



U.S.S. Radford

DD/DDE 446

Spring 2021 Newsletter

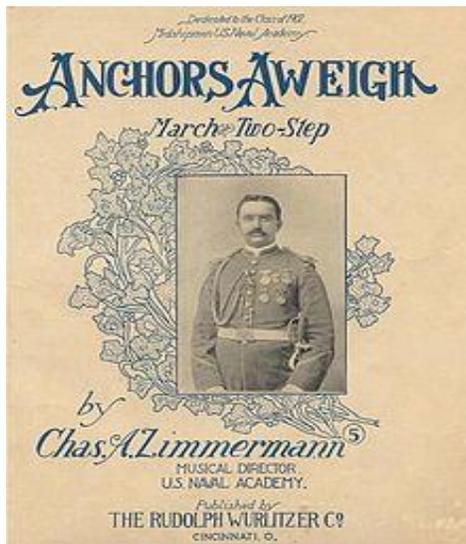
WWII – KOREA – VIETNAM – COLD WAR

ussradford446.org

“AS LONG AS ONE OF US LIVES, SHE WILL LIVE”

WELCOME

Hello mates! I know that it has been a while since the last newsletter, but I am sure we can all agree that 2020 was a very challenging year. I am sure you all feel a void in the way I do because we were not able to get together last year because of Covid-19. I pray that 2021 will eventually be a more positive year, and that we can all get together to catch up, visit, and have another wonderful reunion. More information to come on the details of the 2021 reunion below. Thank you for all for your service! Anchors Aweigh!



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Our Reunion

Location: Jacksonville, FL
Dates: September 22-26, 2021



Note from Larry Davis:

A hotel, Doubletree of Downtown, has been contracted for the reunion. I am sure that everyone will be pleased with the amenities and location. The hotel is located on the St. Johns River. The menu is still in the planning stage but the items to choose from should make everyone happy. A tour company is waiting for the Jacksonville Naval Base to respond to our request for touring. We will tour St. Augustine, one of the oldest cities in the United States. A photographer has agreed to take the group pictures of our smiling faces.

I have contacted Ron Williams, USS Orleck Organization, and the relocation is still moving along but at a very slow pace. The ship was torn from her moorings by hurricane Laura early in the season then hammered again by hurricanes Cristobal and Marco. The Lake Charles area was a direct hit. (see page 6)

Hotel Information for the Reunion:

**Doubletree by Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront
1201 Riverplace Blvd. Jacksonville, FL 32207**

By phone (available 24 hours a day) to **1-800-222-8733** and be sure to ask for “USS Radford Reunion” or Group Code **RAD**

By Internet—click on this link:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?&ctyhocn=JAXJRDT&groupCode=CDTRAD&arrival=20210921&departure=20210926&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,en,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Reservation Cut-off Date – as a reminder, reservations must be made **before midnight on Date 09/01/21.**

****Be sure to copy and paste the entire link (it may be 2 lines long) in order for it to work properly****

*****Signup sheet will be coming soon*****

Navy Fun Facts:



The U.S. Navy celebrates its birthday on Oct. 13. In 1775, a naval force was established by the Continental Congress to aid in the conflict with the British.

Here are some things you might not know about the Navy.

