**USS Compton Organization** 

Jack Heidecker – President 54 Mt Top Court, Hazle Township PA 18202 570 450-5545 <u>Jack555@ptd.net</u>

Ed Capoziello—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 973 839-1639 philipprekel@optimum.net

Bob DiMonte – South Region 1048 Meadson Ave Pensacola FL 32506 850 492-3483 bobdimo@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 2017 Reunion Review

Still going strong! We just held our annual reunion at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, RI. We had a nice turnout, 85 people total, and we had a ball. First of all, the hotel was first class, as it was when we last were there in 2010. We enjoyed our snacks and beverages in the Hospitality Room as we gathered to recall old times. Every morning we also had a private group breakfast in our reserved Compton Room.

We had four first time attendees, Charles Coale, LTJG 1962, Garth Elliott, RM3 1962-64, Robert White, BT2 1966-68 and Dave Scott, DK2 1968-69. And they had a fantastic time and are looking forward to our next reunion in Charleston, SC. Our "Most Travelled", again, was Sigward and Birgit Pohl who came from Munich Germany to gather with old friends.

Our tour went to Boston. We had two large coach busses and it was amazing to see how the drivers negotiated the narrow streets of Boston. In the morning, we toured Boston then stopped for lunch at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant, downtown Boston. Great food family style and what a feast that was! After lunch we went to the Boston Navy Yard to see the USS Constitution and the USS Cassin Young. We also toured the attached museum.

On Sunday, the last day of our event we held our General and Memorial Meeting. Later that evening we had our annual banquet. We had a lively crowd and the dance floor was used quite a bit. The DJ played a lot of slow music which suited us just fine. Herbert Sellers, and his wife Sandra, once again came from California, by train. Herbert, now in his 90's, burnt up the dance floor as usual.

Our next reunion (2018) will be in Charleston, SC, where we will tour the USS Laffey. The dates are: Monday April 23, Tuesday April 24 and Wednesday April 25. (Mid-week days were selected to receive a lower room rate.) The room rate is \$129 including breakfast. It will be at the Crown Plaza Charleston. More details will be in the future-newsletter and website as time passes.

Joe Napoli

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



The Crew of the USS Compton DD-705
April 2017 Reunion
Warwick, Rhode Island



The Ladies of the USS Compton DD-705
April 2017 Reunion
Warwick, Rhode Island



Judy and Paul Woodbury



Judy and John MacDougall



Marilyn and Emile Duchemin



Sally and Jerry Sample



Jack and Laurel O'Neil—old style thank you



Edwina and Steven Bednarz

TIN CAN SAILORS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	SHIP APPLICATION
ess:	State: Zip:
Your highest rank or rate: Phone: (	
Name and Hull Number of your ship(s) and the years you served aboard (maximum of four).	syou served aboard (maximum of four).
Hull #:	Dates Aboard:
Hull #:	Dates Aboard:
Hull #:	Dates Aboard:
USS Hull #:	Dates Aboard:
One Year Membership  Current USN Active Duty: First year free then \$10 a year  \$30 To join over the phone using a  \$35 credit card, call us at  \$50 800-223-5535	The suggested minimum yearly contribution is \$30.00. But if you can afford to send more, you'll be helping Tin Can Sailors with keeping destroyers and their accomplishments from being forgotten. So please consider a contribution of \$35 or even more.
Mail this form to: <b>Tin Can Sailors, PO Box 100, Somerset, MA 02726</b> Make your check payable to Tin Can Sailors or provide your Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.	x 100, Somerset, MA 02726 sa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.
Card Number:	Expiration Date:/
Security Code:	
Please provide billing address if different from shipping	ifferent from shipping

"Tin Can Sailors" is a quarterly newspaper dedicated to all destroyer sailors.

This is a great magazine newsletter that features stories from many sources about those ships and sailors who served in the tin can navy.

The Compton Association printed this application for those members who are interested in this publication and may not have easy access to obtain it.

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...

Compton Association Members, who additionally, contributed to our Association.

Gerry Pierce Charles McDonald Michael Quinn

Wayne Brumagin Daniel Turklay John Macdougall

Jack O'Neil Joe Nowakowski Ralph Breitenbach





USS Constitution, oldest active and in commission warship, in dry dock for needed repairs. According to one of our members—this is the very same dry dock the Compton itself used during its own past—repair and update.



Herb and Sandra Sellers celebrating their honeymoon during the Warwick 2017 Compton Reunion.

It was claimed that Herb served on the USS Constitution, during the Revolutionary war. This rumor was quickly

However, Herb was on the USS Compton in WW2 when the ship was attacked by a Kamikaze and it was shot down with the Compton's first salvo.

proven unfounded.

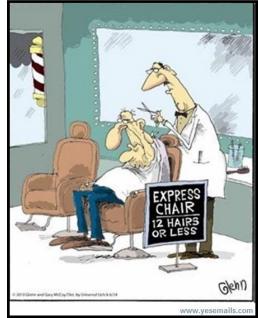
That is 96 year old Herb and Sandra out "cutting up the dance floor".

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

## **Internet Goodies**







When asked about what he thinks about General Mattis becoming Secretary of Defense, Rob O'Neill (the man who killed Bin Laden) said "General Mattis has a bear rug in his home, but it isn't dead; it's just afraid to move."





My wife made me add the above "toon"



Commander (USN ret) Jim Garman and Dotti



Michael and Linda Olson She took Mike's navy pictures and made a great album

## COMMON SENSE IS NOT A GIFT—IT IS A PUNISHMENT BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO DEAL WITH EVERYONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE IT.

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



Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave, Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep; Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee, For those in peril on the sea!



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





**Gary Thomas Marquart** passed 11/1/2016 in Fort Collins CO. Gary was born January 15, 1938. After graduation from high school, he joined the United States Navy and was assigned to the Compton as a Gunner's Mate which earned him the life long title of "Gunner".



**Richard "Dick" Volpicelli Sr.** passed 12/29/2016 in Lexington MA Dick served on the Compton in 1947. He was an active Compton Association member and attended the last reunion in the Massachusetts area with his son Dick Volpicelli Jr. A \$50.00 donation in his name will be made to "Tin Can Sailors".



**Frank "Chop" Caccioppoli** Bayside NY, passed on 01/19/2017. He was born on September 10, 1942. Chop served on the Compton as an SK3, 1961-1963. He and fellow Association member Grant Mauri were featured in the November 2015 as missing an air plane flight which then crashed. A \$50.00 donation in his memory will be made to TCS.



**David E. Wellman** passed February 20 2017 in Indian River, Michigan. Born June 23 1939. David joined the navy in 1961 and was assigned to the USS Compton as a Radioman on the 1962 Med Cruise. After his honorable discharge, David took advantage of the GI Bill and graduated from Michigan Technological University and joined the Michigan Forestry Service until his 1995 retirement.

**Ronald Eugene Quillen,** 67 years old passed, February 10 2017 in the Jacksonville Florida area. He is listed as serving on the Compton during the Vietnam era. There is no other information available.

**Cornelius Phalen,** 80 years old passed February 24, 2017 in Maple Park, IL. The only information is that he served on the Compton. Either rank, rate or time served is not available.