

USS McCaffery (DDE-860) alongside the USS Wasp (CVS-18) to refuel - 1957



Confidential crisis chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net
or text to **838255**

If you have E Mail service and receive this N/L by US mail, please consider E mail only.

This would greatly reduce the cost of printing and mailing. Notify Nick Donatiello at NDonatiello@donatiello.net



USS MC CAFFERY DD/DDE-860

SHIPMATES ASSOCIATION - WINTER 2022



From The Editor: Hello shipmates, spouse's and friends of the McCaffery. Welcome back, Hope you all are well . In this issue you will find some interesting articles sent / phoned to me by shipmates about personal experiences before and while serving on the Mac. If any one has a story to tell, send it to me.

Respectfully, James Bell - Editor

address:
763 E. Gaines Lane
Hernando, Florida 34442

Presidents Message:

Hello Shipmates, I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. It looks like the Covid pandemic may be subsiding, and I hope you all got your vaccine shots and boosters. We all have to stay healthy. I am sorry that we had to cancel our MAC reunion for this past Fall, but it just was too great a risk health wise. I would feel terrible if anyone became ill at our reunion. That said, we do have an opportunity to get together for a reunion in association with the Tin Can Sailor (TCS) Association next Fall in Houston Texas 25-29 September 2022. The reunion is in Houston because the hotel scheduled for the San Antonio reunion has been sold and is being renovated. Full details for the Houston reunion are not yet available, but will include optional tours to the Houston Space Center and a visit to a WWII submarine and DE. Put this date on your calendars, and we will publish further details in future additions of the MAC N/L. I would also add that I urge all shipmates to join the TCS. It is an excellent organization for destroyer sailors like us, and their newsletter is outstanding, full of DD related histories. Speaking of DDs, if you have not yet read Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors by the late James Hornfischer, for heaven's sake, do so. It is probably the best story of courage and valor about destroyer men ever written. It should be available in your local public library, and is for sale in softcover on Amazon.



And finally, it is with personal sadness that I report that Evelyn Maslak, wife of our McCaffery Shipmates Association founder Bill Maslak, passed away in October. Evelyn was a long and faithful supporter of our association, and the smiling helper of Bill's efforts at our reunions. She will be missed, and our association sends our deepest condolences to Bill. We also note with sadness the passing of former vice president Rich Kuroski, and send our condolences to his wife Bonnee.

That's it for now. Fair Winds and Following Seas. Doug

Friend of Mine

Take my hand and walk with me, across the sands of time. Hand in hand and heart to heart. Together, friend of mine. We will share the solitude, and walk in quiet peace. For my heart hears what your heart says, it listens when yours speaks. We've shared our hearts and souls as one, in perfect harmony; the laughter and the tears we've known, are the sweetest melody. For years have brought us to this place, across the sands of time; and we will walk here till the end, Together, friend of mine. ~ Allison Chambers Coxsey

USS McCaffery Association

President

Douglas Hackett 7825 Heatheron Lane
Potomac, MD 20854 301.299.5203
doughackett7825@earthlink.net

Vice President

Don Turk 10320 S W 17th Place Gainesville, FL 32607 352.332.4555
dturkx2@bellsouth.net (pro tem)

Treasurer

Ron Trippett 17 Bay View Circle, Salem Mass 01970. 978.887.6315 / Cell 978 996 8995 rontrippett@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor

James Bell 763 E. Gaines Lane, Hernando Florida 34442 352 513 3333
jb4813446@gmail.com

Web Master

Jerry Rose 176 Black Mtn. Drive Toccoa, GA 30577 706.886.8217 Jerewrose@gmail.com

Historian

Don Turk 10320 S W 17th Place Gainesville, FL 32607 352.332.4555
dturkx2@bellsouth.net

Emeritus Members of the McCaffery Staff.

Bill Maslak 235 Overlook Drive Verona, PA 15147 412.826.5781 ussdd860@verizon.net

Contact information, Veterans Affairs

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation>

If you are a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, connect with our caring, qualified responders for confidential help. Many of them are Veterans themselves.

