



Now Hear This!

Association Address:

c/o John K. Schwarz,
Executive Director
2400 Clarendon Blvd., Apt. 211
Arlington, VA 22201

Association Phone Number:

703-867-0142

Address for Tax Deductible

Contributions:

USS Houston CA-30
Survivors' Association
c/o Pam Moura, Treasurer
2065 Sutter View Lane,
Lincoln, CA 95648
(Please specify which fund:
General or Scholarship)

Association Email Contact:

contact@usshouston.org

Association Founded 1947

By Otto and Trudy Schwarz

The 2025 U.S.S. Houston (CA-30) "Day of Remembrance"



In This Issue...

- ◆ The DOR 2025/ 1—2
- ◆ Executive Director's Report/ 3
- ◆ USS Edsall Found/ 4
- ◆ New CA-30 Display at NHHC/ 5
- ◆ Spotlight: Vernon Koelling/ 6
- ◆ Veterans Day Presentations/ 7
- ◆ Mailbag/ 8
- ◆ CDR Panjeti's Letter/ 9
- ◆ In Memoriam/ 10
- ◆ Ship's Store/ 11
- ◆ Board of Managers/ 12
- ◆ Communication Channels/ 12
- ◆ Thanks to Donors/ 13
- ◆ Financial Report/ 13
- ◆ Masthead/ 13
- ◆ DOR 2025 Events/ 14
- ◆ DOR 2025 Registration Form/15

Make Your DOR 2025 Reservations Now!

By Dana Charles

Our Association's 2025 U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Day of Remembrance (DOR) weekend will be held in Houston, Texas, March 7-8, 2025 at the same location as last year—the Hilton Garden Inn, Houston/Galleria Area, 3201 Sage Road, Houston, TX, 77056. A special block of hotel rooms and a meeting room have been reserved at the hotel where we will gather to mark the March 1, 1942, loss of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) and H.M.A.S. *Perth* (D-29) at the WWII Battle of Sunda Strait.

(continued on the next page)

Free bus transportation, generously provided by the Harris County Precinct Three Transportation Department, will be available to and from all DOR events. On Friday, March 7, a bus will depart the hotel at 1:30 p.m. to visit the “Cruiser Houston Collection” at the M.D. Anderson Library on the University of Houston campus.



U.S.S. Houston (CA-30) in the 1930s

The Friday night banquet at our hotel’s “U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) meeting room” will include a keynote PowerPoint presentation by Association Executive Director John K. Schwarz which will cover the story of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) and her survivors’ POW experiences. We hope you participate in the discussion following his presentation!

Documents, photos, ship logs, maps, illustrations, and other U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30)-related materials will be available for perusing at the hotel. Also, U.S.S. *Houston* CA-30 Merchandise will be available for purchase!

On Saturday morning, March 8, we will gather at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast at our hotel’s “U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) meeting room” where our Association’s Historian, Donald M. Kehn, Jr., will speak about “Black Sunday” (March 1, 1942). At 12:30 p.m., buses will depart the hotel for the 2025 U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Memorial Service that begins at 1:30 p.m. at Sam Houston Park in downtown Houston. At 7:00 p.m., we will again gather for dinner at our hotel’s “U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) meeting room,” where some videos featuring U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) survivors will be shown. See the Tentative Schedule of Events on page 14.

To register for the Day of Remembrance 2025, either:

1. Print out the **Registration Form** on page 15. Fill out the form, and mail it in with your check, as indicated at the bottom of the form, as soon as possible, or...
2. Download and print out the **Registration Form**, which is available on the Association’s website (Click on the following link): www.usshouston.org/news.html. Fill out the form and mail it in with your check, to the address indicated at the bottom of the form, as soon as possible.

To reserve a hotel room at the special U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) block rate:

Go to our Association’s website (Click on the following link): www.usshouston.org/news.html, then click on the link at the website marked: “**Click here for reservations online.**” Click for reservations and use Group Code SURV for our special rate.

