

# Scuttlebutt

**A quarterly publication of the USS Samuel  
B. Roberts (DD-823) Shipmates Association**

**Volume 19, Number 1**

**March, 2020**



The above image is from 1966 and shows USS Samuel B Roberts (DD-823) berthed at the Newport destroyer pier along with a number of other ships. It was a fun and exciting time in the lives of all of us who served aboard her. We were young, energetic and preparing to assume the mantle of world leadership. A few years have passed since we walked the decks of that beloved ship, but our membership in the 823 Association proves that we are much the same today as in the time shown in the image. All of us are still kids at heart who come together occasionally, to not only relive the days of glory, but to forge new bonds, learn more about our current world, remember old comrades, and have a grand time with others who shared our great adventure.

Speaking of coming together, we will be doing that in early October of 2021 in Boston, Massachusetts. A venue for that event has been selected but announcement of the site will not be made until the next issue of this newsletter. However, it is located in a suburb of Boston, on a river and only 5 miles from downtown. The package they have offered is a good one and offers much at an attractive price. If we can put together the excursions we are thinking about, this could turn out to be the best reunion yet. Save the dates October 4 through October 8, 2021.

Welcome to Ken Giardina on his assumption of the presidency of our organization. Ken is very conscientious and will do a superb job. Also thanks to Jim Antenucci for all he has contributed while president or 4 years.

The regular columns are included this issue along with a memory or two, the 2019 treasurer's report, a few notices and a surprise or two. Let the editor know what your up to so everyone else can be informed. Hope you enjoy!



# HOME IS THE SAILOR FROM THE SEA

Roster of deceased shipmates. Paying our respects

Most recent additions are in ***CAPS, Italics, Bold Print and Underlined***

***“Sailor Rest Your Oar”***

May we ever be mindful of God's wisdom, forgiveness and love. Please keep our defenders of freedom safe.

Thank you Lord

Aber, Joseph G., Jr. ('49-'51)  
Adam, Russell ('50-'52)  
Allain, Charles ('50-'54)  
Anderson, Marlan ('55-'59)  
Arduini, Al ('49-'52)  
Bailey, Donald U. ('46)  
Balf, Jim ('64-'66)  
Bangert, Bill ('45-'50) *Plank Owner*  
Barker, Donald ('49-'52)  
Barnhart, Dwayne, ('56-'57)  
Baughman, Arden ('55-'57) *Capt.*  
Beck, Wally ('58-'59)  
Berlyn, Barney ('51-'53)  
Bess, James ('47-'50)  
Blackburn, Robert ('58-'61)  
Blackmore, Richard (68-'70)  
Borgo, Frank ('50-'54)  
Brazda, Charles ('58-'61)  
Bouchard Robert ('54-'56)  
Brown, Robert N. ('57-'60)  
Brownlow, P.J. ('52-'54) *Capt.*  
Budd, Terry ('63-'67)  
Butler, John '59-'61  
Calvi, John ('61-'62)  
Cappelletti, Fred ('47-'50)  
Carella, Anthony J. (Unknown)  
Carpenter, David G. ('48-'52)  
Franklin "Allie" Carter ('58-'59)  
Case, Edward G. ('51-'53)  
Ceravolo, Bud ('57-'59)  
Chessels, Larry W. ('68-'69)  
Clair, John G. ('54-'55)  
Clippard, James E. ('48-'49)  
Clark, Calvin ('51-'54)  
Cline, Frederick ('46-'47)  
Coleman, Yuell, Sr. ('-' )  
Connaire, John ('57-' )  
Coogan, Richard ('69-'70) *Capt.*  
Cooper, Richard ('48-'52)  
Corbett, Bobby ('62-'65)  
Costello, Joseph ('49-'51) *Capt.*  
Craig, Barry ('65-'67)  
Craig, Thomas G. ('58-'59)  
Cramton, Phil ('54-' )  
Crawford, Cecil ('47-'54)  
Crosby, Ed ('54-'55)  
Cummings, Larry ('63-'66)  
Czapiewski, Ron ('62-'65)  
Daniszewski, Anthony ('52-'54)  
Davidsen, Art ('68-'70)  
Davidson, Dick ('59-'62)  
Davis, Chuck ('55-'57)  
DelBarone, Albert ('59-'64)  
Delisle, James Jr. ('57-'59)  
DeRycke, "Louie" ('53-'55)  
Durand, Richard ('66-'68)  
Durant, John ('55-'57)  
Dzamko, Joe ('59-'61)  
Eckland, Philip D. ('52-'53)

