

McCaffery Newsletter

SPRING EDITION

"2008"



USS McCaffery dockside - Bridgeport, Ct., July 1957 Two Mac sailors are in rented boat.

Editor: Gordon Leiser - 417 Adirondack Ave., Spotswood, N.J. 08884 (732) 251-1457 email: GLeiser860@aol.com



Ahoy Shipmates!

It's been awhile since our last newsletter, and I do apologize. The information we needed, regarding our reunion was delayed. However, we are now on a steady course to our 12th reunion.

Should you have any questions, that aren't covered in this newsletter, regarding the reunion, please contact Wayne Farris and I'm sure he will be happy to help you. The most important thing, is that we want all of you to have a wonderful, and memorable time that will last for years to come.

See you in Myrtle Beach!

Spring

"The Day the Lord created hope, was probably the same day he created Spring".

"2008" Reunion Update

I know many of you have been waiting anxiously for news about our 12th Reunion. Most of you already know, the reunion will be held in **North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**, from **Oct 8th to the 12th**. All information, pertaining to the reunion can be found on pages 6 & 7 of this newsletter.

Wayne Farris our Reunion Chairman, and **Phil Krumpter**, have spent a great deal of time, making all the plans and arrangements for this reunion. Thanks guys for all your hard work. It's no easy task. We're all looking forward to another successful reunion.

From the letters and emails we've been getting, it looks like many of you are interested and are planning to attend. This is the perfect time to renew old friendships, and enjoy a little Southern hospitality. If you have never attended one of our reunions, we encourage you to join us. I promise you, you won't regret it!

McCaffery Web Site

To find a shipmates email address, you can check our Web Site at;

www.usdd860.com

To see who expects to make the Reunion, or who has already made room reservations at the Avista, go to the bottom of the Web Site. If you don't have a computer, go to your local library, and they can help you check out the site.

McCaffery Shirts & Hats

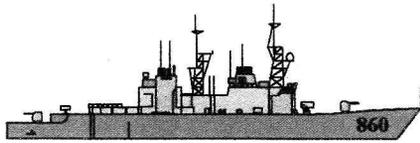
Shirts are available in navy blue (golf style), with the ships logo embroidered on the left side. Hats (one size fits all), are navy blue, with the same embroidered logo.

Hats - \$13.00

Shirts - M-XL \$16.00

Shirts - 2X - 3X \$18.00

To order, please send check or money order to: **Gordon Leiser**



McCaffery Staff

Bill Maslak - Historian & Web Site Update - Mac Patches

859 Hamill Road
Verona, PA 15147
(412) 704-0388
ussdd860@earthlink.net

Harold Faulkner - Membership Roster

10211 Vinemont Street
Dallas, TX 75218-2255
(214) 321-0494
haroldef@sbcglobal.net

Ed Crowell - Advisor

132 Royal Palm Dr.
Leesburg, Fl. 34748
(352) 728-6930
JeanEdC@wmconnect.com

Gordon Leiser - Newsletter, Hats, Shirts & Donations

417 Adirondack Ave.
Spotswood, N.J. 08884
(732) 251-1457
GLEiser860@aol.com

Wayne Farris - Reunion Chairman

9658 Deer Lane
San Angelo, TX 76904-3912
(325) 835-8394
sailor1@zipnet.us

Unexpected Meeting!

Nick Donatiello, (NJ) recently got quite a surprise. While pulling out of a parking space at his local drug store, the car next to him pulled back in and began blowing his horn. The driver had spotted the McCaffery license plate holder on Nick's car and told him he served on the McCaffery also.

