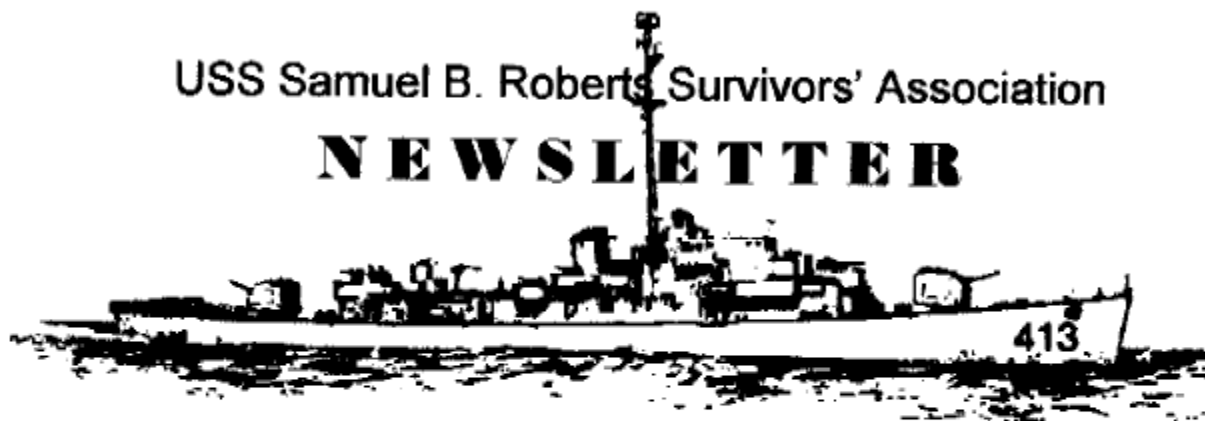


USS Samuel B. Roberts Survivors' Association

NEWSLETTER



Dedicated to the memory of our shipmate and friend, Whit Felt.

June 2003

Volume 13, Number 2



THE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS THE REGISTRATION FORM FOR OUR ALBANY REUNION IN SEPTEMBER.

PLEASE COMPLETE IT AND SEND IT BACK TO ME AS SOON AS YOU CAN. WE MUST LET THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN BUS TRAVEL AND RESTAURANTS KNOW HOW MANY WE WILL HAVE.

YOUR COOPERATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, September 10

Registration

Complimentary Cocktail Party in the Hospitality Suite.

Thursday, September 11

Bus Tour of Albany including luncheon at The Albany Pump Station.

Friday, September 12

Bus trip to Cooperstown to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Fabulous Buffet Luncheon at Otesaga Resort Hotel.

Saturday, September 13

Memorial Service aboard the restored Destroyer Escort USS SLATER.

Cruise aboard the "Dutch Apple" on the Hudson River. Luncheon included.

Closing banquet at Ramada Inn

Sunday, September 14

Farewell Buffet Breakfast at the Ramada Inn.

ALBANY, NEW YORK

I believe that this is the first time that we have held a reunion in New York and thought that you might want to learn something about the capital of my home state.

In 1609 a Dutch explorer, Henry Hudson was looking for a shorter route to the far east and went north on the river which was later named after him. He could only get to a point just north of what is now Albany. The Dutch West India Company established an outpost there in 1624.

Five days after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, NY formed a state government and became a state on 4/20/1777. New York City was our nation's first capital and the site of the inauguration of our first president, George Washington in 1789.

The city of Albany is 22 sq. mi. and has a population of 100,000.

Hotel Information

*Picture of
Hotel*

The Ramada Inn Downtown has reserved 20 rooms for us at a rate of \$72.00 (single or double occupancy) plus tax which comes to \$79.92 per day. The rate includes a full American Breakfast, served from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. in their Hudson River Cafe. The address is 300 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207 and their telephone number is 518-434-4111. When making a reservation make sure that you mention the name of the group (Samuel B. Roberts Survivors Association and the guaranteed rate of \$72.00).

