

The FLAGSHIP

Volume 11 Issue 2

May 2003

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF USS ROWE & USS MATTS



Special Points of Interest

- *What do you think of Carl Cramer's suggestion for naming this year's reunion? See what he proposes in the cover story.*
- *Bob Wood gives an account of the second Kamikaze Survivors meeting in his column on page two.*
- *WELCOME MAT on pages two and three has thirty-seven new names! Hope many of them can make the reunion.*
- *Read about some of Capt. Rentz's assignments after he left the Rowe. His letter is in the MAIL CALL on page four.*
- *Read two shipmate's views on the war on pages five and six. Do you agree?*

50TH ANNIVERSARIES- SPECIAL TIMES

BY CARL L. CRAMER, USNR (RET), USS ROWE

On July 27-28, 2001, I attended my 50th high school reunion. On February 16, 2005, Glenda and I will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. From June 25, 2000, thru November 11, 2003, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War with the theme "Freedom Is Not Free."

The USS Rowe DD-564 was placed in commission March 13, 1944, in Seattle, WA. Placed out of commission in reserve January 31, 1947, in Charleston, SC. Recommissioned October 5, 1951, in Charleston, SC. Fram completed in the Charleston, SC Naval Shipyard from August 26, 1952, to February 3, 1953.

Since Charleston, SC played such an important part of the USS Rowe DD-564, why don't we designate this year's reunion as the 50th anniversary of the Korean War era veterans of the USS Rowe DD-564? A lot of the Korean War era veterans of the USS Rowe DD-564 spent a lot of time in Charleston, SC, either during the recommissioning of the USS Rowe DD-564 or during the fram period of the ship. This will be like a homecoming for a lot of us Korean War era veterans.

I know a lot of my classmates attended the 50th high school class reunion that never attended before. I guess there is something special about

the 50th. I can't wait to go to Charleston, SC, for the 50th Korean War era reunion of USS Rowe DD-564 to be held September 18-21, 2003, at the Radisson Hotel located in North Charleston, SC.

Have talked to a lot of USS Rowe shipmates who are planning on attending. Why don't you start making plans now to attend this reunion to help the Korean War era veterans celebrate their 50th anniversary? Let's make this the largest and best reunion the USS Rowe DD-564 has ever had. Hope you all have true winds and following seas in 2003. May God continue to bless you and the United States of America.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

The second Kamikaze reunion was held May 7-10, 2003 at Washington, DC, and was started by Bill and Marilyn Sholin, author of the books *Sacrificial Lambs* and *Truman's Decision*. Also helping set this up was Bud and Jane Ingulsrud. Bud served on the USS Rowe and has attended our ship's reunion at Omaha and Seattle.

The weather was not the greatest for us, and the turnout was much smaller than hoped for, but we had a good time and met a lot of great people. At our first get together we heard from Tim Goeglein, who is special assistant to President Bush. He was followed by Steve King, Congressman from Iowa.

The banquet MC was CDR Al Perpuse, US Navy, who is now being transferred to Officer in Charge of Nuclear Power Mobile Training Team. We were honored to have a Naval color guard with us. Our guest speaker for the banquet was Captain Robert S. Riche, CNO Deputy Director Surface Ships and Executive Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel.

Following this trip, I will have some interesting things to share with those of you who will be joining us at Charleston, SC, in September.

Bob & Ruth Wood

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Our reunions work so you don't have to.

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

The Flagship is the official publication of the USS ROWE and USS WATTS Association. From now on it will be published quarterly in February, May, August and November, *subject to receiving sufficient funding*. The Newsletter is funded by voluntary contributions from the membership. All members are encouraged to support the voice of the ROWE/WATTS. A financial statement appears in each issue of the newsletter.

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially share experiences.

Unless otherwise stated, the views and opinions printed in the newsletter are those of the article's writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Association leadership or the Editor of the Newsletter.

All letters and stories submitted will be considered for publication, except unsigned letters will not be published. Letters requesting the writer's name be withheld will be honored, but published on a space available basis. Signed letters with no restrictions will be given priority.

Letters demeaning to another shipmate will not be printed; letters espousing a political position will not be printed.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters to conform to space limitations.

ML&RS, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of articles submitted for publication. It would be a monumental task to check each story. Therefore, we rely on the submitter to research each article.