Call 800-273-8255 and press 1

Text 838255 Start a confidential chat

Call TTY if you have hearing loss 800-799-4889 Get more resources at VeteransCrisisLine.net.
www.benefits.va.gov/compensation

Moving, changing e mail service or know some deceased shipmate?
Notify: USS McCaffery Association,
631 Squaw Rock Road , Moosup,
CT 06354 E Mail-
despathy860@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Listed below are the shipmates that have contributed to the publication of the newsletter. Your continued generous support is needed and greatly appreciated. When

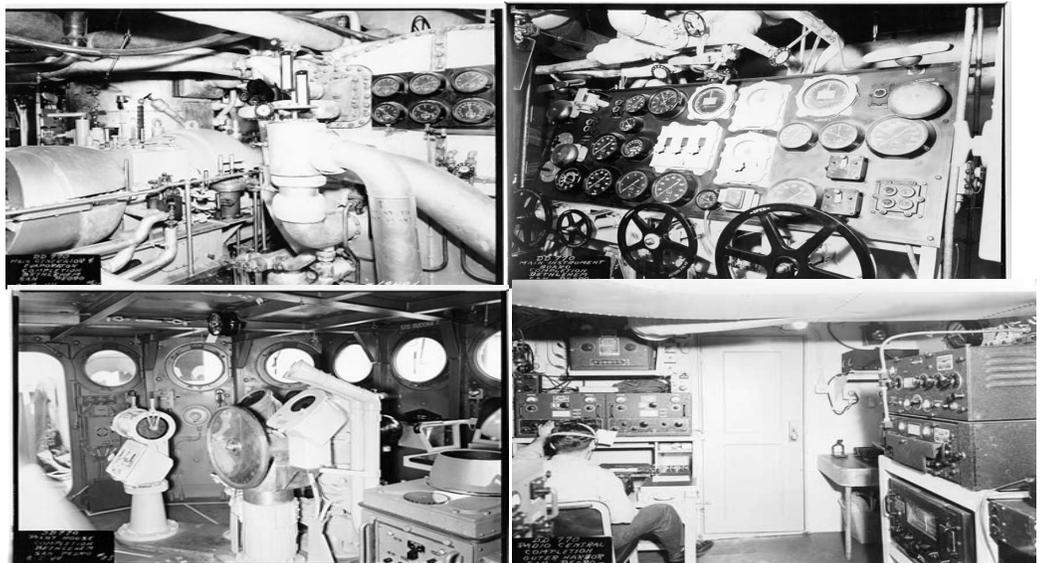
Name	Year	Rank/Rate	Name	Rank/Rate
			Nebel, Kenneth E.	69-72 LT
Catanzaro, Mario F.	50-53	SN	Onderdonk, Ernest W.	56-57 FA
Cernava, John M.	65-67	RM2	Savage, Phil A.	71-72 ETN2
Despathy, Ralph R.	58-61	SFP2	Shoemaker, William G.	65-68 BT2
Donatiello, Nicholas E.	57-59	YN2	Stockwell, Glenn	72-73 OSC
Jaworowski Jr, William J.	59-62	ET2		
Kirkland, Jake R.	51-54	MM2		
Leslie Harper, Daughter, in memory of Capt. Martin.	69-71			
Mehrtens, Frederick W.	61-65	SH1		

It comes as no surprise that our Printer / Mailer will be increasing fees for their service. According to my contact , the cost of paper products has drastically increased along with USPS. I will provide info next issue. Following this mailing. Editor.



Jacksonville Naval Museum sends USS Orleck (DD 886) Museum Ship to Drydock

The Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association parent owner of the future Jacksonville Naval Museum, has started the towing of the USS Orleck Naval Museum to drydock. The Orleck will be inspected and then is expected to arrive in Jacksonville in late January. The tow to Jacksonville is expected to take approximately 10 to 12 days. The Orleck, a WWII era Gearing Class destroyer, was heavily modified under the Fleet Rehabilitation and Maintenance (FRAM II) program in the early 1960's. The Orleck embodies the Korean War, Vietnam War, and Cold War periods in US Navy history having served in all three.



