

McCaffery Newsletter

FALL - WINTER-Edition



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



"HOLIDAY GREETINGS" SHIPMATES!

Well, another year has passed, and needless to say, we survived the millennium without any major problems. Makes you wonder what all the hype was about. I hope all of you had a great year and are enjoying the best of health. We are looking forward, to planning another great reunion for the year "2002". I noticed at our last reunion, a lot of new faces. Many shipmates who served during the 60's and 70's, are beginning to show a definite interest.

We are happy to have you younger guys on board. It would be a nice to hear some newer "sea" stories for a change. To date, we now have almost 700 former McCaffery shipmates on our roster. Some of you we haven't heard from. How about dropping us a line?

May I take this opportunity to wish each and everyone, a healthy and Happy New Year.....

Looking for a shipmate!

Since my last newsletter, I heard from a former shipmate Emil Kupper, who served on board from 64-65. Emil, was assigned to the Mac for temporary sea duty, right out of boot camp, before he went to Sonar school. Although Emil served for only 7 months on the Mac, he can only recall one shipmate by the name of Sonny Feckenworth from Denton, N.C. If someone remembers Emil, please drop him a line. He said, he would love to correspond with anyone he served with. His address is: 7408 Claridge St., Philadelphia, PA 19111-3625

Announcements

I have been asked by our Staff members, to make a few announcements of interest to you shipmates. So here goes.....

Reunion Book - anyone interested in purchasing a book of our last reunion, should contact Ed Crowell.

"Mac" Shirts & Hats:

This year, we had our hats embroidered instead of having a patch on the hat, and believe me, they really look sharp! The shirts are Navy Blue with the "Mac" logo embroidered on the upper left hand side. The hats are \$12.00. The shirts will be \$15.00 for M-XL, & \$17.00 for 2X-3X. Postage is included in the price. To order, contact: Gordon Leiser at the address listed above.....



"Mac" Video Available

Through the combined efforts of Emmet Reed, Bill Maslak and the great editing job done by Bob Jordon, we now have a VCR tape showing the Mac in action during the years 1954 to 1973. This tape, was made from actual 8mm movies guys sent in during their tour on the Mac.

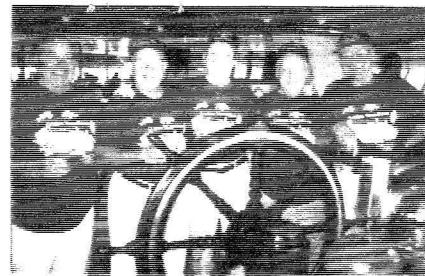
The tape runs about one hour and fifteen minutes, and is a great history for your children and grandchildren. Even if you weren't aboard during these years, it shows the Navy as we saw and lived it. The cost is \$10.00 which includes mailing. To get one, send a check to: Bill Maslak - 859 Hamill Rd., Verona, PA 15147-2925



The latest printing of the McCaffery history is available. Many pictures from various years are included, as well as a list and display of awards and ribbons she earned. Want to recall which parts of the world you visited and which waters you sailed? The ship can be placed on just about any given day from commissioning to decommissioning to her final disposition. Compiled from official Naval records, everything is documented. The price for printing and mailing is \$15.00 and that is **your cost**. Send your request to: Bill Maslak. (a note on this subject from Bill)...."if you have received the McCaffery history or VCR tape, and have not sent your check for \$15.00 or \$10.00 respectively, please do so."

F.Y.I.

In ten minutes, a hurricane releases more energy than all the world's nuclear weapons combined.



Emmet Reed, Ed Crowell, Gordon Leiser, Harold Faulkner and Bill Maslak

Your McCaffery Staff Members

Emmet Reed - 4116 Galt St., San Diego, CA92117 e-mail: [\(Emmetreed@aol.com\)](mailto:Emmetreed@aol.com) (858)273-7333 for Video's

Ed Crowell - 132 Royal Palm Dr., Leesburg, FL 34748 (352)728-6930 ECro530477@cs.com for Reunion Info

Gordon Leiser - 417 Adirondack Ave., Spotswood, NJ 08884 (732)251-1457 GLEiser860@aol.com for shirts, hats & newsletters

Harold Faulkner - 10211 Vinemont St., Dallas, TX 752218 (214)321-0494 haroldef@flash.net Membership files

Bill Maslak - 859 Hamill Rd., Verona, PA 15147 ussdd860@usaor.net for official history of the Mac, and Web site update.

