

# USS Plymouth Rock (LSD29)

Newsletter January – April 2017, 46th Edition

Welcome to the USS Plymouth Rock Newsletter

The USS Plymouth Rock Newsletter is a publication issued every four months by the USS Plymouth Rock Ships Association. If you would like to contribute an article, a piece of Navy or Plymouth Rock history, photo, memory or anything that might be of interest to you or other shipmates, you can send it as an e-mail to:

Bill Provencal, Association Secretary/Newsletter Editor at:

[billinp@metrocast.net](mailto:billinp@metrocast.net)

or regular mail at:

Bill Provencal

37 South Main Street

Pittsfield, NH 03263

## Dues

Just a reminder, dues notices were sent out about 2 months ago, if you have not yet returned your 2017-2018 dues to David Dortch, you may still do so. The dues are still \$25.00 for two years, and are well worth it for what you receive from the Ships Association. So please take a few minutes and send us your dues if you have not yet done so. Checks may be made out to USS Plymouth Rock Association and mailed to David Dortch, Treasurer

## Ships Officers

President

Tom Wagner

[fwagner@wagner-insurance.net](mailto:fwagner@wagner-insurance.net)

812-537-9548

Vice President

Bill Haynie

864-934-2900

<mailto:whhaynie@charter.net>

Treasurer

David Dortch

870-236-3725

[tazrhondave@yahoo.com](mailto:tazrhondave@yahoo.com)

Secretary/Webmaster/Newsletter Editor

Bill Provencal

[billinp@metrocast.net](mailto:billinp@metrocast.net)

603-435-8603

Ships Historian

George Bierce

203-223-6965

[gbierce@netzero.net](mailto:gbierce@netzero.net)

Ships Storekeeper

Denis Cyr

203-753-6220

[shortybm3@yahoo.com](mailto:shortybm3@yahoo.com)



Charles "Mike" Shaub, MM2, 4205 Meadow Brook Ct., North Charleston, SC 29420. On board 9/75-7/80. E-Mail: [shaub1@aol.com](mailto:shaub1@aol.com)

Richard Steer, MM3, Edgewater, MD 21037. On board 1973-1974. E-Mail: [rasteer@yahoo.com](mailto:rasteer@yahoo.com)



### Recent Address/E-Mail/Phone/Numbers/Address Changes to the Ships Muster List

Craig Williams, GMG2, on board 80-83. 1954 Lilac Lane., Alpine, CA 91901-2929

Mary Forton, Suttons Bay, MI New E-Mail Address: [andrew215@centurytel.net](mailto:andrew215@centurytel.net)

Jerry Whitlock, BTC, on board 6/76-3/79. New E-Mail Address: [injwhitmo@verizon.net](mailto:injwhitmo@verizon.net)

Brandon Macomber, LTJG, on board 4/68-5/70, Evergreen, CO. New E-Mail Address: [pcmybreak@msn.com](mailto:pcmybreak@msn.com)

Ron Swearingen, DC3, on board 2/67-8/68, Alta Loma, CA. New E-Mail Address: [swearingenron@yahoo.com](mailto:swearingenron@yahoo.com)

Alvin Brown, MM2, on board Commission 54-56, Chippewa Falls, WI New phone # 715-804-9289, New E-Mail Address: [bumsjab@yahoo.com](mailto:bumsjab@yahoo.com)

Gerald Walker, SFP2, Goose Creek, SC New phone #: 843-814-7833

Bruce Czarnetski, MM2, on board 9/61-6/62, New Address: 1526 Parkview Ln., Davenport, IA 52807

Bernie Lillig, YN3, on board 65-66, Raytown, MO. New-Email Address: [blillig64@gmail.com](mailto:blillig64@gmail.com)

William Walsh, SK2, on board 8/70-9/73, Holt. MI New E-Mail Address: [williamwalch0102@comcast.net](mailto:williamwalch0102@comcast.net)

Chris Rose, HT2, on board 3/73-6/76, Brandenburs, KY. New Phone: 270-668-9898

Thomas Gilpatrick, MM3, on board 12/75-1/78, Bar Harbor, ME New Phone: 207-479-6551

Glenn Bentheimer, EM3, on board 9/63-9/66. New Address: 1229 S. Tensfeldt Avenue, Jefferson, WI

Bill Hamilton, EN2, on board 76-79, Sealy, TX. New E-Mail Address: [bhamilton002@yahoo.com](mailto:bhamilton002@yahoo.com)