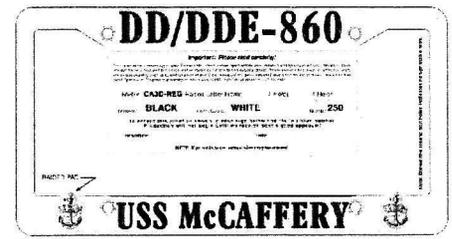
Lo and behold, it was Melvin Boyd from Berwyn, PA. Mel was so thrilled to learn that the Mac had an association. He asked Nick, to forward his name so he could receive the newsletters and any other information that is available. Mel left the Navy as a LTJG and Gunnery Officer in November, 1956. Just goes to show....our license plate holders, are drawing attention

Navy Names New Ship

The Navy christened a new cargo ship, named Amelia Earhart, in April at the General Dynamics Shipyards in San Diego. This ship is the second one, the Navy has named after the pioneering aviator from Atchison, Kansas. During World War II, the Navy had a liberty ship named after Earhart, that was used to transport supplies. The newest ship, is part of the Navy's class of support ships, that deliver supplies to other ships at sea or provides logistics support. Other ships in it's class, are named for explorers.....Lewis & Clark, Sacagawea, and astronaut Alan Shepard Earhart, gained fame in 1932, when she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic

License Plate Holders

High quality black license plate holders, are available for \$6.00 Price incl. postage. In raised white letters across the top, is; **DD/DDE -860** and across the bottom, is **"USS McCAFFERY"** flanked by fouled anchors. see sample



Mac Patches

Embroidered patches are still available, and there are two to choose from:

"Drive them into the Sea" (Bougainville), and the **"Sea Horse Riding a Hedgehog"** with a Shamrock background. They are high quality in brilliant colors. The cost is; **\$5.50 ea or \$10.00** for both. Price includes mailing.

McCaffery History

A few of the Mighty Mac's 28 year history, are still available at cost, which is **\$15.00**. This includes the postage. To order any of the 3 items listed above, please send a check to: **Bill Maslak at - 859 Hamill Road, Verona, PA 15147**



Welcome Aboard!



This column was launched recently, and its sole purpose is to list the names of newly found shipmates, who served on the "Mac"! Thanks to the efforts of our Historian, Bill Maslak, our roster keeps growing. The following, is a list of new shipmates, who have just joined us..... **Welcome Aboard Mates!**

Altenbach, Kurt (SN)	64-70	Gutkaiss, Adolph (MM3)	69	Leclair, Roger (BTFA)	55
Bailey, Jay (EMP3)	58	Hedin, Leonard (EM3)	59-61	Mosher, Rich (FN)	55-57
Boyd, Melvin (LTJG)	53-56	Holmes, Gerald (EM2)	49-52	Roy, John (FTG3)	72-73
Calkins, Jack (RDSN)	45-46*	Isaac, Gary (BTFN)	68-69	Scoville, Kent (RMSN)	55-56
Ehmke, Rich (FTA3)	57-59	Keithline, Rod (BTFN)	65	Sprouse, Chas. (SK1)	62-63
Fitts, Wm (TM3)	65	Lahaie, Robert (EMFN)	61-62	Stanczyk, Mike (SN)	62
Grow, Stew (EM1)	70-72	Lamontagne, R. (SN)	63-65	Weast, Jerry (SN)	69-70

*denotes: Plankowner



Announcements & Requests!

Jared Goetz (60-61), is looking for a McCaffery shoulder patch or info, as to where he can find one. It is 1/2 inch wide with blue and white embroidery, "USS McCaffery DD-860". His email address is: deraj@swbell.net. His phone # is: (314) 868-4353

Andrea Pinnell is asking for any information and /or pictures of her grandfather, **Charles A. Nelson**. Seaman Nelson was a plankowner (45-46) and is deceased.

Joe Brizek (45-46), has a lot of pictures from that period. Most of them, are of the snipes. He will email them to anyone interested. He email address is: sbrizek@aol.com. If you don't have a computer, your local library does. They will be happy to email Joe and recieve the pictures for you.

Jack Calkins (45-46), suffered a burst appendix in 1977. We received a report from a reliable source (?), in 2003, that Jack had passed on to his permanent home base, as a result of the burst appendix. We're happy to say that Jack is alive and kicking.

Destroyermen

The requirements for being a destroyer sailor are many. He must be tough, have endurance, & split-second reactions. He must be adaptable, compatible and above-average in intelligence. He must have common sense, understanding & patience. All of these are necessary to live and work on a small ship, often at sea for long periods.

Destroyermen are proud, for they know that they man a warship that is designed only to attack. The ships hull is only thick enough to carry the weight of the guns & other armament and the men that man them.