Edwards, John. T. ('47-'50)  
Ekberg, Robert ('55-'57)  
Eva, Larry K. ('58-'62)  
Fedynyshyn, Joseph "Fedy" ('49-'52)  
Fennessy, Eamon T. (mid 50s)  
Fetter, John ('49-'52)  
Fitzgerald, William ('-' )  
Flannery, Robert ('51-'54)  
Flynn, Robert. E., Sr. (57-'60)  
Forth, Delmer ('57-'60)  
Fox, Hervey Ray ('52-'56)  
Fretty, Richard ('54)  
Garabedian, Varoujan ('54-'55)  
Garavano, David P. ('63-'67)  
Gelber, Sam ('52-'54)  
Glaser, Wm. R. Capt. ('65-'66)  
Green, Frank ('53-'57)  
Griffin, Gordon ('?'-'?) *Chaplain*  
Grippo, Frank M. ('48-'52)  
Groves, Herman ('50-'53)  
Gunn, John ??  
Hall, Lewis S., Sr. ('50-'52)  
Hamilton, Kenneth ('68-'68)  
Hardagree, John ('60-'63)  
Hartz, Weldon ('53-'54)  
Hashem, Fred "Lucky" ('46-'49) *Plank Owner*  
Hazel, Lee ('46-'?)  
Henderson, Bill ('63-'66)  
Hendry, Jim ('54-'56)  
Heskett, Robert ('54-'56)  
Hester, Benny Lee ('54-'57)  
Hickman, George C. ('46-'49) *Plank Owner*  
Hilditch, Francis ('51-'53)  
Hohler, "Reds" ('53-'56)  
Hott, Ralph ('-' )  
Huttman, Louis ('64-'66)  
Hyatt, Gerald ('46-'48)  
Iacovo, Fred P. ('51-'54)  
Ingallinese, John ('54-'56)  
Issa, Leo ('46-'47) *Plank Owner*  
Jones, Floyd T. ('47-'49)  
Jones, Samuel ('67-'69) *Capt.*  
Jones, William E. ('50-'53)  
Karvalas, James C. ('62-'64)  
Kelly, Gene T. ('46-'47) *Plank Owner*  
Kennedy, Jim ('56-'59)  
Kesselring, Mike ('56-'58)  
Kirk, Edward J. *Plank Owner*  
Klett, Larry ('51-'55)  
Kopfer, Frank ('58-'50)  
Krupinski, Leon ('49-'53)  
Laird, Jack ('49-'53)  
LaFrance, Edgar ('51-'54)  
Lavertu, Adrian ('65-'67)  
Lawrence, Jim ('57-'61)  
Lehr, Charles W. ('62-'66)  
Lindsay, Edward, Sr. ('66-'70)  
Litsch, Frederick ('58-'60)

Lofler, Ted ('46-'47) *Plank Owner*  
Loparco, John ('63-'65)  
Loudermilk, L.B. ('54-'55) *XO*  
Lyons, Matthew '50-'52  
Malarkey, Ray ('57-'61')  
Malloy, Stephen J. ('47-'48)  
Matarazzo, John ('63-'65)  
Markopoulos, Mike, K. ('56-'57)  
McBrien, Adrian ('55-'57)  
McCreary, Frank ('54-'55)  
McFarland, Orrin A. ('47-'49)  
McGill, Jim ('54-'56)  
McGinnis, Larry ('65-'68)  
McGirr, Morris ('46)  
McKinney, Bob ('53-'56)  
McLeod, Norman (50-'52)  
McNamara, Charlie ('54-'56)  
Merrill, Frank ('55-'59)  
Merservey, Edward ('49-'53)  
Miller, Edward ('-' )  
Miller, Winston Y. ('-' )  
Moran, Bob ('58-'58)  
Morgan, Jimmy W. (DE-413-1943)  
Morgan, William ('47-'50)  
Mostek, Gerald ('46-'48)  
Muenkel, David ('49-'54)  
Murphy, Edward C. ('64-'68)  
Murphy, Pleasant L ('59-'61) *Capt.*  
Murray, Ron ('52-'55)  
Murray, William ('62-'64) *Capt.*  
Napierala, Thomas ('60-'62)  
Nelms, Dan ('64-'67)  
Nichols, Ronald J. ('54-'56)  
Obenauer, Pete ('64-'67)  
Ogilvie, Roger ('52-'54)  
Ogilvie, Robert ('47-'52)  
Old, Robert ('47-'52)  
O'Quinn, Herman ('53-'57)  
Palloni, Frederick, Jr. ('-' )  
Palmisano, Mickey ('52-'55)  
Pandorff, Robert ('50-'53)  
Pappano, Anthony "Pappy" ('48-'52)  
Park, Edward ('48-'54)  
Parker, Dewey J. ('48-'52)  
Parker, Maurice ('-' )  
Paul, Robert ('62-'64) *XO*  
Petrylak, Joseph J. ('-' )  
Pfeiffer, Joe ('57-'59)  
Phifer, John ('50-'54)  
Pizzi, Al ('48-'52)  
Powers, Ed ('57-'58)  
Prussack, George W. ('61-'64)  
Rankowski, Charles ('64-'65) *Capt.*  
Ray, Robert R. ('46-'48) *Plank Owner*  
Regina, Joseph ('62)  
Reilly, Paul ('55-'59)  
Rice, Edwin A.. ('-' )  
Robinson, Alden F. ('-' )  
Robinson, Robert L. ('51-'53)