The above names are the people who work together to keep the "Mac" Organization running smoothly. If you have a question that you need answered, any of the people listed above can and will help you.

Little known fact.....

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints & quarts. So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender yelled to mind their own pints & quarts and settle down. Hence, the saying; "mind your P's & Q's".....



McCaffery Web Site

For those of you who have computers, please take the time to check out our Web site:

www.angelfire.com/pe/ussdd860

This site is maintained and kept up to date by Bill Maslak. Any additions or corrections must be sent to him.



A Sea Story!

The following story was submitted by Steve Spruill.

"We were independent in Beirut on New Years Day 1966 (pretty sure). Due to get underway at 0600. Captain Hodge arrived at 0555 in a taxi after a serious liberty. He then went immediately to the bridge and ordered all lines cast off. When advised a pilot was not yet on board, he snarled, "____ the pilot, all ahead flank!" We steamed out of Beirut harbor at 30 knots, and the crew was never more proud of their fine ship. It is a fond memory.



The Story Behind Taps

It all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Va. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Capt. Ellicombe heard the moan of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing, if it was a Union or a Confederate soldier, the Capt. decided to risk his life, and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Capt. reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him towards his encampment. When the Capt. finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Capt lit a lantern. Suddenly he caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son! The boy had been studying music in the South, when the war broke out. Without telling his father, he enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, "heartbroken," the father asked permission of his superiors, to give his son a full Military Burial. Despite his enemy status, his request was partially granted. The Capt. had asked, if he could have a group of Army Band members play a funeral dirge, at his son's funeral. The request was turned down, since the soldier was a Confederate. Out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Capt chose a bugler, to play a series of musical notes, which he had found on a piece of paper, in the pocket of his dead son's uniform. This was granted. This music was the haunting melody, now known as "Taps" that is used at all Military Funerals.

Taps.....

The following is a list of our most recently departed shipmates:

Baird, Ronald	Iezzoni, Peter
Banninger, Robert	Killson, Frank
Bruza, Sal	Luberts, Irvin
Callies, Gerald	Meeker, Lloyd
Campbell, Edward	Nagler, Gordon
Dunaway, Edward	Ruhwedel, Rich
Ecklof, James	Scates, Joe
Frechette, Henri	Shivey, Carl
Gillette, Keith	Villmore, Merrill
Washington, Ernest	

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.



On July 10th, I was informed of the passing of Mary Hawkes. Mary was the wife of shipmate, Ken Hawkes, for the past 48 years. Mary was a wonderful friend to many of us, and she will be deeply missed.

I would like to end this page, no matter how sad we feel right now, with this.....

Words to Taps

Day is Done
Gone the Sun
From the Lakes
From the Hills
From the Sky
All is Well
Safely Rest
God is Nigh

Naval Quiz

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. () Binnacle List | A. fitting, secured to the deck to guide lines or cables |
| 2. () Bo'sn's Pipe | F. drawn up tight |
| 3. () Chock | H. Canvas, wood, or rope gear to protect the side of the ship. |
| 4. () Camel | J. Small, shrill whistle |
| 5. () Two Blocked | B. Sick List |
| 6. () Lucky Bag | D. A wooden float placed between the ship and the dock |
| 7. () Field Day | G. Opening in the side of the ship protruding lip off the deck to carry off water. |
| 8. () Fender | I. All hands turn to in cleaning the ship or work station. |
| 9. () Flemish Down | C. Locker for storage of loose articles or effects found on the ship. |
| 10. () Scupper | E. Coil line flat, clockwise and circular on deck. |

Answers on Page 7.....(don't cheat!).



If you have moved, or you are planning to, please let us know! It's most important that we keep our records updated. It makes our job easier, and saves on postage. Please send your change of address to Harold Faulkner.

DID YOU KNOW?

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial, on the back of the five dollar bill.

The Cruise liner, Queen Elizabeth II, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.....

It's a Ship.....



The Navy boys are pleasant;
they are as friendly as can be.
No matter where you meet them,
they are jolly company.
Their eyes are quick to twinkle,
and their faces quick to grin.
They are fond of mouth and music
and they all have yarns to spin.
"But their peacefulness will vanish
and they'll want to slit your throat.
If you haven't learned their language
and you call their ship a boat."

