



Newsletter

2022 First Edition

This kicks off the 2022 series of our RADFORD Newsletters with news and events leading up to our reunion in Grand Rapids, MI. In this edition of your newsletter, you will find information about the reunion and what has happened since the last newsletter. There is also a new section titled **Let's Remember** for us to pay tribute to our departed Radford Reunion family and friends. Here, to open this edition of our newsletter:

A Short Poem for Sailors

Sailors pray, for fair winds and a following sea
The smell of salt in the air, the feel of their skin as it's touched by the spray
An albatross soaring above, dolphins in the ship's wake at play
To witness a work of art that only God can create, the sunset at the end of day
At night a million stars in the sky, safe anchorage in an islands lee
When the time comes to die as for all it must, to awake in Sailors Heaven where nothing
ever rusts
And always there would be, fair winds and a following sea



USS RADFORD 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

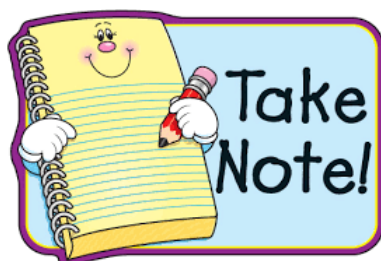


**Dave
Baker**

Website
Coordinator



First off, the important thing to do now is put a placeholder in your calendar for our 2022 Reunion. The dates are June 8 through June 12. Even if you are unsure whether you will attend or not, at least you will have the reminder in your calendar. Please see the Reunion section for more information on this year's reunion in Grand Rapids, MI



We have a sizeable number of newsletters that we continue to mail out to those who do not wish to view the version posted to our website. Many of those newsletters are going to people who have passed away or to incorrect addresses. We also receive newsletters returned because of an invalid address. In an effort to validate our mailing list, we ask you to do the following:

If you are currently receiving this newsletter by mail, please confirm your interest in continuing to get the mailed version or your desire to change to the website version by sending Kim Parsons a note indicating your preference. Your note can be by email, via a phone call or by mail. If we do not receive word back on mailed accounts within 90 days, we will drop those accounts from our mailing list. (Of course, if your account is dropped and you want it re-established, just contact us with your request.) The contact information for your response is:

email: ussradford@gmail.com

phone: (304) 927-0094

mail: 482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276

Good News!



USS Orleck (DD 886) Naval Museum

Jacksonville, Florida – The city of Jacksonville has something to be thankful for this holiday season! The Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association (JHNSA) has started the towing of the USS Orleck Naval Museum to drydock! This is a critical step in the process of verifying the ship is able to continue to serve as a museum ship.



As you may be aware, our USS RADFORD museum is located aboard the USS ORLECK. The inspection of the Orleck, once in drydock, is expected to take approximately 30 days to determine its suitability as a floating museum and her seaworthiness for the tow across the gulf and around Florida to Jacksonville. Stay tuned to see if the Orleck eventually winds up in Jacksonville. More information can be found at: <https://orleck.org/> or <https://orleck.org/radford-museum/>



Michael Horan
1653 Northeast 57th Avenue
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124
253-632-9878



Roy Estes
602 647 9956



Harry Thurston
3878 Bedford Avenue
Winter Haven, FL 33884
863-662-4078 home



Robert Lombardi
rjlbobby@gmail.com or
robertlombardi417@yahoo.com



On Tues, Dec 28, 2021 at 2:45 PM Larry Davis wrote:

"The ship is in drydock and has passed the visual inspection. The next hurdle is an ultrasound. The shipyard is closed for the holidays so no updates."

On Wed, Jan 5, 2022 Kim Parsons wrote (see Let's Remember on page 7):

"Sharon and I affectionately referred to each other as "partner in crime." We shared the reunion hosting responsibilities for many years and were usually on the same wave length. We shared a lot of laughs and I miss that friendship.

Everyone who knew Bob knew he loved the reunions. Every year he was happy to see familiar faces and always made newcomers feel welcome. I miss his big sense of humor and the funny stories he told."

On Thurs, Jan 6, 2022 Denise Lachowski, daughter of John (1954-55 EM2) & Nancy Lachowski wrote:

"Dear U.S.S. Radford Family & Friends –

Though I am deeply saddened to be writing this I want to because my Mom so enjoyed the Radford organization & its members.

My Mom Nancy, Dad's beloved wife and buddy for 64 years, was diagnosed at the end of July 2021 with a very aggressive, advanced peritoneal cancer. While she absolutely did not want to leave any of us – Dad, 4 children, 4 grandchildren, sister, and numerous 'adopted' family members – because as she said "I'm busy living life", Mom had the strength, courage, and grace to step back from the fight on October 4, 2021.

'Living life' over her lifetime included being a Bookkeeper & Purchaser, a very good bowler as well as baker, school room mother and volunteer, softball coach, 15+ gallon blood donor, Eucharistic Minister, poll worker and Presiding Judge for the our county's Board of Elections, VFW Auxiliary Member & Officer, very involved in Ohio politics at the county and state levels, and meeting & befriending people from all walks of life. Mom was most proud of her contributions and tenure as a 36 year member of our city's Civil Service Commission.

Throughout all her activities and actions she demonstrated respect, interest, concern, compassion, love, and shared her great smile.

