



U.S.S. BOSTON Associates Bulletin

Happy New Year

Ralph George, Editor



Left to right: Ralph S. George, Secretary Edward J. Cronin, Joseph Maras, Ed Fitzpatrick, Ben Bastianelli.

TO MY FELLOW MEMBERS:

At this time, I would like to thank you for the confidence you placed in me by electing me President of this fast growing organization.

I will strive together with my brother officers to make the next reunion as successful as the last.

It is the wish of the group that chapters be set up in other sections of the country, which will renew and strengthen our comradeship which was formed on board ship.

We have approximately three thousand members who

were aboard ship at one time or another during World War Two. Our mailing list now consists of twelve hundred, so that means that about fifty percent have not been notified.

Please notify any who did not get the word.

In passing, I would like to say that we have a fine group of officers with plenty of initiative which will mean Bigger and Better Reunions. How can we lose with our dear past President as my right hand?

Thanking you sincerely,

Francis X. Dennehy

'REAR ADMIRAL CHARLES B. MARTELL USN GUEST SPEAKER AT U.S.S. BOSTON REUNION'

Rear Admiral Charles B. Martell, then Captain of the U.S.S. Boston, addressed the members and their families at the banquet.

His talk of the guided missiles and the renovation of the ship was most interesting.

Rear Admiral Charles B. Martell is now stationed with Naval Intelligence.

We all wish him success in his new appointment.

WALTER W. LOGAN REVIVES ROLE OF "LEM SUGGS" AT REUNION



Walter W. Logan, Lt. of the 8th Division, entertained the banquet party with his interpretation of "Lem Suggs" and the "Talking Blues".



EDWARD J. CRONIN
SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON

April
11th
1956

Dear Ed:

It certainly was very kind of you to bring your corporate associates in the USS Boston group to my office and I was pleased to be able to personally present your charter.

I thought you might like to have the enclosed print. May it serve as a little remembrance of that occasion. Prints are also being sent to various newspapers.

You have my best wishes for a successful reunion at the Hotel Bradford in June.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

EDWARD J. CRONIN
Secretary of the Commonwealth

Mr. Edmund S. Fitzpatrick
200 Amory street
Jamaica Plain 30, Massachusetts

EJC:mdd
Enc.



All of us are well familiar with the character role during our stay on the U.S.S. Boston. Lem Suggs, after visiting the Ship, reported that he went "a-looking for his beautiful 'Battery of forty Millimeters' and they twarn't there." He also expressed his opinion about the guided missiles and assured everyone, "they are just a passing fancy and won't last long; just like the tooth brush and television".

Walter W. Logan is now employed by the Dixie Mercantile Company of Chattanooga, Tenn., representing this company in the New York area. His address is 350 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

I have been asked to give a brief history of the founding and organizing of the U.S.S. Boston Asso. Inc.

The "H" Division have been having reunions since 1947 and at the division reunion in St. Johnsville, New York, as guests of Dr. Harry Diffenderfer, it was suggested that a reunion for the complete crew of the U.S.S. Boston be held. This took place June 1955.

Bill Blevins, Bill Noble and I were delegated to try and organize the former crew

members who live in and around the City of Boston.

Frank X. Dennehy was immediately contacted and he procured thirty names and addresses of the men from Boston. A meeting was held August 4th 1955 at the Fargo Bldg., eight were in attendance and it was decided to write and gather more names and addresses.

Dr. Wilmer T. Angell was kind enough to send us a list of all men who were on board ship at Japan. From this list the names of the men from Mass., Rhode Island and New Hampshire were taken and a notice sent out for a meeting at the Fargo Bldg. November 16th 1955. We had an attendance of about one-hundred and twenty-five. It was agreed that a reunion be held and a charter be obtained from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Application was made from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A meeting was held at the American Legion Hall at Readville, Mass., December 13th 1955, and the application was signed. The Charter was granted to us March 1st 1956, by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Edward C. Cronin.

A suitable hotel had to be hired, and after looking around we found that the Hotel Bradford was the best for our purpose. Mr. Appleton, Manager of the hotel, was more than kind in helping us to organize by giving us practically free run of the hotel and a meeting room free of charge for almost a year and assisting us every way possible.

Our thanks to Governor Christian A. Herter; Mayor John B. Hynes; and Edward J. Cronin, Secretary of State; for their kind contribution to help make our reunion the success that it was.

Also, to our advertisers and business establishments which contributed so gracefully. Some of which are: Haffenraffer Breweries; Boston Beer; Dubbleware Clothes; Niles-State Envelope Co.; Manton & Shea Printers; Finch Printing Co.; Reynolds Tobacco; Croft Ale; Mr. Fritz Walker of Murray Printing Co.; and William A. Singer Public Relations Agency.

A special word of praise to our own members who contributed much: Ralph George; Jim Flynn; Jim Clark; Frank Dennehy; John McManus; Williard MacGregor; Joe Maras; Bob Hughes; Bill Blevins; Charlie Sullivan; John Murphy; Jake Foschia; and our Treasurer Ben Bastianelli.

