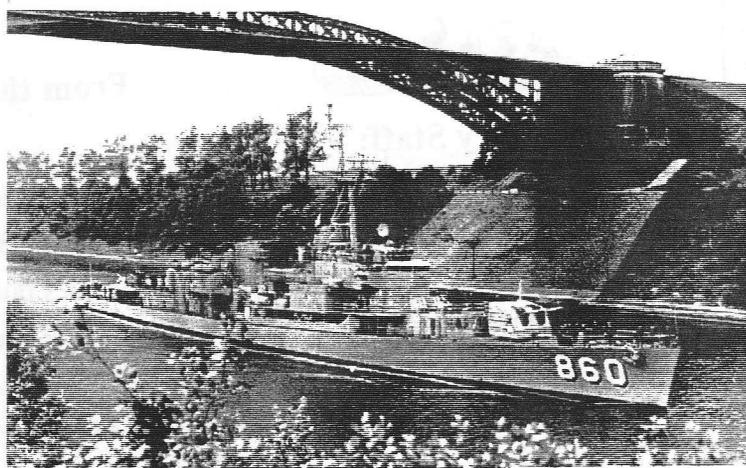


McCaffery Newsletter

SPRING - SUMMER

"2003"



USS McCaffery DD-860 passing through the Kiel-Canal June 1964

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



Ahoy Shipmates!

Okay guys,.....so spring this year wasn't too kind to us. With all the rain we had, I better not hear the word "drought". Let's hope that the summer season makes up for the cold winter, and rainy spring we endured.. I know everyone is looking forward to warmer weather, and the good 'ol summer time, so we can enjoy all the outdoor activities with our families and friends.

100 Years Ago....1903

Only 8% of homes had a telephone.
There were 8,000 cars in the U.S. & Max speed was 10 mph.
Average worker made \$200-\$400 yr
Only 14% of homes in US had a bathtub.
Life expectancy was 47 years old.
Pop. of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30.
There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.....

Reunion Update

You'll be happy to know, that this edition contains all the information you'll need for our next reunion in **Savannah, GA. Apr 21-25, 2004**. All the pertinent info, can be found on pages 6 & 7. From the letters and emails we've been getting, it seems like many of you are interested and plan to attend. This is the perfect time to renew old friendships, and enjoy a little Southern Hospitality Hey!....I know I'm looking forward to it.....

Newsletter Photos

A special thanks to Bill Bornhuetter (WI) for sending me the picture of the "Mac" in Malta, for our last edition.

This edition, features the "Mac" going through the Keil-Canal in June of 1964, which was sent to me by Bill Maslak.

Mac Patches

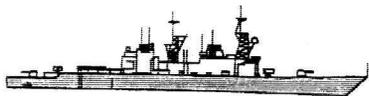
McCaffery patches are now available. There are two to choose from: "**Drive them into the Sea**" (Bougainville), and the "**SeaHorse Riding a Hedgehog**" with a shamrock background. Both patches are brilliantly colored, and are of excellent quality. The cost is **\$5.50** each including postage. To order: please send a check or money order to **Bill Maslak**

McCaffery Hats & Shirts

Shirts and hats are still available. Shirts are Navy Blue (Golf style) with the ships logo embroidered on the left side. Hats are also, Navy Blue with same type of logo. Prices include shipping.

Hats - \$12.00
Shirts - M-XL \$15.00
Shirts - 2X - 3X \$17.00

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



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From the Desk of Bill Maslak!



It's not too early to make plans to attend the next McCaffery Reunion. In attendance at the last reunion in Portsmouth, VA were shipmates from 31 States plus Puerto Rico representing the years 1945-1973. Here are a few comments from shipmates that attended.

John & Esther Lee Truax, 48-51 - "First reunion, fantastic thing to do"

John & Marilyn Scott, 64-67 - "Greatest thing we have ever done - keep going to the McCaffery reunions".

Gene & Ernestine Sweat, 46-47, "Next reunion, we'll be there"!

Dan & Norma Champion, 58-60, "First reunion and I think it is great. Will be hitting the next reunion".

Rich Reinsmith, 58-62 - "Second reunion, was with ten or eleven shipmates from "C" Div. One of the best, we are having a great time. This is one of the best things I have ever been to".

Larry and Jan Railey, 59-62 - "First reunion and it is SUPER"!

Bruce & Linda Kephart, 59-60 - "First reunion. We won't miss another one

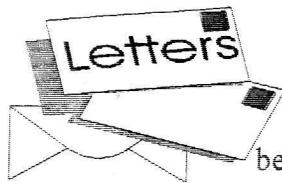
And the beat goes on!!!