You are encouraged to actively participate in the newsletter family, by submitting your stories and suggestions.



WELCOME MAT

The following shipmates have been located since the last issue of the newsletter. Welcome aboard. If we missed anyone, please accept our apology. Let us know and you'll be in listed in the next issue.

USS WATTS

Richard Bell CS2
 303 S Marble St
 Rockmart, GA 30153
sydne2@aol.com

Leo Johnson (1961-63) EMC
 18341 SE Ridgeview Ct
 Tequesta, FL 33469
leo@ldsisp.com

Glenn Hamann QMC (Ret)
 3421 W Winston Rd
 Rothbury, MI 49452
 231-894-4568

Roy Starks (1951-52) RD1 Oper
 750 Charter Dr E 15
 Longs, SC 29568
 843-399-1818
V750se15@msn.com

Richard Toye (1951-54) IC3
 905 Lakeview Dr. S
 Marshall, TX 75672
dickt@prysm.net

Ed Parella (1951-53) GMM3
 6575 Southport Dr
 Boynton Beach, FL 33437-6908
eparella@ix.netcom.com

Larry Kafer (1962) RD3 OI Div
 Box 85
 Plainfield, IA 50666
 319-276-3094
sakafer@yahoo.com

Eugene Gall, Jr (1955-57) ICFN R Div
 14485 American Way
 Red Bluff, CA 96080-9419
 530-529-2215
lbrooks@snowcrest.net

(Continued on page 3)

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Joseph Delacerda (1951-52) DK1
donnaverville@aol.com

John Pickens (1961) E-4
JohnnMarg@aol.com

E. L. Tutt (1952-59) SH1
jaytutt@earthlink.net

Lloyd Olson
704 Sunbright Ave
Portage, MI 49024-2760

Joseph Salvador (1951-52)
4086 Adams Ave
Fremont, Ca 94538-4802
dktajo@aol.com

Robert McGinnis
4031 E Fox St
Mesa, AZ 85205
mcginnis2002@yahoo.com

Doyle Glancy
PO Box 2154
Sun City, CA 92568
dwglancy2@mchsi.com

Ivan Flock
814 Cape Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715
ivanfl@theglobal.net

Robert Ball
15627 Highway 34
Fort Morgan, CO 80701

USS ROWE

Guenther Beier (1952-56) RM2 C Div
1083 River Forest Dr
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-793-8076

William Baird (1954-56) LTJg Eng
51 Calverda Dr
Dayton, OH 45488
937-885-3876
wbaird1960@aol.com

Charles Reed (1954-56) Ltjg Gunnery
33 April Village
Montgomery, TX 77356-5805
936-588-4596
cjreed@icc.net

Kohen White (1955-58) LTJg Ops
4780 Coppedge Trl
Duluth, GA 30096-2970

770-449-3489
whit6914@bellsouth.net

William Rentz (1955-58) LTJg Chief Eng
1780 Weems Rd
Locust Grove, GA 30248-2815
678-432-3089
billsuerentz@mindspring.com

Charles Hanus (1957-58) Lt Ops
8634 Margavera Dr
Orlando, FL 32825-7930
407-273-0783

Lawrence Treadwell, Jr. (54-56) Ltjg Ops
P O Box 718
Mathews, VA 23109
804-725-3560

Kenneth Rudnicki (1954-55) HM2 Med
90 Morris St
West Haven, Ct 06516
ru5054@webtv.net

Bruce Keller (1952-53) ET2
FrBrKeller@aol.com

William McDonald (1944-45) RM2/c
zachtayl@kci.net

Herbert Lowe (1953-54) Ship Serv
hangups@aol.com

James Saxon (1958-59) RD3
rsherpmn@webtv.net

Carl Stacy
Rstacy@rmhllc.com

Milton Goldberg LTJg
67 Fairmont St
New Bedford, MA 02740-2716
508-997-4626

CDR Richard Rudisill, Jr (1953-55) LT
7811 Eads Ave Apt 212
LaJolla, CA 92037-4201
858-454-7040

William Loesch (1951-53) RD2 O Div
2535 W 34th St
Erie, PA 16506-3571
814-833-6620