Questions? Email: sue@usshouston.org or call: 720-313-6770.

See you at the “Day of Remembrance” 2025...!



*From the desk of the Executive Director
John K. Schwarz*

December 2024

Your Board of Managers is heavily involved in planning the forthcoming two-day U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) “Day of Remembrance” 2025 (DOR) in Houston, Texas. The DOR will be held on March 7-8, 2025, at the same hotel as last year’s gathering. The annual memorial service will be on Saturday afternoon, March 8, 2025, at the U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) monument, 1100 Bagby St., Houston, commencing at 1:30 p.m.

This December 2024 edition of the Blue Bonnet newsletter lists agenda items we are tentatively planning for the 2025 gathering and provides a registration form.

We intend to get together and share information, host a visit to the “Cruiser *Houston* Collection” at the University of Houston’s MD Anderson Library, provide valuable speaking contributions, and enjoy comradery among the group. We are always available to receive and consider your input on any Association matter.

Sadly, with the recent loss of Robert L. Hanley, *Houston*’s last survivor, no crewmen are left from either U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) or H.M.A.S. *Perth* (D-29), as yes, that time has come: It is now up to all of us—the next generations, other family members, friends, and associates—to carry on the mission to keep the memory alive of these courageous men and their sacrifices for their countries.

We welcome everyone willing and able to join us in Houston in March 2025 to remember and honor the crews of *Houston* and *Perth*.

Thank you for your ongoing support and see you in Houston!

John K. Schwarz



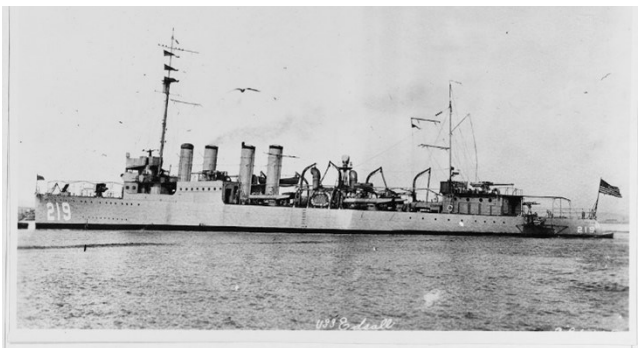
U.S. Asiatic Fleet's U.S.S. *Edsall* has been Found!

On Monday, November 11, 2024, Remembrance Day in Australia and the UK and Veterans Day in the U.S., Australian and U.S. officials announced that H.M.A.S. *Stoker*, an Australian naval support ship, normally used for hydrographic surveys, had located the remains of the American WWII destroyer U.S.S. *Edsall* (DD-219). Approximately 300-feet long, U.S.S. *Edsall* was sunk in the Indian Ocean south of Java on March 1, 1942, after fighting alone against an entire Imperial Japanese fleet. For about an hour, the Japanese ships fired hundreds of shells at the *Edsall*, which managed to dodge all incoming fire. Finally, as evening fell, Japanese dive bombers were called in, and the doomed *Edsall* was struck by bombs, rolled over and sank. No crewman of U.S.S. *Edsall* was ever heard from again.

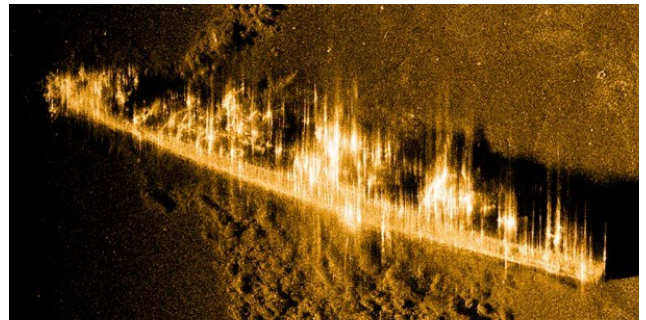
According to retired Rear Admiral Samuel J. Cox, Director of the Naval History and Heritage Command, the H.M.A.S. *Stoker* found the wreck of U.S.S. *Edsall* in the late summer of 2023 and examined it with underwater robots and sonar. The Royal Australian Navy notified Cox in May 2024 that it had found what it believed to be the *Edsall* wreck at 18,000 feet of water south of Australia's remote Christmas Island. Since then, U.S. Navy and Australian officials have worked together to confirm that the wreckage was that of U.S.S. *Edsall*.

