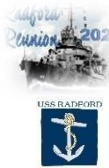




USS RADFORD

Newsletter

2023 First Edition



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Here's a charming little poem sent in by Virginia Freeze, wife of Jerry Freeze

The Blue Radford Cap

By Virginia Freeze

When I lose my husband, I always look for the blue Radford hat.
But this week I haven't been able to rely on that.

When I turn around and he is not in sight
I'll spot a blue hat, but wait, something is not right.

That is not the man I was trying to find.
That is not the man I think of as mine.

So ladies hold on to that man whose heart you have won.
So I don't run up and grab the wrong one.





USS RADFORD COORDINATING COUNCIL



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Dean**

President



**Jim
Moffatt**

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and 50's
Director



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Parsons**

Finance,
Reunion, and
Administrative
Coordinator



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Director and
Newsletter
Coordinator



**Larry
Davis**

Co-Sixties
Director and
Museum
Coordinator



**Dave
Baker**

Website
Coordinator



We are always available to answer any questions you may have about our Website, the newsletter, the museum or any other RADFORD related issues. For any issues not covered by the Coordinating Council please contact Larry Dean.

**Larry Dean
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If you attended our last reunion in Grand Rapids and ordered the group photograph(s), you are probably aware they were delayed and turned out to be of lower quality than we typically expect. Kim Parsons is working to resolve this issue and would like to provide you with an alternative to the photos provided by our reunion photographer. Kim will send to you via email, a digitized, enhanced version of the reunion photos. As an alternative if you are unable to print or don't have a computer, she will send you the photos via mail. Please let Kim know if you are interested in either option.



You may have already heard, but just in case you haven't, our reunion this year will be held in Springfield, MO starting Wednesday, September 13 and winding up on Sunday, September 17.

Known as "The Cultural Center of the Ozarks," the city of Springfield lies in the southwestern part of the state of Missouri, about 50 miles north of the Arkansas border.

Here is the information about our hotel in Springfield, MO:

Oasis Hotel & Convention Center
2546 North Glenstone Avenue
Springfield, MO 65803
417-866-5253 or 888-532-4338
Group name is USS Radford



The cost is \$124 per night starting Tuesday September 12 through Sunday, the 17th. You can upgrade to \$209 for a King Suite. Breakfast on-your-own. The hotel provides complimentary parking and complimentary airport shuttle with advance reservations. Springfield\Branson (SGF) is serviced by **Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Delta and United Airlines.**

Springfield has many wonderful sights to visit, and here are just a few:

- **Fantastic Caverns:** The only cave in North America large enough to ride through
- **Springfield National Cemetery:** The only cemetery in the nation where the dead on both sides of the Civil War are buried side by side
- **Wilson's Creek National Battlefield:** Site of the Battle of Wilson's Creek and home to The Hulston Civil War Library
- **Wonders of Wildlife Museum & Aquarium**
- **Dickerson Park Zoo**

if you know you will be attending, please pass that information to Kim Parsons now, so she can start a record of the number of people who will join us this year. In our Pre-Reunion newsletter which will be coming out in May or June, more details will be available about our tours, our dinner and the schedule of events during our reunion.

USS RADFORD



This new Section is all about the USS RADFORD Museum which is now owned by the Jacksonville Naval Museum and located on board the USS ORLECK DD 886 in Jacksonville, FL. Updates will be published in our newsletters and posted on our website.

The USS Orleck has had quite a journey from its previous location in Lake Charles, LA to Jacksonville, FL:



December 14, 2021, departed Lake Charles, LA.

December 15, 2021, arrived Port Arthur, TX.

March 17, 2022, departed Port Arthur, TX.

March 26, 2022, arrived Jacksonville, FL

On Wednesday, July 20 2022, the Jacksonville Naval Museum posted this on their facebook page:

On Tuesday, (July 19), Larry Davis with the USS Radford DD/DE 446 Association presented Craig Bernat, Treasurer for the Jacksonville Historic Naval Ship Association (JHNSA) a check for \$10,000! Currently, the USS Radford Collection of memorabilia and artifacts are situated on board the USS Orleck and will be displayed around the ship when the museum opens. A big thanks to the USS Radford Association!

At their website, <https://www.jaxnavalmuseum.org/> the JAX Naval Museum has up-to-date information on the USS Orleck Naval Museum which officially opened on September 28, 2022.





