

USS EVERETT F LARSON DD/DDR 830

WINTER 2013 Official Publication of the U.S.S. Everett F. Larson Association
Newsletter Address: 83 Stonehedge Lane South, Guilford, CT 06437
WWW.USS-EVERETT-F-LARSON.COM

PRESIDENTS CORNER



The 2012 reunion is logged! The weather, the hotel, the Memorial service, the day trips, the hospitably room, the banquet, it was all 4.0!! Our hosts just keep taking care of the 830's crew. It was wonderful to have Edith, Bob and family with us.

The good times were marred by some medical problems, but my latest information is that everyone is on the road to recovery. Lou reported that Dot had a stint put in, he was very grateful for the refund and the hotel also refunded everyday they lost.

We are working on our by-laws; some minor changes are being made. The USS Hampton DD-832 will be invited to join us in Nashville. The USS Everett F. Larson format will remain the same; we will just share war stories and good times.

As the Holidays approach, let's remember our Veterans, especially our Homeless Vets. Thru the American Legion, VFW or your local Veterans administration, you can donate clothing, bus passes, food chits, etc.

This year the National Commander of the American Legion program is "Comfort Warriors" if our wounded service personnel need items while recovering, the American Legion will supply them with something to make their life more comfortable, unlike other programs, 100% of the donations go directly to our Veterans -NO MIDDLEMAN!!

Jone and I wish that you and yours had a Happy Holiday season and a very happy New Year!

See you --see ya--all down south.
Liberty call 1600 - Nick

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From the Vice-President

It's that time of year when the first Larson newsletter comes out. Everyone starts thinking about the reunion and what a great time they had at the previous one.

Looking forward to seeing old friends and shipmates.
- John Clements



From the Treasurer

The 1/1/13 balance in the association checking account is \$10,755.43. The largest expenditure during the last 4 months was \$2,500.00 for Nashville reunion startup costs. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in Nashville.

Your Shipmate, Frank Wyzwany



Notes from the Larson Historian

How about a plea for items for a new Historian's column? I'd like to hear from people about the dog that was the first Larson mascot, and any other mascots since then. Also, I'd like to know if there were ever any deaths on the Larson. I'm pretty sure there was at least one suicide, but I don't know his name.

And anything else people would like to have recorded for posterity?

Thanks - Gene



In Memoriam Departed Shipmates (since last newsletter)

Chaplain Francis E. Juntunen

Robert G. Sansom, Jr. early 1960's 12/28/2011
Seymour Pockler RD2 (Plank Owner) 1945-46
1/26/2012

David A. Reitz MM3 1954-57 4/30/2012
Gary A. Winters MMC 1959-60 5/20/2012

Raleigh E. Brown QMC 1965-69 8/2/2012
James V, Rotondo MMFN 1947-50 8/25/2012
Glen R. Graham 1950's 9/24/2012
Robert C, Loughlin EM2 1952-56 10/17/2012

Raymond D. "Don" Morgan S2c (Plank Owner) 1945-46
11/3/2012

Salvatore J. "Sal" Savarino F1c (Plank Owner) 1945-46
1/15/2013



From the Secretary

Minutes of USS Everett F. Larson (DD/DDR 830) Association meeting September 19, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza hotel, Warwick, RI.

President Nick Nicholoff called the meeting to order at 0900 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present, followed by introductions of all members present.

2013 reunion host Jesse Anderson reported on the proposed Nashville, TN site, complete with maps and information to pass out on the area. The date will be the second or third weekend of September. The hotel has not yet been selected. Jesse told about several tour activities that we might want to consider, including Opryland, shopping areas, Country Music Hall of Fame, and the home of Andrew Jackson.

Announcements:

1. Clyde and Deb Bingham have offered to host the 2014 reunion in San Francisco if we want. Poll taken by show of hands and their offer was accepted.

2. Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce and Waterloo, IA Convention Bureau have both sent us communications suggesting that we hold reunions there.

3. Plank Owner E J Robertson called to apologize that he couldn't make it this year.

4. Frank DeBernardo's son, Frank Jr., will attend the dinner and would like to hear from people who knew his father.

The Treasurer's report that had been prepared by Treasurer Frank Wyzwany was read by Historian Gene Maresca and approved. The account balance as of August 31, 2012 was \$14,262.54.