I'll let you in on a little secret - I was so excited at my first reunion, that I couldn't eat the Prime Rib Dinner at the banquet. I tried to be "cool" on the out side, but inside I was all churned up with excitement seeing old shipmates after nearly half a century. I've settled down considerably since, but each reunion, seems to be better than the previous one, and I wouldn't want to miss the next one. You may not be as emotional, but you will really enjoy yourself.

If you plan on dropping or changing your Postal or Email address, please let me know, so that we can keep our records updated. The Postal address, of course, is important in getting the newsletters to you.

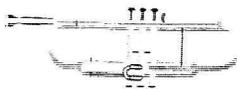
If you don't have an email address, but a family member or a friend does, I can post it to the McCaffery Site with your name. Have them email me at: ussdd860@usaor.net

Check out our Web Site - www.angelfire.com/pe/ussdd860 or a second Site: <http://users.stargate.net/~ussdd860> You may want to contact a former shipmate.



"Mail Bag"

I want to thank those who took the time to drop me a line. It's great hearing from you, because it give me an idea of what's going on in your lives. Please keep the letters coming, because it helps me out more than you know. Here is the latest news from our mail bag, since the last newsletter.....**Abe Abernathy and Jim Peeler (GA)**, met in an unusual way.....according to Abe, while passing out bibles at a college in GA, the two became engaged in conversation. Jim asked Abe if he was in the service, and came to find out, that they both not only were in the Navy, but were both on the McCaffery. Talk about a small world!.....**Richard Slate's (NC)**, wife Marlene, wrote to say how happy she was, to receive a "Mac" hat for her husband. He's in a nursing home, suffering from Alzheimers. She put the hat near his bed, for him to see. We hope it helps in some small way, especially to a guy who loved his "Navy" days.....**Keith Hastie (VA)** wrote to say how much he appreciates receiving the newsletter. Keith was the XO of the McCaffery from 68-70.....**Bob Delaney (FL)** contacted us to say, that he moved to a new location in FL and also, said how much he enjoyed the reunion in Portsmouth. He's looking forward to the next reunion in Savannah.....heard from a new guy, **David Burton (MN)**, who served on the Mac from 69-72. Dave found several old shipmates on our Web Site. Way to go!.....**Ken Johnson (FL)**, recalls that in the 50's, a sailor by the name of Rice, fell off the life jacket locker. "I tried to catch him", said Ken, and he almost killed me instead. Ken was in the honor guard, when the family of Col McCaffery, were at the ship's Commemoration. It was heart warming to see.....**Bob Hood (MI)**, a Mac "plankowner", is quite busy these days. One of his favorite pastimes, is participating in Antique Car Shows. He and his wife Joan, are the proud owners of an early 1900 Model A Ford. They really complete the look, when they don outfits from that Era, which are hand made by Joan.....**Jerry Nowicki (AZ)**, dropped a line to say "hi", and to give us his new address. He also, commented how he enjoys the newsletters.....**Francis Cooley (FL)**, ended his Naval career as a Chief Commissary aboard the Mac in 1970. He still keeps in touch with two former Mac shipmates. **Chief Boree (GA)**, and **Chief Cotton (FL)****Dick Keup (CA)** is always on the go. This time, he traveled by AMTRAK to Colorado Springs and on to Pike's Peak, where he encountered a horrific blizzard. He continued on to Sedona and Tucson, AZ to visit some old High School buddies.**Max Dishong (OH)**, wife Audrey, wrote to make a correction from our last edition. It was Max, and not Norm McGlaun, who was a frogman in UDT. Max's Team received the Presidential Unit Citation and five battle stars for service in Korea. Hope your health is improving Max!.....**Ike Guess (CA)**, served with me as a paymaster on the McCaffery. I tried for many years to locate him, to no avail. Thanks to Bill Maslak for putting me in touch with Ike. I called Ike, and we had a long conversation, recalling our old Navy days..... **Leon & Sue Pilling (UT)**, spent two weeks in Ixtapa and Zihuctanejo, Mexico. They had a great time taking in all the sites. However, they needed two weeks to rest up, after they got home. (Not as young as you used to be, huh)?..... **Ed & Jean Crowell (FL)**, spent three weeks traveling to England, France, Normandy Beach and Nova Scotia. Quite a bit of traveling for an ole salt. They are now resting up for their next adventure.....**Archie Moore (CA)** wrote to say, he is still searching for his best man, Bill Hunt from Marblehead, MA. Anyone out there know of Bill's whereabouts?.... **Emmet Reed's (CA)**, favorite hobby, is that of beekeeper. His "girls", as he calls them, really work hard to produce his honey. The label reads: "Reed's Canyon Honey Farm". How sweet it is!.....



Taps.....

The following is a list of some recently departed shipmates. Our thoughts and prayers go out to 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.

