

# The 820 Newsletter

World Wide Web Edition



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## Ships Office

Reunion 2000 What better a Christmas gift to yourself than a airline ticket to Sarasota, Florida and the RICH 2000 Reunion! Booking now will save you literally hundreds of dollars. May 3, 2000 seems like a long way away, but it's sooner than you think. Lots of things to do at the reunion: Golfing, fishing, shark-tooth hunting, beaching. Nike says it best: JUST DO IT!

Still Looking We're still looking for **Thomas H. Hurley**, an ET from 63-65 era, who we'd like to connect with another shipmate for a very personal reason. Take a moment and check the local phone directory and see if we can find him.

820 Newsletter Editor: This Editor's tour of duty ends 1 May 2000. Now would be a good time to step up and serve your association and demonstration your journalistic skill. Who knows? If you work really hard, perhaps the Board of Directors will award you a big white "E" for the hood of your car.

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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS



As we start into the holiday season, many of us will pause to reflect on seasons past and in particular, holidays aboard RICH with our shipmates.

Many of us will recall Thanksgiving and Christmas at sea or in some foreign port... far away from family and loved ones while answering the call of our country. We followed in the footsteps of thousands before us.

**Wishing you and yours, the happiest holiday season.**

You earned it.

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## RICH Crewmembers Remember...

### Crews of the 40's

Russell E. Norton, MM1 remembers...

"At 24 years old, I re-enlisted and was put on a train from Philadelphia to Orange, Texas. When I arrived on July 10, 1946, I thought they had built the town on a lake because every afternoon at 4 o'clock, it seemed like they turned a bucket of water on us. Man, did it ever rain.

After shakedown at Gitmo, they sent us to the Med and we spent Christmas tied up in Venice, Italy. I remember it was soooooo cold! Our pet dog "Snipe" kept warm in his own little bunk we had for him in the Aft Engine Room." [Russell is a 22 year Navy retiree living in Barhamsville, Virginia]

### Crews of the 50's

Robert Harbert, FP1 remembers...

"I was aboard RICH for only a year, but it was a great last year in the Navy. Our Med Cruise was quite

memorable. After leaving Algiers, RICH had a brush with a coral reef which afforded us a visit to Gibraltar for inspection. While on liberty in Naples, Italy, I remember the enchanting visit to Mount Vesuvius and roaming the ruins of Pompeii. After returning and taking RICH through FRAM I in Philly, we visited Bermuda and Gitmo where I was unfortunate enough to catch a ride to the Fleet Landing on the world-famous "Gitmo Cattlecar". [Robert is retired from Reynolds Metals and resides in Moneta, Virginia]

## Crews of the 60's

Larry Dixon, RM3 remembers...

The Best and the Worst: Best: Crossing the Equator. Worst: Not getting to do it a second time for revenge. Best: Being tied to the pier. Worst: Getting seasick each time RICH got underway with the first meal always being pork chops *immersed* in grease. Best: Visiting all the foreign countries especially the Suez Canal and Red Sea ports. Worst: Being shown a "sea bat" for the first time. Best: Learning to swim (10 years after getting out of the Navy!) Worst: Missing Swim Call in the Great Bitter Lake. Person he'd least like seeing again: Grease-bellied Royal Baby. Person he'd like most to see again: Anyone from the Radar, ET, Sonar or Radio gang from the 65-67 era. [Larry is retired and lives in Tavares, Florida]

## Crews of the 70's

Frank Monaldi, SM3, remembers...

"My tour aboard RICH was full of surprises. I arrived on board as a PC striker. Shortly thereafter, we received notice that RICH was being transferred to the Reserve Fleet and the Post Office was closing! Since I was the "new guy" I won the lottery of the 100 crewmen to stay aboard either on the Deckforce or the Signal Bridge. You do the math. We went to 4 duty sections and I always seemed to have it for the weekend Reserve Cruise. I volunteered for Christmas duty in 73 & 74 so I could have New Year's off to head back to Baltimore and play in my brother's band. [Frank still lives in Baltimore, owns a cutlery business and still plays in his brother's band]

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## Internet Information Super-Highway

Slowly and surely our technology-inclined shipmates are finding the RICH website. Several a week sometimes. If you're inclined to "surf the Net", here are some interesting and informative sites to visit:

