



Now Hear This!

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General or Scholarship)

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Association Founded 1947

By Otto and Trudy Schwarz

USS Houston (CA-30) Trumpet on Display at the Pentagon



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Trumpet Now on Display

By Dana Charles

On June 2, 2023, Dr. Jay Thomas, Assistant Director for Collection Management at the Naval History and Heritage Command, reported to our Association in an email that the B-flat trumpet, which was found by a recreational diver about ten years ago next to the remains of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30), is currently on temporary display at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

(Continued on next page)



According to Dr. Thomas, the display case is in a hallway outside the entrance to the Secretary of the Navy's dining room where some framed photographs of President Franklin D. Roosevelt during his time as Assistant Secretary of the Navy between 1913 and 1920 were already hanging. The complete display highlights FDR's relationship with the USS *Houston* (CA-30) as president. In addition to the trumpet, the display case (at left) contains other USS *Houston* (CA-30) artifacts from the NHHC collection, including a partial glass porthole, a ceramic saucer, and a ceramic mug.

Although the original owner of the trumpet remains unknown, we believe that it may have belonged to a member of *Houston's* 21-member band. The trumpet was found by a recreational diver alongside the wreck of the *Houston* and eventually delivered in November 2013 to the NHHC in Washington, D.C. There, the Archaeology and Conservation Lab of the NHHC put the trumpet through a desalination process to stabilize the artifact, which had been in seawater on the seabed for some 70 years. The NHHC completed the desalination process in February 2021.

According to the NHHC, the current display at the Pentagon is only temporary. Hopefully, the trumpet will eventually be on display along with the original shipbuilder's USS *Houston* (CA-30) model at the new National Museum of the U.S. Navy, which is currently in the planning stage and will be constructed near the Navy Yard in Washington, D.C.

Our sincere thanks to all at the NHHC who so diligently attended to the trumpet's treatment and who placed the trumpet and the other artifacts on display at the Pentagon.



(Photos by the Naval History and Heritage Command)



From the desk of the Executive Director
John K. Schwarz

Please mark your calendars! Our Association will host the 2024 "Day of Remembrance" (DOR) in Houston, Texas, on March 1-2, 2024! Although the DOR is many months away, your Board of Managers is already preparing the best agenda we can, securing the host hotel, and dealing with all the many other necessary tasks to make the upcoming DOR a fantastic weekend for everyone. All this work is taking place despite the terrible accident at the USS *Houston* CA-30 monument site several months ago. Details of the accident are on page 13 of this [Blue Bonnet](#) issue. We are determined that our 29-year string of Memorial Services will remain unbroken. We welcome and encourage you to consider taking part in the 2024 DOR.

We thank the U.S. Navy's History & Heritage Command (NHC), led by retired Rear Admiral Samuel J. Cox, USN, for spending many years of careful desalinization treatment with the trumpet found in 2013 next to the remains of the *Houston*. Possibly, one day the trumpet and USS *Houston's* bell clapper, which is currently in desalinization treatment, will be on display together in the newly remodeled lobby area of NHC headquarters in Washington, DC.

Please check out the merchandise page for some terrific USS *Houston* CA-30 apparel and other items available while they last.

Reminder: Our Association's health relies on our open lines of communication. Please update us if/when any change occurs to your email or mailing address so we can remain in touch.

The Association's internal scholarship application window is now open and will extend to **November 1, 2023**. We encourage all interested applicants and coaches of potential applicants to prepare for submission before the last minute. Don't wait! The summer season, when most students are not attending school, is a great time to start doing the necessary research in preparation for writing an essay that is part of the submission requirements. Your Board of Managers is here to assist with guidance to the various research sources. Recommended reading includes the excellent book [Ship of Ghosts](#) by the late James Hornfischer. Application information is available at www.usshouston.org. The scholarship award for 2024 is **\$3,000.00!**

We wish the best of health and happiness to everyone. We are hoping to see you all in March 2024 in Houston, TX!

John K. Schwarz



John K. Schwarz presented the story of USS *Houston* (CA-30) at “The Villas” in Holmdel, NJ on June 22, 2023.