Robinson, Steven C. ('56-'58)  
Rosario, Norman ('-' )  
Ross, Charlie ('62-'64)  
Ross, Frederick A. ('50-'54)  
Ross, William ('50-'53)  
Rukin, Herbert J. ('61-'66)  
Salva, Steve ('56-'57)  
Sarao, Joe ('55-'57)  
Sarquiz, Joe (55-'57)  
Schadler, Frank ('52-'54)  
Schaefer, Ed ('-' )  
Schroeder, Carl ('53-'55)  
Senk, Ralph ('54-'57)  
Senderovitz, Steve ('61-'64)  
Shannon, Frank ('52-'54)  
Sheehan, Robert ('50-'54)  
Sheehan, Joe ('51-'55)  
Sherry, Peter M. (Unknown)  
Shifton, Joseph ('48-'49)  
Simmons, Fred S. Jr. '46-'56  
*Plank Owner*  
**SMITH, CAROL L. ('51-'54)**  
Smoyer, Earl ('51-'53)  
Spratt, Tom ('60-'62)  
Spies, Charles J. ('53-'55)  
Stanley, Bob ('50-'54)  
Stewart, Rod (XO) ('64-'65)  
Sullivan, F.M. ('47-'52)  
Taylor, Lawrence K. ('48-'49) *Capt.*  
Taylor, Thomas B. ('50-'52)  
Totman, Deloris ('54-'55)  
Turner, Carol Anton ('57-'59) *Capt.*  
Turner, John ('62-'67)  
*(Past President Shipmates Assoc.)*  
Tyminski, Bill ('51-'55)  
Vascotto, Richard ('52-'55)  
Viertel, Otto ('52-'55)  
Villane, Jack ('52-'55)  
Villanti, Dr. Anthony ('54-'56)  
Virilli, Paul ('48-'52)  
Vogler, Edward Allan ('52-'54)  
VonSee, Curtis B. ('57-'59)  
Vorhees, George ('46-'50)  
Wahl, Harvey G. ('47-'51)  
Ward, Ray, ('60-'62) *Capt.*  
Weist, Francis ('51-'55)  
Wescott, Lonnie (51-'52)  
Wheeler, Fred ('58-'59)  
Wheeler, Larry ('63-'65)  
**WELLINGTON, HOWARD W. ('51-'55)**  
White, Richard ('54-'56) *Capt.*  
White, Robert ('46-'50)  
Wigglesworth, Carl E. Jr. '66-'69  
Williams, James G. ('48-'52)  
Wipperman, Bill (58-'61)  
Woloszyn, Joseph ('48-'52)  
Wren, Bobby ('53-'56)  
Zerbe, James A. ('53-'56)



# From the Presidents Desk



I trust everyone had the best of holidays and is ready for 2020, be it a new decade or not. Depends on how one counts 10 years, a topic of discussion forever. As I begin my role as President, I want you to know that the nuts and bolts of our Association, the staff, are all in lace and on track. We shall continue to stream along as in the past. Even though our next reunion is more than a year and a half away, progress has already been made and a plan is being slowly created. We are contemplating a few new ideas in the hopes of creating an agenda that will be somewhat different than in the past. Still very early so stay tuned.

