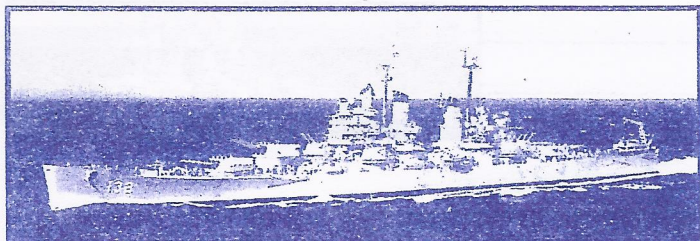


# The Macon Time

March 2013

PAGE 1

Macon Web Site - <http://www.britesites.com/macon.htm>



## *President's Message From The Helm"*

Fellow Shipmates,

Still winter here in southwestern Pennsylvania, with not much snow but plenty of cold temperatures. I am looking forward to having warm weather in Savannah, GA for our 20th Reunion. Get your reservation in now as time is rapidly running out. Be there.

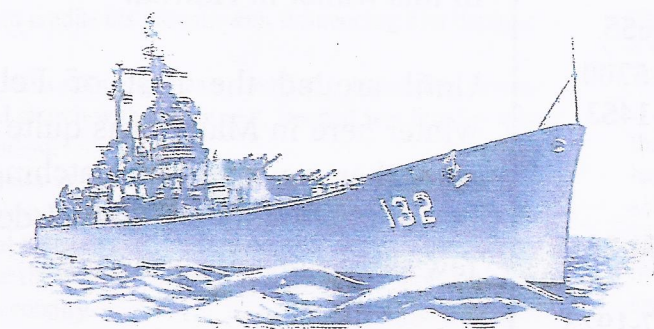
As always, "Fair Winds and Following Seas!"

President, Glenn

## *From The Editor*

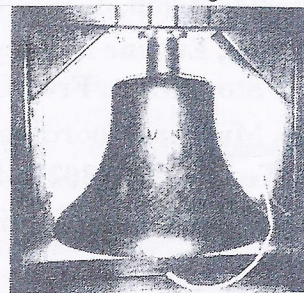
Once again I remind All original plankowners that they are now Life Members and no dues are necessary. Also voted on at our last reunion that from now on our reunion Memory Books will be paid by the association and not included in the registration fee. So this should make our reunion a little less expensive.

Ted the Ed



U.S.S. MACON CA-132

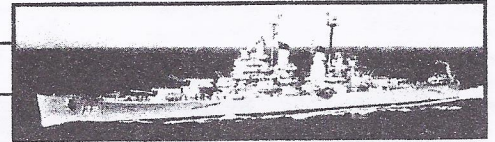
U.S.S. Macon's original bell



*Liberty Still Rings,  
All Gave Some... Some Gave All*

President Glenn Scarlett  
Treasurer Bill Hossler  
Editor Ted Parker

This newsletter is published by and for former crew members of the U.S.S. Macon (CA-132), and is authorized for distribution by the non-profit organization, U.S.S. Macon Veteran's Association.



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Historian, Eugene Massey (347-497-5200)

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Editor, Ted Parker (302) 947-1923

1 Creek Drive Millsboro, DE. 19966-9678

[bt Parker1@msn.com](mailto:bt Parker1@msn.com)

## Marine's Corner

### Macon Marines

"Stand at Ease!"



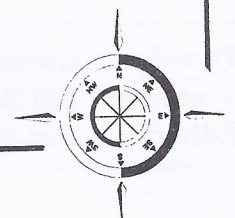
It was John Fabian (not John Fabuab) from Arizona that I received a call from that was interested in finding his old friend Amory Houghton, Jr. After much discord and discussion from his Navy shipmates Amo was allowed to join the band on the Macon. Amo was a Marine Plankowner 1945. John was able to reach Amo and talk to him.

