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The Compton at war



Buffalo Reunion:

Another year has come and gone and once again we were lucky enough to gather with our shipmates and friends. Our reunion in Buffalo was a nice event and shipmates, friends and guests had an enjoyable time. We shared our sea stories in the hospitality room, and they must be true because they are the same every year, and we always enjoy hearing them again.

We owe a tip of the hat and thanks to Bob Ott, our Northern Regional Officer, for hosting the reunion and making sure everything was in place so that we could have a great time. Kudos also for Jerry Sample who, once again, provided reunion mementoes; Compton engraved money clips. Mike and Linda Olson donated snacks and beverages for the hospitality room and thanks to many of the other guests and shipmates who pitched in to help out; that's what makes our reunions special.

Having the reunion up North we did not expect a record turnout but we did have a nice crowd; about 80 people. We realize, of course, that our shipmates living down South have their "blood thinned" by the heat and can no longer cope with the cooler weather. No excuses next year! We had rain on one of the days of the reunion, and of course, that was the day of the tour. We had a good time in spite of it, had a nice lunch and visited the Niagara area. Actually, standing in the rain made you feel like you were in the falls, not just looking at them.

Our banquet was the highlight of the reunion. It was held in the atrium of the hotel and the setting looked like it was in the tropics. Music was provided by a DJ who is a local legend and we danced through the evening. Of Course Charlie "Jake" Jakob did his annual solo Disco dance to the great amusement of the crowd. Our dance duo of Herb and Bertha Sellers once again pleased everyone with their display of superb dancing.

I hope you enjoy looking at the reunion pictures in upcoming newsletter issues and view them in color on our website. **Buffalo photos now on website!!!**



**Plans and contracts for the 2014 Compton Reunion in Myrtle Beach SC are being finalized by Joe Napoli. We will publish all the details in our July Newsletter. Joe claims this will be our best reunion considering price and quality..**

One day, while a Senior Chief was cutting a branch of a tree above a river, his axe fell into the river. When he cried out, the Lord appeared and asked, "Why are you crying?" The Senior Chief replied that his axe had fallen into the water, and he needed the axe to make his living. The Lord went down into the water and reappeared with a golden axe. "Is this your axe?" the Lord asked. The Senior Chief replied, "No."

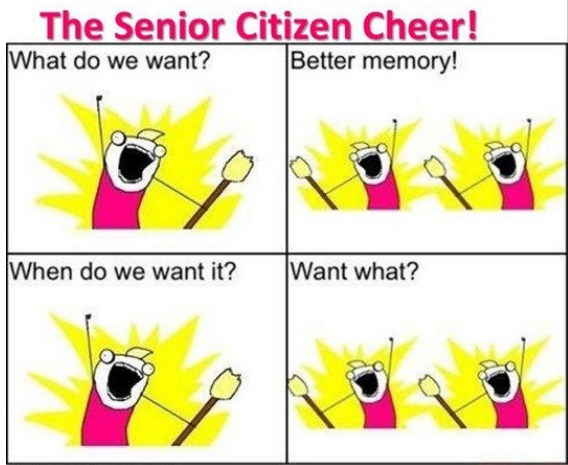
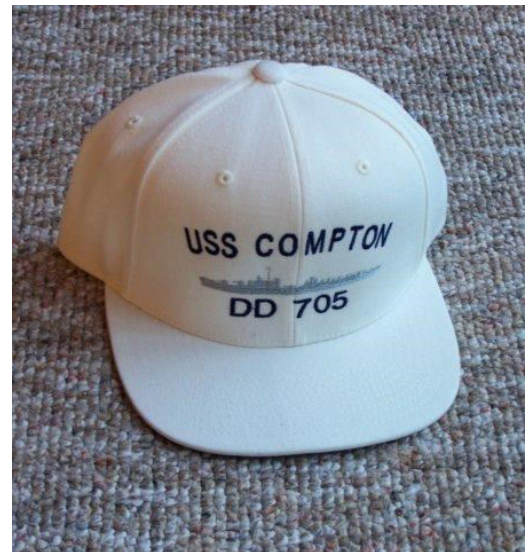
The Lord again went down and came up with a silver axe. "Is this your axe?" the lord asked. Again the Senior Chief replied, "No." The Lord went down again and came up with an iron axe. "Is this your axe?" the Lord asked. The Senior Chief replied, "Yes."

The Lord was pleased with the Senior Chief's honesty and gave him all three axes to keep, and the Senior Chief went back to the ship happy.

Sometime later the Senior Chief was walking with his wife along the riverbank, and his wife fell into the river. When he cried out, the Lord again appeared and asked him, "Why are you crying?" "Oh Lord, my wife has fallen into the water!" The Lord went down into the water and came up with Angelina Jolie. "Is this your wife?" the Lord asked. "Yes," cried the Senior Chief.

