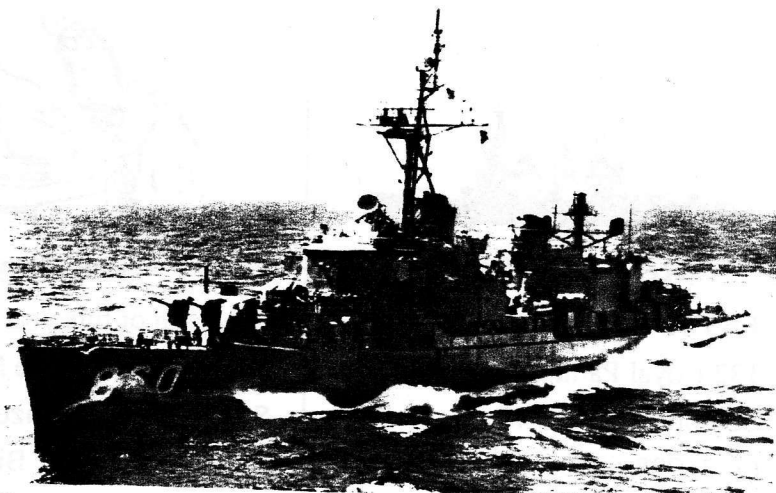


# McCaffery Newsletter

Spring - Summer "2002"  
Reunion Edition



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## Greetings Shipmates!

This year, like no other year in our history, the observance of Memorial Day, has taken on added significance. With the tragedies of Sept 11th, we not only remember those who perished in War time combat, but also those innocent people who lost their lives on that memorable day. We must stand together as one, and show our "invisible" enemies that we are united, and that we will not tolerate, their acts of terrorism. It will also serve to show those that are on active duty, that we are solidly behind them, while they are in "Harms Way". Above all, lets never forget the sacrifices that have been made for our freedom.

With that in mind, the staff and I would like to wish you all a wonderful 4th of July, and a safe and happy summer.....

## Reunion News

I know many of you have been waiting anxiously for news about our reunion. Most of you already know the reunion will be held in Portsmouth, Va. from Oct 2nd to the 5th. All information pertaining to the reunion can be found on pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter. Ed Crowell has spent a great deal of his time making all the plans and arrangements for this reunion. With him at the helm, I know we're headed for another fantastic time. According to Ed, the response so far, has been excellent. We hope that many of you who have never attended our reunions, plan to do so now.....I promise you, you won't regret it.



Decisions..Decisions!

## "Old Tin Can"

I recently was going through some old publications of the TCS newsletters, when I came across something I found rather amusing. The following, was submitted by one of our very own shipmates; Clifton Wentworth of Ipswich, MA. I would like to share it with you.

Sung to the tune of:

"A Shanty in Old Shanty Town".....

It's only a Tin Can in Old Tsingtao Bay,

The decks are so rusty, they're rotting away

It's a tumbled down ship, with a tumbled down crew

The Old Man is crazy, the Execs that way too.

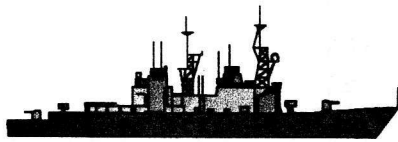
I put in for a transfer, but it didn't go through.

The Captain said "Sailor, it's Tin Cans for you".

So I'm singing the blues, for the rest of my cruise,

On a Tin Can, in Old Tsingtao Bay.

Sung by the Tin Can Sailors of the 7th Fleet  
in the late forties.



### McCaffery Staff:

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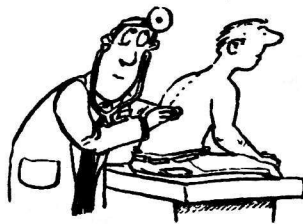
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### Sick Bay....

In March of this year, one of our key people from the McCaffery Staff, was hospitalized and in serious condition. Bill Maslak, (our historian) had colon surgery. In spite of his setback, Bill continues to do an outstanding job of finding former shipmates who served on the "Mac". According to Bill, his last checkup was pretty good. All of us hope, that your next checkup will be, even better. The staff and I want to thank you, for your dedication, and hope your health continues to improve.