I received a note from Captain Ed Hyland. His old friend Major Rick Spooner from CO of the Macon Marine Detachment and owner of The Globe and Anchor Restaurant, located just off the base at Quantico, VA had had a stroke and is gaining back some.

My old friend Gerry Scelzi spent part of this winter in Hawaii.

Until around the first of February winter here in Maine was quite good, since then we have been catching it on the chin with lots of snow. I do see a few early signs of spring now.

Semper Fi  
Doug





## Plankowner Found:

**Elston Mowry 1945/46 2nd Division**  
**1278 Copperhill Road, Laceyville, PA 18623**



**ELSTON  
MOWRY**



**DON  
JAMES**

Hi Guys,

Just found a "new" Plankowner. He was not listed on the original roster. His name is Elston Mowry, 1278 Copperhill Road, Laceyville, PA 18623. I have sent him the Nov. newsletter and asked him to please fill out the membership form and send it to me. Glenn talked with him and shared some info and also told him that he does not have to pay membership since "plankowners" have a free ride. Ted, I don't know if you have any more planks left, but if you do maybe you could send him one. Or better yet, call and talk with him and make sure he is a Plankowner. His number is 570-869-1881. He told Glenn he was in 1945-46 in 2nd Division. That's about all we know.

## Mowry Receives James' Award

Elston Mowry of Laceyville has been chosen as this year's recipient of the Don James Lighthouse of Service Award.

The award was created in honor of James, who served in the U.S. Navy and faithfully participated with local veterans in honoring his country and deceased comrades. He was a man of faith who was an active and giving volunteer in the community.

This award recognizes individuals in the Bradford, Susquehanna or Wyoming County who have provided exemplary service and love to their country, community, faith and family. The honoree must have served in the Armed Forces and lived in and served the community for a substantial period.

This award will be presented on Memorial Day at the Black Walnut American Legion Post 510. All are encouraged to come out and support this celebration of the armed forces.

Mowry was born in to a farm family of seven in South Auburn and credits his parents with influencing him the most in his life.

He feels his faith began as a young child attending Sunday school and church with his parents. His dad was Sunday school superintendent.

As a senior in high school, Mowry made the decision to join the U.S. Navy. He left high school in March 1945 to enlist in the U.S. Naval Reserve and, like others who served their country in World War II, Mowry received his high school diploma after he served his country.

Mowry completed basic training at Sampson Naval Base in Seneca Lake, N.Y., as a Seaman 2nd Class. After basic training, and a week before they were going to board ship in Philadelphia on the USS Macon, Japan surrendered. During his year and a half in the Navy, he did maneuvers in the Caribbean in the 8th fleet and was in the U.S. Naval Reserves for four years.

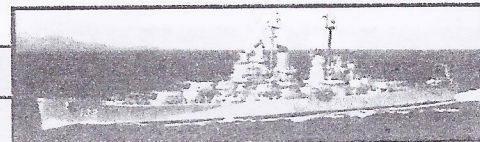
Upon returning home from the Navy, Mowry married Eleanore Lott and they began their lifetime work on a dairy farm in 1951. Mowry's dad had wanted to stay and run the family farm; however, the young couple had been afforded some help in starting their own farm so he deferred to his brothers to be given the opportunity to take over the family farm.

The Mowrys raised three children while continuing to operate their farming business. Despite running a farming operation that consumed much of his time, he still found time to donate his talent and skills to the community.

Some of the time donated included being chairman of the local Agway committee in Laceyville, he was a member of the Dairlea Dairy Men's League and is a member of the American Legion. Mowry also has been a member of the South Auburn Grange for 69 years in which he served as Master for two terms.

