

Newsletter

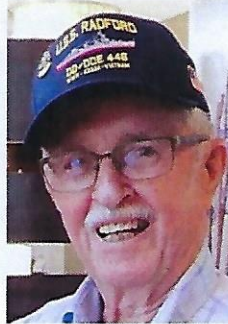
2021 Post Reunion Edition

This is your Newsletter with a total redo on style and content. In this edition of your newsletter, you will find these sections: Coordinating Council, Pass the Word, Scuttlebutt, TAPS, Photo Gallery, Email and Mail, Donations, and, of course, a large section devoted to our reunion in Jacksonville, FL.





Here are the members of
your RADFORD Association
Coordinating Council:



Chuck Parsons - President



Jim Moffatt - Chaplain
and 50's Director



Kim Parsons - Finance, Reunion, and Administrative Coordinator



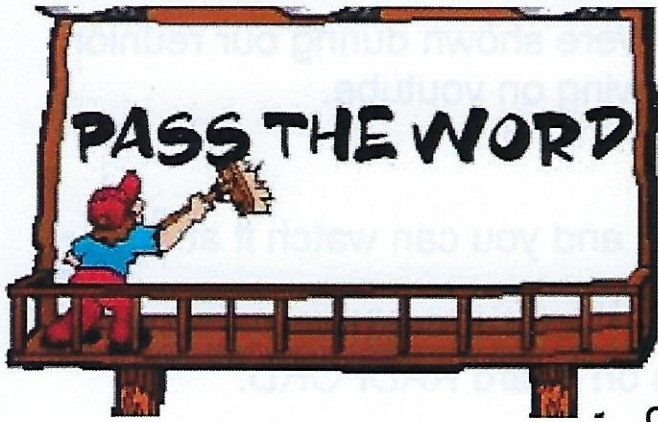
Mike Nave - Co-Sixties Director and
Newsletter Coordinator



Larry Davis - Co-Sixties Director and Museum Coordinator



Dave Baker - Website Coordinator



★ During our business meeting in Jacksonville, we talked about how much longer we should continue to have reunions, and a suggestion was made that if we are working our way to our final reunion, we should consider Hawaii as our destination. Everyone present

gave a resounding YES. Also suggested as reunion sites for 2023 were Philadelphia and Branson. Next year we are going to Grand Rapids, MI, but the year after that may be Hawaii, Philly, or Branson. A vote will be held during the business meeting in Grand Rapids to determine which of the three proposed sites will be selected for our 2023 reunion. The Association is picking up about 10 to 15 thousand dollars in cost for each reunion, and Chuck Parsons estimated we would be down to about \$31 thousand after Jacksonville.

★ In the future, we will have three newsletters each year and they will be centered on our reunions. The first newsletter will come out about six months prior to the reunion and will provide early details about the reunion like place, dates and hotel. Then, about 2 ½ to 3 months before the reunion, a second newsletter will be published providing more details about the reunion like tours, meal options, and other tidbits. Both the first and second newsletter will contain a sign-up sheet for the reunion. The final newsletter will arrive about two months after the reunion with photos, stories and a rap on the reunion. As in the past, send any short stories or photos you would like to share about your time on RADFORD or any other interesting facts or lore so we can include them in our newsletter (hint: if you have old photos that you want to send, just take a photo of the photo with your smart phone). Send your stories or photos to Mike Nave at manave@earthlink.net or text me at (760) 521-1311.

★ If you happened to miss the videos that were shown during our reunion in Jacksonville, they are now available for viewing on youtube. Here are the videos:

The first video is a short history of RADFORD and you can watch it at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpSJJa3r6yF4>

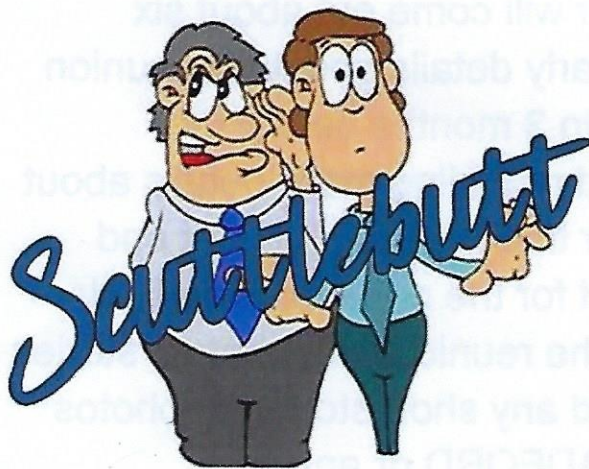
The next two videos are about our memories on board RADFORD.

