



U.S.S Radford

DD/DDE 446

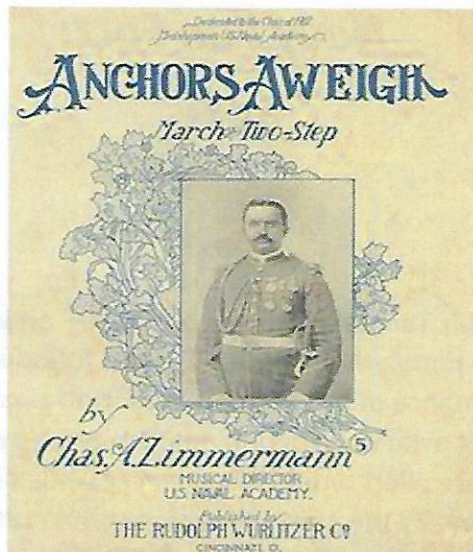
Spring 2020 Newsletter

WWII – KOREA – VIETNAM – COLD WAR
"AS LONG AS ONE OF US LIVES, SHE WILL LIVE"

ussradford446.org

WELCOME

Hello mates! My name is Lara Lewis Honea (daughter of Bill Lewis 65-66 BMSN) and I have taken over the USS Radford DD/DDE 446 Newsletter! Many thanks to Kim Parsons for the dedication and fantastic work that she has done for years on this newsletter. I know I have big shoes to fill and please be patient with me as I welcome any feedback. Please feel free to contact me personally at 214-641-3014 or at the email address of ussradford@gmail.com. Thank you for all for your service! Anchors Aweigh!



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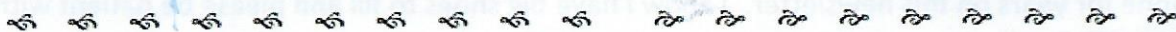
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Navy Fun Fact:



The United States Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program—previously called the United States Navy Fighter Weapons School, but more popularly, “TOPGUN”—was founded during the Vietnam War. The Navy was concerned by the poor performance of its air-to-air missile attacks against the North Vietnamese and ordered an evaluation of its combat aviation program. Inadequate crew training was decided to be at fault, and TOPGUN was established, where pilots would engage in realistic dogfight training against aircraft comparable to the enemy of the day. By the 1970s, Navy kill-to-loss rates went from 3.7:1 to 13:1—a testament to the profound and radical success of the program. It later became the basis of a Tom Cruise movie and, not to spoil anything, but don't get too attached to Goose.

Scuttlebutt

From Mike Nave February 5, 2020:

I, along with you, have many friends from the Vietnam era. I received this amazing web site that someone spent a lot of time and effort to create.

I am sending it on to you because you may appreciate it as much as I did. What it provides is a simple way to check on old friends who may have sacrificed their lives during the Vietnam War and are immortalized on the Vietnam Wall

The website is extremely easy to use. You can either search on a last name or locate someone by his or her home state of record. To do the latter, click on a state then scroll down and click on a city. In either case, you should see a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

Pass the link on to others from our era, as many knew close friends whose names may be listed <http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

From Walt Schuman October 29, 2019:

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. - Walt

From Larry Davis November 29, 2019:



We had a couple of very special visitors today. April and John Huisman, of Fairbanks, Alaska, daughter and son-in-law of Jerry & Virginia Freeze. April and John have made the last two reunions with her parents where we spent time getting to know them.

April and John are living the dream of touring the lower 48. They contacted us and wanted to stop by. We took them out for pizza, played a board game called Marbles, and BS'd. We talked about all the common places we have visited, and we got to hear all about the places they have been.

They spent the night; we all went to breakfast and now they were off on their next adventure.

It was an honor to have their company, and special that they would make the effort to stop by. Another example of the camaraderie and friendships the Radford has produced.

TAPS...



John "Jack" Giuliano 52-56 EM1 - passed away 09/27/2019

<https://dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/ft-collins-co/john-giuliano-8871369>

Robert Hammon 55-57 GM2 - passed away 10/10/2019

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/stltoday/obituary.aspx?n=robert-hammon-bob&pid=194133624&fhid=6048>

Upon our departure from the reunion in Kansas City, Mo., Ben and I drove North an extra 1 hour and 30 plus minutes to Hiawatha, Kansas where we went to Maple Heights Nursing Home and visited with resident **Frank Peters, BMSC**, and his wife Dixie who meet us there. Frank was in good spirits, partially bed ridden. Frank asked several questions about fellow shipmates. He asked a lot about Chuck Parsons. Frank said he would love to hear from his fellow shipmates. However, Frank went to be with the Lord on 2-4-2020 at approximately 8am. – *Ben and Betty Brown*

From James Buss - I just saw on Facebook of the passing of my good friend and fellow shipmate **William Ramsey BT1**. He passed away Sunday October 20, 2019.