And destroyermen are proud for another reason. They are truly seagoing men. Every destroyer sailor comes to know and respect the sea, and at times, fear it.

Destroyermen are from every State in the Union & are of all faiths. They are proud to wear the uniform of a Navy, ready to protect the freedom & security of the United States.

Admiral Arleigh Burke once said "Destroyermen have always been proud people. They have been the elite. They have to be proud people & they have to be specially selected, for destroyer life, is a rugged one".

The above was written by LCDR Chris van Avery USN , Executive Officer of the USS Russell (DDG 59)

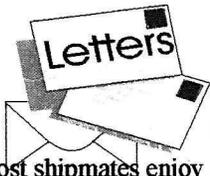


Newsletter Donations

Since our last newsletter, the following shipmates have sent in donations, so that we can continue to send you the "Mighty Mac" Newsletter. Thanks guys, it really helps. At present, our mailing list is over 1,200 plus, and growing. That adds up to a lot of postage. If you haven't made a donation, please consider doing so. As I have mentioned previously, we have no annual dues or membership fees, so all donations are truly appreciated and are used only for the publication of the McCaffery Newsletter. Thanks again to "anonymous" in Colorado" for another generous donation!

Bailey, Jay	58	Eddy, Richard	60-61	Klaas, William	61-63	Sims, Ray	70-71
Bartosch, Paul	63-64	Foreman, Bernard	60	Konecny, Dennis	62	Slate, Marlene	(widow)
Blessman, Don *	45-47	Foster, Verne	55-58	Kuhr, Jerry	55-56	Steimle, Ken	52-55
Boniberger, Gene	48-52	Gleadall, Rich	49-52	Lang, Carl *	45-46	Steiner, Pat	61-64
Brizek, Joe	45-46	Guastella, Ross	60-62	Lamlin, Harry	55-58	Tormey, Larry	51-54
Brosnan, Joe	57-58	Hackett, Doug	61-63	Matzen, Robt	61-62	Trippett, Ron	61-63
Brown, Robert	53-57	Hammond, Roy	56-58	Moyer, Leland	51-56	Truax, Estehar	(widow)
Burnett, Tom	47-50	Henault, Ed	63-65	Patterson, Leo	66-69	Turk, Donald	69-71
Cernava, John	65-67	Hoaks, Leslie	62-63	Raemaker, Ken	64-67	Webster, Ed *	45-46
Cherry, Al	64-66	Jaworowski, Wm	59-62	Roberts, John	46	Wright, Dave	54-56
Creekaum, Chas.	71-73	Kania, Frank	53-54	Romano, Mike	55-56		

* denotes Plankowner



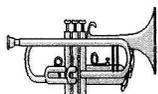
"Mail Bag"

Many shipmates have written since the last newsletter. Thanks to all, who took the time to drop me a line. Most shipmates enjoy reading about their 'ol buddies, and what's going on in their lives. So please keep those letters coming. Now for some news.....Heard from **Jay Bailey (CA)**, one of our newcomers, who has all intentions of joining us in Myrtle Beach for the next reunion. Jay, glad to have you aboard!.....**Charles Creekpaum (GA)**, mentioned that he met his future wife Tess, while he was on liberty in the Philippines. He had just come off the gun line in Vietnam. Charley, came back a few years later and married Tess in 1976. A love that was meant to be.....**Leland Moyer (MO)**, also know to many as "Mighty Mouse", sent me a copy of the Plan of the Day, dated February 21, 1953. Moyer, had mailed this home to his Mom and she held on to it for many years. Hard to believe that was 55 years ago!.....**Gene Boniberger (NY)**, informed us that his wife Jean, had major surgery this past October. We're happy to report that Jean has regained most of her strength, and is doing good. They are now looking forward to seeing everyone at the next reunion. God Bless you both!.....Congratulations to **Ken & Florence Steimle (NJ)**, on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The couple were given a 5 day trip to Las Vegas this past November, by their children. Knowing Florence, I couldn't think of a more appropriate gift. We hope you came home a winner!.....**Harold Faulkner (TX)**, one of our Staff members, has had his hands full lately. His wife Helen had hip surgery and while she was recovering in Rehab, Harold with his busy schedule tripped and fractured his wrist. He had to wear a cast for six weeks. Harold, is a key member of the McCaffery Staff, and handles all of our computers programs. I'm happy to report that they are both on the mend.....**Pat Steiner (TN)**, wrote to say, how much he loves reading the newsletters. Glad it brings you some enjoyment.....**Larry Tormey (MA)**, sent in a donation to help support the newsletter. Larry, sends his best wishes to all of his shipmates that he served with. Nice hearing from you Larry.....**Jim Twilley (NJ)**, and his family recently had a surprise party for his wife Arlene. It was a double celebration for Arlene. She was celebrating her 65th Birthday, as well as, her retirement. From what I've been told, it was a blast. Sorry I had to miss out on it. **Ed Huston (WI)**, has a new role these days. Since his wife Jerry is on oxygen 24/7, Ed handles all her duties. Ed has trouble walking, but with the help from the VA, he has a power chair. He still drives and does all the shopping. He said, they are blessed with a wonderful family and friends. Take care of one another!!!!