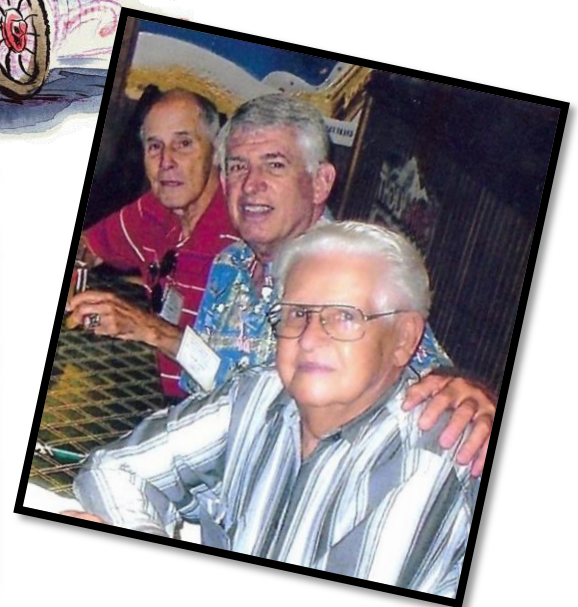
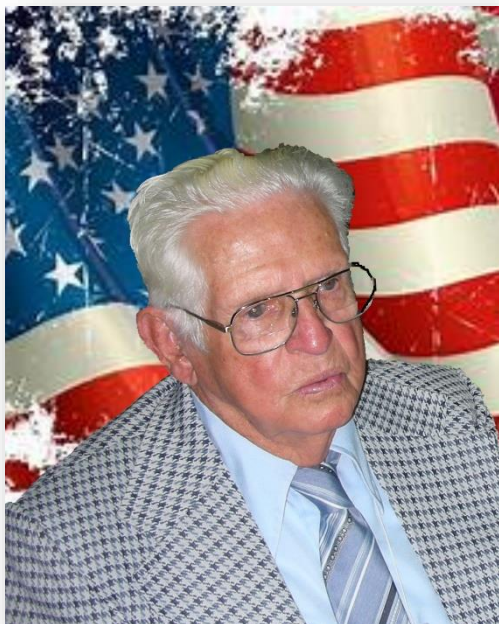
Bill McClure



Mel Morgan



Watch Out
Here Comes
Mel !



AGENT ORANGE UPDATE

Good News! The Radford is included in the list of Blue Water Navy Ships eligible for Agent Orange exposure coverage in the Veterans Administration. The US Navy has determined that Blue Water Navy veterans are now entitled to a presumption of service connection for conditions related to Agent Orange exposure. This will be very encouraging for any of you who may have been on board Radford when she operated in Ganh Rai Bay and Saigon River during December 1967. Details are at the VA website:

<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-2022/index.asp>

More information regarding Navy sea-going vessel (Blue Water Navy) Veterans and their connection to Agent Orange is available at:

<https://courtney.house.gov/issues/blue-water-navy-vietnam-veterans-act>.



William Bachor 63-66 BT2
New contact information:
lakegr17@aol.com
716-949-9657



Jerry Waggener 68-69 SMCM
New phone number:
279-952-2973



Francisco Vela 54-56 MM3
New listing information:
1255 North "K" Street
San Bernardino, CA 92411
Francisco.vela@cdcr.ca.gov



RADFORD Website

Visit our association website at <https://ussradford446.org/> to keep up to date on all our Radford events. There, you will find updates about our Radford Museum, our reunions, our roster, and our newsletters. 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).



Whether you are a Veteran, a caregiver, a family member or a friend, the Department of Veterans Affairs wants you to know you are not alone. In times of crisis, suicidal thoughts or concern, it is essential to get help by dialing "988" and then

pressing "1". You could also text "838255" or chat online at veteranscrisisline.net/chat if you prefer. You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect with the VCL. The VCL is:

- Confidential
- Open 24/7, 365 days
- Free to access
- A live person on the other end

The Veterans Crisis Line serves Veterans, service members, National Guard, Reserve members, and caregivers who support them. Please contact the VCL if you, your Veteran or a loved one are concerned about or dealing with suicidal thoughts or a crisis.



August 2022

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)

Louise Farel

(in memory of **Jack Brereton** 43-45 Lt)

Robert "Bob" Fasbender 65-67 RD3

September 2022

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)

Fran Robak

(in memory of **Henry Robak** 54-58 EM3)

October 2022

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)

Bob Sworden 63-66 BM3

November 2022

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)

Corinne Gourley

(in memory of **George Gourley** 49-52 FC3)

December 2022

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)

Joseph Worsham 63-65 LT

Sandy Ward

(In honor of our father, **Jess Ward**, and in memory of my brother **Kent T. Ward**)

January 2023

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)

James Clark 68-69 BM3

February 2023

Marcia Collins

(in memory of **Marshall 'Barb' Collins** 64-67 LTjg)





★ **John Hood** 62 - 66 BM3
Passed away on September 13, 2022

★ **Greg Sworden** 65 - 69 GM2
Passed away on September 14, 2022

★ **Bill McClure** 50 - 52 EM3
Passed away on August 5 2022

★ **Darryl Loughrey** 62 - 66 PC3
Passed away on July 7 2022

★ **RADM James B Ferguson, III** 64 - 65 LTjg
Passed away on September 30, 2020

★ **Jack Nelson** 63 - 65 LT
Passed away on October 17, 2022

★ **George Gourley** 49 - 52 FC3
Passed away on September 14, 2022



We 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 by email or text to Mike Nave. Or, you can send them by mail to 7327 Black Swan Place, Carlsbad, CA 92011



USS Radford Association
482 Windyville Road
Spencer, WV 25276