Spreading the Word

On June 22, 2023, Association executive director John K. Schwarz spread the word about USS *Houston* (CA-30) as he presented “The Story of USS *Houston* CA-30 and the POW Experiences of Her Survivors” to a receptive audience at “The Villas” in Holmdel, New Jersey. John’s PowerPoint presentation featured USS *Houston* slides produced originally by his late father and association co-founder Otto C. Schwarz. John reported that the audience had many thoughtful questions, and two attendees remarked afterward that they had personally visited the Thailand-Burma Railway Center in Kanchanaburi, Thailand.

“As New Jersey is the Schwarz family home state, it was wonderful to have two of Otto’s grandchildren in attendance: Marty and Willa Schwarz,” John said. *(Continued on next page)*



Pictured from left to right: Marty Schwarz; John Schwarz; Willa Schwarz (pointing to Otto's duty station on board the USS *Houston* CA-30); and longtime family friend Anita Taylor.



On July 1, 2023, John K. Schwarz presented “The Story of USS *Houston* (CA-30) and Her POW Survivors” to the Heritage Grand Homeowners Association, Inc. in Katy, Texas.

John again presented his PowerPoint show on June 28, 2023, to another receptive audience—the Potomac Green U.S. History Group at the Potomac Green “Active” 55+ Del Webb Community in Ashburn, Virginia. John also traveled to Katy, Texas, and delivered his presentation on July 1, 2023, to the Heritage Grand Homeowners Association, Inc. About 160 people attended, John said. Then, on July 13, 2023, John made another successful presentation at the Waltonwood senior facility in Ashburn, Virginia.



Among the last known photos of American destroyer USS *Peary* (left) and USS *Houston* (CA-30). This photo was taken in Darwin Harbor on February 18, 1942, before *Houston* left Darwin for the last time. USS *Peary* was sunk the next day during a devastating Japanese air attack on Darwin.

Lest We Forget

by Marlene Morris McCain & Joseph McCain

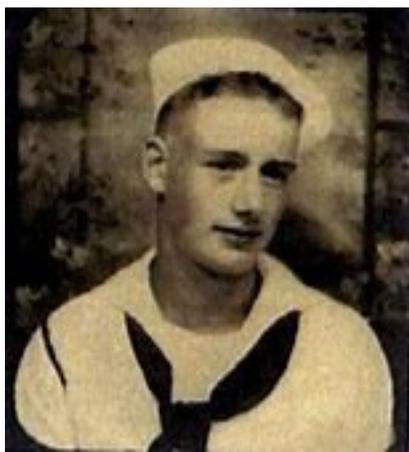
In 2011, our family found a large box filled with items that Grandmother Morris had saved from 1939 through 1946. Included were documents, photos, a few souvenirs and lots of letters – all of which had to do with the service of Marlene’s father, a US Navy band member aboard the USS *Houston*. Her father, **Mus2C Edgar Morris**, survived the war and, we believe, was among the last living members of that group.

On the night *Houston* was lost in the Sunda Strait, there were twenty-one bandsmen aboard, each serving at an assigned battle station. Three, who had just joined *Houston* in September 1941, had not even received their musician’s ratings yet. Nine of these men survived the sinking to reach the shores of Java, and only seven lived to return home after the war ended.

We hoped to learn more about the men Edgar worked, lived, and fought with during those years. But very quickly, we realized that many of the descendants of those bandsmen were not so fortunate as to have the same type of information we so prized. It became very clear to us that we must continue searching and share what we found with others. Family members of these men that we were able to contact shared what they knew with us. Yet we learned from some of them that what we had to tell them was truly the only information from the years of World War II that they have about their loved one.

When we felt we had sufficient information, we wrote “Crewmember Spotlight” articles for our Blue Bonnet newsletters. Our goal became to identify each band member with a photograph. In this endeavor, we have been able to achieve about a 50% success rate, and, although there exist some group photos, we do not know the identities of all in the pictures. We are still working on this!

The other problem, as mentioned above, is a lack of sufficient information for an individual “Crewmember Spotlight” article. However, we feel that it is time to share three more band member photos and what information we do have. These pictures are shared through the help of their descendants, and we are grateful for their assistance.



