

# SHIPMATES

Newsletter of the USS BOSTON Shipmates. [WWW.USSBOSTON.ORG](http://WWW.USSBOSTON.ORG)

January 2022

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Shipmates,

It is a brand new year and we are again looking forward to the next Reunion in July in Warwick, RI. If you are reading this then you have received your Newsletters and are filling out the Registration form, making your hotel reservations and planning your next vacation. It will be another great Reunion and your committee has been busy setting everything up for you here in New England.

As you will see below, we will have an 80's night on Thursday night in honor of the 40th Anniversary of the commissioning of the SSN-703. We will also visit the Nautilus, the Sub Base and have our lunch on the base plus we'll have our Memorial Service at the National Submarine Memorial in Groton, CT.

This year we will be spending some time learning about the Whaling and fishing industry etc. in New Bedford. We will visit the Whaling Museum, Fishermen's Museum and the Seaman's Bethel. We will have lunch on our own in one of the local restaurants in New Bedford, your choice.

On Sunday we will be doing something different. We will be having an end of our Reunion "Send Off" till next year BBQ right at the hotel with our Shipmates and our good friends from Counterfeit Cash (the Johnny Cash Tribute band that we had at the Vermont Reunion in 2019).

We are looking forward to seeing each and every one of you at this Reunion. We hope to see a lot of our SSN-703 Shipmates there.

See you in July.....

*Barry*

## ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE Reunion 2022 Registration Form

**Plan To Join Us  
July 14th-17th, 2022  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Warwick, Rhode Island**

2022 USS Boston Reunion will mark the  
40th Anniversary of the commissioning of  
**USS Boston SSN-703**

Look inside for the planned itinerary.  
Come relive the days you spent at  
Naval Submarine Base New London,  
Groton, Connecticut  
**Sign Up Today!**



## COMMEMORATIVE COOK BOOK DEAD LINE MARCH 31,2022

We have been busy collecting your recipes. However, we need more. Are you tired of constantly re-writing, typing or re-citing the same favorite recipes to family members? I know I am. The last Boston Cookbook was published in 1993, when our kids were in school and could have cared less about recipes. Now they have families of their own and need them. Why not submit all those family favorites. You can submit as many as you like, if fact, any of your family members are welcome to submit recipes. They will be compiled into a cookbook you can pass on to your kids, grandkids and other relatives and friends. This project would also help to raise funds to maintain current, planned and future projects.

### 3 Easy Ways to Submit Recipes

#### MAIL THEM

PO Box 7445  
Brockton, MA 02303-7445

#### EMAIL THEM

[Shipstore@ussboston.org](mailto:Shipstore@ussboston.org)

#### ENTER THEM ON LINE

[www.cookbookprinter.com](http://www.cookbookprinter.com)  
User: [bostonshipmates](#)  
Password: [Cookbook2022!](#)

## USS BOSTON SSN-703



The seventh **BOSTON** continued a tradition dating back to 1776, and was the first submarine to bear this name. **BOSTON** was launched by her builder (Electric Boat Division, General Dynamics Corporation) in Groton, Connecticut on 19 April 1980. The **BOSTON** was sponsored by **Mrs. Karen Hidalgo, wife of the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Edward Hidalgo.**

The 44-day period from the ship's first sea trials on 8 November 1981 to the 22 December 1981 delivery of the ship to the Navy was the fastest ever for a nuclear submarine built at the Electric Boat Shipyard.

Upon commissioning **BOSTON** was assigned to Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE and home ported in Groton. In October 1991 the ship was assigned to **COMSUBRON TWO.** **BOSTON's** operations since commissioning included Tactical Development exercises, weapon certifications, a Depot Modernization Period, Post Shakedown Availabilities, and deployments to the Indian Ocean, North Atlantic, the Mediterranean Sea and South America.