U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Survivor's Association's Historian Donald M. Kehn Jr. called the find "absolutely staggering." In 2008, Don wrote the definitive book on U.S.S. *Edsall*, [A Blue Sea of Blood](#). —Dana Charles

Here is a link to more information: [Wreck of Navy destroyer USS Edsall known as 'the dancing mouse' found 80 years after sinking.](#)



The destroyer U.S.S. *Edsall* (DD-219).



Sonar image of U.S.S. *Edsall* lying on the bottom of the Indian Ocean.



New U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Display at NHHC Headquarters

By John K. Schwarz

Pictured at left is Rear Admiral (ret.) Samuel J. Cox, Director of the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC), standing beside the recently completed U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) artifact display now installed at the NHHC headquarters in Washington, D.C. This display, an Association-NHHC joint initiative, has been ongoing. Its completion includes a climate-controlled case funded by our Association, which contains the recovered trumpet and bell clapper previously donated to the U.S. Navy's Naval History and Heritage Command. The case also includes narratives explaining each of the displayed artifacts.

The display is positioned in the newly remodeled lobby area of NHHC headquarters at Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. A recently donated small-scale model of the USS *Houston* (CA-30) and a framed print of artist Tom Freeman's famous painting of the CA-30 titled "They Sold Their Lives Dearly" round out the overall display.

That painting depicts the USS *Houston* going head-on during the Battle of Sunda Strait on March 1, 1942.

Longer-range plans call for combining this display with the original shipbuilder's model of the USS *Houston* (CA-30), already on display at the Navy Yard, in a new National U.S. Navy Museum, which will be constructed at a nearby location outside the heavily secured grounds of Washington's Navy Yard complex.



The newly completed USS *Houston* (CA-30) display (top left) in the recently remodeled lobby of the NHHC Headquarters, Washington, DC, November 2024.

CREWMEMBER SPOTLIGHT

VERNON L. KOELLING, Mus2C, USN

by Marlene Morris McCain & Joseph McCain



Vernon L. Koelling is the tall sailor in the middle of this photo.

For his last three years of high school, Vernon L. Koelling was a student in Waverly, Iowa, where he played on the football team and was an active member of the school band. During his senior year, Vernon enlisted in the U.S. Navy with the intention of pursuing a musical career after he graduated. By July 1940, he was undergoing training at the U.S. Naval Training Station in Great Lakes, Illinois.

Vernon completed his training and became a Navy musician. His favorite instrument was the French horn, but he could also play other instruments. For a short time, he served aboard the *U.S.S. Enterprise* and was transferred to the *U.S.S. Houston* in August 1941 to become part of its flagship band.

After the Japanese attacks at Pearl Harbor, the Philippines, and elsewhere, *Houston's* crewmembers were usually to be found manning their assigned battle stations. Vernon's was that of a loader for a .50 caliber machine gun atop the rear mast. The gunner was Vernon's friend, SEA2C Claude Washburn (known to the crew as "Sweet Pea"). Vernon and "Sweet Pea" Washburn were among those few who managed to reach shore on the night the *U.S.S. Houston* was lost in the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra. Imperial Japanese invasion forces captured both of them and initially held them in Serang, Java. After being moved to Bicycle Camp in Batavia, Java, the prisoners found living conditions were much improved, and the two shipmates were able to barter with local natives for food to supplement the meager Japanese rations.

After about seven months in Bicycle Camp, the Japanese began transporting allied POWs in the holds of hellships from Java to Changi Prison Camp at Singapore, Malaya. In January 1943, Vernon was among the Allied POWs of Group 5 who were transported to Burma to work on the infamous Burma-Thailand Railway construction project. Conditions were appalling in the jungles of Burma, and most of the men were ill at one time or another. Many would not survive.

