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**The Compton at war**



Commissioned November 4 1944  
Decommissioned—September 27 1972

“Of all the tools the Navy will employ to control the seas in any future war...the destroyer will be sure to be there. Its appearance may be altered and it may even be called another name, but no type--not even the carrier or the submarine--has such an assured place in future navies.”

— Adm. C.W. Nimitz, 1962



Paul Woodbury at Fleet Week, and the Commissioning of The USS Detroit LCS7  
It takes only 70 sailors to run this ship...

**USS Detroit (LCS 7)**

**Mission**

The Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) is a fast, agile, mission-focused platform designed for operation in near-shore environments yet capable of open-ocean operation. It is designed to defeat asymmetric “anti-access” threats such as mines, quiet diesel submarines and fast surface craft.

The USS Detroit, a Freedom variant LCS, is a steel monohull designed warship constructed by Lockheed Martin in the Fincantieri Marinette Marine Corporation’s shipyard in Marinette, Wisconsin. The ship is a modular, reconfigurable ship, designed to meet validated fleet requirements for Surface Warfare (SUW), Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), and Mine Countermeasures (MCM) missions in the littoral region. An interchangeable mission package is embarked on each LCS and provides the primary mission systems in one of these warfare areas. Using an open architecture design, modular weapons, sensor systems, and a variety of manned and unmanned vehicles to gain, sustain, and exploit littoral maritime supremacy, LCS provides U.S. joint force access to critical areas in multiple theaters.

**LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP**

**The “Compton Newsletter” is available in color—on our below WEB site Webmaster, Phil Prekel has posted 38 past newsletters from February 2009 to the present on our below listed Internet Website...**

**WEB SITE: [www.usscompton705.com](http://www.usscompton705.com)**



**A Blast from the Past—Branson Reunion 2008**  
 L-R, Bill and Charlotte Snead, Emile and Marilyn Duchemin,  
 John Cupp, John and Judy MacDougall, Elenore and Steve Bednarz



Leroy Thompson FN  
 (1960-63)  
 A formal picture



The same Leroy Thompson  
 In a more normal at home pose...



Michael and Carolyn Seymour  
 BT2 (1958-1962)



Dave and Marcia Wheat  
 RM3 (1954-55)

Dear Jack,

I can tell you what the COMPTON was doing on May 14, 1945. In the book LITTLE SHIP, BIG WAR, written by Commander Edward P. Stafford, telling the story of the ABERCROMBIE, (DE343) commissioned May 1, 1944, our ship was mentioned.

Page 257, “On the fourteenth, she (ABERCROMBIE) joined with the brand-new destroyer COMPTON (DD705) to escort the old battleship TEXAS (BB35) twenty-four hours steaming to the South. The three ships sailed from the Hagushi anchorage at noon. ABERCROMBIE reversed course at noon the next day and returned to Okinawa...”

The TEXAS was part of a bombardment group and later provided fire support on southeastern Hagushi, Okinawa. On May 14<sup>th</sup> she was pulled out and sent to Leyte in the Philippine Islands.

The COMPTON had been at Okinawa since April 20<sup>th</sup> providing gunfire support and anti-submarine patrols. It was on May 12<sup>th</sup> that the Compton shot down a Kamikaze attacking her. Ordered to escort the TEXAS to Leyte, she remained there for repairs until June 16<sup>th</sup>.

I have just a few more pages to finish the book. It is well written and very interesting. Even though it was a smaller ship than ours it a great read for anyone who has served on these ships. The day to day operational detail might be boring to someone without that experience but I found myself reliving my shipboard experience. The battle details are intense will appeal to anyone interested in WWII naval history.

All the best,



Ed Brimo, LtJg (1960-62)

## Tampa Reunion—2019

We had a very successful reunion in Charleston and now we are getting ready to hold our 2019 event in Tampa Florida. The Tampa reunion will be our 30<sup>th</sup> since we formed our Association in 1989.

The **Crowne Plaza Tampa-Westshore** will host our event. It is located at 5303 West Kennedy Blvd., in Tampa. The hotel phone number is (813) 287-1050, **reservations (877) 834-3613** for reservations use the Compton block code **UCA**.

The reunion will be a three-day event held on **Friday April 26, Saturday April 27 and Sunday April 28, 2019**. Our standard format will be used; registration on Friday, a tour on Saturday and our memorial service, general meeting and banquet on Sunday.

Our discounted group room rate will available three days prior and after the actual reunion. **The room rate is \$149 a night and breakfast is included each morning.**

Complimentary transportation will be provided to and from the airport and a 3-mile radius of the hotel. The phone number for the 24/7 shuttle service is **(813) 289-1950**.

The day long, group tour has not been set up at this time. Details will follow in our **October 2018 Compton Newsletter**.