**USS BOSTON SSN-703** is a **LOS ANGELES-Class** fast attack submarine. This submarine class is designed specifically for the direct support of high speed carrier task forces. **BOSTON** is a high speed, very quiet ship designed to search out and destroy enemy surface ships and submarines as well as strike targets ashore with Tomahawk cruise missiles. **BOSTON** is armed with sophisticated Mark 48 Advance Capability (ADCAP) torpedoes, mines and Tomahawk cruise missiles. All of the ship's weapons can be launched while the ship is submerged. Target detection and tracking are accomplished with the computerized AN/BQQ-5D Sonar System. Targeting and weapons control are accomplished with the computerized Combat Control System, CCS Mk 1.

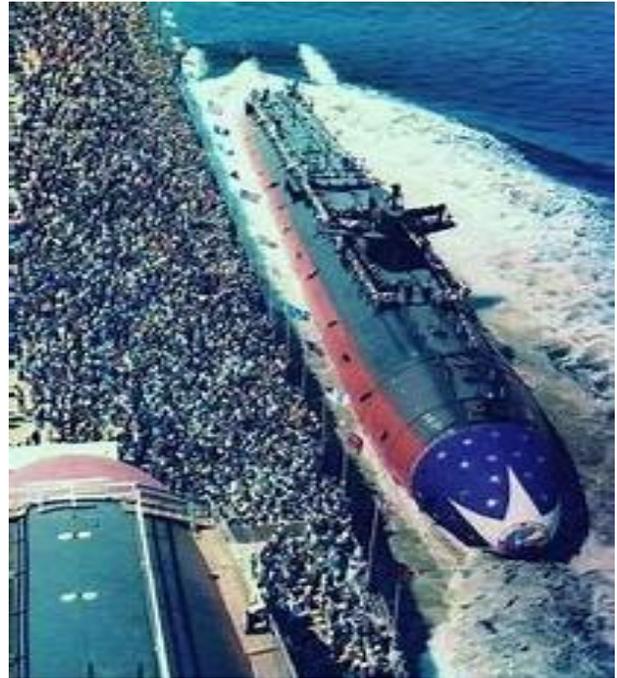
Because of the relative difficulty of determining the ship's position accurately while submerged, the Navigation Department uses complex computerized electronic equipment to provide reliable position information.

The ship's high speed capability is the result of an advanced design, pressurized water nuclear reactor. The reactor is used to create steam which supplies the power for generating electricity and propelling the ship.

When submerged, the ship's atmosphere is closely monitored and adjusted in order to maintain our air as close to normal as possible. The oxygen generator and carbon dioxide scrubbers produce the oxygen breathed by the crew and remove exhaled carbon dioxide.

The ship's crew of 142 is offered 4 meals each day while the ship is underway. **BOSTON's** supply department, in addition to planning and serving each of these meals, also maintains a large spare parts inventory to support maintenance of the thousands of different pieces of equipment on the ship.

The **USS BOSTON** served the United States citizenry with the conspicuous gallantry, unflagging patriotism and citizenship, and outstanding performance that have been the hallmark of all **BOSTONs** since 1776. We are very proud of the officers and crew that served aboard **SSN-703.**



Thanks to the efforts of the dedicated members of the **USS Boston Shipmates, Inc.** The sail of the **USS Boston, SSN-703** now stands proudly at the entrance to the **Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park, Buffalo, New York**



## REUNION 2022 Thursday July 14, 2022

Step back into the 80's. Our "Fun Night" Committee has planned an evening of food, fun, music, dancing & other surprises! Lets see if **Elizabeth Ann & Gunner Brink** are able to defend their dance contest win of 2021!  
Dress in your finest **80's garb!**

## Friday July 15, 2022

**All day tour which will include:**

1. A windshield tour of **Sub Base New London**
2. Try the Simulator for those who dare
3. Lunch in the Base Mess Hall
4. Submariners Museum & the Submarine Nautilus
5. Memorial Service at Submarine Memorial in Groton.

## Saturday July 16, 2022

Board the bus to visit what was one of the world's largest and busiest seaports, New Bedford, MA. Here we will visit the Whaling Museum, The Seamen's Bethel, & Mariners Home, The National Park Service and the Fishermen's Historical Center. Learn how this port is still one of the busiest and biggest seaports in the world. New Bedford continues to thrive even after whaling has ceased. See where Herman Melville sat in the Seaman's Bethel. Lunch is on your own. There are several local restaurants within walking distance of this area with excellent Seafood and/or Portuguese fare.