## Known Deceased Shipmates

For a complete listing of deceased shipmates, visit our Memorial Page in the ships website

Joe Bell, RM2, Newark, DE, Deceased September 8, 2016. On board 1/72-12/74	Tom O'Neill, BT3, Staten Island, NY. Deceased December 14, 2016. On board 65-69
Donald Eddie Larison, CDR. Deceased 8/27/81. On board 12/13/80-1/13/81. Former Commanding Officer USS Plymouth Rock	John E. Reed, SH3, Garnet Valley, PA. Deceased January 16, 2017. On board 5/59-2/63



## Thank You's

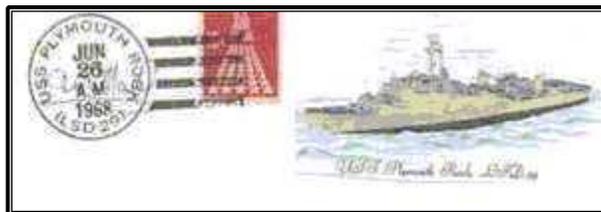
We would like to thank the following shipmates/friends/organizations for providing pictures, information and articles to the website, the Ships Association and newsletter.

Andrea Larison Masch	USS Whetstone, LSD27	Tom Wagner, YN3
Shorty Cyr, BM3		



## Ships Store Items

To view all of the items in the Ship Store go to the ships website at [ussplymouthrock.com](http://ussplymouthrock.com), select Ships Store Link



Received an e-mail from Andi Larison Masch who is the daughter of CDR Donald Eddie Larison, who was a Commanding Officer on the USS Plymouth Rock. "Would you please add Donald Larison to the Plymouth Rock Muster List?

He served until June 1981, but I will need to go through his paperwork to determine how early he started – I think it might have been 1979.

He died in Aug 1981. Was supposed to Captain the ship on the cruise from July-Dec 1981, but found out during his physical for the cruise that he had a brain tumor and died from complications from it.

If anyone wants to reach me, my email address is: [andrea.masch@hotmail.com](mailto:andrea.masch@hotmail.com). It would be awesome to hear from anyone that knew him!!

Thanks,  
Andi Larison Masch”

NOTE: CDR Larison served from 13 December 1980 to 13 January 1981.

Received an e-mail from Richard Steer, MM3 on board 1973-74. "Just reminiscing and found this website. Great job, keep it up." His e-mail address is: [rasteer@yahoo.com](mailto:rasteer@yahoo.com)



## **Tactical Trials of USS Plymouth Rock (LSD 29)**

The USS PLYMOUTH ROCK (LSD 29) is a high speed steam turbine twin-screw, twin rudder dock ship built by the Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi. The tactical trials were authorized by the Bureau of Ships (I)\*, and were conducted on 23, 24, and 25 September 1955, off Rockland Maine. To view the results. copy the link below and paste into Google.

<http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a068735.pdf>





**Plymouth Rock in Norfolk Naval Dry Dock**



## **2018 Reunion**

**The 2018 Ships Reunion is scheduled for Newport, RI for September 26-30 . Tentative possibilities for things to do include:**

**Cliff Walk, a 3.5 mile walk beside the ocean on the walkway behind the Newport mansions.**

**Naval War College Museum, in Newport.**

**Newport Mansions along Millionaires Mile and Ocean Drive.**

**Fort Adams State Park.**

**Newport Mansions. Eight super elegant mansions' open for visiting.**

**Battleship Cove, Fall River, MA Museum, a battleship, destroyer, submarine and other smaller ships. A short drive from Newport.**