The Lord was furious. "You lied! That is an untruth!" The Senior Chief replied, "Oh, forgive me, my Lord. It is a misunderstanding. You see, if I had said 'no' to Angelina Jolie, you would have come up with Cameron Diaz. Then if I said 'no' to her, you would have come up with my wife. Had I then said 'yes' you would have given me all three. Lord, I am poor old seagoing Senior Chief, and am not able to take care of all three wives in a way that they should be, so that's why I said yes to Angelina Jolie."

The moral of this story is: Whenever a Navy Senior Chief lies, it is for a good and honorable reason, and for the benefit of others. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it.



New embroidered white Compton hats were introduced at the Buffalo reunion and they were quite popular. We will have them at our next reunion or you can purchase one for \$15 (includes postage), send a check to the USS Compton Assn., PO Box 6621, Monroe Twp., NJ 08831-6621.

America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real but the moon landing was faked. ~ David Letterman

**USS Doyle (FFG39) Decommissioned and Captain Michael Elliot advances in our US Navy.**

Those of us who attended the Jacksonville, FL., reunion in 2007 had the privilege of touring the USS Doyle, an Oliver Hazard Perry class Frigate, at Naval Station Mayport. The Captain of the Doyle at the time was CDR. Michael Elliott. CDR. Elliott is the son of our shipmate Charles (Chuck) Elliott (RD3 1054-55) and his wife Mary. Our group had a special tour of the ship and our memorial service was conducted on the fantail. CDR. Michael Elliott left the Doyle in 2008 and was promoted to Captain shortly after.

The USS Doyle's keel was laid down by Bath Iron Works of Bath Maine on Oct. 23, 1981 and she was launched on May 22, 1982 and commissioned on May 21, 1983. She was decommissioned at Naval Station Mayport on July 29, 2011 after completing 27 years of service.

The following is from the official Navy website:

**CAPT Elliott completed his command tour on the USS DOYLE (FFG-39) on January 4, 2008. During his tour he completed a deployment to Western Africa and Gulf of Guinea and earned the Battle Efficiency Award for 2007. Following his command tour, CAPT Elliott served as Force Operations Officer and as Executive Assistant at Commander, Naval Surface Forces Pacific from February, 2008 until June, 2011. He reported to Commander, Destroyer Squadron ONE as Deputy Commodore in August, 2011 and completed deployment on USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from November, 2011 through May, 2012.**

**On October 12, 2012, Captain Michael Elliott was promoted to the position of Commodore, DesRon 1, out of San Diego, California.**

**Desron 1 has eight (8) warships within its squadron.**

**Destroyers"**

**USS Benfold DDG65**

**USS Gridley DDG 101**

**USS Halsey DDG 97**

**USS Higgins DDG 76**

**USS Stockdale DDG 106**

**Frigates:**

**USS Gary FFG 51**

**USS McCluskey FFG 41**

**USS Rentz FFG 46**

**The USS Compton DD705 Association congratulates Captain Michael Elliott on his new command.**



**Captain Mike with his parents, Chuck and Mary, during the Compton's tour on the USS Doyle FFG 39 in 2007.**



**Captain Michael Elliot appointed Commodore of DesRon 1 in 2012**

A guy is watching a film with creepy organ music on the TV and suddenly yells, “No! No! Don't enter that church, you fool !!!”; His wife asks him, “What are you watching?”; Husband replies, “Our wedding video.”;



**Vince DeGasperis, Art “Tiny” Madigan and Ron Erwin.  
How many times did “Tiny” bang his head on the ship’s  
bulkhead???**

**Jerry Sample honoring his fellow passed shipmates during  
the memorial service and honoring his fellow attendees  
by providing a Compton inscribed money clip as a  
memento of our Buffalo Reunion...**



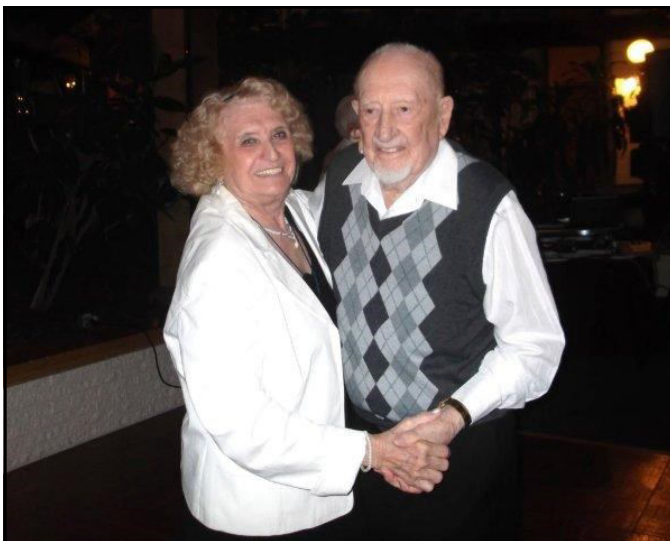
**Our Compton Camp Followers!!**



**Eve and Boyd Crannell in the Buffalo hospitality room waiting to relive his sea stories from the fifties.**



**Remember on the Med cruise—we said the girls followed our ship all over the Med—our photographers have followed us for the last 4 reunions. Debbie and Jody Gagnon—our picture gals... They do a great job!!!**



