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The Compton at war



Commissioned November 4 1944  
Decommissioned—September 27 1972

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All Newsletter, pictures and  
articles should be sent to:

Jack Heidecker  
“Compton Newsletter”

Welcome Compton members to Tampa Florida



Congratulations  
Bob DiMonte EM1—7/71-10/72  
President-USS Compton DD705  
Association

Fellow Shipmates,

I have decided to resign the Presidency of the USS Compton DD705. My health is fairly stable and I fully intend to keep publishing the “Compton Newsletter”.

I am doing this to help insure the viability of the Compton Organization for the next (as many) years possible. To do this, I recommend active member, Robert DiMonte, a current officer of our organization, to relieve me as president.

Bob is from the final years of the Compton’s existence and in our younger group of members. However, age is not the only factor. Bob is also a very active member of the USS Lexington CV 16, serving as a Past President, a reunion planner and counsel to its current leadership.

Jack Heidecker –USS Compton DD705

Reunion update: Mr DiMonte has indeed been elected President of the USS Compton DD705

The “Compton Newsletter” is available in color—on our below WEB site  
Webmaster, Phil Prekel has posted 41 past newsletters from February 2009  
to the present on our below listed Internet Website...

# Tampa reunion review

Another reunion has come and gone. We had a great time in Tampa, the hotel was nice, and the weather was fantastic. We used our usual format; Registration on Friday, tour on Saturday and meeting, memorial service and banquet on Sunday.

The highlight of the reunion was our barbeque lunch at Joe Brielmans. We enjoyed fine food while sitting amongst Joe's car collection. I am sure we will have pictures of the barbeque in future issues of the newsletter. Joe and Susan also gave shipmates custom made USS Compton Christmas ornaments, as reunion mementoes.

Shipmate Dal Trader, who could not attend the reunion, provided three USS Compton windbreakers to be given away at the event. We have a picture of Herb Sellers wearing his jacket, with a big smile on his face, to publish in our newsletter. The other two jackets were given to Bob DiMonte and Jerry Sample in recognition of their work at the reunion.

Shipmate Tony Zagame, although unable to attend, sent some \$50 gift certificates, to a nice Italian restaurant, to be distributed to his crew and others.

It appeared that everyone enjoyed the reunion despite its low attendance. We had a total of 53 people attending with about 40 taking the tour and 40 at the banquet. We normally have around 100 people attending our reunions. The low attendance caused the Compton Association to subsidize the cost of the banquet. With only 40 paying for the meal we could not meet the \$3000 (tax and service charge extra) food and beverage requirement. The Association had to pay for a cocktail hour and open bar to meet our obligations.

Due to the low response to the Tampa event we had to cancel a contract for a 2020 reunion location because we were not sure we could meet the contract requirements. We are going to an alternate site that offered a better contract.

The 2020 reunion info will be in a separate "Compton Newsletter" article.

Joe Napoli

Joe Napoli also gave the Treasurers report noting this would not be the usual financial picture. Monies were expended due to a corporate issue. He reported that as a result of this process the Association will change its status to tax exempt "Veterans" group 503 (C) 19. Donations to the Association will then be deductible on federal returns.

Further impacting the Association's finances was the low turnout for this reunion. He explained that when the reunion is booked certain guarantees, in the form of attendance, the "attrition clause", are given to the hotels in order to get the free benefits needed to have for the reunion. The minimums were not met it was necessary for the Association to subsidize the reunion in order to provide the usual levels of space and activity.

The Navy's next generation destroyer, the future **USS Michael Monsoor (DDG 1001)**, successfully completed acceptance. (U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Bath Iron Works)

The second of three Zumwalt-class so-called stealth [destroyers](#) built at Bath Iron Works will be commissioned Saturday in its homeport of San Diego. The **DDG 1001, USS Michael Monsoor**, will be commissioned at 10 a.m. at Naval Air Station North Island, according to a release from the [Navy](#). Monsoor's mother, Sally Monsoor, will serve as the ship's sponsor.

The ship honors Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Monsoor, a [Navy SEAL](#) who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions in Ramadi, Iraq, on Sept. 29, 2006. Monsoor threw himself onto a grenade to protect nearby members of his unit and others. His actions saved three fellow SEALs and eight Iraqi soldiers, U.S. Sen. Susan Collins said at the destroyer's christening in 2016. Monsoor was "a consummate professional who faced terrorist enemies with aplomb and stoicism," former Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter said at the ship's 2008 naming ceremony.

The DDG 1001 departed Bath for the final time Nov. 9. It completed acceptance trials in February and the Navy took partial delivery in April. In July, the destroyer's turbine blades were damaged during acceptance trials, and it returned to BIW ahead of schedule for repairs. The DDG 1001 also had problems with the electrical system during sea trials in December 2017, when it returned to the Bath shipyard one day after departing. It resumed sea trials after repairs.

The future USS Michael Monsoor, at 16,000 tons, is 610 feet long with a beam of 87 feet and a navigational draft of 27 feet, according to the Navy. It is powered by two Rolls Royce main turbine generators, two Rolls Royce auxiliary turbine generators and two 34.6 MW advanced induction motors to speeds of more than 30 knots.

The DDG 1002, the USS Lyndon B. Johnson, was launched in December 2018 at BIW. The third of the Zumwalt line, the ship is scheduled to be christened this spring.