Mus2C Vernon L. Koelling, USN (above) played the French horn in *Houston*’s band. He survived the sinking along with his friend, **Mus2C William Tucker, USN** (no picture known at this time). Sadly, both men lost their lives as POWS on the Japanese Burma-Thailand Death Railway in 1943 at 80 Kilo Camp, Burma.



1st Musician Edilberto Panganiban, USN (above) was a trombonist in the ship's band. He was one of three Filipino-American members in the band. He was married and his wife and children had been evacuated to the United States just before the war started. Edilberto was lost, along with *Houston*, March 1, 1942.



1st Musician Sidney F. Myers, USN (above) was from the Little Rock, AR area. We were assured by his nephew, Mr. Frank Myers, during a very pleasant lunch, followed by a visit to their home, that Sid was a drummer in the ship's band. Sid must have played other instruments, because we were also informed that he (as a young man) provided the piano accompaniment to old-time silent movies that were shown in the theaters of downtown Little Rock. There is a monument to Sid in the family cemetery in Little Rock, but, of course, he is not there as he also lost his life with the sinking of *Houston*, March 1, 1942.

One of our greatest joys in this was being able to present "Mr. Frank" with a copy of James Hornfischer's [Ship of Ghosts](#). At last, he was able to learn his uncle's story.

May they all rest in peace.



Memorial Day 2023 Remembrance at the U.S.S. Houston/H.M.A.S. Perth Marker

By John K. Schwarz

As aptly stated by the Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum: "It's important to remember what the 'holiday,' Memorial Day, is really about. It was declared a national holiday through an act of Congress in 1971. Unlike Veterans Day, Memorial Day honors all military members who died in service to our country."



May 23, 2023: ABDA Representatives (L to R:) Stacey Prescott, Captain, USN; Chris Allan, Commander, RN; Stefan Luteijn, Commander RAN; Wayne McColl, Commander, RAN.

This year's Memorial Day commemoration at the U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30)/H.M.A.S. *Perth* (D-29) marker in Arlington National Cemetery—a marker placed in 1994 by a gathering of many U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) survivors—was conducted on May 23, 2023, by the following representatives of the nations of the WWII ABDA (American, British, Dutch, Australian) Command:

America: Stacey Prescott, Captain, U.S. Navy, Former Naval Attaché, U.S. Embassy, Jakarta, Java, Indonesia;
Great Britain: Chris Allan, Commander, Royal Navy, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.;
Kingdom of the Netherlands: Stefan Luteijn, Commander, Royal Netherlands Navy, Naval Attaché, Assistant Defence Cooperation Attaché, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Washington, D.C.;
Australia: Wayne McColl, Commander (O-5), Royal Australian Navy, Staff Officer, Exchange and Training, Naval Attaché Office, Embassy of Australia, Washington, D.C.

We sincerely thank these fine naval representatives for remembering and honoring the brave, the fallen. Lest we forget.



(CA-30's Marine Detachment, 1941, Colorized photo)

U.S.S. HOUSTON'S MARINE DETACHMENT

By Dana Charles

Before WWII, U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30), flagship of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet, carried a U.S. Marine Detachment comprised of approximately 70 "hand-picked" Marines, including 3 Marine Officers and 67 enlisted Marines who were at least 6 feet tall, had clean service records, and straight teeth. It was known as a "spit and polish" outfit befitting a U.S. Flagship. After the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor suddenly plunged America into all-out war in the Pacific, the Marine Corps transferred some Marines from various locations to *Houston*. By the time U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) fought her last battle at Sunda Strait on March 1, 1942, the Detachment had swelled to 74 Marines. Captain Frederick C. Ramsey, USMC, was in command of the Detachment. My father, PFC H. Robert Charles, was among the detachment's Marines.

On March 1, 1942, U.S.S. *Houston's* Marine Detachment under CAPT Ramsey included: two second lieutenants; one Pay Clerk; one First Sergeant; one Gunnery Sergeant; five Sergeants; seven Corporals; twenty-five Privates 1st Class; one Field Musician 1/c; and thirty Privates.