Member Updates

Don Triggs 69 PN1 (wife Angie, deceased)
1113 Robert P. Jeanes Road
Easley, SC 29640
864-553-3858
shellback1969@gmail.com

Clara Giuliano
Morning Star Assisted Living
3509 Lochwood Dr, Apt 227
Fort Collins, CO 80525



USS Orleck



There is a GoFundMe page out available to take donations to move the Orleck to Jacksonville, FL.



Jacksonville Naval Museum's USS Orleck Lake Charles to Jacksonville Tow Fund

\$13,340 of \$60,000 goal

Raised by 76 people in 2 months

Donate

Join

Jax Naval Museum

Created January 18, 2020



JACKSONVILLE HISTORIC NAVAL SHIP

We are excited that the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA) voted unanimously to approve entering into an agreement with the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association (JHSNA) to berth the USS Orleck DD-886 at Pier 1 in the old Jacksonville Shipyards. We will be the project that kick starts the development of the long vacant shipyards. Up until now, the project has been privately funded through very generous donors and investors. The time has come to ask for public support for the project. With your donation you will help us celebrate Northeast Florida's military, maritime and naval heritage, provide a hands-on, interactive, STEM based vocational experience for students and youth, establish a world class visitor destination in Downtown Jacksonville, and contribute to further stimulate the economic development of Downtown Jacksonville.

The first part of establishing the USS Orleck DD-886 as part of the Jacksonville Naval Museum in Jacksonville, Fl is getting her ready for sea and towing her from Lake Charles, La to the yards in Port Arthur, Tx. This will involve having our staff from Jacksonville traveling to Lake Charles to assist the Orleck Museum's staff packing up all displays, documents, other valuable items and removing the Dash 2 Drone and transporting all items to Jacksonville. The the Coast Guard will require the ship to be water tight for sea. We will need to replace gaskets on water tight doors and hatches. Then the tow begins down river to the yards in Port Arthur, TX. We must cover the cost for river pilots and the tug boats on both phases of the tow. Then it is into dry dock for a good cleaning, some hull repairs, other minor repairs, and a fresh shiny coat of haze gray paint! Funds raised will be applied to the cost of both tows. By helping us with the tow package, it frees up funds for additional work in the yards. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you once the ship is open for tours in Jacksonville!

The Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association is a IRS Approved 501.c.3 Non-Profit. Please check with your accountant before using your claiming your donation on your taxes.

We have had questions about what happens to your donated funds if the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association is unable to get the USS Orleck to Jacksonville. The JHNSA Board of Directors has voted to adopt this plan for all donated funds that accounts for every situation at various stages of the USS Oreleck Project:

**RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
JACKSONVILLE HISTORIC NAVAL SHIP ASSOCIATION**

WHEREAS, The Executive Committee of the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association agreed to create a GoFundMe Fundraiser for the towing of the USS Orleck DD-886 from Lake Charles, LA to Port Arthur, TX.

WHEREAS, the goal of the GoFundMe Fundraiser was set at \$60,000.

WHEREAS, any amount of donations raised in excess of the \$60,000 original goal, would be applied to the second phase of the towing of the USS Orleck DD-886 from Port Arthur, TX to Pier 1 in Jacksonville, FL.

WHEREAS, if for any reason, the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association does not take possession of the USS Orleck DD-886, all donations raised from the GoFundMe for the tow, will be used to save historical items such as documents, equipment, and displays from the ship for use by other museum ships.

WHEREAS, if the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association does take possession of the USS Orleck DD-886, and while in dry dock it is determined that the repairs to the hull of the ship far exceed the amount available for repairs and the ship is dismantled, any remaining funds from the tow to the yards will be used to save historical items such as documents, equipment, and displays from the ship for use by other museum ships.

WHEREAS, if the funds must be used to donate historical items such as documents, equipment, and

displays to other museum ships, they will be donated to the other museum ships in the following order: 1. USS Joseph P. Kennedy Jr DD-850 the sister ship to the USS Orleck. 2. USS Laffey DD-724 which is technically the same ship except for the additional hull at midship that USS Orleck has. 3. All other museum ships.

WHEREAS, if the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association does not take possession of the USS Orleck DD-886, a donor may request a full refund of their donation minus any fees that were charged by the GoFundMe Platform. Refunds will be given according to GoFundMe policies.

WHEREAS, if the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association does take possession of the USS Orleck DD-886, tows the ship to the yards, and the cost for hull repairs far exceeds the repair budget, and there are remaining funds from the tow, no refund will be given to any individual with all remaining funds to be spent on saving the historical items.

WHEREAS, if the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association does take possession of the USS Orleck DD-886, tows the ship to the yards, and the cost for hull repairs far exceeds the repair budget, and there are no remaining funds from the tow, no refund will be given to any individual and no funds from other Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association accounts will be spent on saving the historical items.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on January 22, 2020 the Board of Directors of the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association hereby approve the above Resolution and adopt it in full.

