


Commissioned November 4 1944
Decommissioned—September 27 1972

The Compton at war

USS Compton Organization

Bob DiMonte - President
1048 Meadson Ave
Pensacola FL 32506
850 492-3483
bobdimo@cox.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
505 266-2707
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
973 598-5897
philipprekel@optimum.net

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

Jack Heidecker -Newsletter
54 Mt Top Court,
Hazle Township PA 18202
570 450-5545
Jack555@ptd.net

All Newsletter, pictures and
articles should be sent to:

Jack Heidecker
"Compton Newsletter"

COMPTON CORNER

Another year has come and gone, and we can look at 2019 in the rear view mirror. Winter has its grips on us, but Spring is right around the corner, with that, We all have something to look forward too, the Saratoga Springs reunion, will be a fun filled reunion, with lots to see and do.

We will be trying something different at our Banquet this year; we have hired not only a DJ but a Karaoke master. We will find out if Compton has talent. Now is the time to get those voices in tune. It should be fun.

Our tour promises to be a trip back in time, we will walk the same steps that our colonial brothers and sisters walked, fought, and defeated the British in the first major victory of the fight for Independence. The lunch cruise on the historic Hudson River will be a wonderful experience. It's time to write those checks, fill out the registration forms and make your hotel reservations. You do not want to miss this reunion.

At our business meeting, we will discuss and vote on our 2021 reunion site and we will have Officer Nominations and elections. If anyone would consider running for any Officers chair, please let us know

Our association has experienced its ups and downs, and due to hard work and diligence, we have come back strong. A huge thank you to Joe Napoli in putting our finances in order, Joe for the association and its members, THANK YOU. May God bless you and bless those that still wear the uniform of this great Nation.

Fraternally,



Bob DiMonte

The "Compton Newsletter" is available in color—on our below WEB site Webmaster, Phil Prekel has posted 43 past newsletters from February 2009 to the present on our below listed Internet Website...



USS Langley CV1 was the United States Navy's first aircraft carrier, converted in 1920 from the Collier USS Jupiter (Collier3— a bulk coal carrier) and also the US Navy's first turbo-electric powered ship. **Length:** 542feet.
Aircraft carried: : None (as Jupiter); 36 (as Langley); the Langley was disabled by the Japanese in February 1942 and then scuttled to prevent her capture.



USS Lexington CV2 was the 2nd ship designated as an aircraft carrier. Commissioned in Quincy, Massachusetts in December 1927. The "Blue Ghost" was sunk during the Battle of the Coral Sea, by a Japanese submarine. A new Lexington CV16 (Essex Class) was commissioned in February 1943 and served our country until her decommissioning and is now a National Historical Site in Corpus Christi, Texas. Note (current Compton Association President, Bob Dimonte served on "The Lady Lex" and is a Past President of their association).



USS Saratoga CV3 was the first aircraft carrier designed and built as an aircraft carrier.(conceived as a battle cruiser but, designed as a carrier to comply with the Washington Naval Treaty of 1922). **Length:** 888', **Construction started:** September 25, 1920 **Launched:** April 7, 1925. The Saratoga saw extensive action during WW2. Damaged during Atomic Bomb testing she sunk and was stricken from the records on 26 August 1946.

"OPPORTUNITY LOST"

How many sailors who left, after four,
Soon wished, after leaving, they'd stayed in for more?

I'm certainly one who is guilty of that;
I put on my civvies, threw out my White Hat.

Hindsight, they say, is much better than fore,
Oh, how I wish I had stayed in for more.

I knew I had problems when one gloomy day,
The Navy just laughed and said please go away.

They said I'm "too old" so they won't let me in,
Alas, alas, my future looked dim.

Dejected, rejected and feeling real bad,
An old shipmate found me and man I am glad.

He said come to Portland in May and you'll see,
Old Compton Shipmates and good times there'll be.

And now, save for illness, I go every year:
The good times and Shipmates, I hold very dear.

Charles Gray MM3, USS Compton DD705 (1959-1962)

2020 Annual Reunion Form: Saratoga, NY

Member's Name _____
Spouse/guest _____
Rank/Rate _____ Years aboard _____ to _____

Please enter above info as you would want it on your name tag.

Number in Party _____ (Print additional names on rear of form if necessary.)