More Shipmate Comments:

Onderdonk Ernest W. 56-57 FA

Dear Shipmate:

"I served on the McCaffery in 1956 & 1957. I was a machinist mate. Almost froze to death in Providence RI. Later went to Key West on the Tweedy (DE-). Wanted to make a donation. God Bless"

We received a nice note from Mrs. Leslie Harper, (Daughter of Captain Alan F Martin, 1969 –71) In addition to a donation , she has sent several items from his career to our Historian and Vice President , Don Turk. Including two cruise books: '69 NAVSTANFORLANT (NATO) deployment, and '71 MIDEASTFORLANT (Indian Ocean) deployment. Thank you.

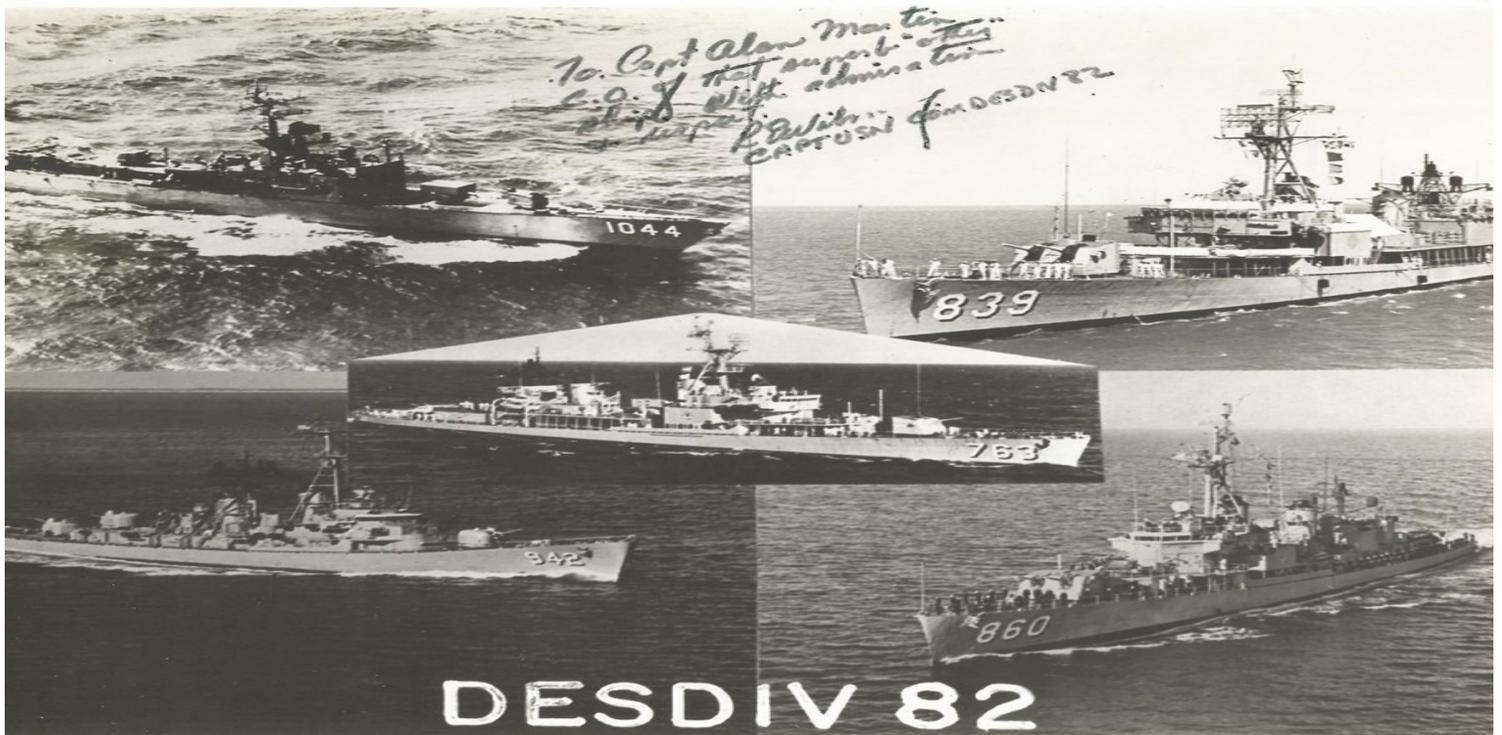


Photo of DESDIV 82 (circa. 1969-1971): USS Brumby (FF 1044); USS McCaffery (DD 860); USS William C. Lawe (DD 763); USS Bigelow (DD 942) USS Power (DD 839).