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| Binda, Aldo | 56 | Kowalek, Mark | 71 |
| Calkins, Jack | 45-46 | Monroe, William | 71 |
| Collins, Newton | 51 | Orsak, Alfred | 50-51 |
| Gaunt, Joseph | 45 | Petelle, Francis | 51 |
| Hattaway, Dan | 50 | Sawaniewski, Walter | 49-50 |
| Jansha, Henry | 51 | Tuhn, Donald | 50-51 |
| Kohr, John | 57-59 | | |

Note:

Some of the names mentioned above, were Plank Owners, who died some time ago, but we only recently learned of their passing

Purple Heart Stamp

One of the oldest Military Decorations in the world, was commemorated, with the issuance of the new Purple Heart Postage Stamp on May 30th. The Purple Heart Stamp, honors sacrifices of those wounded or killed in action.

Gen. George Washington created the Purple Heart Decoration, as a way to honor and thank the brave soldiers, who fought under his command, said the Post Master General, who dedicated the stamp. Now, it's our turn to do the same and continue Washington's patriotic tradition.

With the issuance of this stamp, the Postal Service, along with the rest of America, can pay tribute to the men & women, whose sacrifices have given all of us a country that is truly "the land of the free, and the home of the brave".....



The Mighty Mac

They say it's a legend, but I know it true
It's about a destroyer, with a golden crew.
From stem to stern, from keel to stack,
They say she's the best and she's called the Mac.

Nobody knows how the Mac kept steaming,
Some folks said she was driven by a demon.
She was a moving ship or so I'm told,
The fires in her boilers, had never gone cold.

One day in a storm, the squadron was tossed,
The Admiral feared that all was lost.
Then in the midst of that watery hell,
Appeared a monstrous ship they all knew well.

She radioed the Flagship; this is one I'll take,
I'll make a trail, just stay in my wake.
She steamed thru the waves, the wind had torn,
While the squadron watched all forlorn.

They pitched and rolled, on the heavy seas,
The Admiral in his cabin was on his knees.
The Mac kept steaming, tho the storm was rough
Everyone knew that the Mac was tough.

She led the squadron to calmer seas,
Where the wind was just a soft warm breeze.
The Admiral said before the crowd
She's a grand ship of which to be proud.

You may not believe it, but the story is so,
I was aboard her, that's how I know.
As long as black smoke rolls from her stacks,
They will never blow taps for the.....

ALMIGHTY MAC!

**THANK
YOU!**

Newsletter Donations

Our sincere thanks to those who have sent in donations to keep the "Mac Newsletter" afloat. We would like to acknowledge the following shipmates, who have sent a contribution since our last edition. Since we have no dues or membership fee, all donations are truly appreciated, and used only for the publication of the McCaffery Newsletter.

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| Abernathy, Harvey | 72-73 | Claywell, Tom | 61-63 | Heiser, Norman | 71-73 | Moore, Donald | 55-56 |
| Abston, Sam | 67-71 | Cooley, Francis | 68-70 | Hoaks, Leslie | 62-63 | Phelan, Charles | 54-57 |
| Ashforth, Donald | 54-56 | Coultes, Richard | 49-57 | Hood, Robert | 45-46 | Pierce, John | 51-55 |
| Astarita, Ralph | 51 | Deacon, Kenneth | 45-46 | Howland, Lilliam (Widow) | | Putnam, David | 45 |
| Biasetti, Phillip | 55 | Despathy, Ralph | 58-61 | Johnson, Kenneth | 53-54 | Rohrbaugh, Neal | 64-65 |
| Berube, Wilfred | 55 | Donatiello, Nick | 57-59 | Kenel, Robert | 45 | Romano, Mike | 55-56 |
| Blackburn, Will | 52-56 | Dzamko, Joseph | 51-54 | Keup, Richard | 53-56 | Schramm, Evelyn (Widow) | |
| Boniberger, Gene | 48-52 | Eagan, Robert | 57-61 | Konecny, Dennis | 62 | Schuetz, Robert | 54-56 |
| Breckenridge, Roy | 47-50 | Edwards, Arthur | 63-65 | Kuchera, Roger | 59-61 | Schumacher, Jon | 60-61 |
| Bride, Jack | 66-67 | Farrell, Kenneth | 51-54 | Lach, John | 49-51 | Seltzer, Sheldon | 60-63 |
| Briggs, William | 60 | Fleegle, Burton | 61-63 | Landis, Gerald | 56-59 | Shively, Robert | 50-51 |
| Brosnan, Joseph | 57-58 | Gartrell, Barry | 70-72 | Leska, Walter | 49-51 | Sims, Ray | 70-71 |
| Brown, Robt F. | 49-52 | Grady, Leonard | 45-46 | Makoulis, Jim | 63-65 | Sturgeon, Ronald | 61-62 |
| Brown, Robt N. | 53-57 | Hayes, Winn | 63-64 | Markward, Harold | 53-56 | Vaske, Clayton | 45-46 |
| Buell, Byron | 61-62 | Heard, Stephen | 70-72 | McCaffery, Hugh (nephew) | | Wartberg, Julius | 52-53 |
| Catanzaro, Mario | 50-53 | Heckert, Thomas | 57-68 | Mixer, Roland | 56-58 | Watling, Frank | 56-59 |
| | | | | | | Williams, James | 55-57 |