L-R, Evelyn Haley, Carolyn and Doc Eames, Al Haley (Evelyn's Caddy), Nancy Capozziello



Bill and Joan Riha and Rose Napoli—Joe Napoli's in laws and special guests at the Charleston Reunion...



Birgit and Sigward Pohl—Special Compton Associates Who travel from Germany to the reunions and then tour the USA. There is no award for the longest travel distance to a reunion. The undisputed winners...



Christine and Mike Taylor I think they are dancing!!!

# U.S.S. COMPTON

## DD-705

Welcome all Crewmembers, Families and Guests

The new "welcome to our reunion" sign.  
 Donated by  
 Bob DiMonte  
 To be unveiled at the  
 Tampa 2019  
 Reunion



### USS Compton Windbreaker Jackets

The new Compton clothing items made a big hit at the reunion. We now offer another chance to order the custom made articles.

The jacket has our embroidered name and ship silhouette . Available in men's sizes XS thru 6XL .

The price will be **\$27.50**. Add \$3.00 for XXL and additional \$3.00 for 3XL+. Name on right breast: \$10 extra. Custom embroidery also available. Plus shipping.

### Embroidered USS Compton sweat shirts

Embroidered sweat shirts are available for only **\$20.00!** Add \$2.00 for each additional size over XL. Many colors available. Plus shipping.

### USS Compton Fleece Jackets

The blue jackets will have the USS Compton name and ship silhouette on the left breast as do the Windbreakers. Other colors also available.

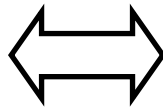
Full zipper front and two zippered pockets. Price for the Fleece jacket is **\$30.00** plus shipping. Add \$2.00 for each size over XL.



To order call **Jill Marks** during normal business hours Eastern Standard time

**201-533-8600**

Acme Emblem Corp.  
PO Box 7488  
Monroe Twp., NJ 08831



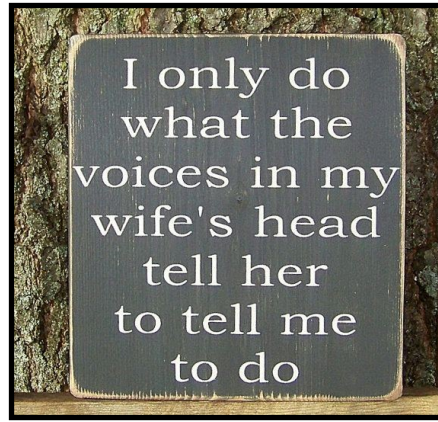
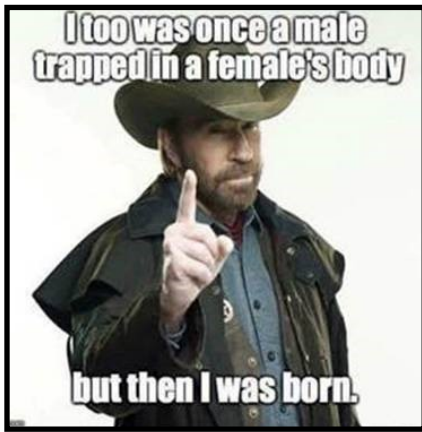
Susan and Joe Brielmann  
The real owners of "Joe's Car"!!!

Did you see Joe's new Ferrari ???  
Everyone thought Napoli hit the lottery.  
Turned out it belongs to Joe Brielmann, a Compton  
Association member and entrepreneur.



Compton Crew from the sixties

A man was granted two wishes by God.:  
He asked for the best drink and the best women, ever.  
A moment later he got mineral water and Mother Teresa



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**

**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 Donations—April 1 2018 to Jun 30 2018**

Michael Flynn, Dave Wheat, Ed Brimo, Raymond, Jack Henderson,  
Duane Linden, Bill “Doc” Eames and Steve Bednartz



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

**Obituaries: USS Compton DD705**



**Mark W Murphy Jr.** Age 74, passed February 26, 2018 in Hingham MA. Mark served on the USS Compton DD705 and the USS Yosemite AD 19. There is no additional information of his years of naval service, except the fact that he served seven years before his Honorable Discharge. His age indicates that he probably served during the early sixties.



**Norman P Ouimet.** Age 75, passed March 10, 2018 in the Barre area in Vermont. Norman also does not any listing of his rank/rating while serving on the USS Compton or the USS Leary DD879. He was Honorably Discharged from the navy in 1965. Norman worked for the Vermont Army National Guard until his retirement in 2002.



**Robert “Charlie” Somers—RD3,** Feb 1958 to August 1962 passed June 4 2018 in North Redington FL—He was born September 24 1941 in Westville NJ. Upon his retirement, Charlie was Chief Investigator for the Florida State Attorney General, 6th Judicial District in Pinella FL,. He wished to be buried in his new USS Compton jacket, which was rushed to him before his passing. As an Active Compton Association member—a donation will be made to TCS in his honor.