1. Five cities claim the right to be considered the Navy’s birthplace: Beverly, Mass.; Marblehead, Mass.; Philadelphia; Whitehall, N.Y.; and Providence, Rhode Island. The Navy takes no position on its place of origin. (via Mental Floss)
2. All submariners are volunteers who have passed rigorous psychological and physical tests. (via Mental Floss)
3. Navy ships named for individuals are christened by “the eldest living female descendent” of that individual. (via Mental Floss)
4. Humphrey Bogart, Bob Barker and MC Hammer all served in the Navy. (via Mental Floss)
5. Bill the Goat has been the Naval Academy mascot since the early 1900s. Legend has it that a Navy ship once had a goat for a pet, and on the way home to port the goat died. Two ensigns were entrusted to have the goat stuffed but got distracted by a Naval Academy football game. One of the ensigns allegedly dressed up in the goat skin and pranced around at halftime. The crowd loved it and Navy won the game. (via USO)
6. The first version of the Navy was dissolved following the Revolutionary War, but it was reconstituted to deal with piracy. (via The Vintage News)
7. During World War II, the Navy produced six future presidents: Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter and Bush Sr. And before the war, there had been no naval veterans in the White House. (via The Vintage News)
8. Cadets and midshipmen played the first Army-Navy football game Nov. 29, 1890, on "The Plain" at West Point. Navy had been playing organized football since 1879 and defeated the newly established Army team 24-0. (via army.mil)
9. The Blue Angels – the Navy’s flight exhibition team – was established in 1946 by Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Chester Nimitz to raise the public's interest in naval aviation and boost Navy morale. (via blueangels.navy.mil)
10. The Navy Marine Mammal Program trains bottlenose dolphins and California sea lions to detect, locate, mark and recover objects in harbors, coastal areas, and at depth in the open sea. (via public.navy.mil)

Scuttlebutt

From Verna Dixon:

There is a new law that applies for widows benefits which are higher than survivor benefits. Many people may not know about the new Blue Water law that took effect 1/1/2020. If you have been denied in the past, please try again because this new law is in effect.

From Bruce W Swanson:

Hi Chuck, it's been a long time since I was a member of the Association; I'd very much like to join back up. I had a few rough years as our old nemesis Agent Orange started hanging out with me—kidney cancer, then prostate cancer, ischemic heart disease, 4 stents, followed by open heart surgery, neuropathy, etc. Also have had 3 joints replaced so that at the present time I'm actually feeling the best I've felt in a number of years. I keep quite occupied restoring or repairing old tractors, or working in my woodshop, as well as very active in veterans affairs here in the Hickory NC area. I was the Chaplain for several years of American Legion Post 48 before stepping down. I am a charter member of the Hickory Chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America, a chapter member of AmVets Post 76; I serve as Chaplain for both organizations, and Chaplain of the USS Vance Association, a DER out of Pearl Harbor. I am also involved in The Unifour Veterans Helping Veterans. An organization that focuses mainly on homeless veterans. All of these activities come after my church involvement. Beth and I have lived in NC since 2004, we love it here.

From Fran Barnosky Hanson:

I am the niece of Andy Barnosky. He served on the USS Radford in World War II. I have been researching our family genealogy and would like to learn more about Andy's time in the Navy. I have a picture of his graduating class from Great Lakes Naval Academy. Text on the photo states: **Co 263- G.P. Duda- C.S.P. Co Commander- Mar 10, 1944.** Andy passed away in 1988. I never got to talk with him about his military service, or work afterward, and am looking for any shred of information I can get. God bless you and thank you all for your service to our country. I am wondering if you would be able to put out a note in your next newsletter, or at your reunion coming up, or anytime at all, that I would appreciate anyone who might have known him to please contact me. God bless you and thank you all for your service to our country.

From Mike Nave:

As all of us age, we tend to scale back on our activities, and I have noticed during our RADFORD reunions, there are a lot of guys and gals hanging around in the hospitality lounge. This year I am thinking of introducing a movie break for everyone to view some old-time videos. Naturally, they would all be interested in seeing some of the old videos of RADFORD that have been taken by some of our shipmates. I currently have a video of one of our initiations when we crossed the equator, another of an alongside unrep, and one from Herb Dahm when the ship went down to Samoa. I have also reached out to Terry Mayfield who has quite a collection of videos he took on board the RADFORD. Just need to get them converted to digital format so we can see it during our movie break. In addition to the RADFORD videos, I can also show some great old military movies like Top Gun, Black Hawk Down, Midway, Tora Tora Tora, or Battleship. Also thinking of showing some old timers movies with John Wayne or Clint Eastwood. Plus, I have video that some of our 60's guys might enjoy – it is Don Ho's 25th Annual Reunion, and he along with Alii's sing all their great hits.