The Inn, which is only 9 miles from the airport, provides airport pickup at no charge but request that you notify them of your expected arrival time so that they may coordinate proper shuttle service.

I strongly suggest that if you think that there is a chance that you will be with us for the reunion that you make your reservation **N O W**. You can always cancel later if necessary.

The 135 room, five story hotel is in the downtown area, convenient to the USS SLATER and to the State Capitol, the NY State Museum and Empire State Plaza. Nonsmoking rooms are available.

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Events Information

On Wednesday evening, Sept. 10, the hotel will provide a complimentary one hour reception in the Hospitality Room with beer, wine, soft drinks, dry snacks, pizza squares, egg rolls and vegetable tray with dip.

Our bus tour of Albany on Thursday, the 11th will leave the Ramada Inn at 9:30 a.m. We will visit the Visitors Center and enjoy an exhibit and film. At 10:30 we will have a driving tour of Albany until noon when we stop to have luncheon at The Albany Pump Station. After more touring, we return to the Ramada Inn at 3:00 p.m.

The Business Meeting will be held from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Suite

Cooperstown, N.Y. is our destination on Friday, Sept. 12. We will leave the Ramada Inn at 8:30 a.m. The 80 mile trip will take about one and one half hours. First stop will be the Baseball Hall of Fame. Admission is included in the Registration Fee. For lunch, we will go to the beautiful Otesaga Resort Hotel which overlooks Lake Otsego. We have been promised a most delightful meal which is also included. You may return to the Hall of Fame or perhaps visit the Farmer's Museum or the James Fenimore Cooper Museum. We will be back at the Ramada Inn by 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, the 13th is a busy day. At 8:30 a.m. we will leave for the USS SLATER. You may walk or there will be rides available in cars and vans. We can tour the SLATER then or return at any time. At 10:30 we board the "Dutch Apple" for a trip on the Hudson River and luncheon aboard. The "Dutch Apple" is right next to the SLATER. The cruise and luncheon is from 11 am to 1 pm.

The closing banquet is at the Ramada Inn with a cash bar from 5:30 to 6:00 pm and dinner following. At this point arrangements are still in process for our speaker.

Sunday morning at 8:30 am we will gather for breakfast and bid one another farewell until our next meeting.

Do plan to be with us this year. We are really looking forward to seeing you.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

As I'm sure you all realize, reunions don't just happen. I want to thank Vince Goodrich and Sam Stewart for all of the time and effort they have expended in putting things together. Additionally, our thanks go to Patti Hedgeman who lives in Albany. Patti is the daughter of shipmate John L. Conway. She has been a member of our Association for quite a while but was never able to attend one of our reunions. That will no longer be the case.

Patti has stepped forward and put all of her efforts into making things go well while we are in Albany. Her local knowledge and contacts have been unbelievable. I don't know how we would have done it without her, and when I say "we" I am not trying to pretend that I had anything to do with things. Vince and Sam are the main guys and Patti's help and suggestions have been tremendous. We are most appreciative.



A Word About Airlines

Since many of you will be flying into Albany, following is a list of airlines that serve Albany Airport.

American Airlines
American Eagle
Continental Connection
Continental Express
Delta Airlines
Northwest Airlines
Southwest Airlines
United Airlines
US Airways

Albany International Airport is 9 miles from the city. The Ramada Inn provides airport pickup service at no charge. Let them know of your arrival time.

Trip to Cooperstown

Patti was kind enough to send me the following information which I think you will find helpful.

The restaurant is at the Otesaga Hotel which is one of New York's most distinctive resorts, directly on Lake Otsego. It is a beautiful turn of the century resort with wide porches overlooking the lake.

There is James Fenimore Cooper memorabilia at the Fenimore Art Museum. It is very near the Farmer's Museum which takes one back to rural life of the mid 1800s. She is almost positive that both are accessible by the trolley. For a charge of \$2.00 you may ride it all day. It stops at all the attractions as well as various stops along Main Street.