New Destroyers Honors "Naval Heroes"

Former Sec. of the Navy, Gordon R. England has selected the names of three Naval Heroes for the next Arleigh Burke-class-guided missile destroyers. Fleet Adm. Wm. F. Halsey Jr., Adm. Forrest Sherman & Adm. David Glasgow Farragut. will each have a ship sail under their names. Adm. Halsey commanded the 3rd fleet in the Pacific, his motto was; "hit hard, hit fast, hit often". This is the second ship to bear his name. Adm. Forrest Sherman, was the youngest CNO in Navy history at the time, serving from 1949 until his death in 1951. This will be the second destroyer to bear his name. Adm. David Farragut, one of the Civil Wars great heroes, gained fame for his exploits, while in command of the West Gulf blockading squadron, during the Civil War. This will be the 5th ship named in his honor

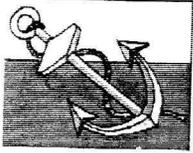
Origins of Some Naval Terminology

"He know the ropes" - in the early days, this was written on a seamans discharge to indicate that he was still a novice. All he knew was just the names & uses of the principle rope. (lines) Today, this phrase means the opposite..that the person fully knows and understands the operation.

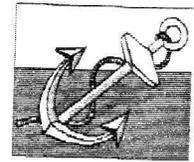
"Between the Devil & the Deep Blue Sea"

In wooden ships, the "devil" was the longest seam of the ship. It ran from the bow to the stern. When at sea, & the "devil" had to be caulked, the sailor sat in a bo'sun's chair to do so. He was suspended between the "devil" & the "deep blue sea" ...a very precarious position, especially when the ship was underway.

Gun Salutes - were first fired. as an act of good faith. It was proof of friendly intention, when the ships cannon, were discharged upon entering port.



U.S.S. McCaffery's 10th Reunion
Savannah, Georgia
April 21 - 25 2004



Our 10th reunion will be held in **Savannah, GA** and hosted by Tom Burnett and his lovely wife Paula. Tom is no stranger when it comes to reunions. He has hosted a reunion for his former ship the USS McCard. Tom hails from Titus, AL, and knows what Southern Hospitality is all about. He's made arrangements with the **Holiday Inn Midtown**, to host our banquet and also, for a special room rate for our group. A block of rooms has been set aside for us. Please call **1-800-255-8268** to make your reservation, using the **Group Code; UMR or specify the USS McCaffery** to get the discounted rate of **\$74.11 plus tax, per night**. Please make your reservations early, this will guarantee you a room. Non-smoking, smoking and wheelchair accessible rooms are available. Rooms types are available on a first come - first served basis. No charges will be made to your credit card, until check out.

Most importantly, if you plan to attend the reunion, please send your **reservation fee of \$15.00 per person, to Tom Burnett, as soon as possible**. Registration covers the Hospitality Room, (snacks, refreshments, plus Insurance). If for any reason you have to cancel, your money will be refunded.

Two Activities that are planned:

Thursday Evening - a bus will take us to Old Fort Jackson on the Savannah River, the oldest standing brick fort in Georgia. We will have a tour, a 17 minute video of the history of the Fort, an extensive museum, wonderful gift shop, firing of the massive 32 pound cannon, music and a delicious dinner. Menu will be Hickory Smoked Chicken, Brunswick Stew, Savannah Red Rice, Cole Slaw, Dinner Rolls, Iced Tea, Hot Coffee and Dessert. All proceeds of our dinner go directly back into the preservation of the Fort.

Friday Evening - we will board one of the 600 passenger stern wheel paddle boats, for Dinner, Entertainment and Dancing, on a two hour cruise up the Savannah River. The Georgia Queen and the Savannah River Queen are elegantly appointed, and the crew will make sure our cruise is a wonderful experience. Our menu will include; Southern Fried Chicken, BBQ Pork, green beans, buttered corn, macaroni and cheese, Red Rice, Corn Bread, Chef's Dessert, Iced Tea or Coffee. The first and second deck are glassed in and are air conditioned for your comfort. The Top Deck is open for viewing the Historic Savannah River and Landmarks.

Savannah, GA is a city that overflows with Southern hospitality, striking historical landmarks and flourishing gardens. There are squares for strolling, antique shops, quaint boutiques, pubs and restaurants with delicious Southern cuisine. A good pair of walking shoes and a desire for having fun, is all you need.