The early sixties Memories video can be viewed at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hhv7EWOtV0Y>

The mid to late sixties Memories video is at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yvRwj6LVjk>

The Short Commercial Break which is a tribute to all veterans can be seen at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkbAaQeIDYA>

The video about aging titled **Aging is a Wonderful Journey** can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNgsH1zaJzY>

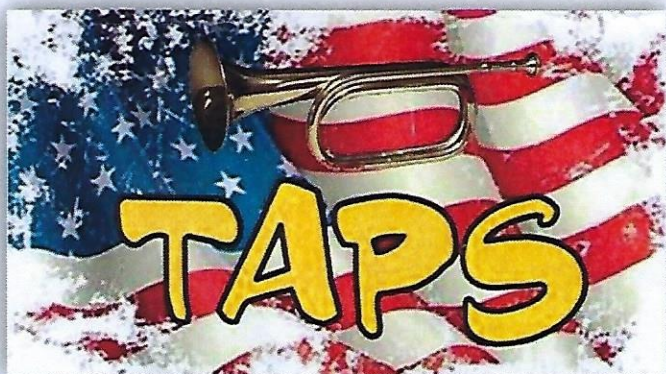


★ We have not received any recent updates on our museum which is still on the USS Orleck. The most up-to-date status of the Orleck, according to Larry Davis is: ***The last I had heard is they have funding to move the ship to the***

dry dock for inspection and repairs. The ship has been secured to Coast Guard specifications and is seaworthy. If the ship requires extensive repair or exceeds the budget its future is not good! Jacksonville has jumped through all the hoops, passed city council review, designated a pier and has private funding to support the ship. After hurricane season I will attempt to contact Ron for an update.

★ Word is out that we will have two awesome tours during our reunion in Grand Rapids, MI next year. According to Skip Young, one of the tours will be a trip to Holland, Michigan to see the working Dutch Windmill, brought over from the Netherlands, in the park where the Tulip Festival was held in May. Then on to a restaurant located on Lake Michigan in Grand Haven, for those who have not seen the great lake. Grand Haven is where the Coast Guard Festival is held the first week of August every year. After lunch, some shopping at local shops in Grand Haven or a walk along the pier, then back to the hotel.

The second tour will be a trip to Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, 158 acres of art and gardens. The Park is currently completing a \$115 million dollar expansion. They a tram ride through the park, showing off the sculptures and gardens. In the Tropical Conservatory, you may still be able to see the left-over Butterflies that were released in May. Lunch is possible at the Gardens, then on to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. The group picture may be taken there. A brief ride through Grand Rapids with a tour guide for history of the city, then back to the hotel.

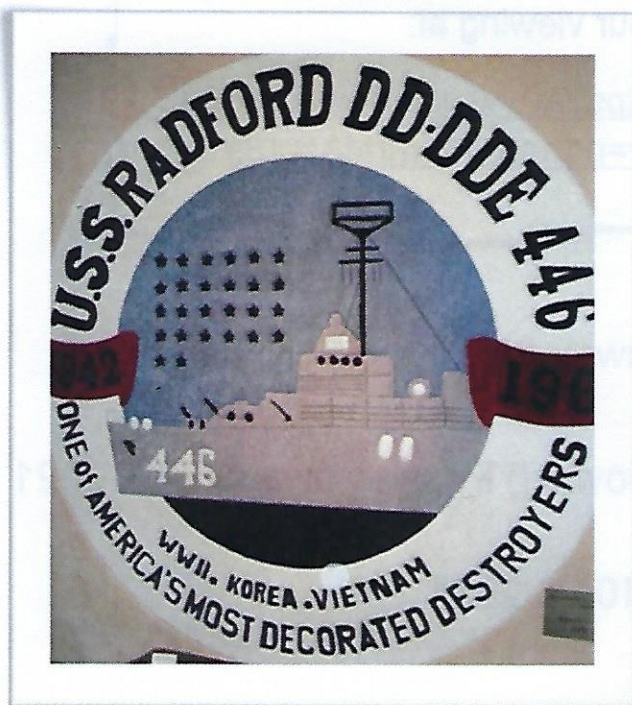
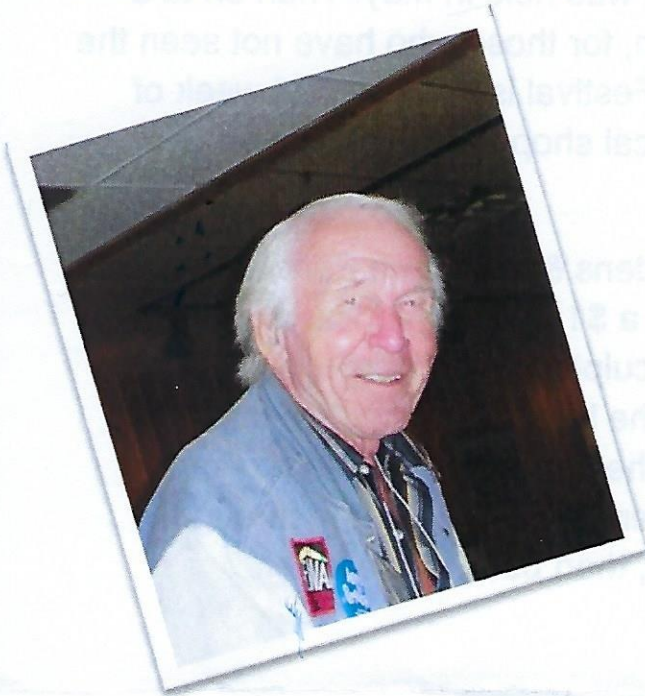