Jack Leedom (1956-57) FT2 ORD
510 Sherman Ave
Aurora, IL 60505-5638
630-851-2176

jacmarleed@aol.com

Russell Kidder (1958-59) EM3 R Div
12719 Chaumont Dr
Houston, TX 77089
281-481-3929
kidderr@msn.com

Richard Whitney (1956-57) SN1
24 Raritan Dr
Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087-1126
609-296-6577
dwhito2@attglobal.net

ADDRESS CORRECTION

Ross Smith USS ROWE
(1953)SN 1st Div
(1954)114 Easterly Dr
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
717-795-7239
hbg629@msn.com

**TAPS**

The Flagship has learned of the following deaths since the last publication. Not all deaths were recent, but were just learned of. Every member of the Association sends his heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of the deceased. If you learn of the death of a former shipmate, please let us know so his name can be included in TAPS and also added to the Honor Roll for the next reunion.

Robert Fuchs
USS ROWE (1951-53) MM2 M Div
Date of death not known

Rocco Natale USS ROWE
Died July 31, 1997

Ralph Buller USS ROWE RD2
Date of death not known

I. K. Heyward IV
USS ROWE (1954) ENS R Div
Died January 6, 2002

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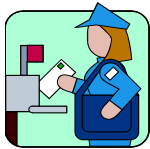
(Continued from page 3)

CDR Joseph Williams US ROWE
Date of death not known

George Lee USS ROWE QM3
Died September 22, 2000

Joseph Dascendzo USS ROWE RD3
Died December 8, 2002

David Arguello USS ROWE FM2
Date of death not known



MAIL CALL

The following two letters are part of the correspondence between Carl Cramer and Captain William Rentz (USS ROWE).

Dear Captain Rentz:

I just sent your info to Military Locator & Reunion Service, Inc. I also told them what you told me about Captain I. K. Heyward IV. I also sent an e-mail to Chet Davis because I know he was trying to find Mr. Heyward. He said that he stopped and visited with him about 3 years ago in Charleston, SC. If you can find anything more about CDR Williams' death, please let me know. By the way what was his first name and when was he aboard the Rowe?

If you can furnish me with any leads, I would greatly appreciate it. I think all I need yet for Commander Charles Z. Hanus is his e-mail address if he has one. A lot of our Rowe shipmates do not have an e-mail address. Thank you very much for talking to me today and for the courtesy you extended me. The Rowe was my first ship also. Keep in touch.

Carl Cramer

Carl,

Great to hear from you. Cdr Joseph

Williams was the CO who relieved Durborow in 1958. Durborow had relieved LCDR Parramore in about 1956. Parramore had moved up from XO when the CO had a heart attack. Williams was a Naval Aviator who had been a POW. This was his first Destroyer duty and his first command. I thought he did a pretty good job. He later retired as an O-6 and died after he retired.

Yes, Rowe was my first ship and first Destroyer. I had been on Midn training cruises on a BB and a CVE. I later served as XO of Waller (DD 466) and CO of Goldsborough (DDG 20). Also had XO tours on Dash (MSO 428) and Bainbridge (CGN 25) and was CO of California (CGN 36). I had an Engineering tour and was a plankowner on Enterprise (CVN 65), and as a Carrier Group Chief of Staff embarked in Kennedy (CV 67), Nimitz (CVN 68), Carl Vinson (CVN 70), and Coral Sea (CV 43).

But your first ship is like your first girl friend, you never forget her. I'm glad you got hold of me and I look forward to seeing you and old shipmates in September.

Warmest regards,
CAPT William O. Rentz, USN (Ret)

Dear Dina,

I just read the February 2003 issue of The Flagship and was very excited to see the newspaper picture, submitted by Tom McNamara of the Rowe crewmen as they docked in Philadelphia. You see, my dad, Radioman Third Class Carl H. Larson, was on board at the time the picture was taken. I don't believe he is amongst the men in the photo, but just knowing that these were some of his fellow crewmates, and that he was somewhere on board, means a lot to me. Unfortunately, I lost my dad to cancer when I was quite young, but not before he instilled in me a lifelong interest in military history and model building.

