

SHIPMATES

Newsletter of the USS BOSTON Shipmates.

WWW.USSBOSTON.ORG

January 2023

Presidents Corner

Hello Shipmates;

The 2023 Reunion in New Orleans is all set to go in July of this year. We will see the WWII Museum and the entire city of New Orleans at our own pace and take a Cruise and hold our Memorial Service, have lunch and listen to Jazz on the Creole Queen cruising on the Mississippi. I am sure we will all have an excellent time.

This past year has seen the loss of many U.S.S. Boston Shipmates from all eras. As they say, "we ain't gettin any younger".

Just recently we saw the loss of our Committee Member and Modeler Jerry Kirk, 1966-1969. I am sure that most of you (that have ever attended a reunion) knew him. He was the Shipmate that had the Van with the USS Boston CAG-1 painted on the side of it and the Shipmate that made and brought his 10 foot Radio controlled CAG-1 model to our reunions and displayed it in the Memorabilia Room at each of them.

We have even put the model in many Hotel Pools to have Jerry put it through its paces. In Chicago, we put it in the pond in front of a hotel near a major highway and it actually stopped many drivers who wanted to watch it cruise in the Pond. By his passing the model most likely will not be making any appearances at our future reunions. It is my understanding (per the family) that it will be placed into a museum. When I find out where I will certainly share the location so that everyone can see it if they choose to. Jerry Kirk, Esther and his CAG-1 model will be missed by all of us.

Our sincerest condolences to his family and the families of all of the Shipmates that have left us.

Life is short, seek out a shipmate and say hello every chance you can.

I look forward to seeing you at the reunion in New Orleans. If you have never attended a U.S.S. Boston Reunion please make an effort to come to this one, I know that you will not be disappointed.

Barry

ANNOUNCING

USS BOSTON SHIPMATES, INC.

2023 Annual Reunion

80th Anniversary

USS BOSTON CA-69

COMMISSIONING

July 13th-16th, 2023

Higgins Hotel New Orleans

Curio Collection by Hilton

Directly across from the newly completed **National WWII Museum.**



Don't hesitate to make your plans today to be in New Orleans.

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE DETAILS

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER

The lucky winner of the 2022 USS Boston quilt raffle is Frank Santomassimo (66-69) **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Thank you to those who helped to support the Shipmates.



WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED

We have secured the Higgins hotel which is located across the street from the **National WWII Museum**. What better place to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Commissioning of the USS Boston CA-69.

If you are flying and need transportation to and from the hotel, Airport Shuttle New Orleans rate for our shipmates.

\$52.00 round trip per person or **\$26.00** one way per person. Call to book your reservation **504.522.3500**

You can also book on line at:

<https://www.airportshuttleneworleans.com/portals/uss-boston-ann-reunion-7-23>

Booking on line discounted rate is **\$40.00** per person rmd trip or **20.00** per person one way. You must book 48 hrs in advance.

Room Rate is 115.00 per night plus tax **TOTAL \$134.00** per night. Breakfast is **NOT** included.

This rate is good **July 10th-19th** so come early, stay later and explore all New Orleans has to offer!

Book your hotel reservation today! Be sure to identify yourself as USS Boston group when you call.

504-528-1941

You can also book on line at:

<https://group.curiocollection.com/hp0qhz>

When you arrive at the site you need to adjust the dates that you wish to stay.

The special code should appear in the **Special Rate** box when you click on it. The price quoted \$134.00, already includes the tax.

You have your choice of 2 Queens beds or 1 King bed. Click on the one you what to reserve.

Fill in your personal information. Click Book Reservation!

You may also book through **Hilton Honors Program** if you are already a member.

Use our group code **USSBCI** to receive the correct room rate.

Discounted Parking is \$25.00 (normally \$37.00) per night with in and out privileges.

If you have any questions or need assistance with booking your reservation please call 508-580-3808 or email us. We will be happy to assist you.

Who was Andrew Higgins?

Why do they serve Bonne Mamam Jam at the Higgins? You will find these answers as well as other facts about WWII at the Higgins Hotel.

You will find this to be a very unique hotel. Every corner has been dedicated to someone, something or someplace during WWII. It is a museum in and of itself.

Thursday Night: Our welcome event will include dinner and entertainment .

Friday you will have the opportunity to tour the **National WWII Museum** located across from the hotel. You don't have to meet a bus you just go to the museum on your own when you are ready. Please be aware it takes 5-6 hours to tour the entire museum.

Your Museum ticket also is your movie ticket to the **2:00 PM** showing of **"Beyond All Borders"**, narrated by Tom Hanks.

Your museum pass also entitles you to purchase a second day pass for \$7.00 that is good to use within 7 days of the purchase. Please note you must purchase this second day pass on your own.

The museum has been 20 years in the making. The final pavilion was completed in July of 2022.

Friday Supper will be a casual supper prior to our Auction & Raffle.

Saturday's Tour: Hop On Hop Off is a tour of New Orleans. The bus stops at the corner of Magazine and Andrew Higgins Street just across from the hotel (stop #10). The first bus pick up begins at **9:25AM**. There are 19 stops so plan your day accordingly. It is a 90 minute loop. You can stay on for the full 90 minutes or you can get off at any of the stops. Just return to where you got off to catch any **Hop On Hop Off** to get back to next stop or ride back to the hotel Stop #10.