Minutes of the last annual meeting that had been prepared by Secretary Terry Weathers were read by Historian Gene Maresca and approved.

Larry Laub asked for ship's logs for 1965-66 with evidence of Agent Orange exposure. He also suggested that people apply now for benefits even if no problems known because of extreme lag time in processing requests. Other members echoed Larry's comments.

Art Colson reported:

1. That Secretary Terry Weathers offered to update By-Laws to incorporate changes already approved for vote at next meeting. Approved.

2. A model of the Everett F. Larson has been located in St. Lucia, FL. It is not Peter Kope's model. We are checking to find out the background: one of the members present lives in St. Lucia and volunteered.

3. Art received a phone call from the USS Hampton DD-832 Association to see if we would like to share a reunion. They now draw about 26 members. After much discussion, a vote was taken on the following proposal: Moved that we express willingness to join for reunion activities at Nashville with no changes in the structure of the organization, subject to further discussion between representatives of the two groups. Proposed by Art Colson, Seconded by Max Schwald. Carried.

4. New web site handling was proposed by Art Colson. Susan Kinney-Welsh knows a professional who has offered to completely redo our web site at state-of-the-art technology for \$ 1,500 and thenceforth update monthly. After much discussion, and in consideration of the services which have been provided voluntarily by webmaster Harold Vaughn for several years, it was agreed that the executive board should decide on this matter and the motion was withdrawn by Art Colson.

Election of officers: Don Erskine was re-elected as director for a 2-year term. Max Schwald was re-elected for a 2-year term. Doug Rice was re-elected for a 3-year term.

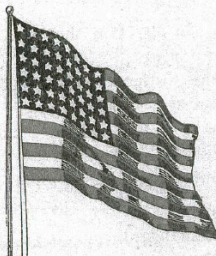
A call was made for further issues to be brought before the membership. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Weathers, Secretary
(with special thanks for Historian Gene Maresca who took notes)

Mail Call

U. S. S. EVERETT F. LARSON

(DD830)



COMMISSIONING PROGRAM

NAVY YARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

6 APRIL 1945

COMMANDER HORACE MYERS, U. S. N.
Commanding

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER LONNIE H. ROARK, U. S. N.
Executive Officer

LIEUTENANT JOHN J. EMANSKI, U. S. N.
Gunnery Officer

LIEUTENANT KNOX M. COLOGNE, U. S. N. R.
Radar Materiel Officer

LIEUTENANT (jg) DUANE E. WILSON, U. S. N. R.
First Lieutenant and Damage Control Officer

LIEUTENANT (jg) HENRY BARAK, U. S. N. R.
Communication Officer

LIEUTENANT (jg) ORVILLE MARETT, U. S. N.
Engineer Officer

LIEUTENANT (jg) ROBERT C. MELLORS, MC, U. S. N. R.
Medical Officer

ENSIGN EDWARD S. RUETE, SC, U. S. N.
Supply and Disbursing Officer

BUILT BY BATH IRON WORKS CORPORATION
BATH, MAINE

MR. WILLIAM S. NEWELL, President
CAPTAIN RUSSELL S. HITCHCOCK, U. S. N.
Supervisor of Shipbuilding



USS Everett F. Larson
DD-DDR 830

04 Aug. 1989:

Dear Shipmates:

Time is coming to a close for all good sailors to decide if you and your spouse will attend our first reunion. I know that we all need time to decide. I am sending a copy of the latest roster with over 115 names, please read it over and try to contact a past shipmate for old times sake. The roster includes the names, addresses, phone numbers, (PO) indicates Plank Owners, (X) indicates motel reservations made, (R) indicates crewmember before 06/16/46, the end of the second line indicates the source of information, and the payments made to date are indicated.

Those of you that have not answered my letters, please do. At least give us your phone number and let us know how you are. We know that everyone is not able to make a reunion, for many reasons, but a post card with your name, your wive's name, phone number, the year you came aboard and year you left and rank will give us the opportunity to at least update our computer so that we may be able to inform you of future reunions.