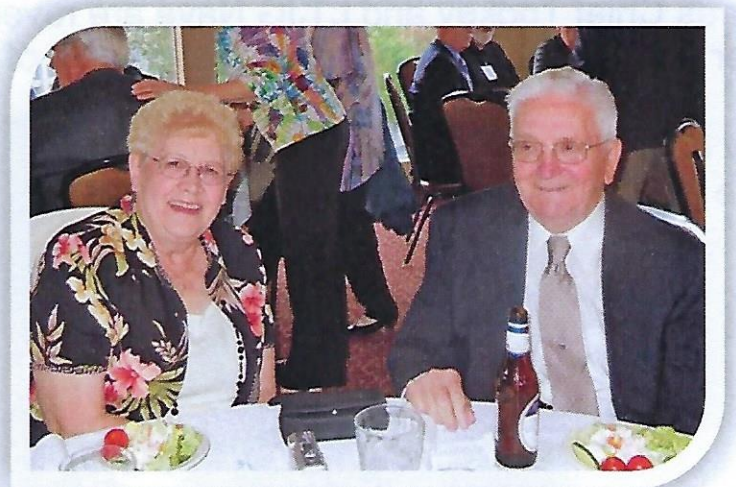
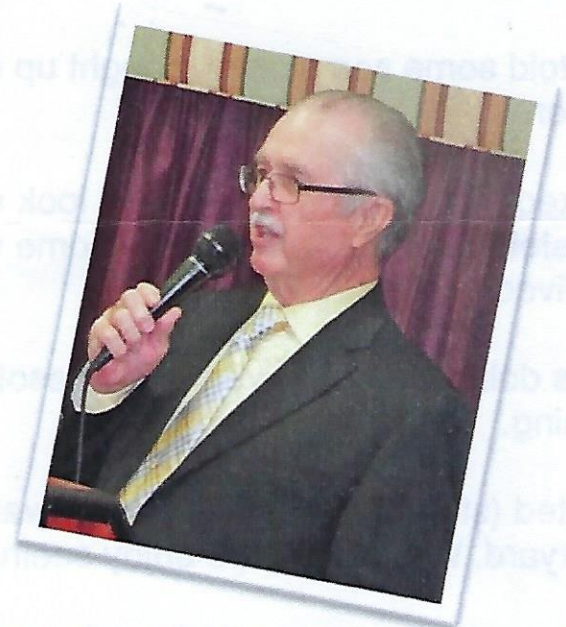
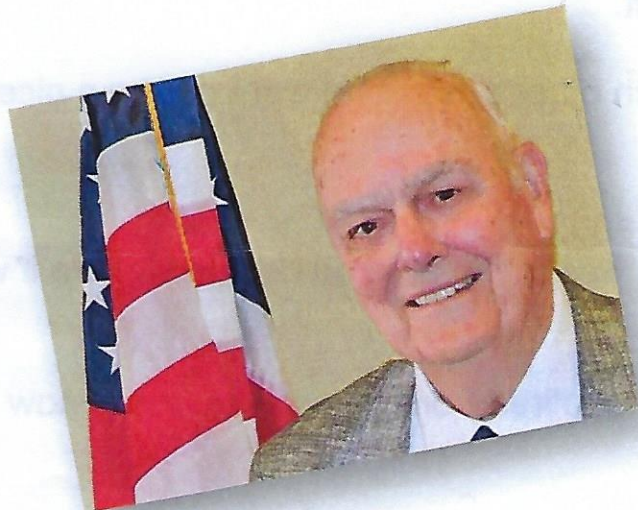
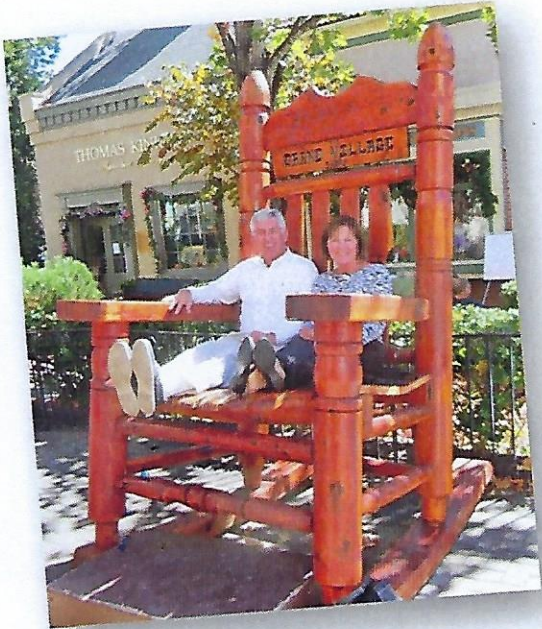
A video of our 2016 Reunion TAPS Prayer is available for your viewing at:

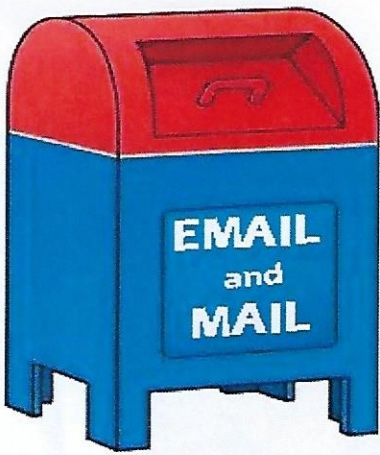
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdKomqB5mrM&t=18s>

- ★ **Dwight Gaston** 55-58 EN3. Passed away 06/18/2018
- ★ **Nancy Lachowski** (wife of John Lachowski) Passed away 10/04/2021
- ★ **Ron Bay** 64-67 QM2 Passed away 10/26/2021

Photo Gallery







From: Larry Davis <lmdavis9@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Feb 19, 2019 at 3:48 PM
Subject: Surprise visit
To: Kimberly Parsons <ussradford@gmail.com>

I just had a visit from a shipmate I had not seen since 1967. Paul Brenden, ET3 1965-1967, and his wife Mary stopped in for a visit.

We told some sea stories, caught up on each other's lives and went out for a nice dinner.

I asked him what caused him to look me up and he replied that he follows the newsletters and saw my name come up. He was in the area so decided to see if we still lived in area.

He is doing well, still lives in Minnesota and is retired from electronics and is now farming.

I hinted (strongly) that the reunion was in Kansas City this year and was in his backyard. We would sure enjoy seeing him there.

We were looking in the 1966 cruise book and noticed that in the OI Division pictures Chief Tookey and LTJG Nave are reverse labeled? Marie said Mike looks better now; Helen must be taking better care of him than the Navy did....

Larry and Marie





From: **Walt Schuman** <waltschuman@aol.com>
Date: Tue, Oct 29, 2019, 2:32 PM
Subject: vets interviews
To: <ussradford@gmail.com>

Hi Kimmy, You may already know this but I found Radford shipmates' interviews at the Library of Congress. Go to loc.gov/vets (typed at the top of the page.) then - then- Search the Veterans Collections, then - uss radford GO, then- View the Digitized Collections -to watch or listen to an interview. I watched part of John Robert's interview, but it kept reloading.at the end. The Library of Congress is way behind, so a lot of info that has been sent in, is not digitized yet. Some members may be interested in this.