Says Patti, "If you like baseball then plan on spending quite a bit of time at the Hall of Fame." She feels that since the kids will be at school and it is a week day we shouldn't run into crowds.

The museums are just past the Otesaga Resort Hotel where we are having lunch, so perhaps you would like to visit them after lunch.



DRIVING?

*Printed
driving
directions*

WHO IS GOING TO ALBANY?

*Pic. of
SLATER*

The USS SLATER (DE 766) was built at Tampa Shipyard in Tampa Florida, launched on 2/13/44 and commissioned 5/1/44.

She is the only floating destroyer escort on display in North America. Of 563 DEs built during World War II, three survive as memorial ships. Nine more remain on duty in foreign navies in

various modified configurations. Slater served in both the Atlantic and the Pacific Theaters and was decommissioned in 1946. While in reserve, Slater was transferred in 1951 to the Hellenic Navy where she served with distinction for more than 40 years. Through the efforts of the Destroyer Escort Sailors Association (DESA) she was donated to that organization by the Greek government and was towed from Crete to New York City's Intrepid Museum. In 1997, Slater was moved to her permanent location in Albany, New York. Restoration to her 1945 configuration is being accomplished through private donations and volunteer labor.

Darned if I know, but here are a few.

Leah Felt
Sam and Louise Blue
Dudley Moylan
Patti Hedgeman
Doug Ferm (FFG 58)
Vince and Fran Goodrich
Dick and Helen Rohde
Tom and Virginia Stevenson
Bob and Norma Jean Bingaman
Sam Stewart
Mel and Leona Harden
Bob and Billie LeClercq
Marshall Richards

Sure wish that I could add a lot of names to the above, but, after all, this is the first official notice with registration form. There are some others whom I suspect will be there (why not).

Jack and Ruth Yusen - Don and Gin Young
Bill and Dorothy Katsur - Maxine Sinclair
Madeline and Morrie Dadd - George Bray
John and Shirley Montgomery - Audrey McMullen
Elbert and Mable Gentry - Linda Fowler
John and Susan Walsh - Maggie Hayes

Here are some others that we would all love to have with us again.

Bud and Lil Comet - Harry and Peggy Dodd
All the Carr sisters
Lou and Barbara Gould - Adolph and Mary Lou Herrera
Joe and Marie Fortier
Henry Doscher - Don Derwoyed
Glenn and Jo Anne Huffman
Paul Rinn - Ed Wheaton
Jim Hornfischer - John Wukovits
Red Harrington

The above was a stupid thing for me to do. I have left so many of you out and it was not on purpose. Please forgive me for all of the omissions.

Donations may be sent to
Destroyer Escort Historical Museum
USS SLATER (DE 766)
P. O. Box 1926
Albany, NY 12201-1926
Make checks payable to DEHM
Donations are tax deductible
Memberships are available

Officers and Directors USS Samuel B. Roberts Survivors Ass'n.

Dudley Moylan
Sam Stewart
Bob LeClercq
Don Young
Co Treasurer, Vince Goodrich
Co Treasurer, Mel Harden
Newsletter Editor, Dick Rohde

The Latest Scuttlebutt

Jim Hornfischer

Jim's book, "The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors" will be available in February, 2004 and is listed and available at Amazon.com.

Tom Stevenson

Tom and Virginia are back in Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania. The good news is that Tom does not need to have surgery. His heart problem is being treated medically. The bad news is that his favorite dog ate his new SBR hat.

Rev. Harry Dodd

When I spoke with Harry last, he was recuperating well, at home, from his by-pass surgery. Peggy sounded well also.

Dudley Moylan

Hold on to your hats for this one. Dudley has entered the computer age and now has a laptop. No e-mails from him yet but it won't be long.