### McCaffery Shirts & Hats

Orders for shirts and hats has been outstanding. If you would like a hat or shirt for the upcoming reunion, now's the time to get your order in.

Shirts are Navy Blue with the ship's logo embroidered on the left side, (Golf Style). Hats are also, embroidered. Prices incl. shipping.

**Shirts: M-XL \$15.00**

**Shirts: 2X-3X \$17.00**

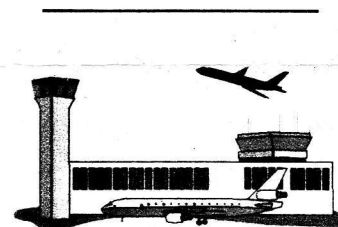
**Hats: \$12.00**

To order, please contact:

**Gordon Leiser**

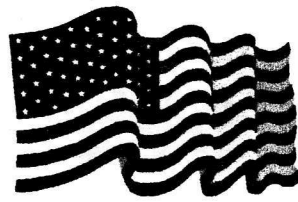
### " McCaffery History"

A 28 year history of the McCaffery, is still available. For those who haven't had the opportunity to order one, why don't you consider doing it now. It is compiled by year, from official Navy records. The ship, can be placed and tracked on just about any given day, in her 28 year career. The history, also, contains many pictures and has a color plate of ribbons and awards earned. The cost is \$15.00 which incl. mailing. To order a copy, please contact: **Bill Maslak**



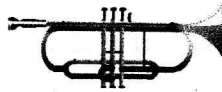
### Arriving by Plane?

If you are planning to attend our reunion, in Portsmouth, you must contact the hotel with your flight and arrival time Please send this information to Patty Philips at the hotel. They are trying to coordinate a scheduled pickup from the Airport to the hotel. I suggest you call the hotel, as the reunion date gets closer. The hotel should be able to give you more information, at that time, about transportation.



This year marks the 225th birthday of the American Flag. Many Americans are showing their support for their country, and rightfully so. It brings to mind, an event that takes place each year in Cape May, N.J. For the past 30 years, an 81 year old, retired Navy veteran, from WWII, conducts a flag ceremony at Sunset Beach. This event takes place every evening, from May to Oct during sunset. It begins each night, just before sunset, with "Kate Smith's" recording of "God Bless America". Then comes the National Anthem and "Taps", followed by the lowering of the flag, provided by the family of a deceased serviceman or woman. This simple event is very moving, and reduces some observers to tears. The sunsets, which illuminate the sky over the Delaware Bay in a dazzling display of color, also are part of the attraction. They're unusual for a N.J. beach, since most of the state's beaches face East. The tradition is so beloved among vacationers and veterans, that people sign their children up a year in advance, to help lower the flag. It's a tradition in Old Cape May, that I hope will continue for many years to come.....

## Taps....



The following is a list of our recently departed shipmates. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all their families. 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.

Adaska, David	1968	Dill, Lamont	51-53
Blonkowski, R.	50-51	Ecklof, James	45
Borkowski, John	53-56	Gould, Wm.	61-65
Brumback, William	50-51	Hrbal, Ed	52-53
Bryant, Garold	50-52	McIntosh, C.G.	45
Burckhardt, Harold	68	Price, Richard	52-56
Davis, Ira	46-50	Rogers, Philip	46-48
Strange, Richard		58-60	