The past seven months has been a lot of work, but one of the most pleasant tasks I have ever undertaken. Working with Ange Temperato, has been great and I am starting to look forward to working on next years reunion. The letters and phone calls from crewmembers that were aboard at the time I was on the Larson, and others that were on after we left, including one that was on in 1972 when Larson was transferred to the Korean Government were certainly heartwarming, and brought back a lot of memories.

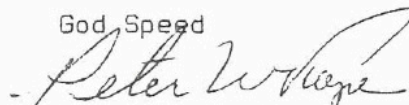
We are going to have caps for sale with USS Everett F. Larson DD-830 and DDR-830, I have 8"X10" photos of Larson dated 1946, 1948, 1955, 1963, and a photo of Larson being launched in 1945, that may be ordered. If anyone has any other ideas please let me know.

Enclosed are receipts to the members that have made payments for their dinners and registration, I hope many more come in before September 1, 1989.

There have been two changes made to the initial program, the tour of the Reserve Center will be at 10:00 A.M. rather than 11:00 A.M. and we have the Town of Cicero Town Hall on Saturday 30 September 1989.

PWK/mf

God Speed



Peter W. Kope
104 Circle Dr.
Clay, N.Y. 13041



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF

Salvatore J. Savarino

IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PRESENTS THIS TESTIMONIAL
OF ESTEEM AND GRATITUDE FOR
FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE
OF DUTIES IN
WORLD WAR II

W. N. Harrison
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

Maurice J. Tobin
GOVERNOR

‘Jap Zeroes were diving on our fantail, I ordered: ‘Blast the SOBs out of the sky!’

In Korean War, U.S. Navy, Vietnam War on May 16, 2012 at 4:38 am



After 20 years of service in the U.S. Navy, Eugene Maresca retired in 1983 as a full commander. He served three years in the regular Navy and the rest in the Naval Reserve. When he first signed up he was still a student at Butler University. “My mechanical aptitude score was so low they wouldn’t even let me try out to be a gunner’s mate,” the 67-year-old resident of Buttonwood Village mobile home park in Punta Gorda, Fla. said. “The only thing they’d let me test for was electrician’s mate. “So I decided to take the test for Officer’s Candidate School. When they called time I still had 23 questions left to answer. I drew a line down through the B-column and 19 of the last 23 questions were Bs. I got one of the highest test scores ever recorded,” he said with a smile.

"Then they put me in a room with the eye chart for half an hour waiting to see the doctor. It didn't take a Rhodes Scholar to memorize five lines of eye chart in 30 minutes.

"I went to OCS with John Kerry (who became a U.S. Senator from Massachusetts), for whatever that's worth. The Tonkin Gulf Incident happened just before I was in OCS. That's when things really started heating up in Vietnam," he explained.

"I had an instructor in ship handling school in 1967 who had been the Combat Information Officer on the Maddox or the Turner Joy. It was the ship that was attacked that people later claimed wasn't attacked.

"There was no doubt in his mind he thought they had been attacked by enemy gun boats. He had the dead reckoning papers that showed every contact every minute and showed exactly what happened to them.

"Years later I saw a 'Letter to the Editor' in the Navy Institute Proceedings from another man who had been in the same area as my instructor about the same time. What he wrote the editor was they saw a flight of birds coming off the island, not an enemy PT-boat.

"But on their monitor the flock of birds looked exactly like an enemy boat attacking and they fired their guns. When they did the flock of birds disbursed and on the monitor it looked like the boat had been sunk. It disappeared. I believe my instructor really thought they were being attacked," Maresca said.

"When I went into OCS in August 1966 I put on my Green Sheet I wanted to go to the Riverine Forces in South Vietnam. Anything but engineering and destroyers and hopefully on the East Coast of the U.S. so I could be near my grandparents who raised me," Maresca said. "They put me in a destroyer on the West Coast in the engineering department.



The USS Everett F. Larson, DD-830, was a World War II Fletcher Class destroyer converted to a more powerful ship with twice the main gun fire power when Maresca served aboard her in Vietnam in the 1960s. Photo provided

"I became part of the crew of the USS Everett F. Larson, DD-830. She was originally launched in April 1945 as a Fletcher Class destroyer. She was converted to a more powerful ship with an extended hull and twice as many five-inch main guns.

"I was the damage control assistant on the destroyer. The ship had just come back from Vietnam when I got there. There were a lot of training exercises for the new recruits.