The Navy decided to build only three so-called stealth Zumwalt-class destroyers amid concerns about elevated construction cost estimates.





**Lady Veterans—Maimed in service to our country...  
God bless these beautiful ladies.**

FYI: In 2016, women had the equal right to choose any military occupational specialty such as ground units that *were* not authorized before. On January 24, 2013, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta removed the military's ban on women serving *in combat*. Implementation of these rules is ongoing.

**FYI: USS Laffey DD724**, info received from Compton Association member Boyd Crannell. Mel Gibson—actor/director is making a movie on the tribulations of the Laffey suffering their 90 minutes of Hell from it's brutal suicide attacks in WW2.



A fabulous B-B-Q sponsored by Association members, Joe and Susan Brielmann—at their special car collection (hard to call it a) garage. Picture on the right is Susan working on Christmas gifts and all the others supervising the work.



Bill Judge (L) and Dan Turckly  
How could we get them out for a quick spin  
without anyone noticing



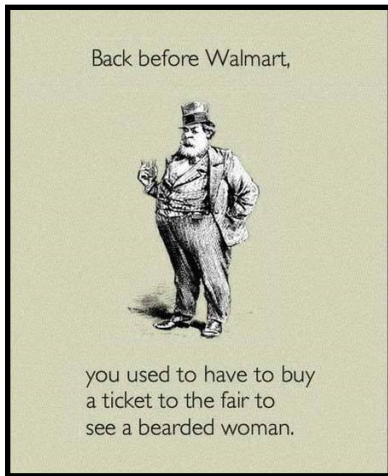
In the above picture—Susan Brielmann  
is decorating the Christmas Tree  
Ornament that they presented to the  
Tampa Bay reunion attendees

# Internet Goodies



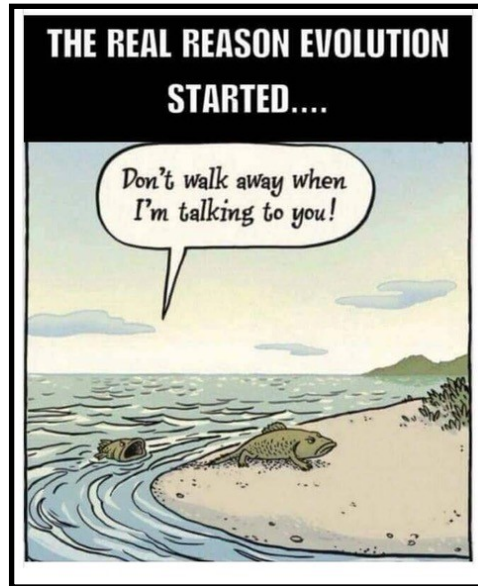
Some days I amaze myself.

Other days, I look for my phone while I'm holding it.



NEVER MAKE A WOMAN MAD. THEY CAN REMEMBER STUFF THAT HASN'T EVEN HAPPENED YET.

SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM



**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...

**Notice of special medical interest to Compton Shipmates**

Shipmate Arthur F. Schwab, BT2 1954-58, recently passed away due to exposure to Asbestos. Arthur's son, Eric, recently contacted us and requested that we publish a notice in our newsletter. The family would appreciate it if anyone who served with Arthur on the Compton and knows of what his job consisted of, or the area he worked in, please contact Eric.

We have had several requests of this nature published in our newsletter in the past.

**Eric Schwab:** phone: 732-773-1937 email: [kd2jul@gmail.com](mailto:kd2jul@gmail.com)

**Compton Donations—January 1, 2019 to May 1, 2019**

Frederick Brown, Dal Trader, Karl Streissguth, Jack O'Neil, John Phelps, Daniel Turcklay (in honor of his father), Mike Heider, Dave Wheat and those who wish to remain anonymous.



Ron Hubner getting dancing tip from instructor Herb Sellers and the Compton's dance king. Herb looking spiffy in his new Compton jacket.



Hap and Diane Nehring  
These nice people treated us so very nice. If we have to buy something—we'll take this red one.  
Editor: if you check on line—it is red!!!

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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570 450-5545

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



***Obituaries: USS Compton DD705***



**B R Perry, Fireman First Class** from Rome Georgia passed away at the age of 92 years, on March 10, 2019. He was born in Etowah TN on September 5, 1926. Mr. Perry served on the USS Compton during World War 2 and also on the USS English DD696. He was a member of the Pisgah Baptist Church and in his civilian life as a Train Conductor for the Northern Southern Railroad.

The good thing to report is the low number of obituaries in this newsletter. If you know of any fellow Compton sailors, members or not, who you believe to have passed—even if you are unsure of that fact. Send me a note or email. I can easily check or confirm that information—on line.

Jack Heidecker

**Sick Bay**

Hi Joe , wanted to let you know about John (Cupp's) condition . Unfortunately, we are unable to bring him to the reunion this year , due to his deteriorating health issues . John has been admitted to a memory care unit for Alzheimer's . We visited him at the nursing home this past Saturday ,and he knew who we were . The first thing he asked me, was, Do you have your bags packed for our trip to Florida.

O Trinity of love and power!  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Prayer from the  
"Navy Hymn"

Dedicated to all  
Compton Sailors  
who are in need  
of help from the  
Supreme  
Admiral!!!