Marine Duties aboard U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) included Captain's orderly, Guard of *Houston's* brig, as well as manning:

- One of *Houston's* 1.1" Pom-pom Guns.
- Two of *Houston's* 5" Guns (# 7, #8).
- Four .50 Caliber, water-cooled machine guns, located on the foremast's machine gun platform.
- The ammunition magazines for all the above.

Of the 74 Marines aboard U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) (including 14 Marine Corps Reserve) on March 1, 1942, only 34 survived the sinking of the ship at the Battle of Sunda Strait. Among the Marines who perished was Captain Ramsey. One Marine private POW died of his wounds not long after capture. As prisoners of war of Imperial Japanese forces, most enlisted Marine survivors of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) became POW laborers on the Burma-Thailand Death Railway construction project. Four Marine survivors of *Houston* died while working as POWs on the Burma-Thailand Death Railway. Only 29 Marines survived 3-1/2 years of POW captivity (among the longest-held POWs of WWII) and returned home after liberation in August—September 1945. The Marine survivors of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) were the only Marines from a sea-going Marine Detachment captured during WWII. No Marines of *Houston's* Marine Detachment are still alive today.





At the National Mall on July 3, 2023 (L to R): Moni Jefferson (CEO of the Association of Military Spouses and Entrepreneurs); Nathan Morris (Boyz II Men); Yvonne Coombs (2020-21 Army Military Spouse of the Year and founder of the nonprofit organization Deploy My Dress); Wayne Morris (Boyz II Men); Marta Bota (Team *Houston*, Wreaths Across America Co-Captain); Shawn Stockman (Boyz II Men); Ava Purifoy (West Point Cadet)

Fourth of July in D.C.

By John K. Schwarz

Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) does a beautiful job with its annual concert honoring America's birthday! The 43rd annual concert was held on July 4, 2023, at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. As in past years, the show hosted our service veterans and their families, who received special seating and became those seen close-up on television during the concert's airing.

Marta Bota, our volunteer leader here in the Washington, DC area for "Team *Houston*" (Wreaths Across America) at Arlington National Cemetery, received a special invitation to attend the concert's dress rehearsal/interview day held on July 3 at the National Mall in our nation's capital. During this event, she wore her blue U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) hat and used the occasion to share the story of the ship, her captain, and her crew with interested stars and support personnel. She spoke with several VIPs, including the four-time Grammy award-winning vocal group, "Boyz II Men" and Adrienne Warren, noted for her Tony Award performance as Tina Turner in Broadway's "Tina: The Tina Turner Musical" (Picture at right: Marta Bota and Adrienne Warren). A huge Thank You and "Job Well Done!" to Marta (and her husband Peter Bota) for joining our association, for sharing the story of the *Houston* and contributing to our Association's mission of "perpetuating the memory of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) and her crew."



Notes on news received via email at contact@usshouston.org and via regular mail...

- 4/2/2023: Received the following email from Australian **Katie Denny**: “Hi, It has been 14 years since we contacted the USS *Houston* Survivors' Association, where we liaised with Dana Charles regarding a USS *Houston* sailor's details. I also met Dana in Seattle in 2009 when I was on holiday. As it was many years ago, I am unsure if Dana is available in his previous email address and thought it best to contact the Association directly in the first instance...Dana provided the name of a USS *Houston* sailor believed to have been at the same Burma-Siam PoW camp my Great Uncle **John Slater** (PoW, Australian citizen but was drafted as a British soldier as he was living in Malaya under British rule as WW2 broke out) was interned in, at the same time. Dana identified it was likely **Lyle Thomas Roszell** we were seeking. Since then I have conducted some research on Lyle Roszell, and found his (at the time) surviving sister-in-law and spoke to his niece in Florida. Our intention has been to return the coins, and in fear of losing them in the mail if posted, we hoped to meet face to face with Lyle Roszell's family. The years have since passed and ideally it could have occurred in the past few years, however covid put a delay on that. Now with the borders reopened, it is a good time to travel to the USA with my parents, before many more years pass...Would the returning of a WW2 USS *Houston* sailor's last belongings (coins) be of interest to include in the USS *Houston* (CA-30) annual memorial service in 2024? We, my parents (Andrew and Robyn (nee Slater - niece of John Slater) and myself are hoping to travel in 2024 to the USA. We were wondering if it would be appropriate to present the coins to either the museum or Lyle Roszell's surviving relative at the above mentioned service in March 2024? Looking forward to hearing from you. Kind regards, **Katie Denny** (great niece of John Slater).

