
USS Compton Organization

Jack Heidecker – President
54 Mt Top Court,
Hazle Township PA 18202
570 450-5545
Jack555@ptd.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
505 206-6905
tudorboats19@yahoo.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
973 839-1639
philipprekel@optimum.net

Bob DiMonte – South Region
1048 Meadson Ave
Pensacola FL 32506
850 492-3483
bbdimmo@cox.net

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

Editor/Publisher—
Jack Heidecker

All correspondence, pictures
and articles should be sent to:

Jack Heidecker
54 Mt Top Court
Hazle Township PA 18202

jack555@ptd.net
570 450-5545



The Compton at war



Commissioned November 4 1944
Decommissioned—September 27 1972

Warwick Reunion 2017

This year we are returning to the Newport area by holding our reunion at the **Crowne Plaza Providence/Warwick** in Warwick, RI. Our 2010 reunion at that hotel was one of the largest in our history and those who attended know that the Crowne Plaza is a first class hotel. The room rate is **\$119** per night and includes a daily hot breakfast right in our hospitality room. The reduced rate is available three days prior and after the actual reunion. Coupons will be issued for breakfast in the restaurant on days when the Hospitality room is not open.

Our guided bus tour will be to Boston. We will see the historic sites such as the Old Church, Quincy Market and the Boston Navy Yard. The destroyer USS Cassin Young and the USS Constitution can be visited at the Navy Yard. Many of us who served on the Compton spent some time in Boston. We will also have a group lunch at Maggiano’s restaurant.

The reunion will be held on **Friday April 21, Saturday April 22 and Sunday April 23, 2017**. As usual our tour will be on Saturday and our meeting and banquet will be on Sunday. The banquet menu and agenda will be published at a later date. Registration forms will also be in future issues of the newsletter.

Shipmates must make their own hotel reservations; mention the **USS Compton** to get the reunion discounted rate. The block of rooms will be held until **March 20, 2017**, be sure to make your reservations early, cancellations can be made up to 24 hours prior to arrival.

Crowne Plaza Providence/Warwick
801 Greenwich Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886 **401-732-6000**



USS Constitution and
USS Cassin Young DD793
Charlestown Navy Shipyard



The “Compton Newsletter” is available in color—on our WEB site

Baton Rouge Reunion Photos



Phil and Eileen Prekel
Webmaster and captured prey



Camile Ortel and her "special" invite, Bob DiMonte



The White Table and "Missing Man" Ceremony
A special ceremony performed at military functions that honor all missing and unaccounted members, for their service, to our country



Compton Band from Baton Rouge
L-R Paul Lightfoot, Mike Taylor, Al Haley
and Eileen Prekel



Compton Line Dance



Frank Milanese giving his wife Linda
that special eye contact.



Ron Range giving us that innocent look
his wife Marge, the I know better look.



On the left:
Herb Sellers—The “Compton Dance King”
and his dance partner Sandra De La Cruz.

Hello, Remember Me? Some people call me Old Glory; others call me The Star Spangled Banner. Whatever name you call me, I am your flag, the flag of the United States of America. Something has been bothering me, so I thought I might talk it over with you; because it's about you and me.

I remember some time ago, people would line up on both sides of the street to watch the parades. Naturally I was leading everyone, proudly waving in the breeze.

When your daddy saw me coming, he immediately removed his hat and placed it against his left shoulder so that his hand was directly over his heart. Remember?

And you, I remember, were standing there straight as a soldier. You didn't have a hat on but you were giving the right salute. Remember your little sister? Not to be outdone, she was saluting the same as you with her hand over her heart. Remember?

What happened? I'm still the same Old Flag. Oh, I've added a few more stars since you were a boy, and a lot more blood has been shed since those parades of long ago. By now, somehow, I don't feel as proud as I used to feel. When I come down the street, you just stand there with your hands in your pockets. You may give me a small glance, then you look away. I see children running around you shouting. They don't seem to know who I am. I saw one man take his hat off, and when he didn't see anyone else take off his or her hat, he quickly put his back on.

Is it a sin to be patriotic today? Have you forgotten what I stand for, and where I've been? Anzio, Guadalcanal, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm!

Take a look at the memorial honor roll and see the names of those patriotic Americans who gave their lives to keep this republic free. When you salute me, you are actually saluting them.

Well, it won't be long until I'll be coming down the street again. When you see me, please stand straight and place your hand over your heart, and I'll know that you remembered.

I'll salute you by waving back

Author Unknown.

Looking forward to hunting season, but I do have a question.

If I shot a buck, but I only have a doe tag, can I claim the buck wasn't really a buck?

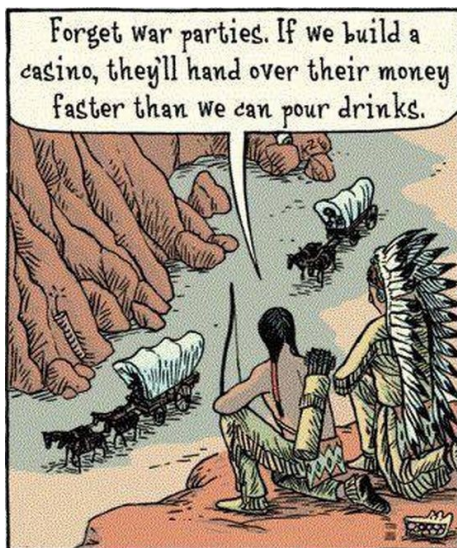
I mean... maybe he'd always wanted to be a doe, but with no choice of his own he was born with the physical attributes of a male.

