



USS McCAFFERY DD/DDE860 SHIPMATES NEWSLETTER SPRING 2013

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

What a great reunion we had at Jacksonville! I have been thinking about it a lot, and realize that our reunions show our Shipmate's Association at its very best. We meet with each other, re-live old times, greet old friends and shipmates, and have a great time doing it. We should all be very pleased that preparations are in progress for our next reunion at Groton CT in 2014. And here is where we all come in: Call up those guys that you were friends with in the engine room, in CIC, in Radio Central, Sonar, Mt 52, on the mess decks, or where ever. See how they are doing, and invite them to join the Association and come to the next reunion. They will probably want some McCaffery shirts and hats from the ship's store run by Ron Trippett. I wear my McCaffery ball cap frequently and often have people ask me about our ship and our reunions. Try it yourself.

In recognition of a job well done and for the contributions made to our Association, commemorative McCaffery plaques have been presented to Bill Maslak and Ed Crowell. Well deserved Shipmates, and Bravo Zulu. Thanks to Rich Kuroski and Art Shaffer for making the presentations on behalf of all members of the Association.

Thanks.

Doug

MAC MEMORIES

Rich Kuroski LTJG 62-64

(See explanation at end of article)

My first memory dates back to July 1962 when as a brand new ensign, I reported on board the McCaffery. If I remember correctly it was July 5th around 0300 and it was hot. Considering I was joining the ship in Aden, hot was to be part of the following weeks.



In fact I soon learned that tropical hours meant starting the day early so that all hands could knock off ships work early. It was common to have canvas rigged on the weather decks for shade. So we tried not to be hotter than a tin can. The back story to reporting onboard was the fact that I was not alone that hot summer morning. Joining me was Don Wells, another green ensign. We did not start out together to join the Mac. As fate would have it we did run into each other in Port Lyautey, Morocco, having flown in earlier from Norfolk. From there we flew to Nice, and then on to Naples, where we had to wait for a few days due to the McCaffery being at sea. We then took a train to Rome where we then caught a flight to Aden. So getting to the Mac was an adventure in and of itself.
(The picture is of men sleeping on the fantail during the heat of the day)

Explanation: During our business meeting it was discussed that the shipmates write up a paragraph of their memories of their time aboard the McCaffery. This is the first installment of what we hope will be a number of memories sent in by the shipmates. I asked Rich Kuroski to write something up for our first installment. Now we need other shipmates to write a paragraph for future newsletters and send them into the editor of the Newsletter.

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TAPS

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of our departed shipmates. If you know of a shipmate that is hospitalized or deceased, please notify Doug Hackett he can respond on behalf of the association in an appropriate manner. The following list is those we have been notified had passed away. We publish the names when we receive them and verify their passing,

John R. Baird MMC 64-67	John E. Caton MM3 71-73
Warren F. Dalton CSQ 51-55	Thomas De Hart OS2 58-61
*Edward A. Felli SC1 45-46	Dominic Giuliano FN 55-56
Cedric A. Kauffman SO1 55-58	LaVerne J. Schefka SA 51-52
William R. Smith YN3 54-58	Charles E. Sprouse SK1 62-63
Thomas W. Wert GMG3 60-63	Donald P. Wetzel ET3 51-53
Alan M. Zwick MMFN 57-61	Eugene Zwick SN 52-53

* Denotes Plank Owner

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

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

Anonymous	Colo.		
Ashforth	Donald A.	MM2	54-56
Bohn	Robert M	E-7	56-60
Buell	Byron W	LTJG	61-62
Cash	Bud	LTJG	58-61
Coultes	Richard G	IC1	49-57
Hendrickson	Lee	BM3	71-73
Hendrickson	Lee	BM3	71-73
Horton	Stephen P	EN3	71-73
Huston	Enoch E	SN	47-50
Jaworowski Jr	William J	ET2	59-62
Johnson	Kenneth R	FTGS	53-54
Keup	Richard L	QM1	53-56
Martin	William F	IC3	54-56
Overman	Dick	SOG2	49-50
Tormey	Lawrence P	RD1	51-54
Tully	Joseph H	RM3	55-56

USS McCaffery merchandise - Ron Trippett has the following McCaffery merchandise for sale:

Blue shirts \$20.00 XXL - \$24.00 XXXL \$26.00. **White shirts (women's)** \$22.00. **Caps** \$15.00.

Jackets \$35.00. **License Plate Holders** \$8.00. **Belt Buckles** \$12.50. **Coffee cups** &7.50.

