

The 820 Newsletter

World Wide Web Edition



Volume 2, Number 3

August 1995

SHIP'S OFFICE

SHIP'S FUND We need the help of all hands now! From the inception of the RICH's reunion organization we have run on donated funds. Thus we are totally dependent on the generosity and interest of all the shipmates we list on our roster. That figure stands at around 245 not counting those fellas with whom we have lost contact. According to our records only 19 shipmates, that about 7% of those who have indicated and interest in what we are attempting, have donated any funds to keeping the organization up and running. We just can't continue our efforts if you (All Hands) don't pitch in with your donations. We are not asking for large amounts either. George Kilmer provided the following accounting of our funds (as of 8/13/95). As you can see we are not in "fat city."

Total Funds Received		\$602.10
	a. Balance from '95 reunion	302.19
	b. Donation to 820 Newsletter	270.00
	c. Advance Payment on '96 Reunion	30.00
Total Expenses to 8/13/95		\$157.40
	a. Vol 2 No 2 820 Newsletter	141.95
	b. Military Reunion Handbook	15.45
Balance		\$444.79

What can you do? Write a check today, \$10 would be great, but any amount you wish to donate to "USS RICH Reunion/820 Newsletter" and mail it to our treasurer, George Kilmer, 311 Evans Run Drive, Martinsburg, WV 2501. George asks that you don't make the check out to him but to our association.

REUNION PLANNING 1996

Four shipmates under the leadership Joe Saunders, our reunion chairman, met in Hagerstown, MD on August 13, 1995 to discuss the upcoming '96 reunion. Those attending this initial planning session were Bob Baldwin, George Kilmer and John "Smitty" Smith. The group gathered in the Holiday Inn, Hagerstown where the 1996 reunion will be held Thursday, April 25th through Sunday, the 28th. The facilities are fine for a reunion our size and best of all, the price is right. Rooms, doubles or singles are \$40. The cost of the banquet is estimated to be between \$13-\$15 per person. Hagerstown, located in western Maryland, is readily accessible from all points, and is near the intersection of US I-81 and I-270.

As the planning goes forward we will provide you with full details but at this point we would like to get your opinion on what activities you would like to see take place at the reunion. Briefly this is what we are considering:

A hospitality room in the Holiday Inn where we can all gather and shoot the bull.
A formal "Association Meeting" to adopt a constitution and elect officers (More on this later). We plan to hold this meeting on April 24th.
A golf tournament, there are several good golf courses nearby.
A banquet on Saturday night.
Several trips to nearby points of interest. We need your comments on these excursions because we must begin nailing down bus transportation as soon as possible to ensure that group transportation at reasonable rates will be available to us. In each instance the actual cost of the bus trip will be dependent on the number of guys (and wives or significant others if they wish to come along) making the trip. The suggestions are:

An all-day trip to Annapolis and Baltimore's Inner Harbor. There is lots to see and do in historic old town Annapolis, Maryland's capitol as well as a tour of the U.S. Naval Academy. The sights and shopping in the Baltimore Inner Harbor, a short trip from Annapolis, include the Maritime Museum, the National Aquarium, Harborplace and a great selection of restored and preserved ships including a sailing ship, Liberty Ship, submarine, Coast Guard Cutter and lightship.

A half-day or more tour to nearby Antietam Battlefield. "The Bloodiest Day of the Civil War. The Battle of Antietam (or Sharpsburg) on September 17, 1862, climaxed the first of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's two attempts to carry the war into the North." In killed and wounded Federal losses were 12,410, while Confederate losses stood at 10,700. The battlefield is administered by the National Park Service and is located about 15 miles southwest from Hagerstown. Nearby, and about 10 miles southeast of Antietam, is another very interesting national historic site at Harpers Ferry where John Brown arguable set the nation on its final course to civil war.

Ladies Trip to the Outlets. We will plan a trip for the ladies to the Blue Ridge Outlet Centers of Martinsburg, WV that is located about 20 miles from Hagerstown. There are additional sigh seeing and interesting activities in the Hagerstown area that will be available for the ladies.

Gettysburg Battlefield. A full-day trip would be required to visit the center of the pivotal three-day battle of Gettysburg, PA. This national battlefield park is located to the north of Hagerstown about 40 miles. Here during July 2-5, 1963, the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia under Robert E. Lee met a Federal Army led by George G. Meade in one of the epic, bloody battles of the civil war. If there is enough interest in this day trip we may be able to enlist representatives of the USMC reserve to conduct our tour as they do for their Marine Corps staff who study this battle.