## Sunday July 17, 2022

We will have a barbeque lunch at the hotel outside in the tent and be entertained by "Counterfeit Cash". Many of you will remember this band from Vermont. This will be a very relaxing event with no formal program. Just time to sit back enjoy the music, spend quality time with your shipmates or share that one last sea story or Navy memory.

Of course we will have our planned dinner and banquet at the hotel on Friday and Saturday night as well.

This year your room rate is \$125.00 (plus tax) & will include a buffet breakfast each morning following your night's stay.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday breakfast will be served in our own **USS BOSTON** designated dining room. If your reservation includes nights prior to Thursday night or Sunday night and beyond, breakfast will be served in the hotel restaurant.

## Hotel Shuttle Service

The hotel is located within a few miles of **T.F. Green Airport**, Warwick, RI. Otherwise known as **Providence (PVD)** in the Airline world.

The Crowne Plaza offers free shuttle service to and from the airport.

In addition they offer shuttle service to stores and restaurants within a 3 mile radius of the hotel.

**T.F. Green Airport** is serviced by the following airlines: Allegiant, American, Breeze, Delta, Frontier, Southern Airways Express, Southwest, Sun Country and United.

## Make Your Hotel Reservations TODAY!

Make your reservations by choosing one of the following

1. Call the hotel directly **401-732-6000**, you must identify yourself as **USS Boston** to receive our special rate.
2. Register on-line at [www.crownehotelwarwick.com](http://www.crownehotelwarwick.com)  
Use code **BOS** to receive our special rate.

**CANCELLATION OF ROOM MUST BE MADE 48 HRS prior to arrival date and must be done with the hotel.**

**SEE YOU IN JULY!**

## What We Have Accomplished in 35 years In Our Spare Time!

We have collected and compiled *over 25,000 pages of Deck Logs and Battle Reports*, making them available to Shipmates at a nominal cost.

We have mailed out *over 200,000 newsletters* to Shipmates.

We advertise in *over 500 newspapers and magazines*.

We plan and conduct reunions that bring together *250 to 650 Shipmates* and expose the attendees to stimulating, historical attractions and fun.

We have gathered *over 13,500 Shipmates* at our **USS BOSTON** reunions, from WW II guys to submariners—and our "all-important" family members.

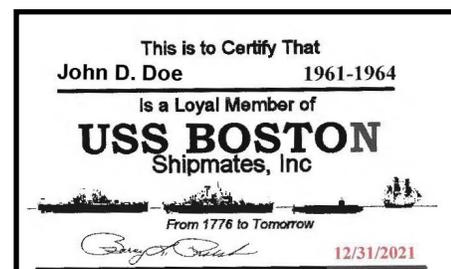
For 35 years we have been bringing Shipmates together and educating the public about the history of the **BOSTON**.

Other good things that you get: **newsletters, news about Shipmates, news about reunions, info about items that are available like hats and jackets, pictures, flags, deck logs... and the wonderful resource of being able to get names and addresses of Shipmates who were aboard with you.**

Those accomplishments and those services take money.

Did you help support these tasks in 2020 and 2021 by paying your dues?

Our "dues year" runs from January 1st to December 31st. Annual dues are still just \$10, and Life Membership is \$110. (*Membership in the CANBERRA org is \$25, No Life offered.*)



## More Boston History

### A mystery "?"

I'll let you think about which Shipmate might be the focus of this mystery article. Let's call him Shipmate "?" for the purposes of this newsletter. So in April of 2004 "?" ran into a VFW friend who asked him what he was up to—(a common opening). "I'm flying down to Florida to pick up some models" he said, and left it at that. His friend was somewhat accustomed to "?" being occasionally mysterious, so he dropped it. Eventually the conversation came back to the impending trip, and the friend said he'd like to be part of that trip.

So "?" smiled and said he'd make (and pay) the travel arrangements for the two of them, and did that. At an appropriate time he called the VFW friend and gave him the flight information. On that date and time they met at the airport departure gate and took off for south Florida.