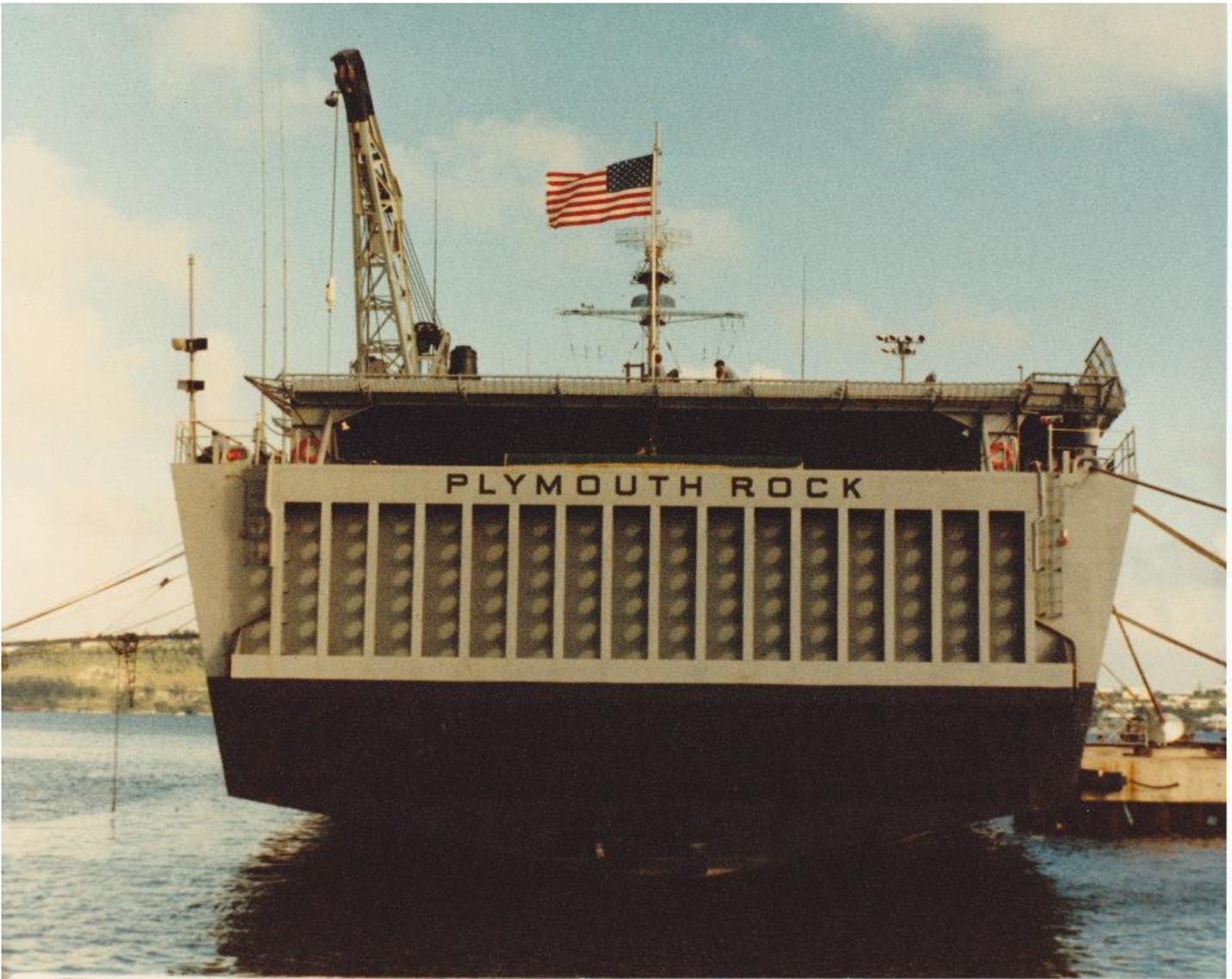
**Naval Station, Newport.**

**USS Constitution in Boston.**

**These are just some of the possibilities.**

**As additional information becomes available, it will be posted here as well as in the first page of the Ships Website**