Our more than special thanks to Walter W. Logan for his entertaining, both on board ship and at the reunion. Also to F.L. Beauregard, of New York City, for his contribution. To Commander John L. Wyman for his assistance in bringing the U.S.S. Boston CAGI here for the reunion and public relations work.

It is my honest opinion that the contribution from the above saved our organization thousands of dollars.

It is also the sincere wish of the members that our organization become self supporting and for this reason the dues have been increased to two dollars per year, so that a treasury of four or five thousand dollars be reached to promote the next reunion in 1959.



To our capable and able President-elect Frank X. Dennehy, we pledge our full support and will assist him everyday possible to make the next reunion bigger and better. To do this please send in the names and addresses of former crewmen whom you know that are not on our mailing list.

Edmund S. Fitzpatrick
President

"AN INTERESTED OBSERVER"

One of the most fascinating moments of my life was the evening of June 15th, 1956, in the lobby of the Hotel Bradford, where the delegates from all over the United States and its possessions assembled, to its First Annual Reunion and Banquet. Everything I witnessed could never be seen for a good many years to come. There was hugging, kissing, hand shaking,

greetings, saluting, surprises, yelling, jumping with surprise, celebrating in every shape and manner, men in uniforms, full dress, men in evening wear, all dressed for an event that could never take place 'again'.

Also, the reunion aboard ship and the 'Gang Plank Ceremony' was most interesting and a historical event.

Then came the Banquet to end all Banquets. From my own observation and a man about town, It Was Thrilling.

There was a sight for sore hearts - at the weary end of a war - with loved ones thousands of miles away. Forward on the SK turned a tremendous Cross ...A gigantic star swung on the SG...Out there in the middle of a dark harbor - amid big ships tugging at their chains.

Ashore was a Weapons Carrier with Boston men who had travelled 50 miles to bring Xmas decorations from a bombed out department store. Down from the hills came a jeep with its last load of fir trees for the Compartment displays.

On the main deck aft was the Happy Hour stage. Alongside, the catapult sprouted a cotton-snowed tree. From Damage Control Station SNAFU broadcast the latest news.

And came the night before Christmas...High overhead turned the bright Cross and Star. Down below, the Hanger jammed with men waiting to join in prayer as the Chaplain began Midnight Mass.

That night in 1945 - even though miles from home - it was fairly easy to be thankful to God, to promise many things. This year we have a chance to do it again - maybe not all together - but we can, in prayer, renew our ideals and our promises.

Oftentimes we must stand in order to be counted. At a time such as this - for yourself and for your mates - kneel and say a prayer.

Rev. Richard O'Halloran
Chaplain

JOE MARAS
MASTER OF CEREMONIES FOR
REUNION BANQUET

Joe Maras gave a superb performance as Master of Ceremonies at our First Reunion Banquet.

His descriptions of his shipmates were somewhat to the point when he said of:

- Frank Dennehy - A Poor-mans Morton Downey!
- Ed Fitzpatrick - Best Rear-gunner in the Navy
- Never say "Bottoms up" or you will get a dose of penicillin and it won't be orally either!
- Ben Bastianelli (our treasurer) - "No receipt, No cash".
- Ralph S. George - His middle initial "S" was revealed for the first time as "Sidney".
- Bill Blevins - The ladies man - "I think we should have the women folks attend our meetings."

Joe Maras after the war continued his profession on the "Football Field" and he is now line-coach for Harvard University. He lives in Needham, Mass. with his wife and three children.

MINUTES OF THE
JUNE 16, 1956 MEETING

A business meeting prior to our first re-union banquet was held in the Governor Winthrop Room, at the Hotel Bradford, Saturday, June 16, 1956 at 1400. The meeting was called to order at 1415 by the President Edmund S. Fitzpatrick.

A motion was made by William Blevins to have the outgoing officers automatically appointed to the Board of Directors for a period of three years. This motion was seconded by James Flynn and accepted by the Body.

An election of officers for the next three years was held with the following results:

- President
- Francis X. Dennehy
- V. President
- James Flynn
- Treasurer
- Benjamin Bastianelli Jr.
(re-elected)
- Secretary
William Blevins (re-elected)
- Chaplain
Rev. Richard O'Halloran
(re-elected)
- Legal Adviser
- John J. Murphy (re-elected)

There was approximately two hundred members present. All officers of the association were present.

President Fitzpatrick gave a summary to the out of town members on our past meetings and how we organized in Boston.

Treasurer Ben Bastianelli, Jr. made a treasurers report. There was a general discussion made among the members present and the following motions were made:

Charles Bailey from Keene New Hampshire made a motion to have the U.S.S. Boston Association national headquarters Boston, Mass. It was seconded by Mr. Charles Sullivan and accepted by the body.