Now that brings me to a big favor I'd like to ask those who served on the USS Rowe during the last year of the war. As I mentioned, I'm a model

builder and am going to be building a 1/350 scale model of the USS Rowe. I've done extensive research on the Rowe, and the Fletcher class DDs in general, but have been unable to determine what scheme the USS Rowe was painted during that period. All of the photos I can find of the Rowe are post-WWII after she was repainted. I would greatly appreciate it if you would publish this letter in an upcoming issue of The Flagship and if anyone can help me with information on the Rowe's WWII painting scheme, please contact me by mail or e-mail at the following:

Eric Larson
PO Box 13387
Akron, OH 44334
el Larson1123@aol.com

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Eric Larson

Dear Sirs:

I, Sam Alloy, are one of many from the original ship's crew from USS Rowe commissioned in March 1944 in the Sea Tac Seattle, Washington. I was a yeoman 2nd class when I left the ship on March 10th, 1946 to be discharged. I went aboard as a Seaman 2nd class and made all my rates aboard. Ship's Captain A. L. Young was the Skipper and what a great Navy man he was.

I enjoy receiving and reading The Flagship very, very much and for many months I've been wanting to write and inform you all that my last name has been misspelled on the envelope. Please correct as soon as you can so maybe if any of my ex-shipmates recognize my right spelling of my last name. Hope to hear from you all again in your Flagship newsletter.

Samuel Alloy USS Rowe DD-564
916 S 119th Court
Omaha, NE 68154

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402-334-7829

Dear Dina,

Here are a few Navy terms that might be suitable for The Flagship publication.

Scuttlebutt:

Do you know that word or gossip and rumor has a nautical origin? It's an early 19th century term for an open cask of water kept on the deck of the ship for use by the crew. The term comes from scuttle (to cut a hole in) and butt (a large cask). Sailors would gather about the cask and trade stories and gossip, much like the modern office workers hang out at the water cooler. By the turn of the century, American sailors began using the term "scuttlebutt" to refer to these sea stories and gossip. Eventually, the term became associated with any gossip or rumor, and its nautical origins were forgotten.

Davy Jones' Locker:

While we're at sea-figuratively—here's one more. The name Davy Jones dates back to at least the 1700s. In nautical superstition, he'd the spirit of the sea. The locker is where he keeps sunken ships. Some suggest that Davy is a corruption of the West Indian/African duppy, meaning spirit of ghost. Also the D and V suggest Devil. Then there are those who think Jones is from Jonah, both a Biblical reference and a sailor's slang for bad luck. Whatever the origin of Davy Jones' Locker, stay away from it.

STGC Carl L.Cramer, USNR (Ret)

To the Widows of USS Rowe DD-564 and USS Watts DD-567:

Since January 01, 2003, I have been trying to find former USS Rowe DD 564 shipmates. I have found 22 so far and the unbelievable part of this is that almost 25% of them are deceased. These are

shipmates that I served with during the Korean War. Most of the widows I talked to said they didn't know their husbands when they were in the Navy. Two of the deceased shipmates, I had pictures of when we were aboard ship. I had copies made and forwarded them on to their widows. One girl was looking for her father who she thought was on the Rowe during the Korean War. He was in the ordnance picture in our cruise book, so I made a copy of that and forwarded it on to her. You get the nicest letters and/or e-mails back and it really makes you feel like you've done something good for a change. I have asked Military Locator & Reunion Service to send The Flagship publication to these widows and a couple said they would like to attend the reunion. Wouldn't it be great if all the widows attended and met those outstanding shipmates that their husbands served with? If you are a widow of a shipmate who served on the Rowe or Watts, we hope you will make every effort to join us at the reunions. If your husband is deceased and we do not have a record of it, will you please send this information to the publisher of The Flagship? Each year at the reunion, we have a memorial service and read the names of each deceased shipmate that we know is deceased. At the conclusion of the service, Taps are played in their memory. Thank you for being a part of our crew and come join us at our reunions.

Carl L.Cramer

ML&RS, Inc. sent an e-mail to all who have an address with us and asked for news from family members who are serving in Iraq or for your thoughts on the war. (The war was not over at the time of the request.) The following two letters were received in response to this request:

Karen,

I certainly admire the efficient hi-tech performance of the American

military.

What bugs me, however, is that the principal stated reason for the Bush pre-emptive attack on Iraq was "to remove their WMD"... and to date, not WMD have been found. This makes it appear that our president was lying and our unilateral attack on Iraq was for some other motive.