First on the agenda: You will notice that in this issue there is a notice concerning 2020 Association dues, being due. As in any organization, it takes dollars to keep the ship running. Therefore I am asking very member to take a few moments to fill out the membership renewal and send it with your check to Kevin. While our balance is favorable, you will notice in the 2019 Treasurer's Report (included elsewhere in this issue) that the cost of printing and mailing the "Butt" exceeded our membership dues for the year. We have been fortunate because of other funding sources and Kevin McKeown's diligent fiscal management to be in the black. However, we ever know what the future holds, so please mail in your 2020 dues. In my opinion, the cost of membership in the Roberts Association is still one of the best deals around.

Switching gears, in thinking about my time in Uncle Sam's Navy and all the adventures and good times I enjoyed, I remember a trying time. It was when I spent the better part of two weeks in the transit barracks at Newport, Rhode Island waiting for the Roberts to return from a Med. Cruise. The fact that I arrived in Newport with great anticipation and excitement only to get the news that my ship was still out to sea was devastating, and if that wasn't bad enough, I was bunked in the transit barracks. I didn't want to be there and while there, I was given meaningless tasks to keep me busy. The whole time, people kept coming and going every day and I never had a chance to get to know anyone. Every day I just kept getting my hopes up that I would get word that my ship was in port. Time dragged on and on. During my stay I learned how to travel the grounds picking up trash, cleaning the head, and relying on the gee dunk wagon or traveling to the chow hall. I was at a low point. Finally the news came that I was to pack my bags and report for duty the following day. Then, on the following day, like all boots before me, I walked across the gang plank, saluted the officer on duty and boldly said "request permission to come aboard sir." The deck officer, while I am sure stifling a smile, took my papers, got someone from my division to come. My Roberts career began!

One last thing. Remember the "Butt" is you voice so don't hesitate when a thought or story comes to you to feel free to share it by sending it to Jim Norton. The more input from everyone, the better and more interesting the "Butt" will be.



Enjoy the spring!

***Ken***

# Bird Droppings

By Don Eagle

Whose Line Is It, Anyway?

Well, January 19<sup>th</sup> came around again this year with little fanfare. It was not exactly the date that will live in infamy, I mean Hedy Lamarr died on this date in 2000, Stan Musial in 2013, and the second group of ships of the First Fleet arrived in Botany Bay in 1788. See what I mean? And yet this date was a really big event in my life. It was the day my dad drove me up to Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay to begin my career in the U.S. Navy. His parting words of advice and admonition to me were these: “Keep your nose clean, and stay out of trouble.

Well, I went into the Receiving Station, and learned how to deal with a whole new term: Lines. It’s amazing how many definitions of “lines” there are. There’s of course the nautical lines: bow lines, spring lines,, high lines, refueling lines, mooring lines, and so on. Ropes are a no-no, lines are in (unless of course you encounter something that’s been roped off). In the Navy, “lines” is perhaps the second most used word.

Then there’s the other kind of lines: chow lines, payday lines, muster lines, and just about any other kind of lines you needed to stand in line for. And one can’t forget the lines you cross: International Date Line, the line you cross to become a Shellback, or even a blue nose. And of course, there’s just “crossing the line.”

Somehow, in our memories of Navy life, we sorta forget about this aspect. But if you ever wanted to feel like a number, just go stand in line. If you want to feel like your in the Navy again, go to the bank and stand in line.

The last kind of line is the verbal one: as in being handed a line. Which meant that someone was telling you a bunch of hooey. We all heard many of those kinds of lines, which meant of course that for so long a time, you were handed a line of \*\*\*\*\*.

Anyway, on this 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of my going “active Navy,” I remember with some clarity those first few days, and of the lines for chow, lines for clothes, lines for shots, lines for muster, lines for the bus, lines for just about everything. Remember?

Well, when I came aboard the Roberts, like a naive young man, I just sorta took everything for granted. I mean, sitting on a ship with a thin hull, six 5” guns (rifles), powder to fire them, hedgehogs, torpedoes, depth charges, ammunition, boilers, fuel, other smaller armament, and a Captain that would scare the bejesus out of dock workers when we’d come in alongside a pier, well, you might as well have a cigarette while sitting atop a barrel of gasoline. No wonder that when you look at some of the pictures of the war, when you saw a tin can take a direct hit, there wasn’t much left of it.

