

The 820 Newsletter

World Wide Web Edition



Volume 2, Number 1

February 1995

SHIP'S OFFICE

1995 Reunion. The planning for your annual reunion at Moncks Corner steams ahead. Dates: April 20-22, Berkeley Motel, Moncks Corner, SC 29461, located at the intersection of highways 52 & 17A, north of Charleston, SC. Phone 803 899-7194. Enclosed with this newsletter are a Reunion & Association Registration Form and a Personal Information Sheet. The Reunion & Association Registration form we need if you plan to come to Moncks Corner. The information you provide us will assist in planning the activities associated with the reunion. It won't get you on the mess cooks roster. On the back of that sheet you will find a registration form for all you duffers who want to play golf in our First Annual Golf Open that will take place on Friday. You might even get a chance to tee up with "Lucky Shaw." See more on the "Lucky" handle later in this newsletter. Also included with this month's materials is a Personal Information Sheet we would like you to return with your Association donation, even if you don't plan on coming to the reunion. The information you provide the 820 Newsletter, and this is purely an optional thing, will help us in putting together our rosters and news items. Hoot has gone all out to hose a great reunion this spring and we hope to see you there.

Ship's Roster. We are sending All Hands a current roster of those RICH shipmates we have on our latest mailing list, the number now stands at 212. There is no doubt some error on the roster consisting of bits of missing or incorrect information. We hope by your returning the Personal Information Sheet, included in this issue of the newsletter, to the editor we can update the data base so that it will represent an accurate source of information for you in contacting old shipmates or new friends who share the common bond of having served on the 820. You will see some check marks on the roster. These checks highlight the names of those sailors who have indicated they plan to attend the reunion at Moncks Corner.

SHIP'S LOG

In the Ship's Log we will include items of historical interest to all hands. Any history items are welcome... perhaps all of what we as former crew members relate to best is the history of our RICH. All is not past however and we have lots to look forward to in the coming years with renewed associations with old as well as new 820 shipmates. The Navy Department has published a series of volumes that deal with the histories of all the vessels that have served in the USN. Two RICHs, the 695 and 820 are listed. In serial fashion I will include in our newsletter the entire account of the 820's history with the first installment in this issue. Future segments will follow with the length being determined by the materials we need to get into each issue. So here goes:

Our ship's characteristics: DD-820, DDE-820. Displacement 2,425 tons, length 390'10", breadth, amidships 41', draft 18'6", speed 35 knots, complement 350, armament (as built) 6-5"/38, 12-40 mm, 6 depth charge projectors, 2 depth charge tracts, 100-21" torpedo tubes, class: Gearing DD-710. We all know these characteristics changed over her working life with major changes early on being the removal of Mt. 52 and its replacement with a trainable hedgehog mount, removal of the torpedo tubes, one depth charge rack, and the FRAM conversion. Lets begin with the first part of the ship's history" "The second RICH (DD-820) was laid down on 16 May, 1944 by the Consolidated Steel Corp., Orange, Tex; launched 5 October 1945; sponsored by Mrs. Ralph McMaster Rich; and commissioned on 3 July 1946, (a Saturday) Comdr. R.C. Houston in command. After shakedown in the Caribbean, RICH departed Norfolk in late October for a Mediterranean tour, most of which, December 1946 to March 1947, was spent on patrol in the Atlantic. Returning to the United States in March she was converted to a specialized antisubmarine ship at the New York Naval Shipyard and, in the fall, she resumed operations with the 2nd Fleet (to be continued)

Aboard at her commissioning was Ulysses Best (Now BTC USN Retired). Chief Best kept a log the whole time he was aboard from July 2, 1946 till February 10, 1950. We will include a portion of the Chief's log in our newsletters--- many thanks Chief Best for sharing these recollections with us.

July	2	Moved aboard	11	Went into dry-dock
	3	USS Rich in commission, Orange Texas 1300	13	Had Captain's inspection @ 1800
	4	Turn to Had line drills, Holiday	23	Captain's inspection of ship
			24	Came out of dry dock

	Routine Afternoon	27	Underway @ 0820 went to Texas City
5	1030 Drills to 1300. Dock Trials		to fuel, 1500 Underway
6	Turn to. Fueled	31	Took on ammo 20 miles from New Orleans
7	Received Tools, Turn to		
10	Underway @ 0700 from Orange		
	arrived Galveston, Texas @ 1800		

PAYDAY!

The headlines in the Denville, N.J. Daily Times, read: "Cops hit \$27M lottery target" and the caption under the accompanying photo proclaims "Denville Police Chief Howard Shaw holds winning \$27million N.J. Lottery ticket that will be split among 16 officers and two workers." Yup, that's the RICH's own Howard C. Shaw (RD2 1954-56) . The guy finally made Chief and learned to swing a golf club. Luck of the Irish I guess. (See the RICH golf tournament announcement attached for the shipmate in charge of this evolution). The 16 winners' police officers, a dispatcher and record keeper will split \$27.1 million they won in a Pick-6 jackpot. Each winner, the Daily Times reports, will receive about \$1 million after taxes in 20 annual installments of about \$54,000. Way to go Howard. Anybody for a trip to the Acey-Ducey Club?

