
USS Compton Organization

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All Newsletter, pictures and
articles should be sent to:

Jack Heidecker
“Compton Newsletter”



Commissioned November 4 1944
Decommissioned—September 27 1972



Compton returns home to Newport

Compton Association
President Bob DiMonte
and VP Cappy Capozziello
greeting members and
guests arriving for the
Williamsburg Reunion.

I just arrived home from our annual reunion in beautiful Colonial Williamsburg. I can report to you, that our association is strong and well. We had a very good turn out and everyone had a great time.

We toured the historic town and the Yorktown Battlefield.

My thanks to Ed and Nancy Capozziello ,for hosting, and maintaining the hospitality room. As always, it was well attended and well supplied.

The Executive board rcommended, and the membership approved, Pensacola, Florida, for our 2023 reunion site. I will commence working on the contracts, and report to you in our next newsletter. I believe Pensacola will be an exciting and interesting place to visit. Naval Station Pensacola, hosts The National Naval Aviation Museum, it is a must place to visit. There are many historic sites and the beaches are the best in the world. I do not think you will be disappointed.
Stay Tuned.

I wish to thank all of our Officers for stepping up for another year, please show them your appreciation. Also, thanks, and congratulations to Andy Kelly, for being elected, as our new Southern Representative.

May God Bless and watch over you and your families, and may He continue to protect those Men and Women, that wear the uniform, and go in Harms Way .

Fraternally Yours, Bob DiMonte

The “Compton Newsletter” is available in color—on our below WEB site
Webmaster, Phil Prekel has posted 52 past newsletters from February 2009
to the present on our below listed Internet Website...

WEB SITE: www.usscompton705.com

USS Compton DD705—2022 Reunion

A note from Compton Association member Sigward Pohl



My Ladies, dear Shipmates,

all our warmest greetings to all of you at the USS Compton Reunion in Williamsburg. We hope you will have a great time and will enjoy great memories of good old times at sea and ashore.

As we are steaming in rough waters today in a world with great harm to mankind it is a great moment to share lifelong friendship and unity.

Birgit and I are so sorry not to be together with you, but health problems do not allow the long flight across the Atlantic. In our mind we are with you all. Especially for me it is a great memory as it is not 60 years ago I was allowed to serve aboard the USS Compton.

Fair winds and following seas,

Yours
Birgit and Sigward



Plank Owner Bill Radar pose with Williamsburg reenactor



Yorktown Monument with "Liberty's" statue on top



Mike and Joyce Heider
That's a tall monument



Jerry and Sally Sample
Must be a magical selfie
he was taking pictures



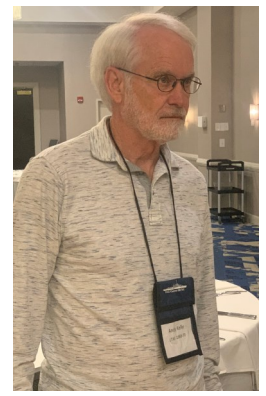
Hap and Diane
Nehring



Bob DiMonte and
Linda Lambeck



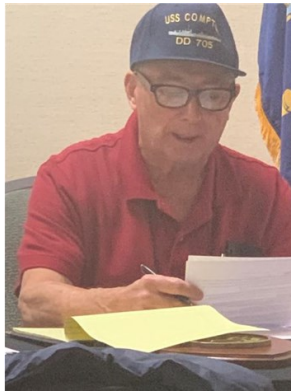
While trying to interpret this picture—
Did it just show an example of travel in those times
or as someone at the reunion suggested
Bob DiMonte “fell off the wagon” !!!



Compton officers
Fred Gilbertson and Andy Kelly
Both LTJG’s during 1969-1970



Chaplin “Doc” Eames
Studying his prayers
for the meeting



Association Secretary
Ed Brimo
Reading Minutes from
Saratoga Springs



Garth and Jeanette
Elliott
Ready for the tour



Ed and Joe Nowakowski



Tamieka and Rosa Moody
representing Ron Moody—at the reunion
Joe Nowakowski, Ron’s good friend
spoke of past times with his buddy



Group Picture while on Tour



Group Picture at general Compton meeting

Are you a Tin Can Sailor?

Opinion by Joe Napoli

The Tin Can Sailor organization, of which many of us are members, recently changed the name they want to be known by. DESVETS in the new moniker. That name really did not resonate well with a lot of destroyer shipmates. The organization continues to use “Tin Can Sailors” as their headline on the quarterly newsletter. They maintained that both names would be used.

Recently the executive director, Terry Miller, retired after more than 20 years of service. The new executive director, Jacob Vaught, wrote an article in the last newsletter which contained his position on the name of the organization. He stated that he will not use the name “Tin Can Sailors”. He stated that “Tin Can” does not apply to the new destroyers because of their size and armament. He contends that the name DESVETS will encourage more modern day destroyermen to join the organization.

Destroyers have been known as Tin Cans for decades. It is a name that we, members of the organization or not, proudly embrace.

