



USS MC CAFFERY DD/DDE-860 SHIPMATES ASSOCIATION SPRING 2017 N/L

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Hello Shipmates,

What a great reunion that was! We had 67 shipmates and 55 spouses & guests at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel for a wonderful time of tours, dinners, and fellowship. The hotel couldn't have been better. It was a former train station, with trains still on the tracks for local color. The theme music "Chattanooga Choo Choo" by the Glen Miller band was playing throughout the hotel.

The hospitality room was busy in the morning for continental breakfast, and in the evening for a beverage of your choice, and tables for swapping sea stories. The tours to Chickamauga Battlefield and Lookout Mountain were excellent, educational and fun. The river luncheon cruise was scenically beautiful.

We had time in the evenings to have dinner with shipmates from all generations on the MAC. For example, the Gunnery Department (GM, FT, TM, SO, BM, 1LT, ASWO, GunBoss, GMYN) got together at a nearby brewpub for some good pub grub, craft beers, and reminiscing, and OPS and ENG shipmates got together also.

Our formal banquet Thursday evening was excellent, with guest speakers, door prizes and an excellent buffet meal. The color guard was provided by local Sea Cadets, and a combo provided background music. A McCaffery salute and Bravo Zulu to George & Pattie Cromie, and Ron Trippet and Dianne La Fontaine for the outstanding job that they did to make this reunion such as success.

At our business meeting, the incumbent officers for the Association were re-elected, and it was agreed that the next reunion will be in Charleston SC in the fall of 2018.

WELCOME ABOARD

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	RATE	YEARS
Mitra	Joey O	SDSN	72-73

We continue to add new shipmates to our association thanks to the efforts of Lee Hendrickson and Bob Biegen. If any of the shipmates listed served along with you, and you would like to contact them, let me know. No need to wait until the next reunion to say hello.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Listed below are the shipmates that have contributed to the publication of the newsletter since the last issue. We appreciate your support. If you made your contribution at the reunion in

cash I may not have listed your name. To that end please let me know and I will list your name in the next N/L.

Last Name	First Name	Years	Rnk/Rate	Last Name	First Name	Years	Rnk/Rate
Abernathy	Harvey	72-73	SN	Moyer	Leland E.	51-56	BMSN
Balkcom	Barto M.	69-72	ETR3	Olszewski	John M.	55-56	FT2
Bell	James..E.	60-63	MM2	Onderdonk	Ernest W.	56-57	MM
Boyce	Arthur R.	46-48	SN	Overman	GeorgeR	49-50	SOG2
Briggs	James T.	46-47	YN3	Tully	Joseph H	55-56	RM3
Coulbourn	Samuel W.	72-73	CAPT	Turk	J. Don	69-71	YN2
Donatiello	Nicholas E.	57-59	YN2	Sikula	Carl W.	72-73	BM3
Hackett	Douglas	61-63	LTjg	Webster	Edward A.	*45-46	ETM3
Kartasiewicz	Michael J.	1960	SN	Yevincy	James	46-47	BT3
Leclair	Roger J.	55	BTFA	Lomas	Gary D.	51-54	IC3

Mac Memories

In January of 1968, at the height of the Vietnam War, North Korea captured the USS Pueblo. The seizure of the ship equipped with electronic and signals intelligence systems and 83 crewmen, provoked outrage in the US, with some calling for a nuclear response. What really happened during this hot Cold War incident? Doug Hackett, USN (Ret.) explores the Pueblo's surveillance mission, and provide the definitive naval intelligence assessment of whether the

Pueblo was in North Korean waters, based on North Korean-provided information. Doug also shares the US government's response to the crisis, North Korea's motivation, what happened to the crew who were held prisoner for nearly a year, and what has become of the Pueblo today. The video can be found on the web at [The Pueblo Incident - 1968 Educational Documentary - WDTV LIVE42](#).

I am saddened to announce the passing of Dan Pinto. We were friends on Facebook and I noticed intimations of his passing yesterday and verified them today. He apparently passed on November 7th. He was an admirable man. He enlisted in the Navy right after high school and married his "bride" after completing boot camp. He was promoted to Chief Fire Control Technician when he was approximately 26 and advanced rapidly to become a Master Chief Petty Officer, a Chief Warrant Officer and he even received a full commission, but sensibly relinquished his commission to capitalize on the higher retirement benefits afforded by his Chief

Warrant Officer seniority. He was the most "gung ho" guy I ever met while in the Navy and out of it. He respected his FT team and motivated it by his example. He once asked us to do our own annual evaluations (epees?). We all gave ourselves such low scores that he revised them significantly upward. He and Captain Breiner graciously allowed me to be the Mess Deck Master of Arms during combat operations (1972-1973) off the coast of Vietnam at risk to their careers. I am genuinely saddened by his passing. God bless.

Bob Biegen, FTG2

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 notify Doug Hackett so he can respond on behalf of the association. The following lists are those for which we have been notified by the membership committee as being deceased. The list is, for the most part, in alpha order and we will continue to add shipmates to the list in future N/L's. If we have erred please let us know. ** Designates Plank Owner.