Meanwhile, American soldiers and scads of innocent Iraqis have lost their lives because of the American attack on Iraq.

This really bothers me, since it makes America look deceitful and potentially provides an excuse for other countries such as China, Russia, Iran or North Korea to similarly launch pre-emptive attacks on others.

I do hope WMD are found to justify Bush's actions. Otherwise, I am very concerned for America's reputation as a moral, ethical, and decent country.

Robert (Bob) Duggan, Jr.
r.duggan@ieee.org

Hello,

I was aboard the Rowe in 1958-59 until she went out of commission in '59 in Orange, Texas.

I have a nephew in the Marines who was serving in Kuwait when the operation to free the Iraqis began. I haven't heard from him since, but as far as I have been told, he is still well and unharmed. He was with the 7th Marines, 1st Battalion. He is a PFC and his name is Steven Williams, and as ironic as it sounds, I have a friend living in Sacramento, CA named Joseph Williams whose son Michael was killed in Nasseriya soon after the action started. His son was also a Marine.

Joseph served with me aboard the USS Orleck DD 886 in Viet Nam during the years 1964 through 1966. Joe and I are not related.

During my adult years, I have often talked with people about WW2, Korea, and Viet Nam, and

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how the men in those wars suffered and endured so very much, and often I have made the statement that I did not think our youth today could handle such a job. I often said that they were too spoiled, lazy, rebellious, uncaring, and so on, and so on. But, I must apologize to them all. Not only CAN they handle the job, but they CAN and they ARE handling the job! AND in a manner that is a testament to the honor and pride that they have in themselves and also in the proof that they were raised by good parents who instilled that pride and honor in them. Our youth today are every bit as good as the ones who have gone before them.

I salute all of our armed forces!
You have done a hell of a job!

John Williams, MMC USN (Ret)

“LOOKING FOR...” COLUMN

At the suggestion of Mr. Carl Cramer, we will begin a feature called “Looking For..” in the next issue, if we have any response. Here you may list the name and any other information you may know about someone you would like to find. If anyone knows that person, he can contact us or you with the information. So, if there is someone out there who has been wondering where an old buddy is, let us know. We will print your request and hopefully someone can help you find him. Be sure to include your contact information as well. Of course, we would like to hear about any successes you might have so we can share the news with everyone.

Send your request to ML&RS, Inc at the address on page two. If using e-mail, use the address for the newsletter:

<mlrsnewsletters@aol.com>

MAILING LISTS AVAILABLE

If you would like a copy of entire mailing roster of either ship, it is available free as an e-mail attachment or for fifty cents a sheet by mail. The current list is 9-10 pages (5 sheets) for either ship (\$2.50). Our contact information is located at the bottom left of page two.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance after 02/03 **\$706.10**

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\$45.00

Funds available for 05/03 issue
\$751.10

Funds Expended for 05/03 issue
\$322.22

Ending Balance \$428.88

2003 REUNION USS ROWE USS WATTS

CHARLESTON, SC SEPT. 18-21

RADISSON NORTH HOTEL

Look for your registration packet in June. Please read it carefully. There are some changes from years past.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ON LINE

The Newsletter for the USS ROWE/WATTS reunion will be available soon to download from the Military Locator & Reunion Service Inc web site.

If you are able to visit our web site and download the Newsletter, and therefore do not need a paper copy mailed to you, please let us know.

Please visit our web site at www.mlrsinc.com, then follow the link labeled Reunions, then scroll down until you see the listing for the USS ROWE/WATTS. Click on the button labeled Newsletters, and in a few minutes the newsletter should appear on your screen. (As a side note - it took about 4 minutes on my computer). This will only work if you have Adobe Reader 4.0 or higher. You can also download this viewer for free from our web site.

If this works for you and you would like to receive all future mailings from us in this method, please send me an e-mail requesting to subscribe to the ROWE/WATTS E-mail Roster. Each time something new is available, we will send you an e-mail informing you something new is available on the web site. **Please let us know if your e-mail address changes so you don't miss any important information.**

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Your name and postal mailing address will remain in our computers and will appear on all mailing lists, etc distributed to other members of your group.

If you have any question regarding this, do not hesitate to ask!

Dina Coffey