"In the course of my training I was the conning officer when we hit another destroyer, the USS Orleck, DD-886, while trying to dock her," he recalled. "We cracked the other ship's frame. The Orleck had been slated to sail for Vietnam the next day, but didn't make it.

"Our ship headed for Vietnam in August of 1967. We provided naval gun fire support. People would call us for supporting fire and then we would rain 5-inch shells on a target ashore," Maresca explained.

"Some times we were Plane Guard. That's where we went along behind an aircraft carrier and picked up anyone who wound up in the drink. One day a pilot never made it within sight of the carrier. We went looking for him, but never found anything.

"It was about this time they found out the USS Pueblo had been captured by the North Koreans. They sent our ship up to the Sea of Japan off the coast of North Korea. We were going to be sent in to get the Pueblo and tow it out of Wonsan Harbor with guns ablazing.

"There was no way we were going to do that. You could have shot holes through our ship with a .22 because it was so old and beat up," Maresca said. "At the last minute they decided not to go into the harbor because there were a couple of enemy submarines waiting for us just outside the harbor.

"We had 32 days up there off the coast of North Korean in the Sea of Japan in heavy, heavy seas. That was about the end of the action in Vietnam for the crew of the USS Larson that sailed back to the U.S.," he said.

"On our last mission in Vietnam we got a shell stuck in the right barrel of the forward gun mount. The procedure is you stop everything and run out there with a fire hose and cool the barrel down so it doesn't blow up," Maresca explained. "They didn't do that, they did nothing and waited until they started firing the next day to clear the jammed up barrel.

"The next day when we got ready to fire the gun with the jammed shell stuck in it someone brushed up against the firing switch. The gun hadn't been turned toward the target. It was pointed straight ahead when it went off.

"There was a South Vietnamese light house dead ahead of us when the gun went off. Evidently the shell must have missed the lighthouse. The captain was so distraught he got on the intercom and demanded the weapons officer come up on the bridge. By this time the skipper was literally frothing at the mouth.

"'I'm not going out there on the bridge. A bunch of wild horses couldn't drag me out there,' the weapon's officer declared.

"I probably missed my chance for the history books after we got back from Vietnam. It was the summer of 1967 and the Larson was moored in Long Beach Harbor. I was a junior grade lieutenant and one night I was the command duty officer.

"The messenger of the watch came in saluted. Then he informed me, 'The Officer of the Deck sends his respects and reported: A Jap Zero (fighter plane) was diving on our fantail.'

"I certainly wasn't expecting such a message. But I told him: 'Bring guns to bear and blow that SOB out of the sky. I'll be right back there.'

"I went back to the fantail and there really were Japanese Zeroes diving on our ship. They were filming the movie 'Tora, Tora, Tora.' But I never got the message before the 'attack' began.

"Fortunately for me, an old Chief Quartermaster was the officer of the deck that night. He didn't take orders from a lieutenant j.g. As a consequence he didn't order our guns to fire on the 'enemy.' He saved my naval career."

Maresca went on to serve 17 years in the Naval Reserve and retired in 1983 as a commander.

He and his wife, Dola, moved to Buttonwood Village about five years ago. He has two grown daughters: Alicia and Terri.

(*article from: <http://donmooreswartales.com/2012/05/16/eugene-maresca/>)

****CURRENT EVENTS - PLEASE READ****
WE NEED MORE STORIES!!!

We have received some very interesting and personal emails and letters from those who served on the Larson, that you will find under the "Mail Call" heading.

There have to be hundreds of these stories. We would ask you to think back to those years on the Larson and email it or write it down and send it to drice@ctslabs.com or Doug Rice, 83 Stonehedge Lane South, Guilford, CT 06437.

Give us as much detail as possible, with dates, names and we will share it with the Larson crew in our next newsletter!

Larson hats, shirts and jackets will be available from EMBROIDERY CREATIONS, 5050 Nebraska Avenue, Ste. 8, HUBER HEIGHTS, OHIO. Phone: 937-235-0441. Fax: 937-235-0487. Contact Chuck Hertzman Website: www.embroiderycreations.com or info@embroiderycreations.com

LARSON PATCHES AVAILABLE - Vern Smith, 1855 E. Oakmont Ave., Fresno, CA 93720, (e-mail: yttim2@dslextrreme.com) has Larson Patches available and the cost is \$4.00 which includes mailing cost.