In July 1943, Vernon suffered a slight injury to his leg, which became infected and developed into a tropical ulcer. When he became too ill to work, the Japanese transferred him to a railway hospital facility known as 80 Kilo Camp in Burma. Vernon passed away on September 11, 1943, and was buried in the camp's cemetery with appropriate religious ceremonies and an honor guard of his fellow POWs. "Taps" was played at the conclusion of the burial, and his grave was marked with a cross bearing his name. His POW record gives the location as grave number 78. After the war, Vernon's body was recovered and returned home to his family. His final resting place is at Harlington Cemetery, Waverly, Iowa.

Sources & notes:

1. Personal correspondence with Vernon's family.
2. Letter dated October 1945 from Lt. Commander Harold S. Hamlin, Jr. to the Koelling family on behalf of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.
3. Waverly, Iowa-area newspaper article: "Koelling Believed Lost in Big Sea Battle off Java."
4. *U.S.S. Houston* survivor Claude Washburn passed away on October 31, 2003, in Longville, Texas.
5. Vernon's friend and fellow *U.S.S. Houston* band member, Mus2C William Tucker, also passed away in 1943 and was buried in the 80 Kilo Camp Cemetery, Burma-Thailand Railway.



Blane Ampthor presents his PowerPoint show to students in Pennsylvania.

Middle & High School Presentations in Pennsylvania

By John K. Schwarz

On Thursday and Friday, November 7 and 8, 2024, Association member Blane Ampthor and I had some wonderful opportunities to address middle and high school students in Pennsylvania as part of special Veterans Day observances. On November 7, several local veterans from various military branches and Blane and I spoke at Tohickon Middle School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, during the school's "Honors, Recognizes and Celebrates our nation's heroes for Veterans Day" program. Blane and I spoke about our respective fathers' WWII service.

Each of us—the local veterans, Blane and I—addressed five different middle school classes, with Blane presenting the story of his father, U.S. Navy WWII veteran Francis J. Ampthor, who served as an officer on U.S.S. *Missouri* and was aboard the ship on September 2, 1945, when the Japanese signed the surrender documents that ended the Pacific War. I delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled "U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30)/POW Experience" that highlighted the story of U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) and the subsequent POW captivity of my late father, Otto Schwarz, and his fellow 290 POW survivors.

On November 8th, at Council Rock South High School in Holland, Pennsylvania, some of Council Rock South's local veterans and Blane and I addressed five individual classes of high school students. Blane and I again presented the stories of our respective fathers' WWII experiences.

Blane and I are grateful to Dr. Matt Fash and his father, Jeff Fash, who invited us to participate in these speaking opportunities which enabled a younger American generation to hear these important stories. Jeff Fash, a teacher at Council Rock South for many years before his retirement, was a founding father of the concept for this program. Dr. Matt Fash established a similar program at Tohickon Middle School, where he currently serves as Assistant Principal.



Pictured at left are some veterans who, with Blane Ampthor and John K. Schwarz, presented their stories on November 7 and 8, 2024, to middle and high school students in Pennsylvania. Blane is standing in the back row, 3rd from right; John is standing in the back row, 2nd from right.