And yet, we didn’t give it much thought. We did our duty, stood in our lines, and came away with many happy memories. We loaded ammunition, we took on fuel. Today those lines are a distant memory, and we regale our seafaring home with endearing thoughts.

And so on this, my 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary, recall your own first day of joining the Navy. Think back on not only the good times, but what you sacrificed for our country. Of the lines, the danger, the times you were away from family and friends, and of your whole life as a sailor. Think back too, of a youth well spent.

With that, I throw you a salute and a “thank you for your service.” Now there’s a line you can appreciate.





# Of Shoes and Ships

By Jim Antenucci



“In the bleak midwinter,” I am reminded of one of my favorite Robert Frost poems:

The way a crow  
Shook down on me  
The dust of snow  
From a hemlock tree

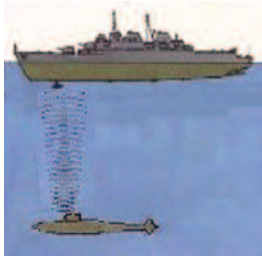
Has given my heart  
A change of mood  
And saved some part  
of a day I had rued

Cheer up shipmates. Even though we are all too old to be sending cash to a 401k, we should be happy for those who can. Look at me. As a recent president of our Association, I have been given a forum “to talk of many things: Of shoes and ships, and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings,” our great ship, our great times aboard, our great reunions. I have been given no guidance by our inestimable editor, Jim Norton. Will I be another Thomas Paine writing of “the times that try men’s souls?” Unlikely, even though these are trying (pun intended) times for both sides of the Aisle. So what shall it be? Hmmm!

Well, last year I reminded everyone I was turning 80 during February. This year it’s 81. Amazing! But it’s a leap year. Know anyone having a birthday n February 29<sup>th</sup>? Take him or her to dinner. I actually know two young ladies (relatively speaking) – one from New Orleans and the other resides right here in Atlanta. My wife Pat and I will take Nan to lunch to celebrate her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. After all, she only gets a birthday every four years. How many of you can say you know more than one person with a birthday on the day that only comes every four years, making up for the irksome extra quarter day it takes our space ship earth to make its way around old sol.

This is more fun than I have had in years. Thanks Jim in VT. By the time this Scuttlebutt arrives, we will be closing in on St. Patrick’s Day and Spring. So, Erin go Braugh.

Wonder if I’ll be asked to pen a few words next quarter? Having fun in GA!



# Echoes

**Jim Norton**



The Association is eagerly looking forward to our next reunion, October 4 thru 8 in the Boston, MA area. Most of our overhauls were in the Boston Navy Yard in Boston so some of us may have knowledge of the area. The “Combat Zone” may be gone but there is an abundance of Naval history in and around Boston. We will examine some of it in preparation for our 2021 tours.

## USS Constitution



USS Constitution, also known as Old Ironsides, is a wooden hulled, three masted heavy frigate of the United States Navy. She is the world’s oldest commissioned naval vessel still afloat. She was launched in 1797, one of six original frigates authorized for construction by the Naval Act of 1794 and the third constructed. The name “Constitution” was among ten names submitted to President George Washington by Secretary of War Timothy Pickering in March of 1795 for the frigates that were to be constructed. Joshua Humphreys designed the frigates to be the young Navy’s capital ships, and so Constitution and her sister ships were larger and more heavily armed and built than standard frigates of the period. She was built at Edmund Hartt’s shipyard in the north end of Boston. Her first duties were to provide protection for American merchant shipping during the Quasi-War with France and to defeat the Barbary pirates in the First Barbary War.

Constitution is most noted for her actions during the war of 1812 against the United Kingdom, when she captured numerous merchant ships and defeated five British warships: HMS Guerriere, Java, Pictou, Cyane, and Levant. The battle with Guerriere earned her the nickname “Old Ironsides” and public adoration that has repeatedly saved her from scrapping. She continued to serve as flagship in the Mediterranean and African squadrons, and she circled the world in the 1840s. During our Civil War, she served as a training ship for the US Naval Academy. She carried American artwork and industrial displays to the Paris Exposition of 1878.

Constitution was retired from active service in 1881 and served as a receiving ship until being designated a museum ship in 1907. In 1934, she completed a three year, 90 port tour of the nation. She sailed under her own power for her 200<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1997, and again in August 2012 to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her victory over Guerriere.