I am not a DESVET, I will always be a **“Tin Can Sailor”**

The nickname arose **because in World Wars One and Two, the hull plating of this ship type was so thin the sailors claimed they were made from tin cans.**

New Compton Address

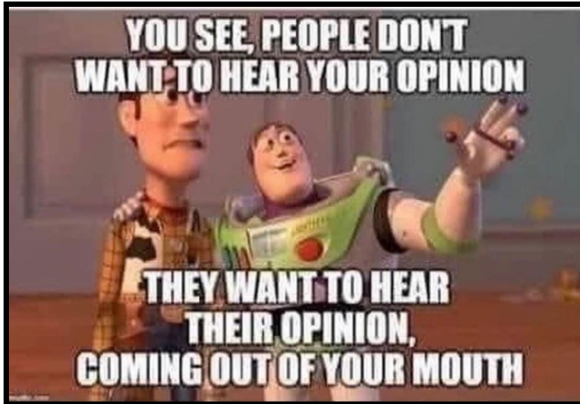
We have discontinued using Post Office Box 6621 as our official address. The cost of the Post Office box has increased over the years to a point where it is no longer financially practical for us. Dues envelopes, sent to members as required with a newsletter, will have the new address on them for your convenience. Future reunion registration forms will also display the new address as will our stationary.

Individual postal addresses for all board members and officers can be found on the first page of our newsletters. The new Compton address is Joe Napoli’s home address.

**USS Compton Association
129 Mallard Drive
Monroe Township, NJ 08831-5521**

**Compton Donations—January 1, 2022 to April 30, 2022
Gerry Pierce, Ed Brimo, Frederick Brown, Jack O’Neil , Dave Scott
Ralph Breitenbach and John Macdougall**

Internet Goodies



Looking for a married woman, recently cheated on, mad and scorned, who is willing to sell her husbands tools for cheap.

WE LIVE IN A TIME WHERE INTELLIGENT PEOPLE ARE BEING SILENCED SO THAT STUPID PEOPLE WON'T BE OFFENDED.

IF A MAN SAYS HE WILL FIX IT, HE WILL. THERE IS NO NEED TO REMIND HIM EVERY SIX MONTHS.

THERE WE WERE,
RENOVATING OUR HOME,
WHEN WE KNOCKED OUT
A WALL AND MADE AN
INCREDIBLE DISCOVERY;
WE FOUND A SECRET ROOM,
COMPLETELY FURNISHED.

THAT WAS WHEN WE
REMEMBERED THAT WE
LIVE IN A DUPLEX!

**MY WIFE ASKED ME WHY I
SPOKE SO SOFTLY IN THE
HOUSE.
I SAID I WAS AFRAID
MARK ZUCKERBERG WAS
LISTENING!
SHE LAUGHED.
I LAUGHED.
ALEXA LAUGHED.
SIRI LAUGHED.**

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...

TALK THE TALK

I learned the Sailor's jargon
Although it took a while
I'm sure there was a reason
And that often made me smile

My shoes became "boon dockers"
My left became my "port"
A wall was now a "bulkhead"
And after three years you're "short

So many things were changing
Especially my speech
If I was going off the Ship
I was going on the "beach"

The "overhead" was the ceiling
The floor became the "deck"
My sheet became my "fart-sack"
My mind became a wreck

The "fo'c'sle" was up front I think
A "72" was three days off
The "stern" was in the back somewhere
And between two waves a "trough"

An aisle was now a "passage way"
A door was now a "hatch"
The "eight o'clock reports"
Were laid before the "mast"

The "P 500 " is a pump
The "Handy Billy " too
If all of this makes any sense
A Sailor's life is for you

The Navy has a lot of "knots"
All Sailors know a few
The kind you tie are numerous
But the speed of a ship's one too

Now I was but a "snipe" you see
I spent my time "below"
I'll give you just a few more words
And then I'll have to go

"Underway", "Chow", and "Fantail"
"Athwartship", "Ditty Bag", "Rack",
"Hauser", "Cleat", and "Monkey fist",
"Aft" is in the back

"Scuttlebutt", "Gedunk", and "Pogey Bait",
"Davit", "Bilges", and "Head",
"Steaming", "Skinny", and "Tie-Tie"
Now I think enough's been said

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



Obituaries: USS Compton DD705



Harry Rigotti, born September 14 passed February 14, 2022 in Howell, Michigan at the age of 95 years. Harry's rating was listed as a Postal Clerk on the Compton during his wartime service. Because of that service, Harry was granted free membership in our Compton's Association. He was an insurance underwriter during his long civilian occupation. A donation in his honor will be made to Tin Can Sailors.



Merrill Fogg, Jr BT2 (1950-1954) served our country, on the Compton, during the Korean Conflict. Merrill was born March 13, 1932 and passed January 28, 2022. He was a resident of Freeport, Maine and was a great aid to the Compton membership during our Portland Maine Reunion in 2001. As an active Compton Association member our memorial donation to TCS in his honor was made.



Edward F Majka , 89 years of age, passed in Ludlow MA on April 2, 2022. He was born on October 23, 1932 in Palmer MA. Ed is listed in his obituary column as serving on the USS Compton during his four years of service (no time frame listed). He was with the Monsanto Chemical Company for about 40 Years and was very active with the Polish Americans Veterans Association.



Frank Milanese BM1 (gold) passed April 23, 2022. He was born In West Chester, PA on July 5, 1940. He served on the Compton as a BMSN in 1957-1960 before starting his 22 years of service in the most closed rate of Boatswain Mate. Frank was a must loyal Compton Association member and was scheduled to attend the Williamsburg Reunion, with his wife, Linda as they did many other reunions. Our memorial donation in his honor was made to Tin Can Sailors.

Other Members who passed since the Saratoga Reunion

- Charles Gray MM3 1959-1963
- Harold Babine
- Eugene McCarthy SCCS 1964-66
- Earl Escue RD3 1945
- Charles Coale LTJG 1962
- William Guzzy SN 1958-1962
- Charles Minor BT2 1955-56
- Milton Simonds
- Francis Halpin
- Kenneth Bieber
- Willie Thompson MM3 1955-59

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.
O Trinity of love and power
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