Please remember to be back to stop #10 by 5:00 PM. The **Hop On, Hop Off** stops at 5:30 PM, if you are at any stop other than stop #10 at 5:30 PM, you will have to find your own way to get back to the hotel.

Saturday Dinner: Our annual cocktail hour, banquet, entertainment and dancing.

Sunday: we have booked a Jazz Brunch Cruise. What better way to end our weekend then on the Mississippi with great food and music. Gray line busses will shuttle you from the hotel to the **Creole Queen**.

Our memorial service will take place aboard the **Creole Queen**.

Please note we have not planned any formal breakfasts for our group.

"Café Normandie", the hotel restaurant serves breakfast, lunch & dinner.

"Provisions" a convenience shop within the hotel offering fresh baked goods, coffee, snacks & gifts

Enjoy a cocktail at **"Kilroy's Bar"** Lobby Level or **"Rosie's On the Roof"**. Check out the view!

DID YOU KNOW----- That the U.S. Navy is older than the United States itself? Moreover, the Navy has always played a role in the creation, development, and defense of this country and its capital city--later named Washington DC.

When Pierre L'Enfant designed the Federal City in 1791, he included a prominent site for a Navy memorial, and designated military use areas such as what is presently occupied by the Washington Navy Yard.

Throughout American history, the U.S. Navy has provided heroic men and women whose service to country has been vital to our survival.

You can explore Washington's strong naval tradition by experiencing some of its many memorials dedicated to the performance and sacrifice of this nation's sea service veterans---like you and me.

Contributed by Art Hebert (58-62)

In Memory of Jerry Kirk



Do You Have "Sea Stories" to Share?

We would like to have your stories & memories to share with our readers.

We receive calls regularly asking "Do you have information on my dad, grandfather, uncle etc? Do you know anyone that may have served with him? What was his job aboard ship?" Your memories and stories could help them to make a connection.

If you would like to contribute please send your stories via email or USPS mail to us at the USS Boston address.

AS A SIDE NOTE.....

Did you serve aboard a **FLAG SHIP** of the **6th Fleet** that was home ported in Villefranche Sur Mer, France? There is a an organization located in Villefranche Sur Mer, France that is also looking for your stories and memories.

Les Americains et la 6e Flotte a Villefranche-sur-Mer, has already started to compile a book of memories. They are also looking for stories, pictures & memorabilia from the men that served aboard these ships to be part of their planned museum.

USS Springfield CLG-7, USS Des Moines CA-134, USS Little Rock CLG-4, USS Salem CA-139, USS Newport News CA-148, USS Boston CAG-1, to name a few.

Yes, the Boston was the Flag Ship of the 6th fleet from September 18th, 1962 to October 25th, 1962.

You may also send these via email or USPS mail to our office and we will forward them to France.

WHY ARE YOU RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER?

Our January newsletter is the only one mailed to everyone in our database with a "good address".

It is also the only one available on the USS Boston Shipmates website, www.ussboston.org

To receive future 2023 newsletters you will need to be a member in "Good Standing". What does that mean? You need to meet one of the following requirements.

1. You have paid lifetime dues.
2. You have paid annual dues for 2023.
3. You have obtained the age of 80 years.
4. You are actively serving in the military.

Once, There was BOSTON

A proud boat
A brave crew
One hull
And one screw
Built to sail
The oceans blue
Built to dive
And surface too
Launched on the nineteenth of April
In the year nineteen-eighty
Sleek and black
An elegant lady
She first went to sea
Her seafaring days had begun
From Groton, Connecticut
In November Nineteen-hundred eighty one
Christened in the days
What was called the Cold War
The submarine Boston
Built to even the score
Her hull was numbered
Seven-Zero-Three
With a hard working crew
She took safely to sea
The years have long since past
Since she took her final trip
We hope she won't be the last
But now she is a scrapped ship,
Her proud crew-members are aging
Many have passed away
Will there ever be another BOSTON
This we cannot say
Let us all remember the BOSTON
And her namesakes that came before
May the world never forget
Those vessels that evened the score
One ship
One crew
One shaft
With one screw

*Written by : Bruce A McCausland Plankowner, SSN-703,
Reactor Controls Division*

BINNACLE LIST

Charlie Perez, 56-59 P.O. Box 1223 Stratford, CT 06615	Guild (Bushy) Hill, 62-63 84 Cameron St Manchester, NH 10303
Esther Kirk (wife of Jerry) 41 E Hanover St Wellsville, NY 14895	CMDR Ted Sevigny, Jr 66-68 8609 Jutland Pony Ct Gainesville, VA 20155
Douglas Kay, YN3 67-70 3897 Reese Rd Ortonville, MI 48462	If you know of anyone that should be on this list please let us know call or email us.

Our "Taps and In Memoriam Lists"
are available on line
www.ussboston.org **Mess Decks**
Sadly the list has become too lengthy to print.

2023 ANNUAL DUES REMINDER

If you have not already paid your 2023 annual dues
they are due by December 31, 2023.

In order to continue to receive this and future news-
letters your dues need to be current.

Annual Dues: \$10.00 per year

Lifetime Dues: \$110.00

- * Pay On Line @ www.ussboston.org
- * Pay using Zelle: president@ussboston.org
- * By Check Payable to USS Boston
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**BY PHONE / FAX
508-580-3808**

This Newsletter was written by: Pat Probst, Chairman,
Did You Know Contributed by Art Hebert, V.P. Emeritus,
Once There was Boston Written by Bruce McCausland Sub
Liaison.