Photo from CAPT R. Wilson, USN, COMDESDIV 82, to CDR Alan Martin, USN, CO USS McCaffery (DD 860).

Densmore, Ralph E. 70-73 FN

Does anyone remember a feed pump that exploded during auxiliary steaming around 1971-72 time frame in Mayport, FL. . Please contact me @ chiefd67@hotmail.com / (229)896-3146

In another note, are you aware of anyone else filing for VA claims due to exposure to asbestos on the MAC?

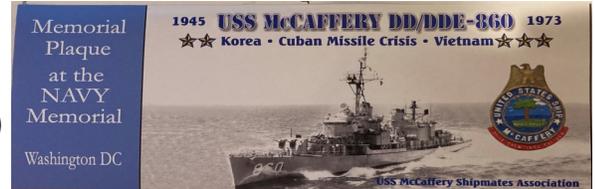
McCAFFERY MERCHANDISE : Please disregard the adds on social media, get your items here.

Blue Polo Shirts s-m-l-xl \$20.00, xxl \$24.00, xxxl \$26.00, white T's at \$8.50 with pic, blue T's with Tin Can Pic on back \$20.00 (limited supply), Pic's can be found on TCS web and Mac web.

Jackets \$35.00, xxl, \$38.00 Caps \$17.50, Lic Plate Holders \$8.00, Patches. Drive Them Into The Sea" & "Hedgehogs" \$5.50 each/two for \$10.00. USS McCaffery Shoulder Patches \$2.50. **Bumper stickers are 4 by 11". Cost \$5.50 each or two for \$10.00.**



When placing an order, Send to: Ron Trippett
17 Bay View Circle, Salem Mass 01970. (rontrippett@comcast.net)



Flag Etiquette :

The American flag has a long history, and the members of our organization (VFW) have spent nearly as long defending and honoring our nation's most iconic symbol of freedom. Whether you're looking for the historic details of how the U.S. flag came to be, or the rules and regulations that encompass her daily flight, we're here to ensure you can find the information you need.

Displaying the Flag

On Same Staff

U.S. flag at peak, above any other flag.

Grouped

U.S. flag goes to its own right. Flags of other nations are flown at same height.

Marching

U.S. flag to marchers right (observer's left).

On Speaker's Platform

When displayed with a speaker's platform, it must be above and behind the speaker. If mounted on a staff it is on the speaker's right.

Decoration

Never use the flag for decoration. Use bunting with the blue on top, then white, then red.

Salute

All persons present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the armed forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

Over a Street Union (stars) face north or east depending on the direction of the street.

Half Staff

On special days, the flag may be flown at half-staff. On Memorial Day it is flown at half-staff until noon and then raised. **Special Rules**

Do not let the flag touch the ground.

Do not fly flag upside down unless there is an emergency.

Do not carry the flag flat, or carry things in it.

Do not use the flag as clothing.

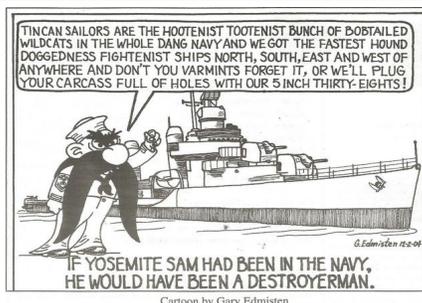
Do not store the flag where it can get dirty.

Do not use it as a cover.

Do not fasten it or tie it back. Always allow it to fall free.

Do not draw on, or otherwise mark the flag.

