



Newsletter

2022 Pre Reunion Edition

This edition of the Newsletter contains details about our forthcoming reunion in Grand Rapids, MI. Here, you will find the Reunion Application form with instructions on how to finalize your reservation if you plan on attending the reunion.

The Last Lonely Voyage

by Vane Scott '44 EM3

Radford, oh Radford, give up the fight. You have done your duty magnificently.
You have fought the good fight in war. You have sparkled and pranced as best in peace.
Now you must let go, and be brave again, for your end is near.

Let these men take you to the torch. They have no attachment to you but it must be done.
You will live on in the hearts of all who lived in you. We were your life but now you must go.
Your engines are cold and the radar is still, but hold your bow high as they cast the line.
Technology has passed you by but take comfort in knowing, no ship will ever do it better.

The men who lived in you, now have a very different mission.
We must find all who served in you and make sure your image and deeds live on.
Even though you will be taken down, you will live again.
For, as long as one of us lives you will live.



USS RADFORD COORDINATING COUNCIL



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Parsons**

President



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Moffatt**

Chaplain
and 50's
Director



**Kim
Parsons**

Finance,
Reunion, and
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Coordinator



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Director and
Newsletter
Coordinator



**Larry
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Co-Sixties
Director and
Museum
Coordinator



**Dave
Baker**

Website
Coordinator



Your council would like to hear from you about your experience while on board Radford so we can share it in our newsletter. Please send your stories and photos to Kim Parsons, 482 Windyville Road Spencer, WV 25276



If you receive this newsletter by mail, please let us know if you wish to continue receiving it by mail. If we do not hear from you, we will drop your mailing address from our list. You may also tell us that you now prefer to download your newsletter from our website rather than receive a hard copy by mail. As you may recall from our last newsletter, many of the newsletters we mail out are going to people who have passed away or they are being sent to incorrect addresses. We also receive newsletters returned by the postal service because of an invalid address. So, in our attempt to validate our mailing list, we want to make sure the names of people who want a mailed copy of the newsletter are on the list and that we have their correct address.

Please contact Kim Parsons with your response by:

email: ussradford@gmail.com
phone: (304) 927-0094
mail: 482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276

USS RADFORD

REUNION

JUNE 8-12 2022



Are you still undecided? As you probably know, this year's reunion in Grand Rapids, MI will be from June 8 to June 12. If you are planning to attend and haven't made your hotel reservation yet, the cutoff date is May 24, 2022. Our hotel is the Holiday Inn Grand Rapids Airport 3063 Lake Eastbrook Blvd SE Kentwood, MI 49512. When calling for reservations (616 285 7600 or Reservations at 800 215 2621) be sure to tell them that you're with the "USS Radford 30th Reunion." The rate of \$119 per night is good 2 days before and 2 days after the reunion. Airlines serving Grand Rapids include United, American, Southwest, Delta, Allegiant and Frontier, and the hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the airport.

If you have not already indicated your intent to attend, here's a registration form to send to Kim Parsons for our reunion or, if you prefer, call her at (304) 927-0094 or email her at ussradford@gmail.com with the information.



USS RADFORD

REUNION

JUNE 8-12 2022

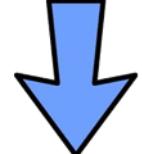
Name(s) for badges:

Phone: (h) _____ (c) _____

Current City/State: _____

Served on Radford (from/to): _____ Rate/Rank: _____

Please
Indicate



attending

Day Tour/Event

Wed Pizza Party and Auction begins at 6pm

Thurs Tour to Holland, Michigan with lunch in Grand Haven - bus departs hotel at 0900

Fri Trip to Frederik Meijer Gardens and Grand Rapids - bus departs hotel at 0930

Note: There will be no charge for above events.

Group Photo at 1330 at Frederik Meijer Gardens – pay photographer

Sat Business Meeting at 0900

Cocktail Hour at 1700 - open bar

Dinner Banquet and DJ at 1800 - @ No Charge to you

Sun Farewell Breakfast at 0700

if you decide to use this form, please send to Kim Parsons at: 482 Windyville Road - Spencer, WV 25276

HERE'S A
SNEAK PEEK
AT OUR 2022
REUNION



Visit Holland, MI



Go to See



FREDERIK MEIJER
Gardens & Sculpture Park

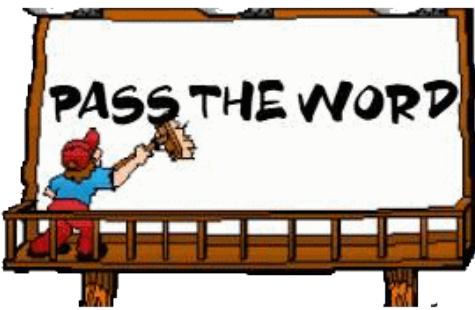


& Tour Grand Rapids



TAKE OUR
GROUP
PHOTO





The [Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association](#) announced Tuesday, January 11, that it has acquired the ship and that it will soon be Jacksonville-bound after having passed a seaworthiness inspection last month in Texas. Plans call for the Orleck to be towed from Port Arthur, Texas, to Jacksonville in late February or early March. It is to be berthed at the westernmost pier at the Jacksonville Shipyards, near the Berkman Tower. The ship will be docked perpendicular to the shoreline, with its stern facing inward. More information is available at: [It's official: USS Orleck is coming to Jacksonville \(news4jax.com\)](#)

On 12 Feb 2022 the Jacksonville Naval Museum issued the following Press Release:

Jacksonville, Florida – After extensive inspections and additional Ultra Sonic (UT) testing while in drydock, it has been determined that the ex-USS Orleck is fit to continue to serve as a museum ship. While in drydock at the Gulf Copper and Manufacturing Corporation, Port Arthur, TX, the Orleck will receive steel plates – doubler plates – welded over all underwater hull openings as well at several thin hull locations. Upon dry docking the hull was washed with hot fresh water and inspected. She is going to be preserved and painted from the keel to the top of the fore mast. This is a time-consuming process that there could be delays from holidays, weather, and material supply chain delays, so we do not have an exact date of when the ship will be towed to Jacksonville. The tow to Jacksonville is expected to take approximately 10 to 12 days. The full story at: <https://www.jaxnavalmuseum.org/>



- ★ **Marvin Bachison 55 - 57 FN**
Passed away on December 20, 2021
- ★ **Billy Roy Fontenot 67 – 68 SH3**
Passed away on September 12, 2020
- ★ **Charles Moretz 49 - 52 SK2**
Passed away on April 13th 2018

Donations are greatly Appreciated!

November 2021

Billy Bachor
Marcia Collins
Robert Fasbender
Horst Jeddelloh
Gary Shaw
Anita Vecchi

(in memory of Joseph Vecchi)

December 2021

Dino Burelli
Edward Hassler
Marcia Collins
Sandy Ward
(in honor of our father, Jess W. Ward, and in memory of my brother, Kent T. Ward)

Michael Horan

January 2022

Larry Foley
Cecil Bennett
Marcia Collins

February 2022

James "Mike" Martin
Donald Lewis



Donations can be mailed to:
USS Radford Association
482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276
Tax Exempt EIN 34-1901062



On Sun, Jan 9, 2022 Bob McWhorter wrote:

"I have a link to the Youtube presentation that Cody Bay put together for His Father."

<https://youtu.be/tbOxdIL2ZGQ>

(Cody Bay is the son of Ron Bay (64-67 QM2) who passed away on October 26, 2021)

On Sat, Jan 15, 2022 Arlene Dahm (spouse of Herb Dahm who passed away October 10, 2016) wrote:

"I was at a special holiday dinner in December for 12 people. It was prepared by a James Beard awarded chef now located here in Hatfield, MA. Julia Child had selected him as one of 7 chefs to prepare dinner for her 80th birthday and some 300 guests!"

Just before we all were seated at the dinner table I overheard a guest speaking in naval terms. I asked if by chance he had been in the navy. He said yes, serving on the USS Radford on her last trip to the Western Pacific (1969). He said he really had not been in touch with ship news and gave me permission to pass on his email address:"

thomas.burns1891@gmail.com

On Sun, Feb 2, 2022 Kim Parsons received the following note from Bob Fasbender:

"Just a note. The newsletter looks Great and yes, keep sending me the Radford newsletter. I'm not sure about the Reunion yet so I'll be talking to you again about that weekend.

I'm always busy with my Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and, during the summer – 16" softball events (I sponsor, coach and still play a little and this year I'll run two or three softball events and tournaments). I used to play 12" fastpitch for the Radford and played basketball with the Radford also. I ran the sports locker on the ship! (We played a little flag-football also)."

On Tues, Feb 22, 2022 Chuck Parsons received the following note from Larry Taylor:

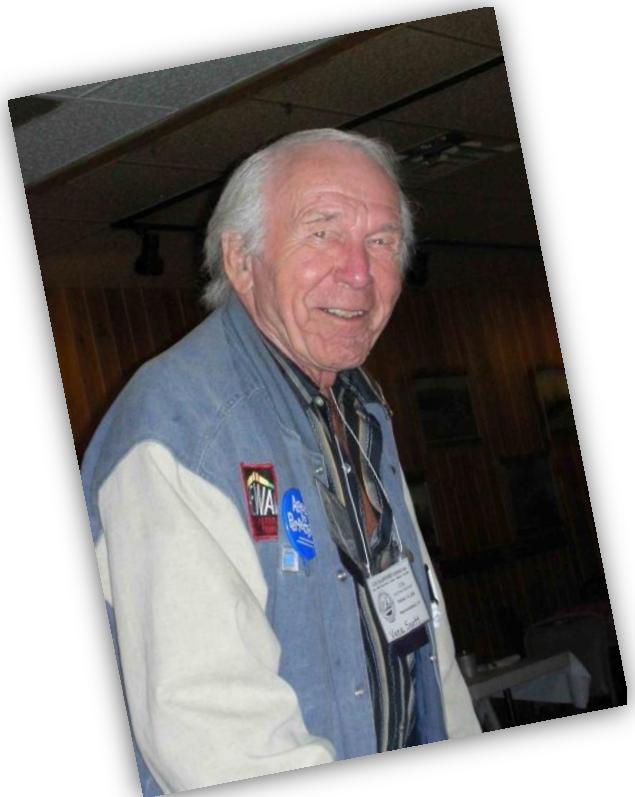
"When we arrived at Pago Pago in '63 – among the curious islanders was a young boy. This little fellow thought the Radford was the grandest thing he'd ever seen. Such a clean, squared away ship and all the white uniforms with black neckerchiefs impressed him so that he decided that the military was just what he wanted to do. OK, jump ahead 50 or so years. John Hood was in Colorado City, CO one day and had his ship's cap on. An Army officer in full dress uniform with metals walked up to him and introduced himself and asked if the Radford was the same ship that came to Pago Pago when he was a little boy. Sure was John replied. (Small world) (Oh yeah, they were attending a Veteran's Program in C.C.).



George Kirby



Vane Scott



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USS Radford Association
482 Windyville Road
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