P.S.: Here is a picture (at right) of a street sign in Darwin, NT Australia, named after the USS *Houston* which left Darwin before heading for the Sunda Strait.”



- 4/2/2023: Replied to **Katie Denny** as follows: “Dear Katie, It is great to hear from you! Hard to believe it's been 14 years since we first corresponded...! In March 2022, three relatives of **USS *Houston* CA-30 survivor Lyle T. Roszell** attended our annual USS *Houston* Memorial Service in Houston, Texas. Among the relatives were Lyle's 82-year-old sister and Lyle's niece. I showed them a map of the Burma-Thailand Railway and the approximate location of the POW camp where Lyle Roszell died. Meanwhile, I'm so glad you have located some of Lyle's relatives in Florida...! FYI: The 2024 annual “Day of Remembrance (Reunion) Weekend,” which includes our annual Memorial Service, is tentatively scheduled to be held on 1-2 March 2024 in Houston, Texas. It would be wonderful if you, Andrew and Robyn, and Lyle Roszell's relatives could attend our 2024 “Day of Remembrance” (DOR) weekend together...! It would be fantastic if you would present Lyle Roszell's relatives with the coins during the DOR. I am attaching our latest Association newsletter (April 2023 edition) which has coverage of this year's DOR event for your information...Thank you for reaching out to me and the USS *Houston* (CA-30) Survivors' Association & Next Generations®. Best Regards, Dana.”
- 4/16/2023: Received the following inquiry, which was also posted on the CA-30 Facebook site: “My name is **Jeannine Price**. I am the **daughter of Lowell Swartz** who was on the USS *Houston* and then in a prisoner of war camp. I would like a copy of my father's military records and was wondering if you could help me get a copy. Any assistance would be appreciated. If there is a charge let me know. Thank you.”

- 4/17/2023: Replied to **Ms. Price** as follows: "Dear Jeannine, Thank you for your email inquiry regarding **USS Houston CA-30 Survivor Lowell W. Swartz**, who was held by the Imperial Japanese forces at the POW Compound in Batavia, Java known as "Bicycle Camp" throughout the Pacific War. Attached is a scan of his POW record which was maintained throughout the Pacific War (1942-1945) by his fellow USS *Houston* survivors. I hope these materials will be of help to you..." I also invited Ms. Price to join our association and to attend our 2024 Day of Remembrance weekend in Houston, TX, March 1-2, 2024.
- 6/19/2023: The Association's executive director **John K. Schwarz** wrote an email to **Rod Beatty** at the Thailand-Burma Railway Center (T.B.R.C.) in Thailand to inquire about the location of the Japanese monument built in 1944 to honor the allied prisoners of war who perished while working on the Burma Thailand Railway and the location of a plaque which was installed near the monument in the 1970's. John also asked about **LT Clyde Fillmore (131st Field Artillery/2nd Battalion)** who may have been photographed standing sideways during the Monument's unveiling in an attempt to reveal to the world that he and other American POWs were being held in Thailand by Japanese forces.
- 6/19/2023: **Terry Manttan, General Manager of the T.B.R.C.** replied to John's email as follows: "Hello John, Good to hear from you and just to advise that Rod is now living in Australia doing other things although (following Covid's interruption to the world) is now making brief return visits to Thailand for a week or so each time to "keep his hand in" a few times per year...The group photo around the Monument is the Opening (Unveiling) Ceremony on 12th March 1944 by **Major General Ishida**, the "Dai Nippon Military Railway Commander in Chief" to "commemorate the Memory of the Souls of all those who died". See photo from our collection (below)...The plaque was laid much later in 1971 by the Japanese Association in Thailand (an association of Japanese residents in Thailand at the time) who pay annual commemoration visits...The Monument is located in front of the former entrance to the Tha Makham PoW Camp, close to the now famous "Bridge on the River Kwai" and about 2 kilometers from our Death Railway Museum and Research Centre...For interest and from our records it seems **LT Clyde Fillmore**, who is confirmed at Tha Makham at the time of the ceremony, had a relative (perhaps slightly older brother), **Corporal Benjamin Fillmore** who went with him to the Burma end of the railway in January 43 and was also at Tha Makham on or about the same time, although he later went to Tha Muang and on to Pratchai in central Thailand where he was recovered from at the end of the war...While your father went from Singapore to Burma on 14th October 1942 on the same ship as my father (who was ex-HMAS *Perth*) and similarly worked on the Burma end of the railway, he was to return to Thailand and based at the Kanchanaburi Aerodrome Camp when selected to return to Singapore and be shipped out to end up in Saigon (from Japanese Group 3 to Group 8) when the war finished... Hope the above helps re: Monument. Best regards, Terry Manttan."