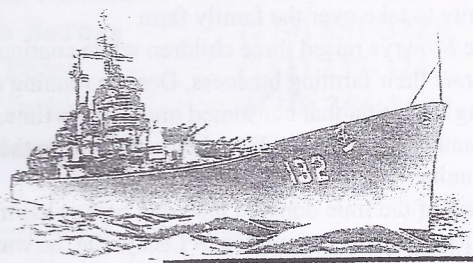
Mowry is one of three original charter members of the Endless Mountain Barbershop Chorus in which he has been a member for 33 years. He served as Sunday school superintendent and has led adult bible study classes at the Silvara United Methodist Church, where he has been a member for the past 60 years. He also has served on several committees at the church and donated time in helping to clean up after the floods.

Mowry expressed a grateful heart for his selection for his award, but feels there are many in the area that are just as worthy to receive this award. He is a man of fine character and of a giving heart. He has served his country, his church and his community faithfully.

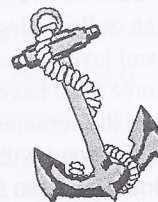


## TAPS

Clifford Scheer	1950/54 No Further Info ?	2006
Vaughn A. Kaforte	Hospital Corpsman 1946/47	May 13, 2009
Donald J. Mahoney	Radioman 1950/52	August 2010
Robert Glagollo	2nd Division Plankowner	August 2010
James R. West	Plankowner	January 2011
Roger Whitehead	ETC OR Div. 1957/60	January 17, 2012
Thomas J. Gidosh	E Division 1950/52	March 27, 2012
John V. K. Stitt	E Division 1947/48	May 9, 2012
LTJG Russell Perkins	X Division 1958/59	August 20, 2012
Alan J. Wais	3rd Division Plankowner	September 21, 2012
Joe J. Frattini	F Division Plankowner	October 2012
LTJG Dan Shields	6th Division 1955/57	October 2012
Arthur "Dutch" Shields	No Further Info	November 16, 2012
Daniel T. Fogarty	S-1 Division 1951/55	December 3, 2012
Eugene S. Wojtal	Radar Operator 1945	January 29, 2013



*Sailor Rest Your Oar  
 "Now the laborer's task is o'er  
 Now the battle day is past...  
 Father, in thy gracious keeping  
 Leave we now thy servant sleeping."*

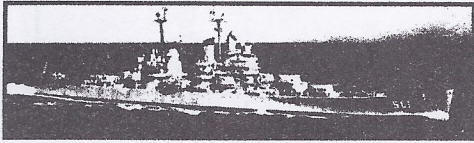


If you hear of a shipmate that has passed on make sure you  
 Notify someone with the association, Secretary, or Editor.

Hello,

My father was Donald J. Mahoney who passed away in August 2010. He served as a Radioman 1st class on the Macon during the Korean War 1950-1952. I would appreciate hearing from any of his surviving shipmates who might be able to relate some stories about his service.

Jim Mahoney  
 917 N. Marshall St.  
 Allentown, PA 18104



## Here is a Tentative Agenda for Savannah

Mon., May 20	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Registration, hospitality room, ship's store
Tues., May 21	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration, hospitality room, ship's store
		On own in city and for lunch.
	6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Pizza, beer and soft drinks.
Wed., May 22	9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Board of Directors meeting
	10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Memorial service
	10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	General Business meeting
	11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Group pictures
	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Cocktail hour, yearbook pictures
	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Banquet, toasts
	8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Dancing
Thurs., May 23	Anchors Aweigh	

### Mexican Invasion

A U. S. Navy destroyer stops four Mexicans in a row boat rowing towards California.

The Captain gets on the loud-hailer and shouts,

"Ahoy, small craft. Where are you headed?"

One of the Mexicans puts down his oar, stands up, and shouts,

"We are invading the United States of America! to reclaim the territory taken by the USA during the 1800's."

The entire crew of the destroyer doubled-over in laughter. When the Captain is finally able to catch his breath,

he gets back on the loud-hailer and asks, "Just the four of you?"

The same Mexican stands up again and shouts,

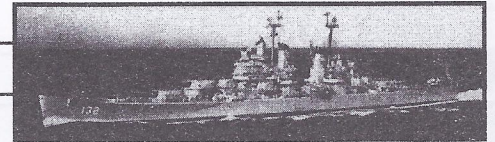
"No, we're the last four. The rest are already there!"