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

- 8/16/2024: Received the following email from VADM Ben Bekkering, Royal Netherlands Navy (Ret.), Chairman, the Karel Doorman Fund: "Dear friends, Fine greetings from The Netherlands, where yesterday evening, VJ-day, and all those who perished in the war in Asia were commemorated. The prime minister of The Netherlands attended, as did the ambassadors of the US, UK, Australia, New Zealand, and Indonesia. One wreath was laid by Mr. Johan Geneugten, who had 104 years under his belt and is the only living Dutch survivor from the battle of the Java Sea, where he was a sailor on board HNLMS *Witte de With*. His wreath was on behalf of all those military personnel who perished in action, during transport on Hell Ships, and in POW camps. [It was] an impressive commemoration, broadcasted live on national television, with thousands of people attending and the central theme: Let's continue telling their stories." 
- 8/19/2024: John Schwarz received the following email from **CDR Patrick Panjeti, USN, Naval Attache at the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta, Java**: "Hi John, We did in fact hold a commemoration ceremony this year and the year before. Typically, the Indonesian Navy (TNI-AL) provides a vessel for the U.S. and Australian embassies to lay wreaths on the sites in Sunday pay our respects to the heroes of both ships but TNI-AL were not able to provide a ship since 2021. Instead, we hosted an hour-long ceremony on the HOUSTON and the PERTH on the U.S. Embassy grounds with our Australian colleagues. This recent commemoration included one of our own country team members, **Marc Cook**, gave a speech sharing his grandfather's experiences as crew member onboard's last fateful day... At the request of the Australians, the U.S. has hosted the commemoration event in 2023-24, and Australia plans to host in 2025-26, either at Sunda or at the Australian embassy if we cannot get a ship... One of our recent visitors to Jakarta was the **U.S. SEVENTH Fleet Commander** who I had the opportunity to discuss the history of the HOUSTON and our efforts in keeping her legacy alive. The country team requested a US Navy ship be provided for next year's commemoration and we are optimistic SEVENTH Fleet will come through for us... In other news, we have re-established an embassy working group and re-energized discussions with **Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Fisheries and Navy** to sign an MOU to make HOUSTON's site an Indonesian maritime conservation zone."
- 10/3/2024: Received word from **NG Joe Kollmeyer** that USS *Stewart* had been found in the waters off the Philippine Islands. I thanked Joe for his heads-up.
- 10/16/2024: Received the following email from the HMS *Exeter* group's **Tom Jowett**: "Good Afternoon All, (or evening or morning, depending where you are). I have great pleasure in advising you of the Exeter/Macassar Reunion taking place over the weekend of Saturday 1st March 2025. The [Exeter] Cathedral are yet to confirm the actual time and venue for our wreath-laying service at the "Exeter" window... (This is due to the cathedral being fitted with under floor heating, the south side & choir stalls have been completed, just "our" north side being currently 'work in progress'.) Lunch & chat afterwards has been arranged for the White Hart Hotel (just opposite the White Ensign Club)... Semper Fidelis, Tom."
- 11/2/2025: Our Association's executive director, **John K. Schwarz**, received an invitation to attend the March 1, 2025 opening ceremony of the new **HMAS Perth 1 Memorial** located in Fremantle, Australia.



CDR Patrick Panjeti, USN

Warm Greetings From the US Navy Attaché to Indonesia

Dear Families and Friends of USS *Houston*,

I am honored to introduce myself as Commander Patrick Panjeti, your U.S. Navy Attaché in Jakarta since August 2022. My career in the Navy began in 1996, starting as an enlisted sailor. Over the years, I have had the privilege of serving on various combatants, gaining extensive experience and a deep sense of commitment to our Navy's mission. One of the highlights of my role here has been leading the annual commemoration of the USS *Houston* alongside my colleagues from the Australian Embassy, where we also honor the valiant HMAS *Perth*. These events are a testament to our shared history and enduring partnership.

My connection to military service is deeply personal. My grandfather, his four brothers, and his father fought bravely in World War II as Philippine Scouts under General MacArthur's command. My grandfather endured the grueling Bataan Death March, and by the war's end, only he and one of his brothers survived. This profound family history in the Pacific theater of World War II has instilled in me a strong sense of duty and a personal affiliation with USS *Houston* (CA-30) and the courageous actions of her crew.

In my current role, I am proud to be part of efforts to preserve the resting site of the USS *Houston*. The U.S. Embassy country team and I are working closely with Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on how to establish a Maritime Conservatory Zone, ensuring the site is protected for future generations. Additionally, we are collaborating with the Indonesian Navy to restart actions to conduct a bilateral dive site survey of *Houston*, which we hope to begin as early as Summer 2025. These initiatives are crucial in honoring the legacy of USS *Houston*.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the USS *Houston* CA-30 Survivors Association & Next Generations for their unwavering dedication to keeping the memory of the USS *Houston* alive.