You may not know aft from forward,
or the starboard from the port.
Or that discipline is rigid
when the vessel's known as "taut."
You may say "downstairs," landlubber,
when you ought to say "below."
And a sailor may forgive you
and no sign of temper show.
But a flash of indignation
on his face you'll promptly note.
If you make this foolish blunder
and you call his ship a "boat."

Now a boat is something simple
which by oars can be propelled.
It's a craft for lakes and rivers
and by foe it's never shelled.
It is swung on ships in davits,
and at times at storms at sea.
Should the nobler vessel flounder,
very useful it can be.
But from cabin boy to skipper
You'll get every sailor's goat,
And he'll never quite forgive you,
If you call his ship a "boat."

Newsletter Donations

Thanks to all who have contributed to our Newsletter. We appreciate whatever you can send. It's through your donations, that we are able to keep the McCaffery Newsletter afloat. The following, are names of shipmates, who have donated since the last newsletter:

Richard Ammon	Charles Cochran	Donald Lathrop	Anthony Salafia
Donald Ashforth	Samuel Coulbourn	Louis Manna	Robert Schuetz
Verlin M. Babb	Richard Coultes	Harold Markward	John Scott
John Bair	Robert Davis	Al Marotta	Leon Selby
Larry Battson	Thomas DeHart	William Martin	Sheldon Seltzer
Gary Bayrd	Robert Delaney	William McCormack	John Shutzbough
John Bell	Ralph Densmore	Norman McGlaun	Robert Silloway
Leland Bergman	Max Dishong	George Melanson	Carl Sikula
Mike Berardi	Nelson Edwards	Roland Mixter	Neil Siciliano
Heinz Betz	Joseph Ewen	Ronald Mowery	Floyd Smith
Robert Biegen	Burton Flegle	Kenneth Nadeau	William Smith
Willard Blackburn	Ronald Flock	Howard Napier	Patrick Steiner
William Botsford	Jay Force	Galer Perrault	Bobby Tison
Denis Bowron	Nicholas Frilling	George Pasnak	Lawrence Tormey
Stephen Brown	Morris Fulks	Gary Pickering	Joseph Tully
Emile Brugger	Thomas Graves	John Pierce	Earl Walts
William Bromely	Douglas Hackett	Leon Pilling	Jerry Waller
Byron Buell	Stephen Honan	Frank Pribanic	Gordon Warfield
Mario Catanzaro	William Jaworowski	Lawrence Raley	
James Clayton	Richard Keup	Dennis Razmus	
Charles Cochran	Gerald Kessinger	Mike Romano	

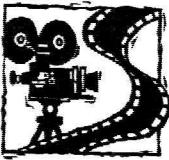


The following is some news from former shipmates. Due to the lack of correspondence, I have limited news for this issue. Your Editor sure could use some help, so we can keep these newsletter interesting. If you have something you'd like to share with the guys, don't hesitate.....drop me a line and I'll make sure it's in. You wives out there have been terrific in the past, so maybe you can help again.....

Ralph Densmore originally from (GA), recently retired from the Navy. He now works for the U.S. Government in of all places.....Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as a Physical Security Specialist! He and his wife are in the process of adopting a little girl. Good luck to you and your family! **Ken Hawkes (ME)** spent a couple of weeks in Oct visiting with the **Goodwins (IA)**. Joining them also, were **Tex and Margie Fulks (TX)**. It seems that while there, Elaine Goodwin took ill, and had to be hospitalized for a few days. Glad to report that she is doing much better now. **Clara and John Frech (OK)** were also invited, but had to decline because there was too much work to be done on their farm. **Max Dishong (OH)**, also wrote to express his thanks for the "Mac" shirt. Max had surgery in October for a blocked carotid artery. The surgery took place in Columbus, Ohio which is 90 miles from their home. His wife Audrey, had to stay a few nights in a motel, which I'm sure only added to her anxiety. I'm happy to report that everything went well for Max.

(cont'd)

Bill and Evelyn Maslak (PA) spent the Thanksgiving holiday with their daughter in Va.....**Ed and Jean Crowell (FL)** had some old friends from England visit them. This is nothing new to the Crowell's, for they always have their "welcome" mat out.....It seems that **Emmet Reed (CA)** is into a new line of work these days.....Beekeeping!! Yep, that's what I said. Now he has two "honeys". He sent me a sample, and I can truly say it's the best!. Love the packaging also..."Reed's Canyon Honey Farm". It's got a certain buzz to it, don't you think?.....At our last reunion aboard ship, we had **Joe and Joyce Scates (CT)** enjoying the camaraderie with the rest of our shipmates. I'm sorry to report that it was Joe's final voyage. He passed away in July from leukemia, which he had fought for six years. Our sincerest sympathy to his family.....**Ralph Lowe (AR)** had some heart problems, and had to go through open heart surgery recently. He is currently involved as a member of NVOA (Nat'l Veterans Organization of America) helping other veterans in procuring health benefits, and protection and enhancement of benefits. If anyone could use his assistance, or more info, contact him at: **219 CR 148., Elizabeth, Arkansas 72531-9089 or (870) 488-5187 email: wdrrs@mtnhome.com**