Meal Selection: Filet Mignon ___ Chicken Breast ___ Halibut ___

(@ \$65 per person)

Number taking tour _____ (@\$90 per person)

Total Amount enclosed _____

**Mail form and check to: USS Compton Assn., PO Box 6621,
Monroe Twp., NJ, 08831-6621.**

Reunion Agenda—April 27-30 2020

Monday	1200	Hospitality room opens	Big Red & Peerless Rooms
Tuesday	0815	Meet in the Lobby	
		830 Bus departs for Saratoga Battlefield and tour	
	TBD	Hospitality room opens after tour	
Wednesday	0900	Hospitality room opens	Big Red & Peerless Rms
	1000	Business meeting	State Seal Ballroom
	7PM	6-7PM—Cocktail Hr	Skidmore room
			Complementary bar until 730PM, then cash bar
	730PM	Banquet	Grand Ballroom Music and Dancing
Thursday		Breakfast and then depart for home	

Embassy Suites by Hilton

86 Congress Street., Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

518-290-9090

USS Compton Rates: \$134.00 per night—includes breakfast
Rate also applies—one day pre and post reunion)



Benedict Arnold—American Hero—Something is wrong. The name Benedict Arnold is synonymous in American history is the word “traitor”. However, his many contributions to American Independence before becoming a turncoat are largely forgotten. Arnold established himself as one of General Washington’s best generals. He captured Fort Ticonderoga for the Patriots and was a leading victorious general in the battle of Saratoga while also being wounded during the Saratoga battles. Congress passed over him for promotion to Major General five times which lead to his ultimate traitorous action.



Betsy Ross was a true feminist of her time. She was a Quaker (she didn't own slaves). She married a man her family disapproved of. So they disowned her. She learned a trade. Upholstery. She and her husband opened a store. Then war broke out and her husband left to fight for the colonies. He died in battle. She kept the store running by making regimental flags for the war effort. She married again. This time to a man who was fighting the British by sea? He also died. She kept sewing and running the store. Her home was taken over by the British when they occupied Philadelphia. She was a patriot. She lost two husbands to the war and at that time in history she learned a trade and was able to take care of herself and her children. So that flag represents the birth of our country and in the case of Ross, early feminism!! She's a female icon!!



George Washington—The real hero of the American Revolution. (1732-99) was commander in chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War (1775-83) and served two terms as the first U.S. president, from 1789 to 1797. ... During the American Revolution, he led the colonial forces to victory over the British and became a national hero. We must remember that Washington had mostly unpaid volunteers and limited backing from a Congress, who made worthless promises. That is why he is considered such a great leader, who did not win all the battles, but, won the war through brilliant tactics with subordinates who were excellent leaders of their volunteer soldiers.

ALL MEN LIKE TO THINK THEY ARE MARRYING NYMPHOMANIACS. THE PROBLEM IS THAT AFTER A FEW YEARS, THE NYMPHO LEAVES AND THE MANIAC STAYS

Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases. If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it. -- Ronald Reagan (1986)

2020 Annual Reunion Form; Saratoga, NY

Member's Name _____
Spouse/guest _____
Rank/Rate _____ Years aboard _____ to _____

Please enter above info as you would want it on your name tag.

Number in Party _____ (Print additional names on rear of form if necessary.)
Meal Selection: Beef _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____
(@ \$65 per person)
Number taking tour _____ (@\$90 per person)

Total Amount enclosed _____

**Mail form and check to: USS Compton Assn., PO Box 6621,
Monroe Twp., NJ, 08831-6621.**

Embassy Suites by Hilton
86 Congress Street., Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