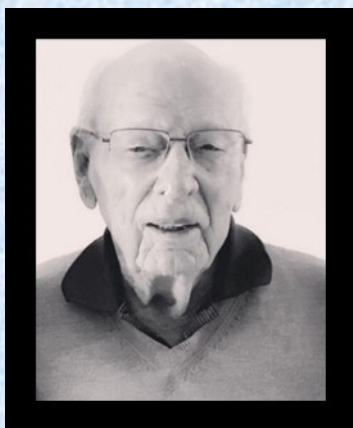
Warm regards,

CDR Patrick Panjeti
U.S. Navy Attaché to Indonesia

In Memoriam

Robert Leon Hanley

Seaman 2nd Class, USN



The Last U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Survivor **FEBRUARY 6, 1922—SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**

U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Record

Mr. Hanley was a Seaman 2nd Class at the time of U.S.S. *Houston*'s loss at the Battle of Sunda Strait on March 1, 1942. After his capture by Imperial Japanese forces on Java on March 1, 1942, Hanley and his 367 fellow U.S.S. *Houston* survivors were held on Java until October 1942 when most survivors were transported via Japanese "hellships" to Burma to work on the infamous Burma-Thailand Railway construction project. As a POW medical orderly on the railway, he assisted Dutch POW doctor Henry Hekking in saving many lives of their fellow POWs. In early 1944, he served as a medical orderly with Australian prisoners of war and was then transferred to Kanchanaburi POW Camp in Thailand where the Bridge on the River Kwai is located. There, he was a medical orderly under U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30)'s medical officer, CDR William A. Epstein, USN. When the Japanese surrendered in August 1945, Hanley was liberated from a POW camp roughly 80K south of Bangkok, Thailand.

Obituary: Mattson Funeral Home, Forest Lake, Minnesota

Robert "Bob" Leon Hanley, of Forest Lake, Minnesota, age 102, passed away on September 12, 2024, in Shoreview, Minnesota at St. Therese Hospice. Born on February 6, 1922, in St. Paul, Bob was a proud graduate of Humboldt High School in St. Paul, MN. Enlisting in the US Navy, Bob courageously served during World War II for five years, including a harrowing three-year internment in a Japanese prison camp. His commitment to service continued with an additional 16 years in the US Army. Bob also dedicated 15 years to 3M Company, contributing significantly to his community and country. Bob was a devout member of St. Peters Catholic Church in Forest Lake. His faith was a cornerstone of his life, guiding him through the toughest of times and the happiest of moments. A man of many passions, Bob loved ballroom dancing, fishing, and golf. His love for the outdoors was matched only by his love for his family. He married his childhood sweetheart, Eileen, and together they raised a loving family. Bob is survived by his children, Joan Filson (Bruce), Colleen Robinson, Robert Hanley (Dee), Mary Hanley, and Susan Wahlgren (Nick); numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren who will miss his wisdom and warmth. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eileen May Hanley, his son, John Robert Hanley, and grandsons, Aaron Drews and John Grant Hanley.

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 in Navy Blue and Black – (\$24.00 ea.)

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!*



Executive Director: John Schwarz
Son of USN survivor Otto Schwarz and Trudy Schwarz
Association strategy/outreach, Special Projects,
Scholarship Committee, Merchandise
Email: John@usshouston.org



President: Sue Kreutzer
Daughter of USN survivor Paul Papish
Webmaster, archives, membership,
Scholarship Committee
Email: Sue@usshouston.org



Vice President: Dana Charles
Son of USMC survivor Bob Charles
Crew and POW camp records,
Blue Bonnet Editor, researcher, correspondent
Email: Dana@usshouston.org



Treasurer: Pam Moura
Daughter of USN survivor Eugene Crispi
Financial and IRS records,
Scholarship Committee
Email: Pam@usshouston.org



Secretary: Bernice Harapat
Daughter of KNIL POW Survivor Willem Terluin
Special Projects, Scholarship Committee
Email: Bernice@usshouston.org

* 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 U.S.S. Houston (CA-30) Survivors’ Association and Next Generations®, including: Eli Bressler (NG) and John Foley

Thank you!

