

USCG Reunion Biographical Booklet

For the 5th USCG Reunion, 2017 we will again produce a biographical booklet of the members of the group so as to introduce yourself to the other members of the group who are also attending the USCG Reunion and the bi-monthly meetings. The following questionnaire could be answered by the USCG member who would like to be included in a USCG Reunion booklet that will be available at the 5th USCG Reunion in Hopkins, Mn. during the summer of 2017. This USCG booklet will contain your information provided by you, the Ex-Coastie. If you were at the last couple of USCG Reunions in Hopkins, I will use a photo of you from the Reunion, if not, please send me one in color. If there are any questions on the following questionnaire that you don't want to answer or do not apply to you, just skip it, as none are mandatory. We will make your biography as complete as possible with the information that you have sent in to us. If you have too much information, not a problem as it will be condensed down so all of the biographies are about the same length, 400 words which will fit the format of the booklet. However if you answer the questions with just a yup or nope, it makes it difficult to do your biography justice. The more information you send me, the better your biography will be. Please answer these questions on a sheet of paper and send it via snail mail to Mike Roberts, 1711 54th St. S.E., St. Cloud, Mn. 56304 or send it to him via e-mail at mike.roberts41@gmail.com as an e-mail or an attachment to the e-mail.

1. What is your name?
2. What is your email address & phone number? If no e-mail, list US Mail address.
3. Are you married, if the answer is yes, where did you get married & how long ago?
4. What is your Spouses name?
5. When did you go into the USCG? Please put the month & year, when did you get out?
6. Why did you enlist or join the USCG?
7. Where were you stationed while in the USCG? List your duty stations in chronological order. What did you do while stationed there or what was your primary duty or jobs while serving?
8. Where & when was your last duty station & how long were you stationed there and what was your job when there?
9. What was your rank & rate when you got out? What were the circumstances of your rank or rate? Why were you Boatswain Mate, or an Engineman or a Yoeman or etc. , why did you choose that rate?
10. Did you make the Coast Guard your career? If yes, why did you stay in?
11. If you did not stay in, did you ever regret getting out and wished you stayed in?
12. After getting out, where did you go to live? Why did you go there, what was the draw? How many years did you live there and what were the years you lived there? If possible, List all the places you lived and what you did for a job while living there?
13. Where do you live now, how far did you have to travel to get to the reunion today?

14. What did you mainly do as an occupation to make a living for most of your working life after leaving the USCG?
15. How many children do you have, what are their names and ages, where do they live and what do they do for a living, what is their job or business?
16. Do you have any grandkids? If yes, how many and what are their names and ages? Where do they live?
17. Has anything made a big difference in your life? It does not have to be USCG related. It could be a life changing lesson that you learned or some person that you met in the past that had a profound influence on your life and its' direction. Were you stationed with anyone who became famous? If yes, who & what were the details?
18. Is there anything that you do in your retirement or older age that gets you up in the morning and raring to go? What do you like about retirement or what are you looking forward to doing once you are retired?

The above questions will be used to create a biography of your life which includes your information about you including your service in the USCG. Include any and all details you think might be important to your biography. Please highlight or call attention to anything that is special that you absolutely want the biography readers to know about you. Your completed biography will be ½ of a page in the landscape position, with .5" margins all around the page and contain approximately 400 words and a photo of you. If you would like to write your own biography, please do so and it can be any length you wish and we will condense it down into your story of 400 words. This biographical booklet will be distributed at the USCG Reunion, 2017 and its' cost is included in the banquet fee.

On the following page, I have listed the details of my biography so you can see how the questionnaire works and how you can follow it along and use it as an example.

Example

Completed Sample Questionnaire

1. Mike Roberts
2. mike.roberts41@gmail.com 1-320-654-9399
3. Yes, got married in Detroit in 1964
4. Mary Roberts
5. I went into the USCG in April of 1966 and got out in April of 1970
6. I was about to be drafted, they had an opening in Duluth so I joined up.
7. Boot Camp in Cape May N.J. in recruit company Delta 63 and Honor Guard. Went to Duluth Lifeboat station and was on small boat Search & Rescue and aids to navigation painting 80 foot high day markers in the Duluth Superior harbor. Transferred to the Split Rock L/H in December of 1966 as station seaman, it closed in Jan of 1969.
8. I was transferred to North Superior in Grand Marais as a seaman on Small Boat Search & Rescue for 14 months until April of 1970, when my enlistment was up, I got out.