"Memories at Sea"

I would like to make mention of the outstanding job that **Emmet Reed** has been doing for our group. Emmet makes tapes of the McCaffery, from the years 54-73, for a very nominal fee of \$10.00, which includes mailing. Commercial shops charge \$20.00 plus postage. We can be very thankful, that we have Emmet at the helm, preserving the memories of the McCaffery. To date, 94 tapes have been ordered, and if you haven't done so yet, I urge you to order one today. It's well worth the price. Thanks Emmet, for your dedication.



Tin Can Sailors Inc.

This National Organization is located in Somerset, MA. They have a newsletter that comes out quarterly and it's outstanding. You can call this toll free number, 1-800-223-5535, and ask for a complimentary copy, with no obligation to join. The yearly dues are only \$15. They have a membership of over 20,000. I have been a member of Tin Can Sailors for the past 18 years, and highly recommend this fine Organization./

Tin Can Talk

LASH UP: Secure; tie up; make fast.

STRIKER: A non- rated man who is qualifying for a petty officers rate.

TURN-TO: An order to commence ship's work.

HASH MARKS:; Red, Blue or Gold diagonal stripes across the sleeve of enlisted man's uniform signifying the number of previous enlistments; one hash mark for each 4 years of active service.

DOG WATCH: One of the two hour watches from 1600-2000. The first dog watch is from 1600-1800 and the second dog watch is from 1800-2000.

HEAD: Toilet.

MARLINSPIKE: A pointed iron instrument used in splicing rope and wire.

Destroyer Man

Generally speaking, destroyers are happy ships, and this is because they are democratic and informal and cozy as a middle class American family, with the skipper presiding at breakfast, lunch and dinner in his roll of Old Man. It is a discerning skipper, who realizes that all work and no play, makes Jack a dull sailor!



AHOY MATE!

Reunion "2002"

Although the location for the next reunion has not yet been chosen, we are considering several places. The following are some of the places that have been mentioned. **Newport, R.I., Branson, MO., Norfolk, VA., and Buffalo, N.Y.** At this point, it is very important that we have your input, so we can choose an area that the majority will be in favor of. As in the past, your feedback has helped us immensely, and we are hoping you will participate once again. Our main goal is to select a location that will include points of interest for all. Any other ideas or suggestions, will be welcomed as well. After all, our aim is to make this another great reunion, and have a successful turnout. Please take a couple of minutes to fill out the form below and mail it to: **Ed Crowell - 132 Royal Palm Dr., Leesburg, FL 34748**

I am interested in having our next reunion in: (please check choice):

Newport, R.I. Branson, MO. Norfolk, VA. Great Lakes, IL. Buffalo, N.Y.

I think the reunion should be held: In the Spring In the Fall

A message from your Editor....

I would like to express my gratitude, to all of you, who were concerned during my illness this past year. Thanks for all your prayers, cards, and phone calls. They helped to get me through a most difficult time. It's been a long road back, and I'm once again at the helm of the "Mighty Mac" newsletter. Thanks again shipmates and wives. A special 'thanks' to Ed Crowell, for filling in for me. It was through Ed's efforts, that you received your last two newsletters. Ed also asked me to pass the word along, that he has a few extra copies of our last reunion cruise book, so contact him if you did not get one.....

Gordon Leiser

Naval Quiz answers from Page 4:

1B; 2J; 3A; 4D; 5F; 6C; 7I; 8H; 9E; 10G

It's been over six months, since our last reunion, and a big 'Thank You' is long overdue to Ed Crowell and his wife Jean. The cruise aboard the "Sovereign of the Seas", was a new experience for many of us, and we all had a wonderful time. We can always count on Ed to do a splendid job.

On behalf of the Staff and all those who sailed with us, we would like to say; another job "Well Done Ed"!.....

Interesting fact: In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. That's where the phrase, "Goodnight, sleep tight" came from.