(con't on page 5)

Just recently, I recieved a call from **Capt. Robert Fisher (VA)**. Bob commented about the article I had in the last newsletter, pertaining to the First Flag raised on Iwo Jima. It seems that the photographer, Sgt. Lou Lowery, (USMC) who captured the famous photo, was a personal friend of Capt. Fisher. How fortunate you were to have known Sgt. Lowery. That's something your grandchildren can brag about.....**Charles Davenport (OH)**, and his wife Carolyn just celebrated 50 great years and have had an on going celebration with a cruise, a party in Florida, a dinner with family, and a big cook-out in June. Sounds like you two really know how to celebrate. Congratulations!.....**Al Cherry (FL)**, is one proud father these days. His daughter Dorothy, will be graduating from college this May with a 3.8 GPA for all four years. This is an incredible achievement for some one who has had dyslexia all her life. Dorothy passed all her teachers certification tests and now is looking forward to having her own classroom.....**Ken Deacon (OR)**, a recipient of the Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation and 6 combats stars, mentioned that maybe, in the future a reunion could be held on the West Coast. Ken is the President of the Oregon LST Association. Nice to hear from you Ken, and thanks for the TRN book.....**Dick Keup (CA)**, always seems to find time even with his busy schedule to drop a line. Usually, it's to let us know where he Bea are vacationing. This time however, Dick wrote to express his thanks for the newsletter. To quote Dick, "I get two other ship bulletins, both similar to yours, but not the combination of interesting articles that you consistently publish". Thanks Dick, for the kudos.....I've saved this part of the "mail Bag" for last. After all, I should be able to have some bragging rights. My wife June, and I, celebrated 40 years of marriage this past February. This isn't bad considering it's the second time around for both of us. We have 3 grandchildren to date, and are expecting two additional ones in July and Sept. Needless to say, I am thrilled beyond words.

Well, that's it for this edition, but please keep those letters coming.



Taps.....

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families of our departed shipmates. If you know of a shipmate, who is ill, hospitalized, or recently deceased, please notify us, so that we can respond in an appropriate manner. The following, is a list of shipmates, who have passed away some time ago, and we learned of their passing just recently. Included, in this list are also, a few who have died this past year.....

Alt, Joseph	MM3	49-50	Nelson, Charles *	S2	45-46
Church, Geo.	FA	51	Owczarcak, Al	MM2	61-62
Fema, Wm	TMSN	50-51	Sanborn, Ken	SN	59-61
Fendley, Chas.	BT1	47-55	Schones, Glen	MM3	71
Gipe, Mike	TM3	61	Storm, Robert	GM3	45-46
Hargrove, Joe	BTFN	50	Truax, John	DC3	48-51
Kawlesski, Gene	SH2	62	Truett, Marion	RM3	50-51
Lagasse, Don	SN	60	Trulock, James	SA	61
Macfie, Tom	EN2	69-70			