Donations

*In memory of William Ingram, Jr.
Scott Ingram*

Other Donations

Blane Ampthor
Bernice Harapat
Pam Moura
John K. Schwarz

Financial Report

January 1, - November 8, 2024

General Fund

Beginning Balance	\$30,502.19
Receipts	\$10,953.44
Expenses	<u>-\$8,309.23</u>
Ending Balance	\$33,146.40



Scholarship Fund

Beginning Balance	\$22,126.60
Receipts	\$4,012.22
Expenses	<u>-\$155.25</u>
Ending Balance	\$25,983.57



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.*

Distribution: *Dana Charles, Pam Moura.*

Articles or information may be sent to:

contact@usshouston.org or bluebonnet@usshouston.org.

All submitted articles are subject to editing.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of this Association, its members, or its Board of Managers.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

**U.S.S. HOUSTON (CA-30) SURVIVORS' ASSOCIATION
AND NEXT GENERATIONS®**

Day of Remembrance 2025

**83rd Anniversary of the Loss of
U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) and H.M.A.S. *Perth* (D-29)**

Hilton Garden Inn, Houston, Galleria Area
3201 Sage Road, Houston, TX, 77056

Tentative Schedule of Events

March 7-8, 2025

FRIDAY (March 7)

Visit to the Cruiser *Houston* Collection, MD Anderson Library, University of Houston
2:00 p.m.

*A Bus will leave from the hotel promptly at 1:30 p.m. to take guests to the Library.
Please be on board by 1:15 p.m.*

Registration/Hospitality 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Hospitality

Dinner 6:30 p.m. Hotel

- Executive Director's Year-end Report Presentation.
- Scholarship Announcements.
- Naval History and Heritage Command Update.
- Keynote Speaker: John K. Schwarz: "U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30)/POW Experience."

SATURDAY (March 8)

Breakfast 9:00 – 11 a.m. Hotel

- Guest Speaker: Donald M. Kehn, Jr.: "Black Sunday."

*Buses will leave from the hotel promptly at 12:30 p.m. to take guests to Sam Houston Park.
Please be on board by 12:15 p.m.*

2025 Memorial Service 1:30 p.m. Sam Houston Park

Dinner 7:00 p.m. Hotel

- Showing of videos featuring U.S.S. *Houston* (CA-30) Survivors.

REGISTRATION FORM

2025 U.S.S. Houston (CA-30) Survivors' Association & Next Generations®
Day of Remembrance
March 7-8, 2025
Hilton Garden Inn Houston Galleria
3201 Sage Road
Houston, TX 77056

Click here for hotel reservations:
[Click here for Reservations](#)

DEADLINE – MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 24, 2025

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND LIST THE NAME OF EACH PERSON INCLUDED IN THIS REGISTRATION (Use the back of this form if necessary)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name of crew member you are honoring and relationship (or state you are a friend). Please include branch of service: _____

Anticipated date and time of arrival: _____
=====

Friday Dinner - 6:30 PM
Vegetable Wellington # _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

or
Stuffed Chicken Roulade # _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

Saturday Breakfast – 9:00 AM # _____ X \$33.00 = \$ _____

Saturday Dinner – 7:00 PM
Seared Rib Eye Steak # _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

or
Brown Sugar and Mustard Glazed Salmon # _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

Registration # _____ X \$40 per person = \$ _____

Late Registration # _____ X \$15 per person = \$ _____
(Received after February 24, 2025)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please include a check for the total cost made payable to: USS Houston-Next Generations (your check is your receipt). Payment is non-refundable.

Mail registration to: Pam Moura, 2065 Sutter View Lane, Lincoln, CA 95648