McCaffery Newsletter Winter 2010



Editor: Nicholas Donatiello Sr. 30 Centerboard Drive Bayville, NJ 08721 732-269-7583 NDonatiello@donatiello.net

Hello Shipmates: As you can see we have made some drastic changes to the newsletter. These are being made in hopes of making a newsletter that is easier to read and will also speed up the time to publish. We are using a company to print and mail the newsletter. As professionals they can do this quicker and for the same price we were paying for the old newsletter. This edition will cover mainly the McCaffery Reunion and the dedication of the Memorial Plaque at the Navy Memorial in Washington D.C.

I did hear from Lambert Bronk since the last newsletter, at age 85 Lambert maybe our oldest living shipmate at 85. He is a plank owner having put the McCaffery in commission in 1945. Anyone older?

Congratulations to Walter Dean (62-66). He and his wife Alene celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 14th.2009. Ain't love grand?

<u>USS McCAFFERY MEMORIAL PLAQUE</u>: On 24 April 2010 at 11am we will dedicate a memorial plaque for the USS McCaffery at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. This plaque will be in honor of and commemorate the service of all who served on the McCaffery and the USMC hero after whom the ship was named. It is not too late to contribute to the cost of this plaque. Everyone who contributes will be a "Plank Owner" for the plaque and be part of our ship's presence at the U.S.Navy Memorial, Your contribution doesn't have to be large, but the fact that you have contributed will be meaningful, and your name will be listed on the web site at the U.S. Navy Memorial as a contributor to the USS McCaffery Memorial Plaque. Send contributions to Bill Maslak.

A Hotel, The Sheraton National Hotel Arlington, 900 South Orme Street, Arlington VA has been chosen for the Memorial Plaque weekend. The Room Rate is \$109.00 per night + tax. Check in Friday 4/23 for 2 nights and check out is on 4/25. This price includes 2 breakfasts. Reservations must be made by March 24, 2010 to receive this rate. Reservations made after this date will receive a different rate. The hotel is adjacent to USMC HQ at Henderson Hall, near the Army Post Fort Myer (2 exchanges and a commissary) and Arlington National Cemetery. They are all within walking distance as is Pentagon City, a major shopping and restaurant center. The ceremony and reception will be over early in the afternoon so you will have time to sightsee afterward. Directly across the street is the National Archives and within 2 blocks are the National Gallery of Art and the Museum. Further on the Mall are several Smithsonian Museums. Within a mile of the USNM are the White House, Capitol and Holocaust Museum.

Dress for the ceremony is casual including McCaffery shirts, hats, and jackets or a blazer/sports jacket. (The USNM discourages blue jeans.). Neckties are optional but not required.

Come and enjoy a weekend in Washington, D.C.

McCaffery Staff

Bill Maslak - Historian Web site Update - Mac Patches 859 Hamill Road Verona, PA 15147 (412) 704-0388 ussdd860@verizon.net

Harold Faulkner Membership Roster 10211 Vinemont Street Dallas, TX 75218-2255 (214) 321-0494 haroldef@sbcgobal.net

Ed Crowell - Advisor 132 Royal Palm Drive Leesburg, FL 34748 crowell2009@hotmail.com (352) 728-6930

Nick Donatiello - Newsletter 30 Centerboard Drive Bayville, NJ 08721-1512 (732) 269-7583 NDonatiello@donatiello.net

Ron Trippett - Reunion Chairman 36 South Main Street Topsfield, MA 01983 (978) 887-6315 <u>Mccaffery2010@Yahoo.com</u>

MOVING ?

If your plan on moving, or have moved, or change your email address please let Bill Maslak know.

License Plate Frames

High quality black license plate frames are available for \$6.00 (includes postage) For frames send a check to Bill Maslak.



REUNION 2010

The USS McCaffery 2010 reunion will be held September 20 thru 23 in the Salem / Boston area at the SHERATON COLONIAL BOSTON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER. Check out their website. <u>www.sheraton.com/wakefield</u> Reservations can be made now. Rates are \$89.00 plus tax per night. The same rate is extended three days prior and three days after our reunion for those wishing to take in more of the New England area. For reservations call 1-888-627-7205 or 1-781-245-9300 and ask for the USS McCAFFERY ROOM BLOCK. <u>EARLY LIBERTY CALL SPECIAL</u> Those who register before April 15th will be put into a drawing for four nights free at the reunion hotel.

If you need more information at this time call Ron Trippett at 1-978-887-6315 or by email mccaffery2010@yahoo.com You can also contact him by U S mail Ron Trippett - 36 South Main Street -Topsfield, MA 01983.

