTON FIRE LT. 193 YEARS

Letter to the Compton from Paul Flynn

Navy replacing Iconic Peacoat

An upcoming change in the iconic Navy uniform has local manufacturers reeling as they anticipate decreased production of a garment they have collaborated to make for more than 40 years.

The Navy announced in August 2016 that it would be changing a part of the sailors' uniform, moving from the traditional wool peacoat to a black, synthetic cold weather parka as official outerwear by Oct. 1, 2020.

The peacoat is manufactured by a group of small to midsize businesses in the Northeast. The change in uniform has the potential to impact more than 300 jobs, 30 to 40 of which are at Northwest Woolen Mills in Woonsocket, said Max Brickle, president of The Brickle Group, which owns Northwest Woolen.

Lt. Jessica Anderson, chief of naval personnel spokesperson, said the synthetic parka was selected "to reduce current Navy seabag uniform component requirements." She said the parka was chosen for its modern appearance, lightweight fabric and its ability to protect against inclement weather. "We're always working to improve and enhance our uniforms' appearance, performance, utility, comfort and wear," she said. She also said the parka would eventually "reduce cost to the Navy's annual uniform budget."

Until the change becomes effective, sailors' bags are required to contain the \$145.50 wool peacoat and a \$104.15 all-weather coat. The \$321.46 parka will replace both coats. Anderson said the cost of the parka is expected to decrease significantly as production increases. The peacoat will become an optional item that sailors can purchase independently. Brickle predicts a significant loss in peacoat sales. "Are [sailors] going to go out and buy a garment, with their own money, that is expensive?" he said. "Probably not."

Currently, NEXCOM and Propper, a military supplier headquartered in Missouri, produce the parka at Propper's manufacturing plant in Puerto Rico. "For us, as this peacoat drifts to Puerto Rico, it signifies a shift — that the military is OK with moving production offshores," said Jacob Long, CEO of American Woolen. "This peacoat represents more than a piece of business, it represents the U.S. government's ability to try and help build small business enterprise within the textile supply chain." The East Coast produces many textile products in clusters, rather than through a vertically integrated model where all steps of a manufacturing process are completed by one business. The clusters rely on small to midsize businesses that lend their expertise to different steps of the manufacturing process.

The "peacoat cluster" manufactures between 40,000 and 60,000 coats annually, Brickle said, and has been doing so for 20 years. Sterlingwear of Boston makes the finished coat in Massachusetts with fabric the company buys from American Woolen Company in Connecticut, and from Northwest Woolen. The wool fibers are spun and dyed respectively by two Pennsylvania companies. Brickle estimates that when the peacoat changes from mandatory to optional, manufacturing will drop to less than 5,000 coats annually.

Though all the businesses in the cluster manufacture other products, the peacoat generates more than \$3 million in revenue annually for Northwest Woolen, \$10 million for Sterlingwear, and it represents 20 percent of total revenue for American Woolen. Jack Foster, director of marketing at Sterlingwear, said a diminished demand for peacoats could affect up to 200 jobs at the company. The garment contributes to more than half of its revenue. Members of the textile cluster are pained to see the Navy replace an "iconic" item. Long, CEO of American Woolen, said the peacoat was the first contract American Woolen signed when it reopened the mill and joined the cluster in 2014. "There's a lot of history with that garment, and a lot of memories with that garment," said Foster, who grew up in a Navy family in Middletown. "I remember my father when he was shipped out, everyone would line up on the deck of the ship, dressed in their peacoats

Reprinted from the "Providence RI Journal" and The Sunrise Press" the USS Lexington CV16 Newsletter

Compton Donations—October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020
 Paul Meyer, Rick Rickard, Ed Passi, Al Haley, William Guzzy and Neil Franc



Eternal Father, strong to save,
 Whose arm doth bond the restless
 wave,
 Who bids the mighty ocean deep
 Its own appointed limits keep;
 O hear us when we cry to Thee
 For those in peril on the sea.
 Upon the terrace dark and rude,
 And bid its angry tumult cease,
 And give for wild confusion peace;
 O hear us when we cry to Thee
 For those in peril on the sea.
 3 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
 Thy children shield in danger's hour;
 From rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
 Protect them where-so-e'er they go;
 Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee
 Glad hymns of praise from land and
 sea



"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
 A VETERAN DIED TODAY."

Obituaries: USS Compton DD705



Earle Bissonette BT2 (1957-1961) passed August 30, 2020 in Manning, SC at 81 years of age. Earle was born March 4, 1939 in Taunton MA. At the time of his passing, Earle was married 61 years to his surviving wife Brenda. He was a devout Christian and an active member of "Life Song Christian Church" in Manning. Earle was also active Compton Association member and attended a few Compton reunions. A donation in Mr. Bissonette name will be made, in his honor, to Tin Can Sailors. Rest in Peace—fellow shipmate.



Robert Haines SK3 (1961-1962) passed on October 24, 2020 in Burlington, New Jersey. Bob was born on November 2, 1942. He served on the Compton 4/1961 to 12/1962. Robert was an original founding Compton Association member and attended the first Compton reunion in Clark, NJ., along with other Compton reunions. As an active current member of our ship's association a donation in his honor was made to Tin Can Sailors.



Michael HV Nolan Ltjg (1960—1963) passed on May 17, 2018 in La Mesa, California. He was born in Toledo, Ohio on October 19, 1936. Mr. Nolan joined the navy in 1959 and retired as a Commander in 1984. During his time on the Compton he served as the Assistant Engineering Officer. He also served as Commanding Officer on the USS Churchill County LST 583 and the USS Schenectady LST 1185.



James R Evans Ltjg (1960—1962) passed November 13, 2019 in Allentown, PA. Jim was 82 years of age. Mr. Evans graduated from the US Naval Academy and was assigned to the USS Dealy and then the Compton. Looking at his naval cap, Jim also served on the carrier USS Midway CV41. Jim and Sandy last attended our Myrtle Beach Reunion and as a loyal member of our Association, a \$50 donation in his honor will be made to Tin Can Sailors.

Annual USS Compton Association dues are \$20.00 per year. If you received an envelope with this newsletter - the dues are due now or will be due within a short period of time...look for the hand written date on your address label. This is the date when your membership has expired or will soon expire...