

USS McCAFFERY DD/DDE 860

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

EDITOR: Nicholas Donatiello

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MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Hello Shipmates,

I keep thinking about our last reunion in Salem and what a great success it was. BZ to Ron Trippett and those who helped. The banquet and the trips were most enjoyable, but the best part was seeing shipmates and friends again.

This leads me to our next reunion in JAX in 2012. The reunion committee is planning for this event now, and is in process of selecting a hotel and events that we can enjoy. I hope that we have a great turnout. More to follow on that.

The best part of the USS MCCAFFERY ASSOCIATION is the fellowship that we enjoy when we get together. It is so much fun to see old friends and remember times aboard the Mighty MAC way back then. To continue that success, I have a request. I would ask that every member of our Association think back to when you were aboard the MAC, and who your closest friends were back then. And, if those friends are not members of the Association, how about calling them up and asking them to join us? If every member called 2 or 3 former shipmates, we could add many new members, and increase the enjoyment for all.

With new officers leading our Association after many years of outstanding service by Bill, Gordon, Harold, & Ed, we have a firm foundation for success and fellowship in years ahead. This is everyone's Association. Please pitch in with suggestions and help to keep it outstanding.

Fair winds and following seas to all,

Doug Hackett

(President, USS MCCAFFERY SHIPMATES ASSOCIATION)

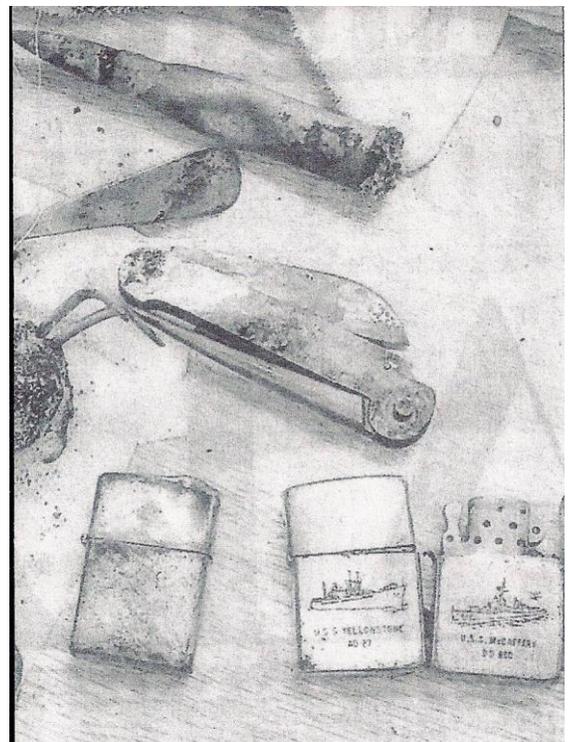
HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR ZIPPO LATELY?

Submitted by **Bill Maslak**

How about your seaman knife, souvenir .50 caliber shell, or dog tag. **Dave Howe**, 67-70 sent an article, along with pictures from the Times-Union, Jacksonville newspaper. These and other items were found on the beach at Huguenot Park near Mayport. Among the three Zippo lighters found, one was inscribed USS McCaffery, DDE 860 with the silhouette of the ship. Another lighter was inscribed USS Yellowstone, AD-27 with the silhouette of the tender. The dog tag was illegible. Apparently the items were buried for decades until shifting sands and tide-wash exposed them.

The center Zippo is the Yellowstone; the right Zippo without the lid is the McCaffery.

Editors note - (Sorry the picture is not clearer)



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TAPS

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families of our departed shipmates. If you know of a shipmate that is ill, hospitalized, or deceased, please notify Doug Hackett so that he can respond, on behalf of the association, in an appropriate manner. The following is a list of the shipmates who have passed away. We post the names when we are notified of their passing, this does not mean they have passed away since our last newsletter.