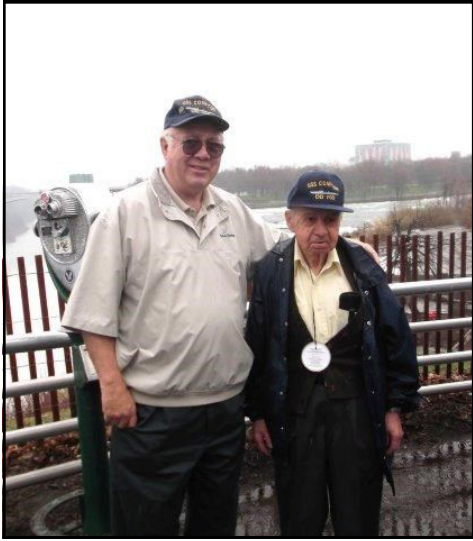
**Herb and Bertha Sellers  
From their 2008 Branson honeymoon to our Buffalo reunion—they still dazzle us with their dancing!**



**Chris and Bob Ott—our hostess and host for the Buffalo Reunion—thanks guys!!!**

### **SEAMANSHIP TEST**

One time during the underway watch the OOD decided to test a Chief Petty Officer's seamanship. "Chief, what would you do if the forward watch fell off the side of the ship?" "Easy, sir, I'd call 'Man Overboard' and follow the Man Overboard procedures." "What would you do if an officer fell overboard?" "Hmmm," The Chief said, "Which one, sir?"



**Jack Heidecker at the Niagara Falls trying to get Chaplin Charlie Jakob to use his connections with the big guy to stop the rain...**



**Linda and Frank Milanese at the falls. Frank that is no "foul weather" jacket!!!**



**A sunny day at Niagara Falls !!!**



**Picture on left—the Horseshoe Falls As viewed form the American side!**

## “COMPTON’S CREW”

Old “gobs” of the Compton gather  
Year after year come Spring  
We still have that walk peculiar  
It’s known as a “Tin Canner” thing

A mustering of the “Old Seadogs”  
Silently piped we come  
Our ranks not quite as orderly now  
For we march to a different drum

There’s only a slight resemblance  
To what we were back then  
Still every year come Spring time  
We find our youth again

For three short days we’re Sailors again  
Our ship’s in our hearts and minds  
Raucous and bawdy just as we were  
In the years we left behind

No 1 M.C. to interrupt  
With siren, pipe, or gong  
Memories flow and sea stories grow  
But to listeners they’re never too long

Each year as we “Seamen” assemble  
We confirm what we always knew  
Though years and miles separate us  
We’ll always be Compton’s Crew

Author unknown—the only poet from the Compton  
that we know is Charlie Gray MM3, 1959-62  
This may be his work...

Compton Association dues are \$20.00 per year—if you received an envelope with this newsletter—they are due now or due within a short period... Look for the hand written date, on your address label... That date is when your membership expired or will expire...

### Memories from Eugene Wurzler FT2

I look forward to the newsletter and i always scan every detail looking for a familiar name or face. We were on duty with the Six Fleet for our 6 month deployment in the Med - i'm guessing it was in 1958 shortly after Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal. The US wanted to prove American Warships could traverse the canal without interference. The Compton was dispatched with another destroyer through the Suez around the Red Sea, through the Straights Hormuz to anchor at Bahrain for 3 days. At Bahrain we went over a ball field for a game and some 3/2 beer. The second day some of us got on a bus and went out through the desert sands to arrive at the ARAMCO oil facility. We couldn't believe it, American style homes, green grass, a recreation center, bowling, --who new. We returned through the Suez without incident, i do remember several Russian ships at Port SAID keeping an eye on us. During my 2 years on board the Captain was Cmdr Kittrell and we had been through severe NORTH ATLANTIC storms taking some serious damage to the 01 level while on a NATO exercise. Some 50 + years have gone by and some of the memories fade, however many will always be with me.

### Sick Bay

| Bob Ott  
| Joe Nowakowski  
| Ron Moody (12th knee operation—same knee)  
| Mike Taylor  
| All that are not listed here—our prayers



### *Obituary: USS Compton DD705*



Gerald Gluck, 84, New Jersey, died 03-21-2013. He was a member of the Compton Association. He served aboard the USS Compton in 1946-48 (picture on left).

Herbert A Cheek, MM3 on board the USS Compton from 1953 to 1956, passed in the Baltimore, MD area on January 9, 2013. He had attended a number of our past reunions.

Paul F Cowin, 87 from Butler PA passed on March 24, 2013. Paul served on the USS Compton during the pacific campaign in WW2