(VFW)



13 October 2021 marked the Navy's 246th Birthday. The central theme of this year's 246th Navy Birthday and Heritage week was "Resilient and Ready", which speaks to the Navy's history of being able to shake off disaster, such as the loss of a ship or a global pandemic, and still maintain force lethality and preparedness. It allows the messaging to showcase readiness, capabilities, capacity, and of course the Sailor—all while celebrating our glorious victories at sea and honoring our shipmates who stand and have stood the watch. Naval History and heritage Command (Missed this last issue)

Our National Anthem

For more than a century the "Star Spangled Banner," written by Francis Scott Key in 1814, was sung as a popular patriotic air. From time to time Army and Navy leaders designated it as the national anthem for official occasions. In 1916 President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed it the national anthem. Continuous lobbying by the Veterans of Foreign Wars led to Congress designating the song as the official national anthem of the United States on March 3, 1931.

Francis Scott Key practiced law in Baltimore during the War of 1812. In 1814 one of Key's friends, Dr. Beanes, was held prisoner by the British aboard the ship *Minden* in Baltimore harbor. Key decided he would try to obtain his friend's release. Carrying a flag of truce and a letter from President James Madison, Key rowed out to the ship. His request for the friend's freedom was granted, but both men were detained onboard because the British were about to bombard Fort McHenry.

During the bombardment, Key watched the Stars and Stripes flying over the fort. Darkness fell, and he no longer could see the flag. But the fort kept on firing back at the British, so Key knew the American stronghold had not surrendered.

When daylight returned Key was overjoyed to see that "the flag was still there." Taking an old envelope from his pocket he wrote the stirring opening words, "O say, can you see by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming, whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, o'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?"

After he returned ashore, Key completed the verse, which was later published in the *Baltimore American*, September 21, 1814. It became popular immediately. Later the words were set to the English "Anacreon in Heaven," which is the tune we sing today. **(VFW)**

Welcome Aboard,

Naval history is full of significant and interesting events. This brief history of what has transpired in the past and relate them to how these events have shaped the U.S. Navy today.

USS McCaffery (DD/DDE 860), a Gearing-class destroyer was commissioned on 26 July 1945, with CDR Benjamin Ballard Cheatham in command. During its activity, she carried a complement of 336 officers and enlisted on board and she operated with the 7th Fleet in support of United Nations Forces during the Korean War, alternated operations along the east coast and in the Caribbean with the 2nd Fleet with deployments to the Mediterranean with the 6th Fleet, underwent an extensive Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization (FRAM) overhaul at the New York Naval Shipyard in 1961, participated in quarantine operations during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, acted as communications relay ship for the Mercury space shot in May 1963, participated in the recovery missions for the Gemini IX and Gemini XII missions, and participated in Sea Dragon and Market Time operations, patrolled on search and rescue duties and carried out naval gunfire support missions during the Vietnam War. USS McCaffery served her country for 28 years, 2 months and 4 days of active, until decommissioned on 30 September 1973. She received two battle stars for Korean service.

A Final Tribute

By: Glen V. Ruff

USS Norris (DD/DDE-859)

To all veterans, we owe our thanks, For those who filled our military ranks

Our debt is great, you will agree, For their fidelity has kept us free

They Served with purpose and intent , With every passing we lament

A final tribute, honors merited for all they gave , A flag draped coffin and taps played over their grave
(TCS)

TAPS LIST 2021		Date Passed		Lavallee, Pael A.		10/21/2021	61-64	SN
Basek,	Raymond A.	2/17/2021	*45-46	SN1	May, John W.C.	10/16/2021	51-54	CS2
Cornelius,	Larry	4/29/2021	56-58	M3	McCaw, James A.	2/19/2021	53-55	EM2
Crecelius,	Philip L.	4/9/2021	7 2-73	GMG2	Paskero, Robert L.	3/23/2021	53-55	MM3
Curtin,	Donald S.	2/11/2021	60-61	FT3	Rahn, Lee	10/7/2021	61/63	FTG1
Hoffman,	Frank W.	6/20/2021	72-73	TM3	Ransom, Donald D.	7/30/2021	52-54	SN
Holland,	Ray M.	10/28/2021	49/52	GM2	Willett, William	1/13/2021	47-52	FT2
Kuroski, Richard L.		8/25/2021	62-64	LTjg				