THIS IS NOT A DRILL
Its still important to get dues paid and to get new members. We need to do both!
DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Get Your Larson Newsletter Via Email
 With every edition, your Association mails out 383 Newsletters and Emails 170 Newsletters to members. **Please let Doug Rice (drice@ctslabs.com) know if we can just provide you with the email version.** With the rising costs of stamps, envelopes and printing, we would appreciate your help in cutting our costs. Thank you for your help.

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR SHIPMATES



Ol Division Radarman 1960's

Attention on Deck!

Dues...You know the drill!

Please send your 2012 Dues. Fill out this form, send it and your check made payable to: USS Everett F. Larson DD-830 with a self addressed envelope to:

Frank Wyzywany, Treasurer
 12 Ashleigh Court
 Lansing, MI 48906

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Tel #: _____

Email: _____

Please Check One:

\$10.00 per year Full Membership

\$120.00 Lifetime Membership (w/ spouse)

\$5.00 per year Associate Membership
 (no voting rights at meeting)

Years beng paid for: _____

Mailing Address:

Are you current? Take a moment to check to see if you need to update information.

*Send in the changes to Doug so you will receive your copy of the Larson Newsletter in a timely and cost efficient fashion.

Doug Rice
 83 Stonehedge Lane South
 Guilford, CT 06437

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Tel #: _____

Email: _____

Rate & Years on Larson: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

**Nashville TN - Everett F Larson Reunion
2013**

Sept 4 – Sept 8, 2013

The 2013 USS Everett F Larson reunion will be held Wednesday September 4 until Sunday September 8, 2013. Our location is the

Radisson Hotel Nashville Airport
1112 Airport Center Drive,
Nashville, TN 37214
(615) 889-9090

There is also complimentary shuttle service from the airport with service within a 3 mile radius.

Room rates are \$95.00 plus tax per night. The room cutoff date with the hotel is August 1, 2013. The room rate will be available for the 3 days before and after the reunion. Breakfast is included each day for two at the hotel. The hotel phone number direct is (615) 889-9090 and you must tell them that you are with the group to get the rate.

We will tour the Battle of Franklin and Carnton Plantation on Thursday September 5th. Lunch will be on your own. The memorial will be held at The War Memorial in town after lunch.

Friday the 6th is on your own with the banquet Friday evening which will have a live band.

Saturday the 7th we will be going to the Grand Ole Opry in the evening. Also Saturday we will have the raffle and business meeting.

Sunday the 8th farewell breakfast and safe travel to all.

FILL OUT ATTENDANCE FORM!!!

U.S.S. Everett F. Larson 2013 Reunion
 Wednesday September 4th to Sunday September 18th

Wednesday, Sept 4, 2013 Hospitality room will be open for early arrivals. Check into the Radisson Hotel Nashville Airport. Casual welcome dinner in the hospitality.

Thursday, Sept 5, 2013 Tour Battle of Franklin & Carnton Plantation - Greatest story of the Civil War, Lunch on your own. Afternoon memorial held in town at The War Memorial.

Friday, Sept 6, 2013 Evening Banquet music & entertainment.

Saturday, Sept 7, 2013 Raffle & business meeting. Grand Ole Opry in the evening

Sunday, Sept 8, 2013 Daily complimentary breakfast buffet for 2 in hospitality room

Return by August 2013

Check payable to John Clements
 John Clements, 195 Elm Street, New Rochelle, NY 10805

=====
 Name: _____ Years aboard Larson _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone #: _____ Email _____

- 1) Wed. Sept. 4th Informal supper, pizza & desserts
 Number of Persons _____ x \$5.00 each = \$ _____
 - 2) Thurs. Sept. 5th lunch on own, tour Battle of Franklin & Carnton Plantation
 Number of Persons _____ x \$47.00 each = \$ _____
 - 3) Friday Sept. 6th Evening Banquet music & entertainment.
 Number of Persons _____ x \$47.00 each = \$ _____
 Prime rib # _____ Chicken Marsala # _____
 - 4) Sat. Sept. 7th Grand Ole Opry in the evening
 Number of Persons _____ x \$47.00 each = \$ _____
- Grand Total = \$ _____