Poems

My husband, Jerry Freeze, served on the Radford from 1964 to 1967. By Virginia Constant Freeze.

Out of the Mouths of Babes

*I was only 42 when I held my first grandson.
So getting down on the floor and playing with him was easy and fun.*

*Bending over and picking him up was no problem at all.
We spent lots of time together and always had a ball.*

*But as time went by and he grew and grew.
I discovered that I was aging somewhat too.*

*Then one day I complained that I was getting old.
And this little tyke spoke something big and bold.*

*He said some words that were absolutely true.
"Nana, you're not old, you're just...hmm...not new."*



The USS ORLECK Naval Museum, Inc.

Remember, Honor, Restore, Educate!

Physical Address: 604 N. Enterprise Blvd, Lake Charles LA 70601

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4470, Lake Charles LA 70606-4470

Ship Office: (337) 214-7447 Email: info@orleck.org Web: <https://orleck.org>

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACTS:

Primary: Maj. Ron Williams
(337) 526-2699 (Cell)
(337) 214-7447 (Ship Office)
ron.williams@orleck.org
Alternate: Dawn Carrier
dawn.carrier@orleck.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 17, 2020

USS ORLECK MUSEUM PREPARES FOR DRY DOCK:

OPEN TO VISITORS THROUGH MARCH 1st

The USS ORLECK Naval Museum (USSONM) plans to remain open to visitors through Sunday, March 1st, 2020, as the ship's volunteers continue to prepare the decommissioned historic 75-year old US Navy Destroyer DD-886 for tow to Gulf Copper Manufacturing Corp. in Port Arthur TX for dry dock repairs.

After March 1st access to the ship may be limited to staff, volunteers, workers, and USSONM members. The public is advised that the schedule is subject to change as volunteers and workers complete preparations identified in the ship's "trip-in tow" survey and tow plan. Additionally, areas of the ship where work is underway may be temporarily closed to visitors. *Hours through March 1st are 10 AM to 3 PM daily (closed Mardi Gras Day, February 25th).* Admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors; \$5 for active duty military and children age 6 to 12; and children age 5 and under are free.

Upon completion of dry dock work, plans are to tow the USS ORLECK to Jacksonville FL to reopen as part of the planned Jacksonville Naval Museum (JNM) in downtown Jacksonville at the former Jacksonville Shipyard site on the north bank of the St. John's River.

ORLECK Museum memberships remain valid during the transition and will be transferred to JNM when the ship reopens at its new home at a commensurate level for the duration of the existing membership. It is a great time to renew your membership or join as a member as the ORLECK Museum participates in the Individual Member Admission Exchange as a Fleet Member of the Historic Naval Ship Association (HNSA) that permits cardholding members free or reduced admission to other Fleet Member ships. See list of museums at <https://hnsa.org>. Renew or join the ORLECK Museum by calling the ship office at 337-314-SHIP, email us at info@orleck.org, or going on-line at <https://orleck.org>.

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish the destroyer known as USS Orleck DD886, docked on Lake Charles, Louisiana, as a lasting memorial to honor the men and women of our nation's Armed Forces; to preserve the history created by the crews who served on the USS Orleck and other U.S. Navy ships; to educate younger generations on the sacrifices made by these individuals to ensure the freedoms we enjoy today through educational, historical, and interpretive programs and experiences for adults and children of all ages; and to establish a first-class tourist attraction, and educational and recreational resource, for visitors from throughout the United States and other countries.

REMEMBER, HONOR, RESTORE, EDUCATE

Donations

June 2019

John Dirksen
Donald Lewis
Bill Luchtel
Fran Robak – in memory of Henry Robak
Donald Sturtz

July 2019

John Lachowski
Nancy Mathis – in memory of William Mathis
John Mills
Earl Towery
Clarence Worth

August 2019

Chuck Vasaly

Sept 2019

Marcia Collins – in memory of
Marshall “Barb” Collins and James Hanley
Jerry Freeze
Bob Kester
Jim Moffatt
Skip Young

Nov 2019

Donald Walker

Dec 2019

Sandy Ward – “In honor of our father
Jess Ward, and in memory of my
Brother Kent T. Ward”

Feb 2020

Mike Martin
Verna B. Dixon – In memory of
Marty J. Dixon

March 2020

Marcia Collins
Dan Ahern
George B. Gourley

Larry Davis
Lefty Karkazis
Bill Lewis
Billy Pitts

Thank you...

Your Generosity is GREATLY Appreciated!



Ship's Store

***Kim has decided to not take orders for the Ship's Store at this time due to the risk of Covid-19 virus. More information on this will come on when we are on the other side of the pandemic. ***

Note from Kim

Hello everyone! I am writing to let you know that I have stepped down as your newsletter editor. Since December 2008 it has been my privilege to take your treasured memories of Radford, your updates and our reunion pictures and put them all together for you to enjoy.