Constitution’s stated mission today is to promote understanding of the Navy’s role in war and peace through educational outreach, historical demonstration, and active participation in public events as part of the Naval History & Heritage Command. As a fully commissioned Navy ship, her crew of 60 officers and sailors participate in educational programs, and special events while keeping her open to visitors year round.

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## Boston Navy Yard



The Boston Navy Yard, originally called the Charlestown Navy Yard and later Boston Naval Shipyard, was one of the oldest shipbuilding facilities in the United States Navy. It was established in 1801 as part of the recent establishment of the new US Department of the Navy in 1798. After 175 years of military service, it was decommissioned as a naval installation on 1 July 1974.

The 30 acre property is administered by the National Park Service. Enough of the yard remains in operation to support the moored USS Constitution (Old Ironsides) of 1797, built as one of the original six heavy frigates for the revived American Navy, and the oldest warship still commissioned in the United States Navy. USS Cassin Young (DD-793), a 1943 World War II era Fletcher-class destroyer serving as a museum ship is also berthed here.

The earliest naval shipbuilding activities in Charlestown began during the American Revolution (1775-1783). The Charlestown Arsenal of the US Army was established in 1794. The land for the Navy Yard was purchased in 1800 and the yard itself established shortly thereafter. The yard built the first ship on the line, USS Independence and in the 1890 started to build steel ships for the “New Navy.”



**The following was written during the Roberts 1963 Med. Cruise.**

## **Homeport**

*We've been to the Med. and bid it goodbye,  
Light off the boilers, for Christmas is nigh,  
Fifty foot swells, and time grows short.  
Oh Captain, my Captain, let's head for Newport*

*Fuel is precious, but not running low,  
The murmuring crew mutters, "Go, Go, Go,"  
COMCARDIV 18's order flashes thru,  
Hang on SBR, and make pier two.*

*Stratus clouds mix with cumulus, a storm ahead  
Come hell or high water, I want a still bed  
The backwash of waves, covers the fantail,  
Helicopters cringe, at delivering the mail.*

*Pakistani diarrhea, and the Barcelona rap,  
Are points of interest not found on the map,  
Maltese lace, woven by hand,  
Brought us closer to our beloved land.*

*The toys of Aden, just the other day,  
Were seen on display in the friendly sickbay,  
While the Naples doll, standing six feet high,  
Gave weather reports, direct from the sky.*

*Assab's allure, could be bought with a bribe,  
For the charming young lady, marked by her tribe,  
Perhaps she gave all, for one Ethiopian dollar,  
If there was more in the bargain, don't you holler?*

*The word was passed, "two to four inches of snow,"  
The murmuring still mutters, "Go, Go, Go"  
Eighteen knots, under stars and stripes,  
Bless the feeble hearts, of BTs and snipes.*

*Radio Newport comes in loud and clear,  
But that land is still a thousand miles from here,  
Corbett announces the half-way mark,  
Winter replies, "How cold when it's dark.*

*Hazardous driving, two blows black smoke,  
The big boat sailors, don't laugh at our joke,  
Moving forward, refueled and passed,  
The tin can mutters, "Watch our mast."*

*Twenty two knots, and rudder hard right,  
Steam into position, "Set Red" for the night,  
The movie shown on the mess deck below,  
Doesn't quite overshadow the "Go, Go, Go."*

*The little lady will slip and strut,  
Tin Can Sailors, tighten their gut,  
Roll with the sea, and whatever may be,  
Ignore that ache, in your kidney.*

*Eighteen knots, and steady ahead,  
Lord how I wish, for a peaceful bed,  
No more to wander, no more to roam,  
Lord, oh Lord, please take me home.*

*I've seen the Suez, sand and green,  
Like all other sailors – what does this mean?  
Rock piled neatly, monotonous short,  
Two lions guarding the mouth of port.*

*Aden's black rock, splits the land at its seam,  
Bum boats and bargaining – a Yankee's dream  
Four band transistors, twenty dollars a set,  
Better bargains, you never will get.*

*Add the Ramblas to Malta, throw in Aden & the rest,  
Perhaps Assab or Naples, was the best,  
A few more days, journey will seem short,  
Where's Breton Lightship, I miss Newport.*

**D.J. Stefan HM1 USN**

**(Poem submitted by Bob Paul, XO at the time)**





# U.S.S. SAMUEL B. ROBERTS DD-823

## SHIPMATES ASSOCIATION

### 2019 TREASURER'S REPORT

Ending Balance (12/31/2018).....	\$3,832.09
Deposits (01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019).....	<u>\$16,399.00</u>
	\$20,231.09
Disbursements (01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019)....	<u>\$14,282.93</u>
Ending Balance (12/31/2019).....	<u>\$5,948.16</u>