518-290-9090

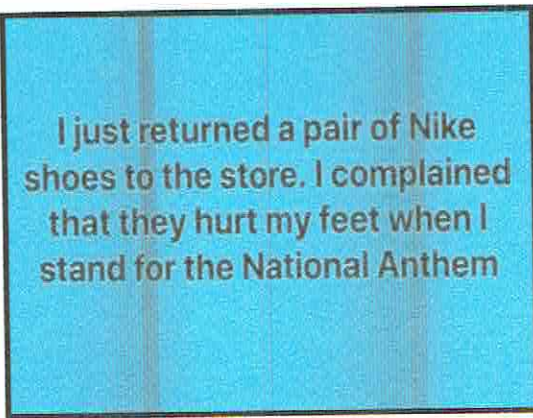
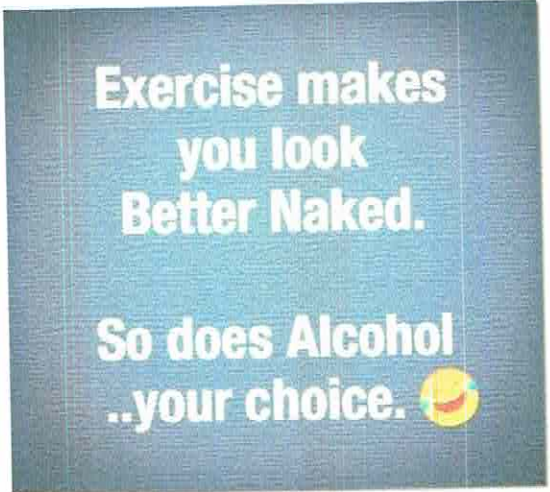
Rates: \$134.00 per night
(Special USS Compton Association)
(rates also—one day pre and post reunion)

Complimentary inclusions:

Cooked to order breakfast
Evening cocktail reception
High speed and wireless internet
Spacious suites with luxury amenities

Reservations: cutoff date, March 25, 2020

Internet Goodies



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...

501 (c) (19) Veteran's Tax-Exempt Organization

The USS Compton Association is now recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under section 501 (C) (19) as a **tax-exempt Veteran's organization.** Donations to war veterans' organizations are deductible as charitable contributions on the donor's federal income tax return. Consult your tax advisor for additional information.



Frank Milanese—The perfect picture of a Compton sailor on the prow. Beer in the right hand, cigarette in the left hand, wallet tucked behind the belt and legs apart—the true sign of a tin can sailor on the choppy seas.

Did you know that many top USA restaurants offer senior discounts? Here are the best senior discounts at some of your favorite restaurants!

McDonald's: discounts on coffee and beverages (55+)

Applebees: 10% discount

Burger King: 10% discount and discounts on drink items

Chick-fil-A: 20% off during breakfast hours and 10% off during lunch/dinner hours

Denny's: senior menu with discounted prices

IHOP: senior menu as well as 10% off

Sonic: 10% discount

Golden Corral: discounted menu prices for 60 and over

Subway: 10% discount

Wendy's: free drink (or 10% at some locations)

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

Compton Donations—October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019
 Robert Johnson, Frederick Gilbertson, Paul Meyer, Al Haley,
 Daniel Greenless, Jack O'Neill



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

Obituaries: USS Compton DD705



Herbert "Ron" Moody, SFP3, 1961-1963 passed on October 25, 2019, in Church Road, VA. Ron spend a lot of his time locating former Compton sailors and 'in essence' was the chief recruiter for the Compton Association. He loved being a Compton veteran and attended most Compton reunions with his wife of 50 years, Rosa. As a active Association member a donation in his honor was made to the "Tin Can Sailors". Rest in Peace—Ronnie!!!



William "Bill" Robertson, YN3 1949-50, passed October 21, 2018, at 91 years of age, in Perry, Iowa. Bill was buried with military honors. He joined the US Navy in 1944 and served our country for 22 active years until his retirement. He was a former commander of his VFW and a member of the American Legion. A donation in his honor was made to "Tin Can Sailors".



Donald J Kieffer, Ltjg, 1959-60, Supply Officer, passed October 13, 2019, at 83 years of age in Bernardsville, New Jersey. Don is listed as being on the early sixties Med Cruise. He loved the ocean and spend many a summer, near the sea, in Brick Township, NJ. We were notified of his passing from his son, Don Kieffer, Jr. who has sent to the Compton Association some of his father's memorabilia from his Compton's service time.



James (Murray) Williams, RM2, WW2, passed December 8, 2019 in Bay Village, Ohio. Jim was born June 22, 1925 and was 94 years of age. During the war he was stationed in Sidney, Australia and also on the USS Compton. Jim was an active member of the Compton Association and a donation in his honor will be made to "Tin Can Sailors".

He was getting and paunchy
 And his hair was falling fast,
 And he sat around the Legion,
 Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in
 And the deeds that he had done,
 In his exploits with his buddies;
 They were heroes, every one.

He won't be mourned by many,
 Just his children and his wife.
 For he lived an ordinary,
 Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
 Going quietly on his way;
 And the world won't note his passing,
 'Tho a Veteran died today.