THIS IS THE PLAN FOR THE REUNION

Day 1 - A pre-hours tour of the USS Constitution, docked in the historic Charlestown Navy Yard. The USS Cassin Young (DD-793) is also available for touring. There will be no tourist on board during our Constitution tour. The Witch City of Salem is our second destination of the day and free admission to the Witch Museum. Other options for your pleasure are the Peabody Essex Museum and a host of other locations. The cost of this tour is \$55.00 Day 2 - This tour has a lot going for it. We will leave the hotel for Gloucester. Upon arrival we will have a memorial service for our departed shipmates. The service is at The Fisherman's Memorial and includes printed programs, a wreath laying ceremony and Taps. Guests will enjoy exploring with lunch on your own (you may not want to have a big lunch). Gloucester's Main Street and Harbor Loop. The afternoon offers options including a cruise of Gloucester harbor, a distillery tour, where you can even bottle, label and cap tour own bottle. Other options are available and will be explained by the professional tour guides. We will top off the day with a Lobster Bake. The meal includes choice of lobster or NY Steak, also ncludes barbecue chicken, accompanied by clam chowder, fresh baked corn bread, corn on the cob, red bliss potatoes, home made strawberry shortcake, and lemonade, coffee or tea. All of this at a cost \$115.00.Total for both days \$170 Per person.

Day 3 - 9 AM Shipmates Meeting. You will have the rest of the day free. The Banquet will take place this evening with picture taking before the banquet.

Day 4 Check out unless you are staying for extra days.



Brizek, Joseph F. MM 3 45-46 * Casparro, Joseph H. MM 3 65-66 Cocchia, Ralph A. SN 60 Edwards, Arthur L. FN 62-65 Foreman, Bernard G. EM 3 60 Klocke, Robert F. S 2 45-46 Matovich, Mitchel CS 2 46 Opidee, Carmon J. BT 2 45-48 Turck, David F. SO 3 50-54 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 since our last newsletter:

Pothier, Thomas J. GM 2 51-55 Pankake, Paul S. GM 2 51-54 Reed, Emmet E. YN 3 47-51 Rosboschil, Edward A. MM 3 62-64 Rude, Ernest R. ET 1 72-73 Siler, William D. SO 1 59-60 Sitar, Paul G. MM 3 59-61 Spruill, Stephen LTJG * Designates Plank owner

NEWSLETTER DONATIONS

These are donations made since or last newsletter and they help us continue to publish the newsletter for over 1200 shipmates on the mail list. These donations pay for the printing and postage and are appreciated by all who receive the newsletter. Send donations to Nick Donatiello, 30 Centerboard Drive Bayville, NJ 08721.

Bailey, Gerald Bohn, Robert Burnett, Tom Dillingham, William Force, H. Jay Hoaks, Leslie Matzen, Robert Rogers Jr, William Steiner, Patrick Turk, J. Donald Word, Walter Bender, Charles Bowron, Denis Caretti, Kenneth Esposito, Sal Foster, Torrey Hockenberry, Phil McCaffery, Marc Rude, Ernest Strickland, Mickey Tully, Joseph Yevincy, Jim Blessman, Don Brosnan, Joseph Cernava, Judy Fedak, John Frech, John Ledger, Charles Miller, Richard Salafia, Anthony Thour Jr, Marvin Twilley, Jim Bihar, Newton Buell, Byron Despathy, Ralph Flynn Eugene Heckert, Thomas Lusk, Johnne Pierce, John Steimie, Ken Trippett, Ron Warnock, David

Mac Patches and Shirts and Hats

Embroidered patches are still available and there are two types. **"Drive them into the Sea"** and the **"Sea Horse Riding the Hedgehog"** with a Shamrock background. These high quality patches are in brilliant colors. The cost is \$5.50 each or \$10.00 for both. Prices includes mailing.

McCaffery Shirts and Hats. Shirts are available in navy blue (golf style) with the ships logo embroidered on the left side. Shirts M-XL \$16.00 2X & 3X \$18.00 **Hats** are one size fits all and are navy blue with the same embroidered logo. Hats are \$13.00. Send a check or money order for shirts or hats to Ed Crowell.

FROM THE DESK OF BILL MASLAK

Usually Bill has a number of items to report and below is one of those items, but Bill is recovering from a bout of cellulites, (**not cellulite**) and is in a nursing home till the end of February. **GET WELL BILL**.

MILITARY RECORDS On 12 Jul y, 1973 the personnel archives in St. Louis, MO had a fire which destroyed 16 to 18 million military records. (My records were scorched by legible). You may want to check your records to see it they were destroyed. If your records were destroyed and you have a copy you may be able to provide archives with a copy. If you have a copy and there are errors in it, you can provide corrections and request that changes by made. Incidentally, blood relatives of deceased military members are entitled to a copy of the serviceman's records at no charge.

AL CHERRY, 64-66 says requests for your records can be made on the Internet. The address is <u>www.archives.gov/veterans/evetres</u> If you don't have a computer you can call the VA @ 1-800-827-1000 to get the forms necessary for your request. Go to the end of the voice mail and speak to a representative.

Winter 2010 McCaffery Newsletter Bill Maslak 859 Hamill Road Verona PA 15147

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