And yet... on the inside he'd always known he was truly a female.

I'm just wondering if the game warden will buy it, because society and the Supreme Court do.

Baton Rouge Reunion 2016

- I. Vice-President Edward Capozziello opened the meeting at 10:00a.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was given by members and guests.
- III. First timer Milton Stone was introduced.
- IV. Reading of the minutes from Gettysburg reunion by Secretary Michael Taylor.
- V. New Chaplin, Bill Eames was introduced.
New Western Representative, Jerry Sample was introduced.
- VI. Treasurer Joe Napoli explained why President Jack Heidecker could not attend.
- VII. Treasurer's Report:
 - A. Doing well...maintain \$6,000 - \$7,000 in the account.
- VIII. Membership: Lose a few and gain a few. We gained six new members after reunion was run in the American Legion Magazine. We have around 200 members in the Association.
- IX. Remarks on this year's reunion:
 - A. We are treated very well here as being a Veterans group really helps. Manager gave employees of the Radisson instructions to take good care of us.
 - B. Banquet at 6:00p.m.
 - C. Cash Bar – Please use instead of sneaking into Hospitality room.
 - D. Menu read.
 - E. Cajun Dance Group will entertain following the banquet. They want us to participate.
- X. Future Reunions
 - A. We have certain needs to be fulfilled such as hospitality room where we can bring in our own booze and snacks. Also possible breakfast included plus the price of the rooms have to be reasonable. This is why we moved from Boston in 2017 to Warwick. The Crown Plaza in Warwick is very reasonable and meets our needs. We will take a tour bus to Boston however.
 - B. We will have twice as many people at Warwick as we have this year. This year we have 61 attendees of which 29 are Compton Sailors.
 - C. 2017 Reunion will be Friday, April 21st – Sunday, April 23rd.
 - D. We are looking at 2018 sites with Charleston, SC, Atlanta, GA and Savannah, GA as top prospects.
- XI. WWII Veteran Herb Sellers, age 95, addressed the members about how well he is treated by the public whenever he attends functions, etc.
- XII. Meeting Adjourned



From Leslie Ellis—IC3 November 1955 to October 1959

On the 1956 Med Cruise when the Compton was backing out from its mooring in Naples, she backed into an underwater object and damaged its screw and lifted the fantail out of the water. It wasn't until the Compton was in the Persian Gulf and the shaft extruded out far enough to be disconnected and at that time the screw became useless.

A dive repair team and the necessary lifting equipment was necessary to remove the damaged screw and strut.



Diver prepares to cut free the damaged parts from our ship



Barge and sea crane necessary to support the strut and screw while lifting from the water



Ship's screw being lifted



Damaged parts on fantail—Dry dock next stop



Mike Taylor (L) and Robert D'Andrea
Having a "FEW" beers in Naples, Italy



A special Thank you to Mary Foglino who
donated the 1953 and 1955 Compton Cruise
books to our archives in honor of her husband
and Compton Association member,
Hank Foglino

1953 Med Cruise—Hank Foglino collection
Mary Foglino sent us these pictures but, she had no name
information on them.
Upper left; 5 inch Mount,
upper right; Friendship Flags,
lower; the normal buddies on liberty.



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
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Hazle Twp PA 18202
570 450-5545

Annual USS Compton Association dues are \$20.00 per year. If you received an envelope with this newsletter the dues or 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 expired or will soon expire...



Donations to the Compton Association:

Richard Post
Carter Cincotta
Raymond Greeley
Bill Judge
Robert Chiesa
Ed Brimo
John MacDougall
Michael Olson
Charles Mackay



Obituary: USS Compton DD705

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

"...they gave
the last full
measure of
devotion."

— PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN



Raymond "Ray" McDermott Passed 12/15/2014, Ray was born 1933 and passed at the age of 81 in Cleveland Ohio. Ray was an active Compton Association member at the time of his death. A donation in his honor will be made to the "Tin Can Sailors" in his honor.

Raymond J Duplessis, Passed on May 27, 2016, Raymond served on the Compton as a MM3 in 1953-55. Raymond was an active Compton Association member and last attended the Warwick (Newport) Reunion. He lived in Woonsocket RI. A donation to "Tin Can Sailors" will be made in his honor.



Richard K Walbridge, Scituate, MA, passed on July 13, 2016. He served on the Compton 1964-66. Rich wrote his favorable opinion of the Compton reunions on page 1 of the August 2015 Newsletter. A donation to "Tin Can Sailors" will be made in his honor

To All Passed Compton Sailors: Especially, those that our Compton Association has no record. May you rest in peace and thank you for your service to the Compton and to the United States of America. God Bless You!!!!!!!