Battaglia, Anthony SOG3 68-70	Jones Russell E. 55-56 FP2
Burlew, Joseph LTJG 52-54	Kuhr, Gerald (Jerry) 55-58 YN3
Campbell, Carl (Randy) BT3 59-60	Ryckman, Larry F CS3 60-63
Church, George (Stan) SA 51	Schuetz, Robert LTJG 54-56
Crump, Samuel M. EN1 63	Young, Merle SN 45-46
Esposito, Sal SOG3 59-61	

WELCOME ABOARD: Dan Deppe EW3 72-73 Stumbled on our web site. Also Fred I Hylan CS3 62-63.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Contributions for the newsletter should be sent to Nick Donatiello. Make checks out to USS McCaffery. It is your generous contributions that allow us to keep publishing the newsletter.

Abston, Sam BT2 67-69	Goodrich, Joseph MM3 62-65	Putnam, David ENS 46
Blessman, Don WT2 45-47*	Heckert, Thomas FN 57-58	Sims, Ray MMC 70-71
Barnes, Don FT1 52-53	Jankoski, Peter MM3 60	Trezza, Anthony SK3 56-58
Brosnan, Joseph YNSN 57-58	Jones, Delores Memory of Russell GP2 55-56	
Buell, Byron LTJG 61-62	Konecny, Dennis SN 6	Twilley, James MM3 52-56
Decon, Ken MM3 45-46	Overman, Dick SOG2 49-50	Urbano, Anthony ET2 53-55
Dumont, Art MM3 62-63	*Plank owner	Whitaker, Ralph LTJG 45

PLANK OWNER CERTIFICATES –If anyone who donated toward the Memorial Plaque did not receive a certificate, please contact **Ron Trippett**. Address & email address at left.

McCAFFERY ITEMS Due to production and mailing costs the following prices now apply.

Caps \$15.00 Shirts (S-M-L-XL) \$20.00/ XXL Shirts \$24.00/ XXXL Shirts \$26.00

License plate frames \$6.00 - Embroidered Patches \$5.50 each or 2 for \$10.00 (Drive them into the San and Sea Horse Riding a Hedgehog).

NEW ITEM Car window decal of the Memorial Plaque located at the Navy Memorial in DC

Exact duplicate 7" X 4" \$2.00 - Exact Duplicate 8" X 4" \$3.00.

Color enhanced version with explanation of picture below the ships picture \$4.00

All prices include mailing. Make checks payable to **Ron Trippett** (address at left).

McCaffery Jackets are also available directly from the Supplier Phil Abate (a Tin Can Sailor) his phone number is 732-846-6685

McCaffery on Facebook by Phil Cutrara ETR3 65-67. Several of my shipmates got together through the McCaffery shipmates email list. We joined Facebook, and later the USS McCaffery group on Facebook. Not only did my shipmates join, but shipmates from just about every year that the McCaffery was afloat. The group address is: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=76046200967> Once you join Facebook you can begin to share your profile with others. You can put as much info as you feel free to share with just the people you know and things like like your photo, hometown, residence, schools you attended, places you worked, photos of you family, vacations, etc. We try to keep up with the latest news of all our members, and seek to invite all shipmates to visit and join our group. Feel free to see what the group is doing, and say hello to all your friends; but most of all join the group and share your life with us.

USS McCaffery (DD860)

Crewmember's Biographical Questionnaire

To supplement Bill Maslak's *History of USS McCaffery*, this questionnaire is designed to help put a personal face on the McCaffery: who were her crewmembers, what were they like, and what did they do before, while onboard and after they served on McCaffery? Submission of biographical information grants permission to the McCaffery Association to publish the information in the association's newsletter, on the association's Web site, and in other venues. Information provided may also be provided to the Naval History & Heritage Command for use in historical research. Thank you for your assistance and participation.

Full Name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Place of birth _____

Hometown: _____

Rate / Rank while onboard McCaffery: _____

Dates of McCaffery service: _____ Dates of Navy service: _____

Why did you join the Navy? _____

Did you retire from the Navy? If yes, at what rate / rank? What awards did you receive?

Current mailing address: _____

E-mail address: _____

List deployments you took part in while onboard McCaffery: -

Do you have a cruise book that you'd be willing to let us photocopy? If so, which cruise(s) and year(s)?