Since the first day of our reunion, Thursday the 25th, is generally arrival day and the day (or evening) we have reserved to schedule our important organizational meeting we have reserved Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th as our prospective field trip dates. Anything planned for Saturday we have us returning to Hagerstown in plenty of time to get ready for the Saturday night banquet. We would like to find out which two or the three possible trips, Annapolis/Baltimore, Antietam or Gettysburg, you would prefer to make. There are tow other important issues contained in this newsletter on which we are asking for your comments. Please respond to these questions as soon as possible. In the same letter why not include your donation to the Association?

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Why do we need a Constitution and Bylaws? There are several good reasons organizational and legal for adopting this document. From the organizational standpoint a constitution sets out clearly what our organization is all about. It provides the formal reason for our being and charts for us, on a communal consensus basis, the direction our group wishes to take. The document sets our organizational objectives, provides for the qualifiers of membership, sets the dues, described the association's officers and duties and sets out the several other house-keeping procedures necessary for the conduct of our group's business. From the legal standpoint a formalized constitution and bylaws protects the principal officers and their personal assets which they are working for the organization. It also allows the organization certain tax and postal breaks. We will be able to qualify for a bulk mailing rate that can reduce our mailing costs (postage rate) by more than two-thirds. In now costs us \$80 postage to mail just one issue of the 820 Newsletter and of course there are four issues a year. The enclosed draft Constitution and Bylaws, modeled after those of the USS TACONIC AGC-17, is included for your inspection and comment. Thanks go to all those who worked on this draft document and especially to Dick Arey (CO, USS RICH 1954-56) for his valuable comment and thoughtful criticism. Send your comments to Editor, The 820 Newsletter, 432 E. Irvin Ave., State College, PA 16801. We will then prepare a second draft version that we can work with and hopefully adopt in April. Please keep in mind those who you would like to see stand for election at the 1996 reunion...we can't go forward as an association without those who will be willing to serve.

SHIP'S LOGO AND PATCHES

The editor of the newsletter has found a company that will reproduce, in color and on cloth, the ships logos you see on the masthead. The process is done by a combined computer imaging and a manufacturing process that takes the digitalized image and uses it to drive the sewing machine. The process will require us to provide the patches for digitalizing. The editor has a patch of the "Buzzard"- the circular logo with Hunter-Killer on the bottom and we will need examples of the other two for copying if we can locate them. If we can't we might be able to work from a good quality color photo. The editor is following this up for prices etc. We could then use these patches for a money raiser selling them at a few bucks over cost with the funds realized going to the Association. The questions(s) are: Do we wish to do this? And which one(s) should we do. The is the third issue we are asking you to respond to as soon as possible.

The first: Your preferences on day trips at the 1996 reunion

The second: Your comments on the draft Constitution and By-Laws

The third: Questions on the reproductions of the ship's patches

Send your comments on the first, as well as your donations to sustain the organization, to George Kilmer (again make your checks to "USS RICH Reunion/820 Newsletter") who will tally them and send that information on to Joe Saunders. Comments on the second and third should be sent to Editor, The 820 Newsletter. We will report on these issues in the November newsletter. Please have your comments (and dollars) in by the end of September.

FROM THE ENGINEERING OFFICE

Questions and answers supplied by Chief Best.

What is the diesel oil capacity of the ship 10,479 gallons

Can diesel oil be used in the boilers? Yes. (Do you remember how to get it

There?

What is the steaming radius at 10,15,20 & 25 kts? (10) 10,000 mi., (15) 7,300 mi., (20) 5400 mi., (25) 3,700 mi.

DRAFT 8/31/95

CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS

USS RICH DD/DDE -820 ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I - NAME, ORGANIZATION

Section A. The name of the organization shall be the USS RICH DD/DDE-820 Association, hereinafter referred to as the "Association."

Section B. The Association is organized as a not-for-profit patriotic and fraternal society.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

Section A. To promote patriotism and camaraderie among those who have served aboard the USS RICH, DD or DDE-820 during the ship's active service from July 3, 1946 to December 15, 1977, with the United States Navy.

Section B. To foster loyalty to the United States and encourage public support of the U.S. Navy in its many missions, and to assist whenever possible, in the recruitment and retention of high caliber Naval personnel.

Section C. To preserve the history of the USS RICH through research, publications, and the maintenance of appropriate historical material relating to the ship's service.

Section D. To inform and assist former crew members in matters regarding veterans rights and benefits.

Section E. To unite former crew members for their mutual benefit through the sponsorship of annual reunions and other activities in support of these objectives.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section A. The Association shall be committed to a policy of non-discrimination in membership and to the equal participation by members in all activities and service.

Section B. Membership shall be in three categories:

(1) Regular. Any veteran of the armed forces of the United who served in the USS RICH from commissioning on July 3, 1946, until the ship was stricken on December 15, 1977, shall be eligible for regular membership with all the rights pertaining thereto, upon written application and payment of the required dues. Regular members shall have the right to seek and hold office, to vote at all meetings, and to use and/or participate in the activities and services of the Association.