Vince Goodrich

All seems to be well in Bradford, Pennsylvania. Fran is keeping Vince under reasonable control and all looks good for the reunion.

George Bray

George has been having some health problems. I know that he would love to hear from you and prayers are always acceptable.

Jack Yusen

I have not heard from Jack in a while but learned that the Bob Hope Memorial project was over. Jack put all of his life into this over the past few years and I know that it had to be a big disappointment. We're here for you Jack.

John Wukovits

John's new book, "Pacific Alamo - The Battle for Wake Island" will be out in July 2003. Congratulations John.

On The Home Front

Helen and I are doing fine. I had cataract surgery on both eyes in April and May. Four days after my second surgery I got my first Hole-In-One. What a thrill. It was a 175 yard hole and I know that some of you will be surprised to learn that I could hit the ball that far.

USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58

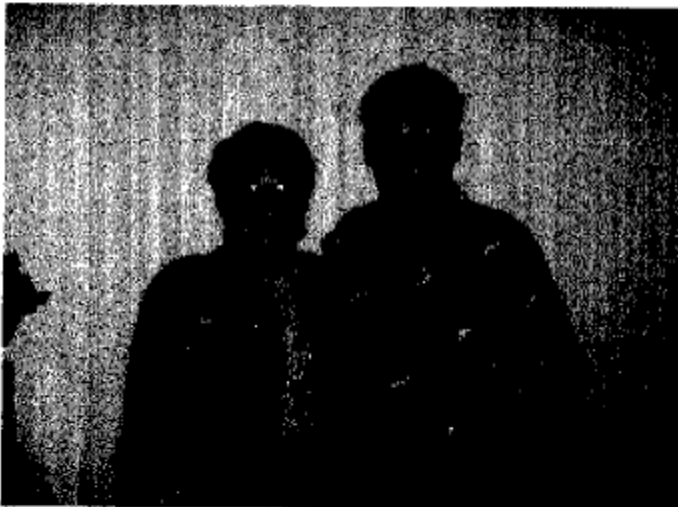
Was in New York for Fleet Week in late May. She was docked at Staten Island, where Helen and I as well as Virginia Stevenson were born.

Harold Weiners

I called Harold to let him know about the ROBERTS being in New York since he lives in New Jersey. I spoke with his wife, Bernadette, who told me that he is in poor health. Our prayers go to them.



Some Past Reunions



SAMUEL B. ROBERTS SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION

Reunion, Albany, New York. September 10 - 14, 2003

Please mail completed form by July 15 to:

Richard K. Rohde
9045 SW 91st Circle
Ocala, FL 34481-8404

Make check payable to: SBR Survivors Association

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Your Name _____

Partner's Name _____

Guest #1 _____

Guest # 2 _____

Guest # 3 _____

Guest # 4 _____

Date	Event	How Many	Price	Total
Wed Sep 10	Registration Fee per Person (No charge under 16)		15.00	
Thu Sep 11	Bus Tour of Albany including luncheon		40.00	
Fri Sep 12	Bus Trip to Cooperstown, B'ball of Fame, Lunch, Admiss.		40.00	
Fri Sep 12	Bus Trip to Cprstn. & B'ball, Lunch Child 8 & under		32.50	
Sat Sep 13	Hudson River Boat Ride including Lunch		20.00	
Sat Sep 13	Hudson River Boat Ride - child under 11		15.00	
Sat Sep 13	Closing Banquet at Hotel, Roast Sirloin of Beef		25.00	
Sat Sep 13	Closing Banquet - Roast Sirloin - Child 12 and under		12.50	
Sat Sep 13	Closing Banquet at Hotel, Alaskan Salmon		25.00	
Sat Sep 13	Closing Banquet - Alaskan Salmon - Child 12 or under		12.50	
Sun Sep 14	Farewell Buffet Breakfast		4.00	
	I am enclosing my dues for 2003/2004, suggested \$15			
	TOTAL			

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Sorry, I will not be able to attend this year. _____