Last Name	First Name	Years	Rate/Rank
Baker	Robert D.	50-52	TM3
Betz	Heinz W.	53-55	EM2
Coultes	Richard G.	49-57	IC1
Lang	Carl D.	*45-46	COX

Last Name	First Name	Years	Rate/Rank	Last Name	First Name	Years	Rate/Rank
Bonfiglio	Gerald T.	51-55	RMSN	Tompkins	Vernon W.	49-53	GM3
Cernava	John M.	65-67	RM2	Trenton	Arnold L.	62-63	SM2
Dean	Walter J.	62-66	ETC	Triplett	Don K.	51-52	MM3
Easley	JOHN M	66-68	RD3	Trotta	James J.	59-61	QMSN
Faulkner	Harold E	50-52	SO2	Trout	Henery D.	46-48	RM2
Gilby	James W.	60-62	SN	Unke	Donald	1951	SA
Lunt	Robert A.	60-64	MM3	Vannest	Norman R.	1971	GMG2
Mick	Allen B.	55-57	FN	Waits	Clarence W.	47-49	SN/FN
Pinto	Daniel A.	71-73	FTGC	Walts	Earl C.	61-62	YNC
Rye	Andrew B.	51-52	RD3	Wartberg	Julius A.	52-53	SN
Selby	Leon T.	1958	EM3	Warters	John R.	51-52	YNSN
Siebert	Richard H.	60-63	MM3	Watling	Franklyn C.	56-59	RD2
Silcox	Jackson C.	1971	SF1	Wells	Keneth R.	1971	BMCS
Stoler	Patrick	55-59	GM2	Whitley	Walter C.	49-51	RMSN
Stumperth	Michael H.	52-54	RD3	Wigley	Weyman F.	1967	SN
Sturgeon	Ronald L.	61-62	SH3	Willmott	Howard L.	53-54	FN
Sutton	Albert J.	1955	YN1	Willson	Frank A.	45-46	BM2
Tannoia	Onesime S.	57-60	BTCM	Wolff	Albert J.	53-57	BT3
Tarrer	Henery K.	1961	SK2	Yevincy	James	46-47	BT3
Thomas	William E.	46-49	SH3	Zeltinger	Michael D.	1954	TMSN
Thompson	Elgin B.	*45-46	F1C	Zukowski	William T.	53-54	SN
Thompson	James R.	63-65	SN	Zuntag	Robert F.	59-61	ETN3

Chattanooga Reunion



CRYSTAL CITY, Va. (NNS) – Naval leaders, government officials and members of private industry gathered to discuss the surface navy’s future at the 27th Annual Surface Navy Association Symposium in Crystal City, Va., Jan. 13.

The symposium provides an opportunity for discussions on a broad range of professional and career issues for the surface community. The event also features government-contracted defense companies, suppliers and commands exhibiting the latest in surface warfare technology and the way ahead for future research and development.

“The world has changed and with it so must our assumptions and our preconceptions, that is what we are doing with surface warfare. We are adapting to a changed environment we are responding to national strategic imperatives and we are going on the offensive,” said Rowden.

Commander, Naval Surface Forces/Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Vice Adm. Thomas Rowden addressed some of the challenges facing surface Sailors and the theme of the symposium “Surface Warfare: Distributed Lethality – Going on the Offensive.”

“The world has changed and with it so must our assumptions and our preconceptions, that is what we are doing with surface warfare. We are adapting to a changed environment we are responding to national strategic imperatives and we are going on the offensive,” said Rowden. “The surface force is going to be more lethal across all major warfare areas through distributed lethality.”

The Surface Navy Association was incorporated in 1985 to promote greater coordination and communication among those in the military, business, and academic communities to support the activities of Surface Naval Forces.

A Sailor's Poem

Old sailors sit and chew the fat about things that used to be,
of the things they've seen, the places they've been, when they ventured out to sea.

They remembered friends from long ago, the times they had back then.
The money they spent, the beer they drank, in their days as sailing men.

Their lives are lived in days gone by, with thoughts that forever last.
Of bell bottom blues, winged white hats, and good times in their past.

They recall long nights with a moon so bright far out on a lonely sea.
The thoughts they had as youthful lads, when their lives were wild and free.

They knew so well how their hearts would swell when old glory fluttered proud and free.
The underway pennant such a beautiful sight as they plowed through an angry sea.

They talked of the chow ol' cookie would make and the shrill of the bos un's pipe.
How salt spray would fall like sparks from hell when a storm struck in the night.

They remember old shipmates already gone who forever hold a spot in their heart,
when sailors were bold, and friendships would hold, until death ripped them apart.

They speak of nights in pig alley and gut on many a foreign shore,
of the beer they'd down as gathering around, telling jokes and sea stories galore.

Their sailing days are gone away, never again will they cross the brow.
They have no regrets, they know they are blessed, for honoring a sacred vow.

Their numbers grow less with each passing day as the final muster begins,
there's nothing to lose, all have paid dues, and they'll sail with shipmates again.

I've heard them say before getting underway that there's still some sailing to do,
they'll say with a grin that their ship has come in and the good lord needs a good crew

By larry dunn
rmcm(ss)(nac), usn (retired)

USS McCaffery Merchandise

Ron Trippett has the following McCaffery merchandise for sale in the ships store:

Blue Polo Shirts s-m-l-xl \$20.00, xxl \$24.00, xxxl \$26.00

Jackets \$35.00 xxl \$38.00 Caps \$17.50 Belt Buckles \$12.50 Lic Plate Holders \$8.00

Patches \$5.50 each/two for \$10.00 “Drive Them Into The Sea” “Hedgehogs”

Coffee Cups \$8.50

USS McCaffery Shoulder Arm Patches \$2.50.

Ron's address and email are on the first page