Tire tracks in the foreground show the path of the speeding pickup truck which missed the CA-30 monument by inches but destroyed two benches and two flag poles before smashing into a yellow house at Sam Houston Park, Houston on March 29, 2023.

Damage to the U.S.S. Houston Monument Site

By Dana Charles

On the night of March 29, 2023, a blue Chevrolet pickup truck crashed through the black metal fence surrounding the USS *Houston* (CA-30) Monument site at Sam Houston Park in downtown Houston, sped across the monument's foundation, demolishing two granite benches and two flag poles before smashing into and coming to rest at the side of a historic yellow house which The Heritage Society manages (see photo below).

Since the accident, the fence has been repaired. The Naval Order of the U.S.-Texas Commandery and our Association's Board of Managers have asked city officials to replace the monument site's benches and flag poles, which are located on city property. On July 28, 2023, our Association received an email from Rubi Longoria, Administrative Coordinator, Facilities Management & Development, Houston Parks and Recreation Department which stated:



"We have inspected and reviewed the damage. We will work with our General Services Department to repair the benches and flagpoles as these are not considered part of the Civic Art Piece...We hope to have this completed before your ceremony of March 2, 2024." We thank Rubi Longoria and the City of Houston's Parks & Recreation Department staff for their attention to this important matter.

In Memoriam

Marvin J. Sizemore



MARCH 13, 1922 - JUNE 25, 2023
U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Survivor

Marvin Sizemore, age 101, of Hamilton, Ohio, passed away on Sunday, June 25, 2023. He was born in Dryhill, Kentucky, on March 13, 1922, to Grover Sizemore and Ellen Napier. Marvin enjoyed listening to Bluegrass music, going golfing and fishing, and spending time in casinos.

Marvin served during WWII and received numerous medals as a Chief Petty Officer in The United States Navy for 20 years (1940-1960). He was interned as a Japanese Prisoner of War for 3 ½ years and forced to work on the Burma-Thailand railway, also known as the “death railway.” He also served as a police officer for the City of Oxford, Ohio, for 20 years (1960-1980).

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Hilda, Martha Ann, and Ruth; brother, Woodrow; granddaughter, Veronica. Marvin is survived by his wife of nearly 75 years, Helen Sizemore; daughters, Claudette Garapic, Fredricka Crawford, Catherine Sizemore, and Kimberly Johnson; as well as grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

A memorial gathering took place on Saturday, July 1, 2023, at Rose Hill Funeral Home in Hamilton, Ohio. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.rosehillfunerals.com for the Sizemore family.

In Memoriam

Ella Jane Harris



JANUARY 11, 1921 - MARCH 28, 2023

Widow of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Survivor Lanson Harris

Frank McGovern



OCTOBER 1, 1919 - MAY 24, 2023

Last Survivor of H.M.A.S. *Perth* (D-29)

To read/view tributes to Frank McGovern, go to:

[Frank McGovern \(funeralvideo.com.au\)](https://www.funeralvideo.com.au/Frank-McGovern)

Now See This!

USS *Houston* (CA-30) Merchandise! Wear with pride!

Email johnk.schwarz@yahoo.com to place an order.