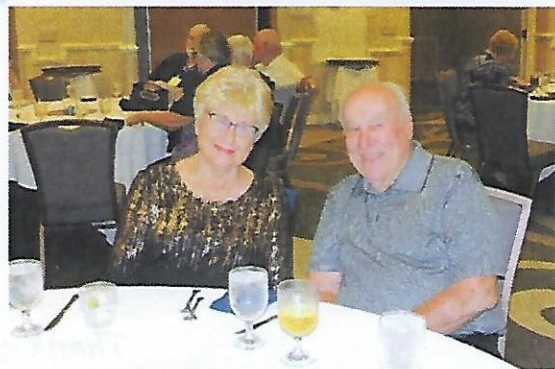
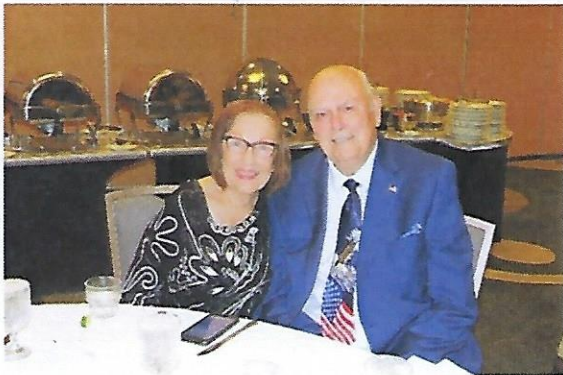
At this year's business meeting, Lara Lewis Honea, daughter of Nancy and Bill Lewis 65-66 BMSN, enthusiastically volunteered to become your newsletter editor. Those of you who have met Lara at the reunions know that she will do an excellent job and Chuck and I are anxiously awaiting her first issue.

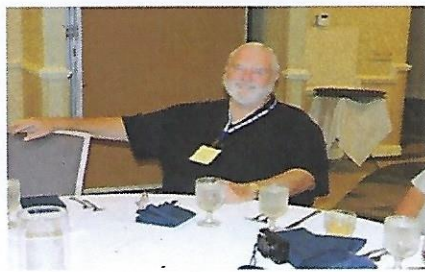
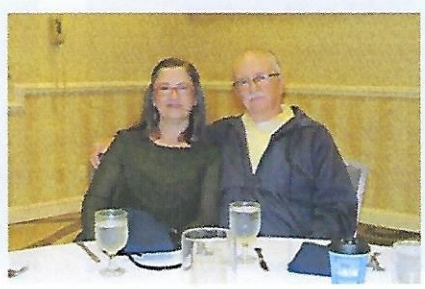
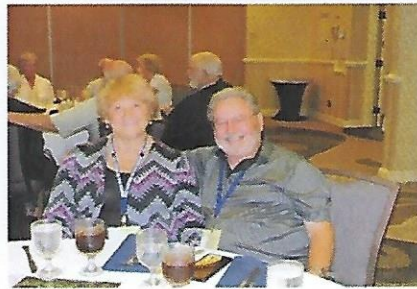
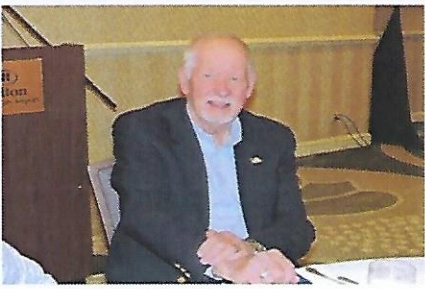
You can email Lara at the ussradford@gmail.com account. And you can continue to reach Chuck and myself at that account as well. In this newsletter, Lara will update you on additional changes that were voted on at the business meeting.

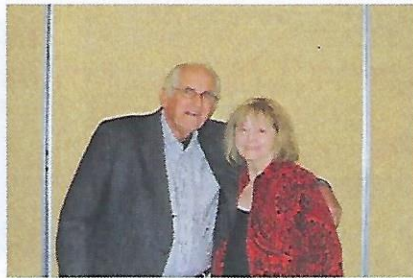
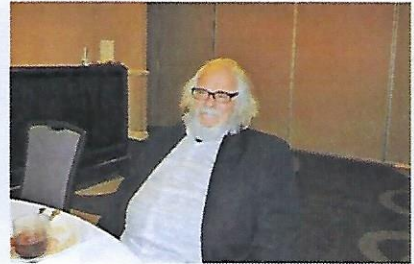
Thank you again.... Much love and God bless, Kim Parsons



Reunion 2019 – Kansas City Pictures







*USS Radford Association
482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276*

**TIME SENSITIVE
ORDER FORM
ENCLOSED**