#### 2019 Deposits:

Dues.....	\$2,180.00
Donations.....	\$510.00
Annapolis, MD Reunion Registration Fees.....	\$13,088.00
Reunion Auction Income.....	<u>\$621.00</u>
Total:....	\$16,399.00

#### 2019 Disbursements/Expenditures:

Scuttlebutt, Letters, Labels, Envelopes, Printing & Postage	\$2,261.97
Avalon Tour & Charter Service, incl gratuities.....	\$2,705.00
Watermark, Inc (Reunion Tours).....	\$1,965.15
Holiday Inn Buffet & Banquet Dinners .....	\$3,611.03
*Open Bar Expense at Banquet.....*	\$588.34
Hospitality Room Supplies .....	\$458.31
Reunion Challenge Gift Coins & additional gift item.....	\$557.13
**Reunion Refunds to 4 Shipmates & Their Guests.....**	\$1,736.00
Website Hosting & Maint.....	<u>\$400.00</u>
Total:....	\$14,282.93

Receipts on file.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Kevin McKeown, Treasurer*

\*Bar expense at banquet was \$588.34 which was paid by a Shipmate who donated \$1,000. for this purpose in 2018. Remainder (\$411.66) carried over in general fund as per Shipmate who made the donation.

\*\*Refunds to 4 Shipmates & Their Guests who paid but unable to attend.

## Memories of Roberts Vietnam Deployment 1965-1966

**Larry Edwards** has advised that anyone who was a crew member during Roberts 1965/66 Vietnam deployment can wear the **Vietnamese Meritorious Unit Citation** ribbon. It was created in 1974 to recognize the contributions of all Sea Service personnel who served in Vietnamese waters between January 1, 1965 and March 28, 1973. The MUC is a ribbon only, known as the **Civil Actions Medal, First Class Color with Palm.**

Because too much research would have been required, a specific listing of units eligible was not compiled per SecNav Notice 1650 which contains all the specifics. Generally, all ships attached to and serving under orders with Commander, US Naval Forces, Vietnam, during any period exceeding on day during the eligibility period will qualify.

If you desire, medal is available online.





# USS Samuel B Roberts (DD-823) Commanding Officers

**CDR Clarence Thomas Doss Jr.** (December 22, 1946 - 1948)

**CDR Leslie Kelly Taylor** (1948 – January 30, 1950)

**CDR Joseph Patrick Costello** (January 30, 1950 – November 15, 1951) (Later RADM)

**CDR Paul Jerry Brownlow** (November 15, 1951 – January, 1954)

**CDR Robert Earle Hawthorne** (January, 1954 – April, 1956)

**CDR Richard Henry White** (April, 1956 – May, 1957)

**CDR Arden Eugene Baughman** (May, 1957 – 1958)

**CDR Carol Anton Turner** (1958 – 1959)

**CDR Pleasant Lawrence Murphy** (1959 – 1961)

**CDR Raymond Edward Ward** (1961-1962)

**CDR William Booth Murray Jr.** (1962 – 1964)

**CDR Charles Anthony Rankowski** (1964 – November, 1965)

**CDR William Reed Glaser** (November, 1965 – July, 1967)

**CDR Samuel Oather Jones Jr.** (July, 1967 – 1969)

**CDR Richard Daniel Coogan** (1969 – November 2, 1970)



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**Dues** – Annual dues are \$15 and are payable in January yearly. They pay for Scuttlebutt printing, mailing, and website maintenance. Make checks payable to USS Samuel B Roberts Shipmates Assn. and mail to Kevin McKeown, 47 Long Beach Drive, Sound Beach, NY 11789-1833

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Are you familiar with the term **Jack-of-the-Dust**. It is an obsolete Navy rating that was discontinued in the late nineteenth century but survived as an informal title at least into the 1970s. It is the traditional name of the cook in charge of the storerooms and refrigerators on a naval vessel.

On her shakedown cruise, Roberts went to Gitmo, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. On a rainy night during the cruise, another destroyer rammed the Sammy B opening up a 10' gash on the port side where the chief's quarters were located. The ship was forced to sail to Galveston, TX and into dry dock for repairs.





# Sammy B. Scuttlebutt

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Shipmates Association

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