From: **Harry Thurston** <hlthurston@verizon.net>
Date: Thu, Jul 22, 2021 at 11:28 AM
Subject: Fw: On this day, USS Radford (DD 446) was commissioned.
To: Kimberly Parsons <ussradford@gmail.com>

Kimberly, for your information and have a blessed day. Harry.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Love U. S. Navy <loveusnavy.us@gmail.com>
To: Harry Thurston <hlthurston@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021, 09:06:46 AM EDT
Subject: On this day, USS Radford (DD 446) was commissioned.

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 Radford (DD 446), a Fletcher-class destroyer was commissioned on 22 July 1942, with LCDR William Kilian Romoser in command. She was named for Rear Admiral William Radford (1809-1890), who served during the Mexican–American War and the American Civil War. USS Radford served her country for over 23 years of active, until decommissioned on 10 November 1969. She received twelve battle stars and two Presidential Unit Citations for World War II service, five battle stars for the Korean War, four for the Vietnam War, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

Happy 79th Birthday, USS Radford!



From: **Larry Davis** <lmdavis9@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Oct 1, 2021, 8:42 AM
Subject: Surprise visit
To: Kimberly Parsons <ussradford@gmail.com>

I will try to be the first to contribute to the newsletter?

I want to thank all that attended and am sorry we missed the shipmates that were not able to attend. Put Michigan on your calendars.....

I believe that the reunion was well received and went off without too many problems. Mike Nave was the only one to shed any blood.

Being able to see everyone and finally talk to another adult, other than your spouse after a year of "social distancing" was great.

The hotel was very accommodating and the river view was gorgeous...My opinion of the Mayport trip was the Navy sure has changed, destroyers are BIGGER and more intimidating. The lunch and access to the beach was a welcome surprise.

Hope to see everyone in Michigan.....



From: **Ralph Young** [mailto:scyoung5@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:10 AM
To: Michael Nave
Subject: Our next Reunion

Hi Mike,

The 2022 reunion is in June from the 8th to the 12th.

Also, here is list of airlines that service Grand Rapids (GRR): United, American, Southwest, Delta, Allegiant and Frontier.

Ralph "Skip" Young



March 2021
Bill McClure
Marcia Collins
Darryl Loughrey
Louise Farel
(Jack Brereton)
James M. Martin
Chris Mashburn
(Bobby Mashburn)
Dave Baker
Donald Lewis
Donald Sturtz
Robert Nokleby

April 2021
George Boyle
Edward Fought

May 2021
Marcia Collins
Gerald Paxton

June 2021
Marcia Collins
Bill Luchtel
Jerry Maly
John Dirksen
George Gourley

July 2021
Dan Ahern
Marcia Collins
Larry Dean
William Pitts
George Wagner
Billy Austin
Robert Lombardi

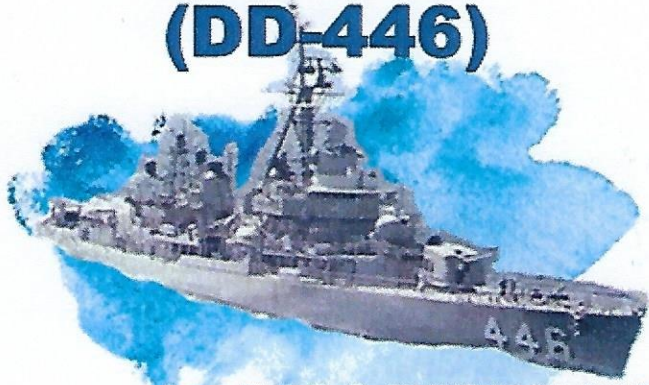
August 2021
Ben Brown
Marcia Collins
Allen Evans
Louise Farel (Jack Brereton)
Larry Foley

September 2021
Marcia Collins
Jerry Freeze
John Roberts

October 2021
Marcia Collins



USS RADFORD (DD-446)



2021 REUNION

This reunion was our first opportunity to get together following the pandemic. Our tours to St. Augustine, the downtown area of Jacksonville and the Naval Base at Mayport were not just entertaining, they gave us an appreciation of the beauty of Jacksonville and the

history surrounding the oldest European city in the United States. Our thanks go out to Larry and Marie Davis for their effort to make this a wonderful reunion.

On the St Johns River In
beautiful, downtown