* plankowner

Burial at Sea

In March of this year, after leaving it's home port of Everett, WA, the carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, made a stop in the Pacific Ocean, to take care of a solemn and time honored tradition. Containers with the ashes of 33 former military service members, were deposited in the sea, off the Southern California Coast, at the request of Military people or their families. Each box of cremated remains were sent to the deep, with a Protestant and a Catholic Chaplain, reading prayers and committals. The ashes literally were "launched" off the deck and into the Pacific through a flag-covered metal chute crafted by the Lincoln sailors. The sailors spent hours welding the metal chute and stitching the flag around it. After the last remains went overboard, a Lincoln detail fired 3 volleys and taps were played. The lead flag bearer then presented the U.S. Flag to the Lincoln's Executive Officer, Capt Thomas Nosenzo. "These 33 people were willing to lay down their lives to keep us free during their time of service". Cmdr John Swanson, the Lincoln's Command Chaplain, said in a statement from the ship. "This is our final tribute to the legacy they left behind, and a final thanks on behalf of a grateful Nation". Family members were sent a message immediately after the ceremony, notifying them of the date, time, and exact location that their loved ones were buried. The ship's Religious Ministry Dept sends a flag, a certificate and a letter from the Commanding Officer and photos to family members.

REUNION 2008
8-12 October

We are now 6 months from Reunion 2008 at Avista Resort in No. Myrtle Beach, SC. Everyone is encouraged to make your reservations, if you haven't already, as well as submit your Registration Forms as soon as possible. It is extremely important to get this information in, in order to reserve seating at venues, reserve ample transportation and other planning.

Avista Resort is Myrtle Beach's newest (2 yrs) oceanfront condominium resort with spacious, fully appointed 1, 2, and 3 bedroom condominiums available. This will allow couples traveling together, or larger family groups to stay together. All condos are complete with refrigerator, microwave, oven and appliances. Other amenities are; fitness center, 3 pools, 3 hot tubs, private balconies and Wi-Fi Access.

Room rates & configuration:

- All rates are based on double occupancy & location, and not on configuration except for the 3BR units.
- All units have baths equal to the number of bedrooms, and come in different bed configuration choices, to be made at time of reservation.
- Most rooms are non-smoking; however a limited number of smoking rooms will be available.
- All 2 & 3 bedroom units are oceanfront. Single units are both oceanview and oceanfront and priced as follows:
Oceanview 1 BR = \$50.00 + tax & resort fee = \$58.18
Oceanfront 1 BR = \$65.00 + tax & resort fee = \$75.63
All 2 BR = \$88.00 + tax & resort fee = \$102.39
3 BR = \$120.00 or \$ 130.00 + tax & resort fee (\$ 139.62 or \$151.26 depending on configuration.

The above rates apply three days both before and after the reunion, based on availability. The Resort's room rates are subject to 16.35% tax and resort fee. Parking is complimentary in the Resort's parking garage. Taxes and resort fees are subject to change.

Avista Resort has been accepting reservations since October 1, 2007. Response is good with 48 shipmates having made reservations already. To make your reservations call 1-800-968-8986 or 843-249-2521 between 7:00 am eastern and midnight eastern, 7 days a week and ask for **Group Code: 1053720**. Avista Resort is hosting a USS McCaffery web page at avistaresort.com, where reservations may be made online. Click Reservations on the top of the page, when the new page opens click Group Reservations at the bottom of the page, and then enter **1053720** for your attendee code to receive the group rates.

Because these accommodations are privately owned condominiums, the deposit and cancellation rules are a little different than what you may be familiar with.

A two night deposit is required at the time of reservation if you are staying four nights or longer. A one night deposit is required if you are staying three nights or less.

For cancellations that are made 14 days or less prior to arrival date, the entire deposit is forfeited. *Within that 14-day period, deposits will be returned for Bona fide emergency cancellations. These cancellations will not be handled through the reservations desk. Instead, contact Wayne Farris {325-835-8394/ sailor1@zipnet.us} or Phil Krumpter {321-722-3934/philkrumpter@aol.com} for assistance in processing your cancellation.*

There are no refunds for early checkouts. To receive the group rates, reservations must be made no later than September 8, 2008.

Join the fun on the "Grand Strand"