9. I was married and had two kids (while in the USCG) and if I would have made rank or rate, I would have been transferred to, who knows where and my family might not have been able to join me.
10. No, I did not.
11. No, I never regretted my decision to get out after my enlistment was up.
12. Reclaimed my pre-service job at Reserve Mining Company at the Peter Mitchell taconite mine in Babbitt. Prior to going into the service, I lived in Ely as my family lived there and after I got out, I resided there for 6 years until 1976. The mine was in danger of closing due to pollution issues in Lake Superior. So I took a job teaching Plumbing in Jackson at the Jackson Technical College. After 13 years of teaching there, the State of Minnesota changed the way they financed vocational education and the students stopped attending so, I was laid off. I then took a job in Lewes, Delaware in the lumber business for the next 3 years. After that, my family and I came back to Minnesota, where everyone talks like the actors in the movie, "Fargo". I was a Project Manager for a large mechanical contractor in Red Wing, getting the men, materials & machinery out on the job site & followed up with all of the details to its completion. After 3 years as a Project Manager, I was again hired to teach plumbing but this time, 120 miles up the river at the St. Cloud Technical College. I retired from teaching at the age of 65 years in 2007. In my retirement, I wrote the book "The Last Keeper at Split Rock" and was invited to speak about the book throughout the Midwest. I met Chris Kalogerson while speaking in St. Louis Park and we came up with the idea of the "Twin Cities All Coast Guard Reunion". We have co-organized & co-hosted the USCG reunions in 2013 & 2014 & 2015 & 2016 & 2017.
13. I live in rural St. Cloud today and travel about 65 miles to get here.
14. Fishing guide in what is now the BWCAW, Plumber-Pipefitter, Diesel Mechanic, Sawmill Operator, Plumbing-Pipefitting Teacher, Warehouse & Distribution Manager, Lumber buyer, Plumbing Project Manager, Plumbing Teacher, Author & Public Speaker.
15. Mary & I have 3 sons, Mark (48), Eric (47) & Tim (43). Mark lives in Crossville, Tennessee and is Director of Hatcheries for a multi-national poultry company, Aviagen. Eric has a music booking business called "Hello Booking" and books bands throughout the U.S. He is also the Personal Appearance Agent for the TV show the "Sons of Anarchy". Tim owns and operates a couple of truck sales businesses in St. Cloud called "Road-Rite Truck Sales" and "Big Rig" where he sells and leases over the road tractors and trailers nationwide. Eric & Tim both live in Albertville, Mn.

16. Mark has a long time girlfriend but has no children. Eric and his wife, Dawn have 3 girls, Lilly (15), Faye (12) and Maggie (9). Tim & his wife, Joanna have 4 children, 3 boys and a girl, Zander is (15), Griffin (13) Riley (10) and Cecelia (8) All of the grandkids are in every kind of kid activity in and out of school that you can possibly imagine.
17. I have found that the old saying "It's not what you know, but who you know" has made a profound difference in my & my family's life. I have meet many people along life's pathway. All of our life's opportunities have come from our association with those many people from the many different walks of life.
18. I like everything about retirement. It's like every day is Saturday and I can do whatever I want, whenever I want to do it as long as I can afford it. With a TRA pension and social security coming in every month, life does not get any better that this.

The above examples of the information for the questionnaire are meant as a guide so the information can be gathered for the biographical sketch of your life to be included in the USCG Reunion, 2016 booklet. When sending in the answers to the completed questionnaire, please include a RECENT COLOR PHOTO of yourself so it can be inserted into in your biography. If a photo of you was taken at previous USCG Reunions, I will use that photo for your booklet headshot or if you do not like that photo, just send me another photo. Thanks for your participation. There is no cost to be included in the biographical booklet as it is included in the banquet fee.

Note* The sooner you can get your information in to me, the less rushed it will be when the booklet gets closer to the publishing deadline. So, if you are interested in being included in the booklet, please send in your information as soon as you can. Thanks**

Please send the completed questionnaire and your color photo to:

Mike Roberts
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St. Cloud, Mn. 56304
mike.roberts41@gmail.com

1-320-654-9399