### *Ed's Notes*

*If anyone can run a small free add in any local papers*

*Please put our reunion notice in you paper.*

*Who knows we may find a lost Macon Sailor????*



# USS Macon CA-132

20th Reunion - May 20-23, 2013

## The DeSoto Hilton Hotel

15 E. Liberty St., Savannah, Georgia

Registration Fee: \$100 per person

Includes Banquet; Hospitality Suite; Memorial Book, Band, and Registration Material.

Please fill out the following form and submit the entire form along with a check or money order made out to "The USS Macon Veteran's Association" for the total to:

Bill Hossler, Treasurer, 28 Mill Valley Road, Pittsford, NY 14534-3904.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Dinner Guests:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice of Meals #: Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee # of persons  \$100 = \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Dinner Guests  \$ 65 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### Hotel Information

For Room Reservations, contact the Hotel directly by calling 1-877-280-0751. The reservation deadline is April 22, 2013. The room rate is \$119 a night plus tax and city fee per night. Be sure that you mention the USS Macon to insure that you receive the correct rate. The room rate is available one day before and one day after the reunion.



## FOR YOUR UPCOMING CALENDAR

**May 20-23, 2013**

**The DeSoto Hilton Hotel**

**15 E. Liberty St., Savannah, Georgia.**

That's the place all good Macon sailors want to be for the next great reunion. Make your reservations early and often. Savannah's a great town and the DeSoto Hilton is right in the middle of it all. The room rate is \$119.00 a night plus tax and city fee per night and the rate is good the day before and after. The registration fee is \$100.00 per and includes the banquet, etc. The reservation deadline is April 22, 2013. After that you take your chances. The phone number for reservations is 1-877-280-0751.

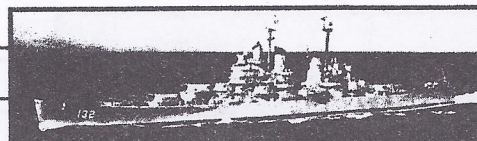
If you want to take a tour, and there are a lot of them, see the concierge in the lobby. He'll set one up for you. They are many and varied, at all times of the day and evening.

As those of you who were there before already know, the hotel has an underground garage. They've contracted with an outside company to run the garage. It's strictly valet parking and costs \$13.00 a day. If you drive just turn your vehicle over to the attendant in front of the hotel. There is no tipping. Make sure to let them know you're with the Macon.

For those who are flying in, the taxi ride to the hotel runs between \$26.00 and \$28.00. There is also what they call the KSHUTTLE. I called the outfit but got no response.

Hoping to see you all in Savannah next year. In the meantime, Keep your rudder amidships.

Paul



### Banquet Table Reservations Savannah, GA.

**Please print the names of those who are to be seated at your table.**

The person submitting this form is to make sure and confirm that

The names submitted are registered to attend this reunion.

Deadline line for submittal is: April 15th 2013

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

Tables are round and will seat 8 people

Note: Reservations will not be taken at reunion

Please submit to: Ted Parker, USS Macon Veterans Ass'n.  
 1 Creek Drive  
 Millsboro, DE. 19966-9678  
 E-Mail: [btarker1@msn.com](mailto:btarker1@msn.com)  
 (302) 947-1923