- USS *Houston* CA-30 Challenge Coins – (\$10.00 ea.)
- USS *Houston* CA-30 Hats – (\$25.00 ea.)
- USS *Houston* CA-30 Large Men's Polos – (\$28.00 ea.) (2) in Navy Blue; (2) in Black; (1) in Red; (1) in Light Green; and (1) in Royal Blue.

Visit our website's 'Ship's Store' at www.usshouston.org/shipsstore.html and see all USS *Houston* CA-30 items!

(All Items: Plus Shipping)

USS *Houston* CA-30 Challenge Coin



Front

Back



USS *Houston* CA-30 Hats



USS *Houston* CA-30 Men's Polo Shirts

Meet your...

Board of Managers

...here to serve you!*



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* The Board of Managers is available to members for questions, concerns, input, or to clarify any matter regarding the Association via email (to contact@usshouston.org), phone, or regular mail.

Membership

Our Association continues to grow as more folks reach us—through such avenues as our websites—and want to know more about the *Houston*, or just simply seek to contribute to the perpetuation of the memory of this gallant warship. To those interested in taking it further and joining our Association: go to www.usshouston.org, click on the “news tab,” scroll to the bottom and review the Association’s bylaws, then click on the link to membership form (<http://www.usshouston.org/memberform.pdf>). After filling out the form, send it in as directed on the form. Our Association is funded through voluntary donations rather than mandatory annual dues. To make a donation, please refer to page one of this newsletter, or review the instructions on the “news tab” of our website.

Association Communication Channels

- Association information, including current and archived newsletter editions, is available at the Association's official website: www.usshouston.org.
- All email correspondence for the Association is directed through: contact@usshouston.org
- The Association’s regular mailing address and phone number is listed on the first page of each issue of the Blue Bonnet newsletter.
- Our Association's only social media presence is on Facebook at: **USS Houston CA-30**.



We would like to extend a hearty welcome to everyone who has recently joined our USS Houston (CA-30) Survivors' Association and Next Generations®!

Thank you...!

Donations

March 26 - July 12, 2023

*In memory of John Stefanek
Henry & Jane Matthews*

*In memory of RM3/c Sylvester J. Ceblak, USN
Scott Ingram*

Other Donations

Bernice Harapat
Heritage Grand Homeowners Association
Scott Ingram
Meridian/E. Martinez

AmazonSmile donations received: \$93.97

Financial Report

January 1 – July 12, 2023

General Fund

Beginning Balance	\$30,828.73
Receipts:	+8,649.23
Expenses:	-5,695.94
Ending Balance:	\$33,782.02



Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance:	\$24,406.31
Receipts:	+2,742.21
Expenses:	-3,000.00
Ending Balance:	\$24,148.52



Published by:

USS Houston CA-30 Survivors' Association and Next Generations® (April, August, December).

Editor: Dana Charles

Proofreaders: Pam Moura, John Schwarz, Sue Kreuzer,
Bernice Harapat, Marlene McCain.

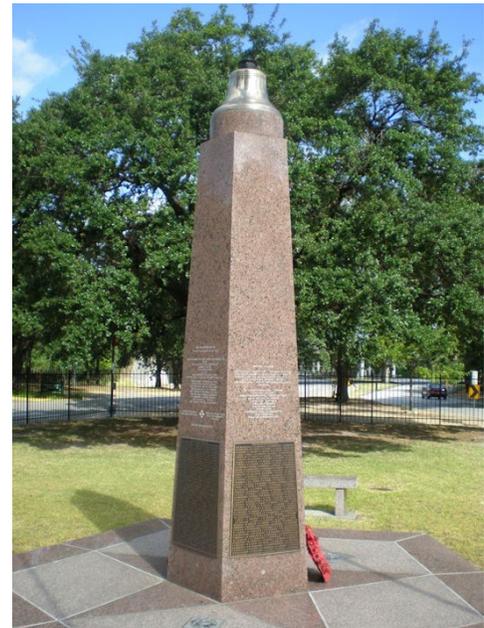
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On March 2, 2024, the USS *Houston* (CA-30) Monument, located in Sam Houston Park in downtown Houston, Texas, will again be the site of our association's annual USS *Houston* (CA-30)/HMAS *Perth* (D-29) Memorial Service. (Photo by Dana Charles)