(2) Associate.

(a) Any United States Citizen of good moral character over the age of 21 who supports the objectives of the Association may be granted Associate Membership if such application is sponsored by a regular member and the required dues are paid.

(b) Men who served on board the first USS RICH DE-695.

(c) Widows of regular members may be granted Associate status.

(d) An Associate member is entitled to all the privileges except holding an office in the Association.

(3) Life Membership

(a) Life membership may be granted to any person by the unanimous vote of the Board of Directors to recognize significant and sustained support of the Association and its objectives. Future membership dues will be waived for those granted Life Membership.

(b) The President may grant up to five Life Memberships to any paid-up member whose health is such that active participation in the Association is no longer possible.

(c) Regular members who desire Life Membership must make application for such to the Board of Directors and pay a one-time fee to be set by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV - DUES

Section A. Dues for membership shall be established by the Board of Directors and can only be changed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Directors.

Section B. A reinstatement fee may be levied by the Board of Directors.

Section C. Dues for each year are due and payable in February on receipt of notification in the Association's newsletter. Failure to pay dues within thirty days from that time shall result in forfeiture of membership.

ARTICLE V.- OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section A. The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and three Directors. These six officers shall comprise the Board of Directors.

Section B. No elected officer shall receive any compensation for service rendered to the Association in his official capacity.

Section C. The Immediate Past President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for the two years following his term as President.

Section D. Duties of the Officers

(1) President. The President shall act as Chairman of the Board of Directors and preside over all meetings of that group; he shall issue the call for special and regular meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall establish such committees as appropriate and appoint chairmen of all committees. He shall appoint the editor of the Association's official publication "The 820 Newsletter." He shall see that elections are duly called

and properly conducted. He shall fill, by appointment, all vacancies that occur on the Board of Directors, and he shall act as the principal spokesman for the Association.

(2) Vice President. If the President is unable to perform the duties of that office for any reason, the Vice President shall occupy that office and perform those duties with the same authority of the President. The Vice President shall also serve as an ex-officio member of the committee for the Annual Meeting and Reunion and be the liaison between that committee and the Board of Directors.

(4) Secretary-Treasurer. In addition to those duties normally vested in that office, the Secretary-Treasurer is assigned the following specific duties:

(a) Keep a true record of the transactions of the Association and preserve all documents pertaining thereto.

(b) Receive all applications for membership, and through the Association's newsletter publish information on all new members admitted, as well as maintain other records of memberships.

(c) Make all reports as required by law.

(d) Attend to all matters relative to the official publication of the Association in cooperation with the editor of The 820 Newsletter.

(e) Conduct the business of the Association, render an annual report on the affairs of the Association to the Board of Directors, have custody of the property of the Association unless such custody is otherwise assigned by the Board of Directors.

(f) Provide assistance and service to the membership as appropriate.

(g) Receive all funds paid to the Association, prepare semi-annual Financial statements for the information of the Board of Directors, make only expenditures previously approved in the annual budget or otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors, and keep financial records in accordance with accepted accounting practices.

(h) Keep a record of and acknowledge all gifts, and bequests to the Association.

(i) Make all reports required by law.

Section F. Definition of Quorum, Use of Proxies and Meetings of the Board of Directors

(1) The presence of four (4) members shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Directors. Nothing shall preclude the assignment of proxies by members of the Board of Directors when they are unable to be present at a regular or special meeting. Proxies, with or without instructions, may be given to any regular member of the Association.

(2) In the event that the President or three (3) or more board members deem it necessary to hold a Board of Directors meeting at such time other than the Annual Meeting and that in the opinion of the President it is impracticable for the Board members to meet in a single location, the President may, after proper written notification by mail, telex, fax or other such means, arrange a conference telephone call with no fewer than four (4) members of the Board. In this instance the pre-meeting notification will contain an agenda of issues(s) under consideration and, if a vote is to be taken on the issue(s), will also contain a ballot for return to the President on conclusion of the meeting.

Any action by the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if a written consent thereto is signed by all the Directors and filed with the records of the meetings of the Board of Directors. Such consent shall be treated as a vote of the Board of Directors for all purposes. The Board of Directors may conduct all such business as is otherwise authorized by this Constitution and By-Laws during such conferences.

Section G. Duties of the Board of Directors

(1) Be responsible for the execution of the policies approved by the Association and consider all matters of new business presented at the annual meeting.

(2) Set the time and place of the annual meeting and reunion at least nine months in advance of that date.

(3) Determine the dues and fee charged for membership and service of the Association.

(4) Have the power to modify, override, or rescind the action of any officer, Committee, or member of the Association.

(5) Have the books, accounts, and financial operations of the Association Audited prior to the assumption of office of the newly-elected Secretary-Treasurer, or at its discretion, more frequently, and may require an accounting or have an audit made of the handling of any Association funds by any officer, committee, or member of the Association.