Good Morning Mr. Foley,

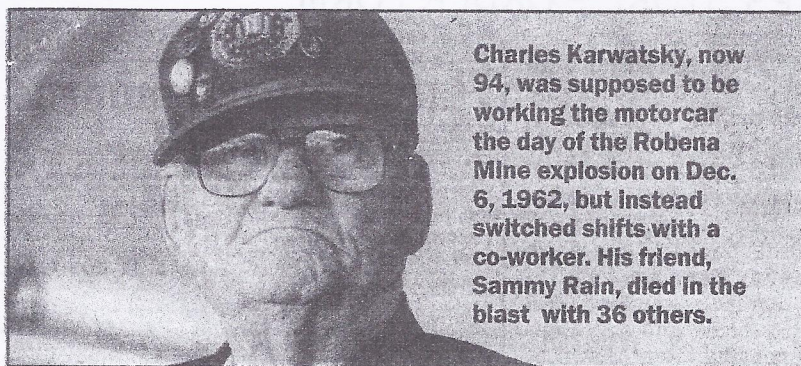
I am looking for any shipmate of Clifford Scheer. My best guesstimate is that he was on board the USS Macon between 50-54, but that may be off by one year. He appears in a photograph from 1952 in Ireland. My father passed in 2006 and I am trying to learn about his time on board the ship. I can be reached:

Douglas Scheer  
 19 Liberty Place  
 Rockaway, NJ 07866  
 Phone 973-983-8741  
 Email: [dslsrms@optonline.net](mailto:dslsrms@optonline.net)

Respectfully,  
Douglas Scheer

Thanks Ted and I hope to be seeing you in Savannah.

Harold.



Charles Karwatsky, now 94, was supposed to be working the motorcar the day of the Robena Mine explosion on Dec. 6, 1962, but instead switched shifts with a co-worker. His friend, Sammy Rain, died in the blast with 36 others.

## “It Should Have Been Me. Instead It Was Sammy”

MONONGAHELA TWP. - The lives of 37 coal miners tragically lost in a mine explosion 50 years ago were remembered Thursday by family, friends and those that have continued their work.

More than 100 gathered at the Robena Memorial Monument to pay tribute to those who died.

Edward D. Yankovich, Jr., United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) International vice-president, said that the 37 workers or their families have not been forgotten despite the passage of time.

“That year, the families didn’t have a Christmas, because their loving father or brother, grandfather or son wasn’t able to be at that table,” he said. “We forget how they huddled for six days waiting for some sort of word about their loved one. They prayed together and came together as a family.”

On December 6, 1962, about 80 workers entered the Frosty Run shaft of the Robena No. 3 mine to remove the coal that lied some 680 feet below the earth’s surface. At 1 p.m., a blast occurred.

According to accounts, some of those who were able to escape told those on the surface that they heard a thud, while others reportedly had their helmets blown off as a strong gust of wind rushed through the cavernous mine.

While more than half of the workers made it to safety, 37 remained trapped.

Charles Karwatsky, now 94, attends every ceremony, as he was supposed to be working the motorcar that December day. However, his friend and co-worker, Samuel Rain, had asked him to switch shifts, allowing Karwatsky to go home.

A few hours later, word began to spread through the mining community that the workers were trapped

beneath the ground and it didn’t look good, said Karwatsky.

“I went up (to the mine) right away,” he said. “It should have been me. Instead, it was Sammy.”

Unlike the Thursday ceremony that was held under blue, sunny skies, the 1962 tragedy occurred during a severe winter storm that impeded the arrival of rescue personnel.

By 4:30 a.m. - more than 12 hours after the explosion - it was reported that only 5,500 feet remained to be cleared. However, it was not until several days later the last, trapped worker was recovered.

Keynote speaker, Cecil E. Roberts, UMWA International president, said the organization and workers will always remember the sacrifice of the 37 men that did not return home that day 50 years ago.

“These miners kissed their wives goodbye and went off to work,” he said.

“They were real people who were loved tremendously by their family, friends and neighbors. We have remembered them for 50 years and will continue to do so.”

Also taking part in the ceremony was Marlon Whoolery, UMWA Local Union 1980 president; the Rev. Rodney Torbic, St. George Serbian Orthodox Church; Penny Whoolery, soloist; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4584; UMWA Local Union 1980 Veteran’s Committee; and Daniel J. Kane, UMWA secretary/treasurer.