Dr. Wilmer T. Angell from Randolph, Vermont made a motion to have an annual dues fee of one dollar a man. This motion was later recinded by Charles Bailey and a new motion was made to have the due fee two dollars a man. The pur-

pse of the two dollars annual dues is to help defray costs for the next re-union. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fred Vergaro from Connecticut. It was accepted by the body.

A motion was made by Robert Kelm from New Jersey to send a letter to Rear Admiral Charles B. Martell of the U.S.S. Boston CAGI for bringing the guided missile cruiser to Boston for the re-union. This was seconded by James Clark of New York and accepted by the body.

A motion was made by Fred Vergaro to designate the Hotel Bradford as a permanent mailing address for the U.S.S. Boston Association. This was seconded by Mr. Bailey and accepted by the body.

Mr. Fred Vergaro made a motion to have the next re-union in three years terminating with an election of officers. The city for the re-union to be chosen at a later date. This motion was seconded by Dr. E. Webber from Kenosha, Wisconsin and accepted by the Body.

Mr. Francis X. Dennehy made a motion to have the Board of Directors increased from twelve to fifteen members. This motion was seconded by Mr. C. Bailey and accepted by the Body.

Mr. James Clark made a motion that the national officers of the Association be elected from the Boston group where as the national headquarters are located in Boston, Massachusetts. This motion was seconded by Mr. Vergaro and accepted by the Body.

A bi-annual report will be published and issued to all members if possible. A motion to adjourn was made at 1600 by C. Bailey and seconded by J. Clark.

Respectfully submitted by

William F. Blevins
Secretary

FINANCIAL REPORT

ASSETS	
Cash on hand	\$765.72
Equipment	63.00
	<u>\$828.72</u>

LIABILITIES	
NONE	NONE

TOTAL ASSETS \$828.72



Top Row: Frank X. Dennehy, Francis McNeill, Harold Thomas, Ken Cunningham, Herb Corning. Second Row: Cdr. John L. Wyman, Charles Sullivan, John Murphy, Ralph S. George, John Antinick, Bob Huges. Bottom Row: Joseph Maras, Bill Blevins, Ed Fitzpatrick, Ben Bastianelli, James Flynn.

I will give you a brief summary of the expenses for the reunion.

We collected approximately, including dues and dinner tickets, \$2058.00. Our total expenditures amounted to a total of \$1229.28

It must be considered that we received substantial assistance from outside the organization which would have amounted to thousands of dollars.

As it was voted at the reunion to become self-supporting, it is imperative that you pay your dues so that a sufficient treasury may be reached.

DUES BECOME PAYABLE
JANUARY FIRST OF EACH
YEAR.

Ben Bastianelli
Treasurer



F. X. DENNEHY
PRESIDENT

JAMES FLYNN
VICE-PRESIDENT

BEN BASTIANELLI, JR.
TREASURER



U.S.S. BOSTON ASSOCIATES, INC.
HOTEL BRADFORD
BOSTON, MASS.

EDMUND S. FITZPATRICK
SECRETARY

REV. RICHARD O'HALLORAN
CHAPLAIN

JOHN J. MURPHY
LEGAL ADVISOR

RALPH S. GEORGE
PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

DIRECTORS

JOSEPH T. MARAS
AL CHRISTOFORO
BOB HUGHES
JOHN WYMAN
JACOB FOSCHIA
WALTER LAURIE
WM. HANCOCK
ROCCO RAUSEO

COMMITTEE

HERB CORNING
WM. NOBLE
WILLARD MACGREGOR
CHARLES LYONS
CHARLES ANNESI
ELLSWORTH WILLIAMS
NICHOLAS FOLINO
DAVID VISCONTE
EDWARD GLENNON
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C. A. BARTONE
JOHN CALVINO
JAKE QUIGLEY
PAUL O'DONNELL
R. A. GRIMES
F. A. HOYT
JOSEPH TRAYNOR
J. F. KENNEDY
JOHN HAFFORD
ARTHUR SQUIRES
CHET CARRAN
V. POLLARA
ARTHUR ITZKOWITZ
PATRICK CONWAY
JOHN ANTINICK
WILLIAM LANKIEWICZ

Dear Member:

This is the year for another big Reunion and with your cooperation we hope to make this bigger and better than the last. The Reunion of 1956 was remembered long after by those who attended and many requests have come in asking for the next one.

Please fill out enclosed card as to what month would be best for you to attend. From the answers we will determine the days of the Reunion. We plan to have a Three Day Celebration including Cocktail Parties, Dancing, Tours of the city, Banquet and visiting the U.S.S. Boston again.

It is very important that you sign the card and also contact all other shipmates and let them know of our plans and send their correct addresses so we may put them on the mailing list. It is very important to the committee that the cards be filled out and mailed back, IF NO CARD IS RECEIVED WE WILL REMOVE THE NAME FROM THE MAILING LIST, as mailing is a very costly undertaking.

Just a little reminder, have you paid your dues yet?

Sincerely yours

Ed. Fitzpatrick, Secretary