T-Shirts (Memorial plaques imprint) \$6.50. **XXL** \$8.00. **Ships patches Drive Them Into The Sea and Hedge Hog** \$5.50 each or two for \$10.00. **Window decals of Memorial Plaque** sm. \$2.00. Lg. \$3.00. Color \$4.00. Ron's address and email address are both on page 2. (To your left on this page)

FROM OUR WEBMASTER

The McCaffery website is expanding to be a source of information about the Association. The information contained in various parts of the website includes the current and previous newsletters, members that are online, the upcoming reunion and previous reunions, and the history of the ship.

Additional items will continue to be added in the coming months. In particular, the historical information about the previous reunions (with photos) will be added to the Reunion section. The 2006 Buffalo reunion is now on the website, and can be found in the tab entitled 'Reunions in the 2000s'.

In the 'Members on the Internet' section, email addresses are listed for Association members. If your email address shown in this list is not correct, please send your current email address to me at mccaffery860tcs@gmail.com. Any errors will be corrected. Jerry Rose

REUNION PREVIEW

These are some ideas that James Bell has for the reunion to take place in 2014.

Jim is thinking of having the reunion from September 16, 2014 arrival and September 20th departure. Some of the events he is considering are a visit to Battleship Cove in Fall River Mass. with a tour of the USS Massachusetts, BB 59, the USS Kennedy, DD 850 and several other museum quality vessels followed by a memorial service. This trip would include lunch. A tour of Mystic Seaport shipyard and Whaling ship Morgan with museum. A visit to Groton Heights monument and fort, scene of a revolutionary war battle followed by a tour of the submarine USS Nautilus, SSN 571 and museum with a trip to Abbots Lobster for a lobster dinner. Several other ideas include a bus ride and boat tour of Narragansett Bay lighthouse's, and a possible visit to the Coast Guard Academy in New London. He is thinking of the Mystic Hilton for lodging. There are also several casinos in the area. More will be firmed up before the next newsletter.

WELCOME ABOARD

Joe Bosko and his team of helpers have located 1 new shipmate, and I am sure many more to follow. The new shipmate is:

Robert L. Scarpa FTGSN 72-73. His address is 2067 S. Coors Ct. Denver, CO 80228

Do you remember "water hours?" James Escobedo, a Seaman onboard McCaffery during her 1967 WestPac cruise, remembers one of those days while off Vietnam.

Water hours? Back in '67, I had just come off of two days of watch, replenishing details, refueling details, and rearming details. I had not bathed because for the two hours per day the showers were open, I was on duty. But finally, I just gotten off the mid-watch, and during breakfast I was going to shower. 1st Division was below the mess deck, and although the crew was grabbing their chow, I went down the ladder, peeled my clothing off, and left them on my bunk. Now my shirt and pants were covered with salt, oil, and residue from powder cases and shells. I sat on my locker and took off my boondockers, the smell was enough to choke a maggot. I slipped on my flip-flops, grabbed my soap, razor and wash cloth, and up the ladder I went. As I emerged on the mess deck, I was greeted by whistles and cat calls, (but I) held my head up and gave all those who admired my physical physique my favorite middle finger. At last, I was at the doorway to the showers -- there were two for over fifty men, but today even the toilets were empty. I threw my towel off and entered the shower. With cold water running I was whisked away to worlds beyond the Tonkin Gulf. Then, as if Neptune decided to play a joke on me, I hear through my dream, "General Quarters, General Quarters, all hands man your battle stations!"

(continued...)

With wet flip-flops, I went sliding across the waxed tiled mess floors as men scrambled out of their bench seats and headed for their gear. I quickly got dressed, same clothes, up the ladder, shoes untied, no socks, T-shirt and dungaree pants unbuckled. Though the Chiefs Quarters, the Merry-Go-Round crew had sent up powder and shells to Mount 51. When I reached the powder magazine, between opening the aluminum cases and pulling out powder canisters and sending them up the chutes, I told my mate my sad story. To this day, I cannot remember who he was. "You're lucky," he said. "Lucky?" I asked. "Yeah, you could have soaped up and they shut the water off." Yeah I thought, I guess I am lucky, as the ship went into a sharp turn to line up and fire its broadsides into coast of North Vietnam.

Do you have a McCaffery-related experience to share? Send it to Don Turk at dturkx2@bellsouth.net or 10320 SW 17th PL, Gainesville, FL 32607.

ADDRESS CHANGE: If you should move, or get a new email address, please notify Joe Bosko. His address is on page 2 and you could save a lot of work for the newsletter staff.

EMAIL DELIVERY OF NEWSLETTER If you would like the newsletter sent by email, notify Nick Donatiello, by email, NDonatiello@donatiello.net .