From Robert Fasbender:

Received a letter from Bob letting us know he recently went on an Honor Flight to Washington, DC. There were 40 veterans from Iowa and it was a very special event for everyone. Bob served from June '64 to August '67. He played in the Navy band, was in charge of the ship's sports locker and set up fast-pitch softball, basketball, and flag football games with other ships, - Hawaiian, Japanese, Taiwanese and Filipino teams throughout the Pacific Ocean area. Aboard ship, he used radar to track ships, aid navigation by land and sea, air traffic control and gun fire support. He controlled aircraft in Vietnam and had top-secret clearance to record and photograph other countries radars.

TAPS...



Larry Uptgraft 60-63 MM2 - passed away 06/09/2020

Sharon Hammon – passed away 06/09/2020

Richard Winnett - passed away on August 18, 2020. He died from coronavirus very unexpectedly.

Charles R. Lang, GM III – passed away September 11, 2020 at the age of 96. (He went by the nickname “Red” while aboard Radford from 1943-1946). He was buried in Zion Cemetery, St. Louis, MO. with full honors.

Donald Milligan passed away 12/23/20

Robert Welzbacker passed away 12/17/20



Member Updates

Clara Giuliano

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<https://www.leisurecare.com/our-communities/mackenzie-place-fort-collins/>

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USS Orleck



A note from Larry Davis (September 2020):

<http://orleck.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/septembet2020a.pdf>

This is the latest on the USS Orleck. As you can see there has been a setback. Look at the satellite image of where the ship is now.....The people of Lake Charles have a long and hard year ahead of them.

A note from Larry Davis (November 2020):

Yes, the ship survived the second storm, thankfully.

Things are looking better for the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Assn getting the ship to its new home as the Jacksonville Downtown Development Review Board has given its blessing for moving forward as of their meeting on November 12th.

https://www.jaxdailyrecord.com/article/ddrb-approves-uss-orleck-welcome-center-design?fbclid=IwAR0l-I9cLUi3KoMzFd4sz_Xw60k7DapF96qLozyYq3ij_7EZk7oLVQ2JNSA

We have some insurance issues to work on from this end and need to lock in a new dry dock date, get a new tow

plan survey completed, and so forth.

JHNSA has some funding and we should have some minimal insurance proceeds to work with, but funding will be tight, especially with the COVID-19 restrictions that seem to go on and on!

We should have more specifics for the 1 December newsletter.

Thanks,

RON WILLIAMS

Major, USAF (Ret.)

Executive Director

USS ORLECK Naval Museum

Email2: info@orleck.org

Ship Phone: 337-214-SHIP

Donations

February 2020

Dorothy Keefe

April 2020

James Dunworth 61-63 Ltjg

Darryl & Patti Loughrey, PC3 1962-66

Dino Burelli 52-55 EM1

May 2020

Joseph Worsham 63-54 Ltjg

June 2020

Marcia Collins (Marshall "Barb" Collins 64-67 Ltjg)

Lefty Karkazis 56-57 SN

Richard Carson 58-62 BT2

July 2020

Dan Ahern 61-65 MM3

August 2020

Robert Cannon

Frances Robak - in memory of Henry Robak

George Wagner

Larry Foley

Donald Bond

Louise Farel - in memory of Jack Brereton

Ben Brown

Edward Hassler

George Paxton

August 2020

Donald Bond

Ben Brown

Robert Cannon

Louise Farel – In memory of Jack Brereton

Larry Foley

Ronald Goulette

Edward Hassler

Gerald Paxton

Fran Robak – In memory of Henry Robak

George Wagner

October 2020

George Gourley
Denise Lachowski
Mike Nave

November 2020

Marcia Collins – In memory of Marshall “Barb” Collins
Lloyd Tosse

December 2020

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

January 2021

Robert Fasbender

Please no longer send donations to Missouri but to the following address:

***Kimberly Parsons
482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276***

*Thank you...
Your Generosity is GREATLY Appreciated!*

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USS Radford Association
482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276