

Memorial

**Cynthia Stuart Robertson
(Charles S. Robertson, Jr.)**

February 15, 2021

Cynthia Stuart Robertson was born in South Orange, New Jersey in 1932 as Charles Stuart Robertson, Jr. The Board asks that memorials focus on departed members' lives in the Club. Solely for that reason, this memorial refers to Cynthia as Charlie, as she was known here.

Charlie earned a bachelor's and master's degree from MIT. He joined General Electric as an engineer, and there considered such things as nuclear propulsion of aircraft.

Charlie joined the Club in 1962. In thirty-nine years as a member, he brought twenty-three papers. (A list of them is attached to this Memorial.)

He served the Club nine years as Trustee, from 1978-87. He served as Vice-president from 1987-88, and President from 1988 – 1989. In 1998, he was elected an Honorary Member.

He was an early adopter of computers, using one at work from the late 1950's. In 1982, he regaled the Club with the tale of acquiring a computer from a company called Apple, having narrowed his choice down to that, or one from Radio Shack.¹

He added:

Maybe I will put all the Club members' names and addresses in the computer, along with the titles of their papers. That might be useful just to keep track of the various subjects presented. Do I hear any interest from the Clerk or Secretary?

There's no record of a response.

Charlie was a lifelong sailor and power boater. His papers included not only tales of nautical mishaps, but the story of the decline of commercial sailing ships,² and the history of ocean navigation, from coasting to early (and expensive) GPS.³

How to get from A to B was his deep interest -- he brought a short story describing future humankind's early interstellar travel.⁴

We believe he also bravely sought his personal true north.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Franz & Lew Gatch

¹ "The Christmas Apple," Dec. 20, 1982

² "The Sailing Ship," May 11, 1964

³ "Where Am I?," Dec. 4, 1995

⁴ "The Cradle," Feb. 2, 1970

List of Papers
C.S. Robertson

Title (* indicates budget length)	Date	On Website?
The Sailing Ship	May 11, 1964	Y - in '63 -'64 scanned vol.
Ad Astra	Mar. 3, 1967	Y - in '66 -'67 scanned vol.
The Cradle	Feb. 2, 1970	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
Festival	Feb. 7, 1972	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
The Damned Things Have Teeth*	April 28, 1975	N
An Immodest Proposal	Mar. 21, 1977	N
A Winter Trip*	Dec. 18, 1978	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
A Religion It's Not	Dec. 17, 1979	Y - in '79 -'80 scanned vol.
A Current Event*	Mar. 31, 1980	Y - in '79 -'80 scanned vol.
Arthur*	Dec. 22, 1980	Y - in '81 -'81 scanned vol.
Peace on Earth*	Dec. 21, 1981	N
The Christmas Apple*	Dec. 20, 1982	Y - in '82 -'83 scanned vol.
Not About Computers!	Mar. 7, 1983	Y - in '82 -'83 scanned vol.
Two Cats*	Dec. 19, 1983	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
Can We Use Your Tree House?	Dec. 17, 1984	N
The Drive to Oberlin*	Dec. 23, 1985	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
Challenger	May 12, 1986	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
Fences*	Dec. 22, 1986	Y - in 20 th cent. papers (listed under "Robinson")
139 th Anniversary: The Stewards of the Club*	Oct. 31, 1988	Y - in '87 - '89 scanned vol.
Rebels	Jan. 14, 1991	Y - in '89 - '91 scanned vol.
Southern Cross	April 26, 1993	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
Where Am I?	Dec. 4, 1995	Y - in 20 th cent. papers
Dragons	Mar. 23, 1998	Y - in 20 th cent. papers