SKIPPERS OF THE RICH

Can you recall who your commanding officer was? Your leading Chief? No doubt you had more than one. The 820 Newsletter editor served under three Cos. We would like to put together a chronological listing of the RICHs Commanding Officers and we need your help. Why not drop us a line or include this information with your yearly donation to the Newsletter. If possible, we would like to have the CO's full name, rank, and the years he captained the RICH.

OBITUARIES

From time to time we lean of the passing of a member of the crew and we would like to include the names of those deceased shipmates for everyone's information. If you wish to notify us of those who have passed on please include their full name, rank or rate, and dates of service on the RICH if you know it.

PASS THE WORD.

"AOL" or just "A?" We all know the terms AOL and AWOL and they usually were associated with a trip up to see the XO-hopefully not the Captain-and all the entanglements with the UCMH that entailed (Rocks and Shoals for you older guys). The 820 Newsletter is receiving notices of "Return to Sender," and not the Elvis kind; mail undelivered by the U.S. Postal Service. Some shipmates are not absent "A" and we would like to find them again. Perhaps our mailing list is in error and you might know the whereabouts of these guys. If you do, drop us a line so we can get them back before the SPs start scouring the beach. To date we are missing: Jim Brown, RR1 Box 69-A, Pleasantville, IA 50225; Arthur Burgess, 4795 Pear Road, Cleveland, OH 44109, and John Richmond, 21 N. Georgia Ave., Atlantic City, NJ 08401. These addresses are the last we have.

FROM THE MESS DECK

Over the years the editor has run across and collected some "Navy" recipes that you might find tasty- even if you didn't the first few hundred times around. Here is one you can try out: "U.S. Navy Recipe for Minced Beef on Toast (Not to be confused with chipped beef or creamed beef on toast); First of all, there are 3 basic steps in making Minced Beef on Toast. This is an ideal meal for not only breakfast but also for lunch or dinner. The following will serve 5 to 6. Step One: One and one-half pounds of ground beef (hamburger), fresh chopped onion (3 oz.), wheat flour or regular Gold Medal Flour (2 oz.), Step Two: One 15 oz. Can of tomatoes (not peeled), whole tomatoes are best, mace or ground nut (?this could be nutmeg) one tenth of an ounce, ½ teaspoon of salt, 1/6 teaspoon of pepper (only the Navy would use and have a stock number for; Spoon, Galley, Steel, Stainless, Measuring, 1/6th!, 3 ¼ oz of water. Step Three: (1) Saute the ground beef with the onions, (2) Sprinkle flour over beef and continue to cook until flour is absorbed, (3) Add tomatoes, spice, and water and stir well to mix. Simmer for about 10-15 minutes, (4) Serve on cold toast (what other way did toast come?), do not butter the toast as it kills the flavor." MESS CALL! Maybe some of the rest of you have genuine USN recipes--- send'em to the Chief Stewburner in care of the editor.

FROM THE ENGINEERING OFFICE

Again we have the Chief Best to thank for the following information about the RICH that we present in a Question and Answer format.

Q. How many frames does the ship have and what is their spacing?

A. 210 frames spaced 18" apart.

Q. What is the bridge height of eye from the waterline?

A. 29" 1 5/8" (Information vital to taking sextant shots)

Q. What is the distance to the horizon from this bridge height?

A. 6.2 nautical miles (Dutton's Navigation & Naut. Astronomy)



Transcription courtesy of Pamela Compher

If you do not plan on coming to the reunion:

We would like you to update/correct the association's membership address list and data base and would appreciate a minimum annual dues donation (\$5 or more would be fine) to support mailing the newsletter to you four-times per year. Please fill in the enclosed personal information sheet (you don't have to complete the optional portion if you don't wish) and return it with you check made out to USS Rich Reunion, Editor, The 820 Newsletter, 432 Irvin Ave. State College, PA 16801.

If you do plan on coming to the reunion:

Please fill in the information below and also return the short personal information sheet (you don't have to complete the option portion if you don't wish to) with your check made out to: USS Rich Reunion. We will assemble all the personal information sheets in a notebook for the reunion. Return these sheets and check to E.R. Gibson, P. O. Box 506, Pinopolis, SC 29469. We will need this information by April 1, 1995. Be sure to make your motel reservations as soon as possible. The Berkley Motel, Moncks Corner, SC 29461, Phone: 803 761-8400

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name: _____

Name of Wife or Guests accompanying you _____

I will be attending the banquet and the total number in my party will be _____ @ \$14.50 per person.

I am enclosing \$10 for the reunion registration fee and to support my annual dues for The 820 Newsletter.

Total Enclosed _____

I am interested in purchasing the following item (we hope to have all of these available at the reunion)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ____ Zippo lighter with RICH emblem | ____ USS RICH T-SHIRT (Indicate Size _____) |
| ____ Hunter-Killer Patch | ____ USS RICH Coffee Mug |
| ____ USS RICH cap | |

I will be bringing an item for a raffle drawing at the reunion _____

I will be staying at _____