When they got to Florida they met Frank Studenski (you know of him, I'm pretty sure) who took them to a truck rental facility where he had rented a five ton box truck. "?" was shocked and asked why such a big truck? Frank said his models were built with superglue, which can be brittle, so he rented a truck with dual rear tires to soften the ride. That actually made sense to "?", and lit some lights for the VFW friend, who, being a college graduate, could put two and two together. "Oh, now I see what kind of models you were talking about" he said, and softly added "I didn't need to bring the Old Spice, then." Certainly not for two 6' **BOSTON** cruiser models and a 2' model of the tugboat **USS HOGA** (more on that later).

Frank had made firm plans on how to securely strap the models down on bubble wrap padding, and did that. So "?" and friend got behind the wheel of the truck and headed north. (Everything is north of Florida, right?). This was from southeastern Florida. Speaking of which, the rental truck turned out to be a Penske, partly because they (somewhat surprisingly) only charged 50% of normal fee for veterans (back then).

They headed north on I-95 and spent one night on the road... How 'bout this: the total trip bill amount started with an eight (yes, "8"). (Must have been some models, eh?). When they reached Connecticut they headed to Fred Tapley's house and shop, where they dropped off the models.

Mystery in a mystery: We all know where the cruiser models ended up, but that model of the Yard Tug **USS HOGA** YT-146... on December 7, 1941 her crew picked up sailors floating in the turbulent waters of Pearl Harbor, and provided assistance to the damaged ships **USS VESTAL** and **USS OGLALA**. I can't find anyone who knows for sure where the **USS HOGA** model ended up. Someone said they last saw it on the **BB MASSACHUSETTS**.

But-who was Shipmate "?" who said he was "picking up models?"

**Art Hebert** VP Emeritus

## BINNACLE LIST

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Michael Brady (57-59)<br>██████████<br>██████████  | Theodore Urbanski (69-70)<br>██████████<br>██████████ |
| Bill Ubelacker (81-87)<br>██████████<br>██████████ | William Saitz (59-60)<br>██████████<br>██████████     |
| Walter Rogers (59-61)<br>██████████<br>██████████  | Dave Goodall (67-70)<br>██████████<br>██████████      |
| Michael Weyers (66-69)<br>██████████<br>██████████ | Lee Forker (64-67)<br>██████████<br>██████████        |

Our "In Memoriam List" is available on line at [www.ussboston.org](http://www.ussboston.org) Mess Decks  
Sadly the list has become too lengthy to print.

### 2022 DUES ARE DUE NOW

If you plan to attend the reunion please include your dues with your registration.

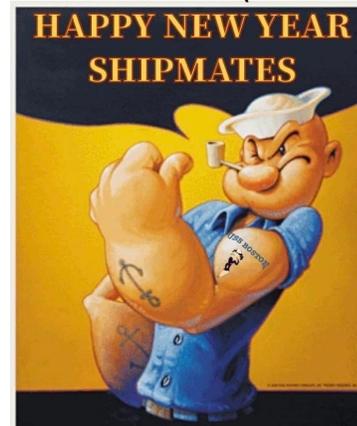
For those not planning on attending the reunion please submit your dues payment with the registration form.

Dues may also be paid on line at our website

[www.ussboston.org](http://www.ussboston.org)

To receive any future newsletters, your dues must be paid.

**Please Note:** The first newsletter of the year will be the only newsletter available on line. **(New This Year)**



#### USS BOSTON SHIPMATES CONTACT INFORMATION

##### MAIL

USS Boston Shipmates Inc  
PO Box 7445  
Brockton, MA 02303-7445

##### EMAIL

[president@ussboston.org](mailto:president@ussboston.org) (Barry Probst)  
[secretary@ussboston.org](mailto:secretary@ussboston.org) (Barry Probst)  
[treasurer@ussboston.org](mailto:treasurer@ussboston.org) (Bill Ubelacker)  
[shipstore@ussboston.org](mailto:shipstore@ussboston.org) (to order sales items)

**BY PHONE / FAX**  
508-580-3808

This Newsletter was written by: Pat Probst, Chairman,  
A Mystery ? Contributed by Art Hebert, V.P. Emeritus

This is your organization..... **GET INVOLVED!**