## Answer to Quiz

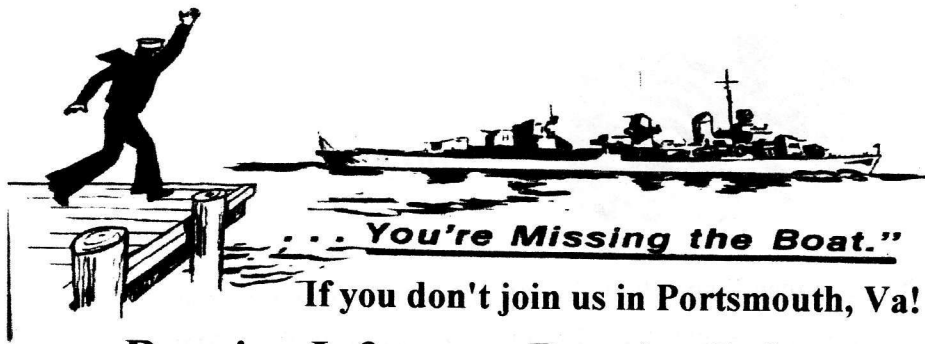
In the last n/1, I put a picture of the Mt. 45 crew from 1953-1954, hoping that someone could identify them. To date, I still only have the names of 9 of the crew. Here they are.....Blackburn, Despres, Corpus, Rice, Cox, Potter, Rockhold, Whitehead and Farrell. Sorry the picture wasn't clearer in the n/1, this sometimes happens. I know it made it difficult to recognize the faces. Thanks to Robert Parsons, GM2 (WA) for sending me the photo.

## Campgrounds

If you are coming to the reunion by RV or trailer, I would like to suggest the name of the following Campground: **Chesapeake Campground** is located at 693 So. George Washington Hwy, (this is located approximately 15-20 minutes from downtown Portsmouth), and comes highly recommended. For more information, you can contact them at: **(757) 485-0149**

## Reunion "2002"

Oct 2nd -5th



**... You're Missing the Boat."**

**If you don't join us in Portsmouth, Va!**

### Reunion Info

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Shipmates: **NOW**, and I emphasize **NOW**, is the time to make your reservations with both ED Crowell, and the Olde Towne Holiday Inn. The hotel is more important at this point, because they are running out of rooms, and after September 2nd, we lose the special room rate of \$66.00 per night. **DO IT NOW!** Call the **Olde Towne Holiday Inn - 8 Crawford Pkwy., Portsmouth, Va 23704 at: (757) 393-2573** to reserve your room. Be sure to mention your with the McCaffery Reunion.....If for any reason you have to cancel, make sure you notify the hotel at least 24 hours before your scheduled arrival.

**Registration & Hospitality Fee** is \$10.00 p/person, and must be sent to **Ed Crowell ASAP**.

**About our Hospitality Room** - we will open as early as we can on the 2nd of Oct, and throughout the reunion, it will serve as our gathering quarters. We will provide AM coffee and snacks. A wet bar with most libations, soft drinks and snacks, will also be available. In this area, (most likely just outside the door), we will have the check in desk, with your name tags and gifts; also any hats, T-shirts or other Mac offerings, if you ordered them. The Hospitality Room must close by 4PM on Saturday, as per our agreement with the hotel.

**Cost of Tours**, what to see and where to go. On **Thursday, Oct 3rd**, there will be a day long tour to Williamsburg. The cost is \$32.00 p/person. A lunch cruise on the Elizabeth River is also, available. You can take the cruise from downtown Norfolk (which is a 5 minute ferry ride from the hotel, and a block away). Sorry, but you'll have to make your own arrangements for this cruise. On **Friday, Oct 4th**, we will offer a tour of the Navy Base/with lunch. The cost is \$32.00 p/person. On **Saturday, Oct 5th**, we will have our Banquet and dance. The dinner buffet will be a full affair, with a choice of entrees, salads, vegetables, desserts and beverage. The cost is \$45.00 p/person which includes gratuities. From our hotel, it's only a few blocks away from many attractions. We will have brochures available for many low cost, easy to reach, points of interest. Portsmouth, is loaded with many restaurants, museums, and sites to visit within walking distance. Outside of the hotel, you can take a ferry for .35 cents to downtown Norfolk, and then walk to the USS Wisconsin battleship. The Gen. Douglas MacArthur memorial is just a short distance away, and for you Ladies.....**A LARGE SHOPPING MALL!** There's something for everyone, so **Y'All COME, AND A GREAT TIME WILL BE HAD BY ALL!**

On the next page, is our Reunion Form. Please complete and mail to **Ed Crowell - 132 Royal Palm Dr., Leesburg, FL. 34748 (352) 728-6930**, along with your check. I would like to say again, that should you have to cancel, any monies sent to Ed, will be returned. As of this printing, we have 190 people that have registered for the reunion.