(6) Approve the annual operating budget to be submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer and authorize all expenditures not previously approved in this budget.

(7) Have the power to create the separate offices of the Secretary and Treasurer when the size of the Association so warrants, and to create additional directors to maintain a ratio of one director for each 50 members.

(8) Insure that the association is operated in strict compliance with applicable State and Federal laws relating to not-for-profit organizations.

ARTICLE VI- ELECTIONS, VANCIES, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section A. Elections: The officers and Directors shall be elected as follows:

(1) No person shall be allowed to hold office in the Association unless that person is a Regular member in good standing.

(2) All officers and Directors shall be elected by the membership in attendance at the annual reunion. Nominations for these officers shall be solicited by the President in the three months

prior to the general business meeting and a proposed slate of officers presented at that time. Nominations from the floor shall also be allowed.

(3) At the 1996 meeting an initial election will be held to fill the three Director Positions as follows: One Director will be elected to serve a one-time only, three-year office. At the end of that three-year period the position will be filled on a regular two-year basis. One Director will be elected to serve a regular two-year term of office. The final Director will be elected to serve a one-time only, one-year office. At the end of that one-year period the position subsequently will be filled on a regular two-year office beginning with the 1997 meeting of the Association.

(4) Nomination to the Board of Directors carries with it a commitment to attend the annual meeting and reunion of the Association.

Section B. Vacancies. The President shall have the power to fill vacancies by appointment for the remaining term of office in the event of resignation or death of an officer or Director.

Section C. Removal from Office. The Board of Directors may by a three fourth (3/4) vote of its entire membership relieve any officer, Director, or committee chairman, of his duties and appoint a successor at any time when it is determined that such action would be in the best interest of the association. Failure to respond to official communications from the Association shall be considered sufficient grounds for such removal.

ARTICLE VII- FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Any member who fails to pay the required dues or any other indebtedness owed the Association within thirty days after receiving notice thereof shall be dropped from membership.

Section B. Any member may be expelled from the Association for cause by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Directors. The following are considered just cause for expulsion: disloyalty to the United States which results in a felony conviction, conduct, prejudicial to the Navy and this Association, violation of the Constitution and By-laws of the Association, interfering in the legitimate activities of the Association, and failure to respond to any official communication from the Association on such matters.

ARTICLE VIII- LADIES AUXILIARY

Nothing shall prevent spouses of regular members from organizing as a Ladies Auxiliary provided such group is committed to support the objectives of the Association. However, such a group will operate as an independent and separate entity, and the Association assumes no responsibility for its operation or activities.

ARTICLE IX- PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICES

All questions of Order or Procedure with respect to any meeting or action of the Association, its Board of Directors, or any committee appointed thereunder, shall be determined in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, and later revisions.

ARTICLE X - SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Section A. No officer, committee or member of the Association may incur any expense in the name of the Association except with the prior approval and authorization of the Board of Directors. This does not, however, preclude the Chairman of the Annual Meeting and Reunion from signing such contracts in advance as may be necessary, provided the Association is protected from indebtedness.

Section B. The Association's name, identification, or membership list may not be used for any purpose without the prior approval of the Board of Directors.

Section C. For record and accounting purposes, the fiscal year of the Association will correspond with the calendar year.

Section D. No part of the net income of the Association shall inure to the benefit, or be distributed to its members, Directors, Officers, or other private persons, except the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered, and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of the objectives of the Association.

Section E. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall involve propaganda, or attempt to influence legislation, or participate in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. The Association shall not carry on any activities that are prohibited to, or not recognized as legitimate activities of a not-for-profit entity.

ARTICLE XI- DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the Association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the Association, donate the total remaining funds to the Navy Relief Society and all photos, memorabilia and records of the Association and its publication The 820 Newsletter to the Navy Department.

ARTICLE XII- ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and accompanying By-laws may be adopted by a majority of those members voting at the next annual reunion. It may be subsequently amended, revised, or superseded by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at any annual reunion.

By-laws of the
USS RICH DD/DDE-820 ASSOCIATION

1. Annual dues for membership in the Association are set at \$(to be set at first meeting).
2. The official publication of the Association, The 820 Newsletter, shall be published quarterly and shall be the primary information link between the Association and its members. The Editor of the newsletter shall be appointed by the President with the concurrence of the Board of Directors for a three-year term and shall also

serve as the Historian of the Association. All historical material and memorabilia submitted to the Editor/Historian will become property of the Association.

3. The President shall make the following appointments for two-year terms: Chaplain, Master at Arms.

4. Any member in good standing may attend any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, and may participate in the discussion of business; however, he may not vote, make motions or seconds to motions.

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Transcription courtesy of Pamela Compher