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|---------------------------|---|---|
| Boatswain's Call          | (Everything you wanted to know about piping)  | <a href="http://www.midcoast.com/~sandrayo/pipes.html">http://www.midcoast.com/~sandrayo/pipes.html</a> |
| Naval Historical Center   | (Fill in all those Navy trivia blanks)        | <a href="http://www.history.navy.mil/">http://www.history.navy.mil/</a>                                 |
| United States Navy Online | (Need I say more?)                            | <a href="http://www.ncts.navy.mil/">http://www.ncts.navy.mil/</a>                                       |
| U.S. Naval Academy Band   | (Streaming audio of navy and patriotic music) | <a href="http://www.nadn.navy.mil/USNABand/">http://www.nadn.navy.mil/USNABand/</a>                     |
| All Hands Magazine        | (Read cover-to-cover by every bluejacket)     | <a href="http://www.mediacen.navy.mil/pubs/allhands/">http://www.mediacen.navy.mil/pubs/allhands/</a>   |

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## Tom Hegele's Log

Tom's personal account of *RICH's* activities during the early sixties continues. While not all of us were aboard at this time, in reading the log, each of us can relate to entries which reflect events during our own tour.

Tuesday, 14 July 1964 - In port NORVA. Change of Command of DesRon-2 this day. Was honor guard officer. Spent the afternoon doing Welfare and Recreation paper work.

Wednesday, 15 July 1964 - In port NORVA. Made out quarterly W&R audit report. Had eye exam and fitted for new glasses at NOB. Duty Day stood the 12-16 JOOD Watch.

Thursday, 16 July 1964 - In port NORVA. Commodore Personnel Inspection held this morning. Had charge of the Honor Guard and did fairly well, but need more drilling. Worked on Welfare & Rec. in afternoon. Started 4 days leave. **Sailors are great at keeping a ship running, but doing the manual of arms with a Grande M-1 is not their forte. Honor Guard need to be drilled for several hours each week. Need to find a Marine DI at the Barracks who can help put some polish on the Honor Guard.**

Friday - Tuesday, 17 - 21 July 1964 - On leave

Tuesday, 21 July 1964 - Duty Day. Stood the 12-16 quarter deck watch. Both drones (A/C) are AOCP (down)/ Techreps on board to help.

Wednesday, 22 July 1964 - In port NORVA. Routine working day. Went to Oceana for a rescue at sea lecture. Very good and quite helpful. Went to Dam Neck to get flight log book.

Thursday, 23 July 1964 - In port NORVA. Routine working day. Worked on operating instructions for new 202 test set.

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## Become A Member

If you're not a paid-up association member, this may be your last newsletter. Of the many things we do it life, becoming an association member is one of the most painless. We very much want you to join ranks with us. Here's how: Fill out a check for \$15.00. Send it to:

USS RICH DD/DDE-820 ASSOCIATION

Walter Becker, Treasurer  
1102 Wedgewood Lake Road  
Stroudsburg PA 18360-8733

Be sure to include your Name, Mailing Address, Rate, and Tour Dates aboard **RICH**. Please note we do not make our master database available to anyone for any reason. We do, however, provide addresses to other shipmates who may be looking for you

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## Shipmate To Shipmate

I served on the Rich from 1972-1974. I was a BT in the after fireroom. I am looking for shipmates during our time in Vietnam. Brian P. French (bpsr14@aol.com)

Looking for 1968-1970 West Pac tour and mid east crewman. Ken Peck (PeckerK@webtv.net)

I am doing a family tree on the Teetzel's. I am looking for any information on Alan N. Teetzel who served aboard the USS RICH DD/DDE 820 from 1968-1970 as a IC3. Thank you.. Sarah J. Teetzel (ejt-sjt@juno.com)

First Division 1961 to 1963. I would like to hear from anyone serving from that time especially Bob Bessette. Albert Gordon (gen-50@webtv.net)

I'm looking for any Radarmen, Electricians, Sonarmen who served during July 65 - July 67.  
Larry Dixon (dixon1410@aol.com)

[Mailing addresses upon request]

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 Navy Life



"Now fresh water will be secured  
throughout the ship in 15 seconds."

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[Quarterdeck](#)