**USS Plymouth Rock in Bermuda in 1980**

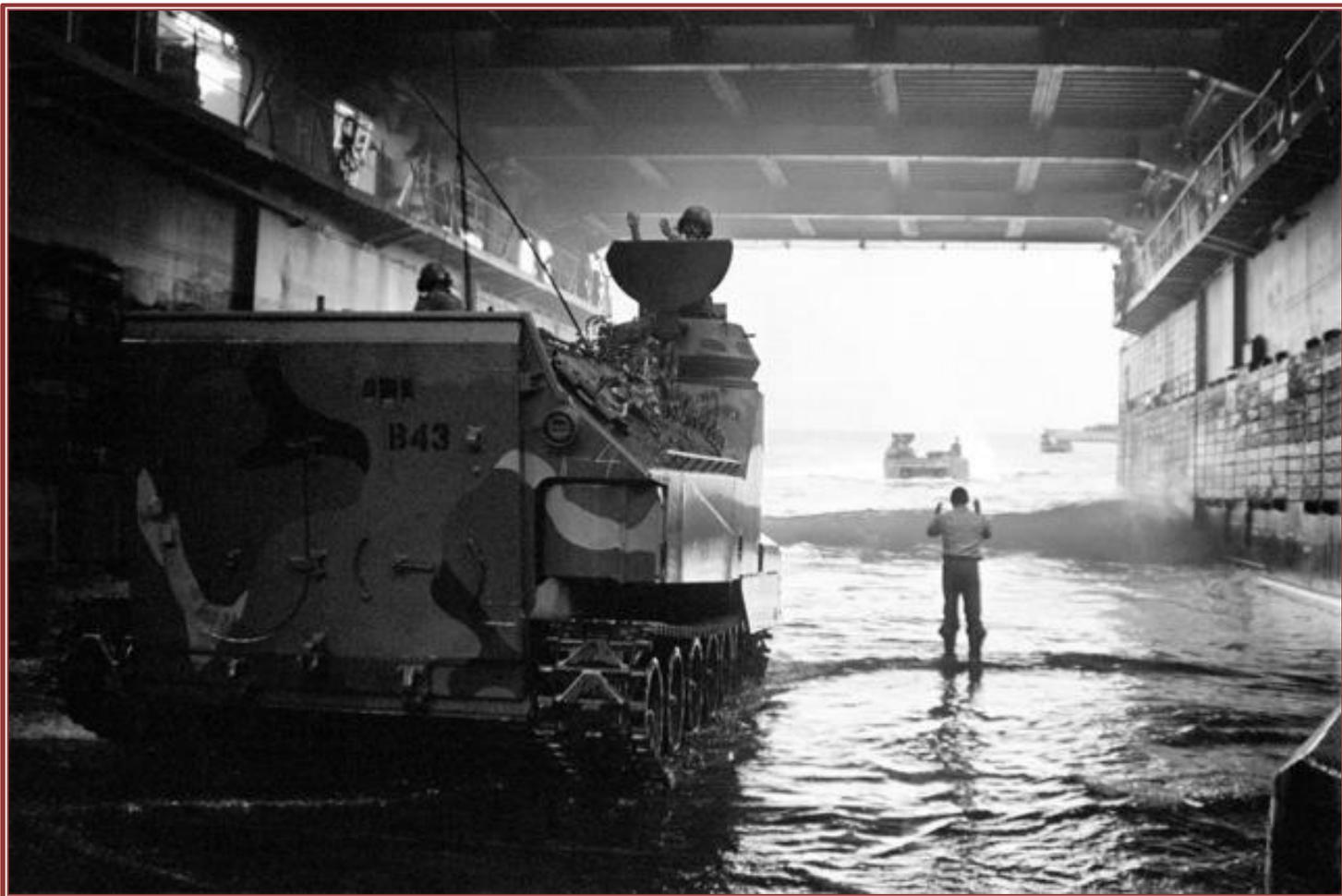


### **A Truck Driver Tale**

**A truck driver stopped at a road side diner for lunch. He ordered a cheeseburger, coffee and a slice of apple pie. As he was about to eat, three motorcyclists pulled up outside.**

**The bikers came in and one grabbed the trucker's burger and ate it. The second one drank the trucker's coffee and the third one wolfed down his apple pie. The truck driver didn't say a word. He simply got up, paid the cashier and left.**

**When he was gone, one of the motorcyclists said, "He ain't much of a man, is he? "No and he's not much of a driver, either," the cashier replied. "He just backed his truck over three motorcycles. "**



American and Ecuadorian Marines return to the dock landing ship USS PLYMOUTH ROCK (LSD-29) aboard an LVTP-7 tracked landing vehicle. They have just completed the joint amphibious landing exercise Unitas XXII



NAVY SCUTTLEBUTT: SO NOW YOU KNOW!!!!

*Manure : In the 16th and 17th centuries before the invention of commercial fertilizers, everything had to be transported by ship, so large shipments of manure were quite common.*

It was shipped dry because in dry form it weighed a lot less than when wet, but once water (at sea) hit it, not only did it become heavier, but the process of fermentation began again, of which a by-product is methane gas (of course). As the stuff was stored below decks in bundles you can see what could (and did) happen: methane began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below at night with a lantern, BOOOOM!

Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was determined just what was happening.

After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the instruction “stow high in transit” on them, which meant the sailors had to stow it high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and start the

production of methane

Thus evolved the term “S.H.I.T” (Stow High In Transit) which has come down through the centuries and is in use to this very day. You probably did not know the true history of this word.

Neither did I.

I always thought it was a golf term.

Provided by Tom Wagner



Provided by Short Cyr, BM3