Our family, especially Dad, would like you to know how much Nancy / Mom enjoyed the reunions and getting to visit with you all – you could see it in her smile! Mom deeply appreciated and respected each Veteran & their service to our country. Shortly before Mom died she thanked Dad for taking her to all of the U.S.S. Radford reunions because it provided the opportunity to travel around the U.S., to make new friends, and - most meaningful to Mom - to re-connect with and enlarge her Radford family. Thank you for being *our* family too.

With Gratitude and Affection,
Denise Lachowski dclachowski@sbcglobal.net
745 Archer Rd. Bedford, OH 44146

John Lachowski jnlach@att.net
197 Wandle Ave. Bedford, OH 44146

USS RADFORD



This year's reunion will be held in Grand Rapids, MI and promises to be a great opportunity to see another beautiful part of our country. The city's name comes from the Grand River, Michigan's largest inland river. Ottawa Indians were Grand Rapids' first inhabitants and in 1826 the city was settled by French fur traders. Today, Grand Rapids is Michigan's 2nd largest city, with a metro-area population of 1.4 million.

During our reunion we will take two tours. The first tour will take us to Holland, Michigan to see the working Dutch Windmill, brought over from the Netherlands. After lunch at a restaurant located on Lake Michigan in Grand Haven, you will have time to do some shopping at local shops or take a walk along the pier, then back to the hotel.

The second tour consists of a trip to Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, followed by a brief ride through Grand Rapids with a tour guide providing a history of the city. Following the tour, we return to the hotel.

Our hotel is the Holiday Inn Grand Rapids Airport 3063 Lake Eastbrook Blvd SE Kentwood, MI 49512 and you can make reservations by calling the hotel directly at 616 285 7600 or Reservations at 800 215 2621. Be sure to say you're with the "USS Radford 30th Reunion" to get our special rate of \$119 a night. The special rate is good 2 days before and 2 days after the reunion. Reservation cutoff is May 24, 2022.

Airlines serving Grand Rapids include United, American, Southwest, Delta, Allegiant and Frontier. The hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the airport.

So, if you have already decided to attend this year's reunion, please contact Kim Parsons (email ussradford@gmail.com or call her at (304) 927-0094) and let her know now so we can start our list of people who will be joining us. You can also mail the following form if you would prefer, but we don't have details on complete costs at this time. There will be another opportunity when you receive your next newsletter a couple months from now.



Kim,

USS RADFORD



Please put our names on the list for this year's reunion in Grand Rapids, MI.

Address to: Kim Parsons, 482 Windyville Road - Spencer, WV 25276

USS RADFORD Ship's Store



T Shirts

Small to XL - \$15
+ \$1 for 2XL
+ \$2 for 3XL
Call for pricing on 4XL



Regular Cap with
Mesh or Solid Top



USA Flag Cap with
Solid Top

Ball Caps

USA Cap - \$27
Regular Cap - \$15

Note: Prices do not include S&H

If you are interested in Zip-Up Hoodies, let us know and we will contact the supplier and get a price quote.

Because we have to place minimum orders of 12 items at a time (for each item), we need to ensure we will have enough sales to cover our purchases. Please contact Kim Parsons and let her know which items and how many you intend on buying.

Kim's Contact Information:

Phone: (304) 927-0094
email: ussradford@gmail.com

Based on your feedback, we will place orders ahead of the reunion so we will have the items available for you in Grand Rapids. This will eliminate the S&H charges if you plan on being at the reunion. If you do not intend on joining us at the reunion, we will contact you when the items have arrived and you will be able to arrange for payment and shipping at that time.



Word is out that our website, <https://ussradford446.org/>, is undergoing some changes with new features and a refreshing new look. Check it out to see what it now offers. For more details, see the Radford Website section on the last page of this newsletter,

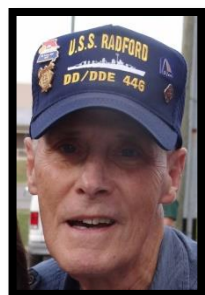


It is always nice to renew old friendships every year during our Radford reunions. But when those friends are gone, there is a feeling of sadness knowing we will never be with them again. Hence, the reason for this new section; to pay tribute to those we have lost and to wish them a final farewell.

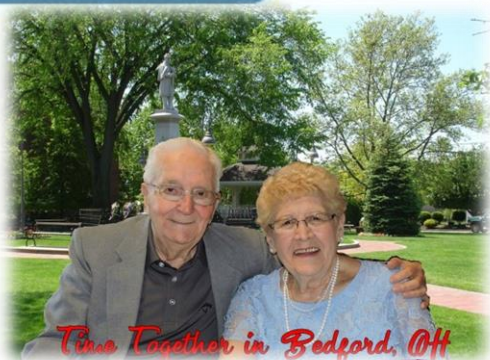
Jack Giuliano



Bob and Sharon Hammon



Nancy Lachowski



RADFORD Website



YES, we have a website all about Radford.



<https://ussradford446.org/>. Here you will find sections about our Radford Museum, our reunions, our roster and newsletters dating back to April 2014. Also, there are links to several youtube videos that you might find of interest as well as links to articles about Radford's history and other items of interest (click on words you see highlighted in blue to see additional information on our website).



William 'Bill' Turner 65-68 LTjg

Passed away 12/24/2021



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