Do you have remembrances of serving onboard McCaffery that you'd share?

Were there any special events or actions that McCaffery took part in while you were onboard, e.g., commissioning, Korea, Viet Nam, Texas tower collapse, de-commissioning, etc.? Please discuss any special role you played in these events.

Please discuss what you did after you left McCaffery, i.e., stayed in the Navy, went to college, type of job, career. (Attach a separate page(s) as necessary. Attaching your bio or resume is OK too.)

Who were your closest shipmates while onboard McCaffery? What made them special shipmates?

What were your favorite liberty ports while onboard McCaffery? Why?

Do you have a photo of yourself while onboard McCaffery that you could copy and send?

Please mail completed questionnaire and other documentation to Don Turk, 10320 SW 17th Place, Gainesville, FL 32607. If you have any questions, please contact Don at dturkx2@bellsouth.net. Or at address on page 2 of the newsletter.

ITEMS OF INTEREST: On March 24 I received a returned newsletter from our last mailing in early November. It was mailed to **Terry Carraway** in Mobile, AL. It took the post office almost 4 months to notify us that Terry had moved and send us the forwarding address. **Is that slow or what?** I was notified, by his daughter, that **Robert J. Obleman**, ET2 51-55 is very ill with Alzheimer and living in an Alzheimer facility. **Russell E Jones** FP2 55-56, before his death, had the honor of pinning LT bars on his granddaughter as she was commissioned in the Navy. She is a doctor and now serving in Afghanistan. Plank owner **Ralph Whitaker** LTJG 45 just underwent brain surgery to relieve the pain of Trigeminal Neuralgia. **James Pinnell** 60-63 SK3 has informed us the he is on dialysis and is waiting for a kidney transplant. He is in need of a donor with type B blood who could donate a kidney. We learned that **Morris (Tex) Fulks** 51-53 FN had a stroke but is recovering well. Get well Tex; we would love to see you at the next reunion. On a brighter note, **Ken (lets hold the reunion in Oregon) Deacon's** name was used as a character in a book titled "The Yanks called it Terrible Point" about the Allied amphibious training base at Toorbul Point, Moreton Bay Queensland during WWII. The author is Ron Donald and he has written other books with a WWII theme. Ken did train at this base and met the author during a return visit to the site.

Speaking of books, **Harold Faulkner** SO2 50-52 recommends several books by Don Sheppard. BLUEWATER SAILOR recounts when he became a mustang Ensign and reported aboard a destroyer in the 60's. His second book ROVERINE recounts as a Lieutenant Commander he went to Vietnam as the commander of a Patrol River Boat (PRB) that patrolled the Bassac River. It is sub-titled A BROWN WATER SAILOR. His Last book starts out when he was an officer aboard another destroyer, becoming the executive officer. He later became the Captain of his own destroyer when he became a commander. The name of the book is DESTROYER SKIPPER. Harold highly recommends reading these books; He enjoyed reading all the books

In our last issue we talked about our oldest living shipmate being 85. Well Plank owner **David Putnam** ENS 45 is 89. Right now he has the title of oldest living shipmate.

We are always interested in what our shipmates are doing, keep us informed and we will let the others know through the newsletter. Send any information to **Nick Donatiello** (addresses page 2). We will include all we can in the next newsletter.

REUNION SURVEY Just a reminder, last issue we had a reunion survey to help plan the next reunion. If you have not sent in a survey, please do so now. **Jim Womble** has had a good response & will be using the survey to follow what the majority wants for the next reunion. If you want your desires heard send in the survey.

EMAIL DELIVERY OF THE NEWSLETTER We have had some response from shipmates who will be getting their newsletter through email. If you would like to get your newsletter through email, let me know at Ndonatiello@donatiello.net.

MOVING If you are moving or getting a new email address, PLEASE let us know. We spend many hours tracing new addresses for our shipmates. If your postal address changes notify **Don Hake**. If you email address changes notify **Jerry Rose**. Their address and email addresses are on page two of the newsletter.

April 2011

McCaffery Newsletter

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IN THIS ISSUE: Biographical Questionnaire