

# U.S.S. MAGOFFIN APA 199 VETERANS ASSOCIATION

#22

## MAGOFFIN MESSENGER

Sam Rubin, Editor

Summer 2003

### OFFICERS:

Mike Stein  
President  
800 621 5950  
Jack Earven  
Vice President  
Tom Haglage  
Secretary  
Joe Beninato  
Treasurer  
Chuck Whiteley  
Director  
Les Wilson  
Director/Chaplain  
Historian  
Dick Dickenson  
Director  
Bill Berglin  
Director  
Jerry Lopez  
Director  
Carl Jenning  
Director  
L.G.Duncan  
Master at Arms  
Pasquale Guido  
Bos'n  
Sam Rubin/Editor

### Presidents Corner

*Let me begin by saying how honored I am to have been elected President of our association.*

*The Lexington Reunion could not have been more enjoyable for all that attended. Our special thanks on behalf of the membership to our Secretary; Tom Haglage and his beautiful wife, Mary Paul for all of their hard work in putting together such a wonderful event.*

*This year's election of board members shows a substantial change of our officers. Those newly elected include, Jim Earven, Vice-President, Pasquale Guido, Bos'n, L.G. Duncan, Master at Arms, and Chuck Whiteley, & Carl Jennings -Directors.*

*Fortunately for us we have sustaining board members who will continue their service for the association. They include Secretary Tom Haglage, Treasurer Joe Beninato, Chaplain Les Wilson, and Directors Dick Dickerson, Bill Berglin, and Jerry Lopez.*

*The association owes a debt of gratitude to those board members who are ending their service on our behalf. They include President Sam Rubin, Vice-President Dan Scadlock, Chaplain Paul Andress, Master at Arms Willis Anson, and Bos'n Karl Tellefsen. On behalf of your shipmates, "well done".*

*The reunion this year was special for me because I was reunited with my shipmate Terry Little. Terry was a hospital corpsman on the 62 cruise that*

*convinced me to strike for corpsman upon the end of that cruise. Terry and I had not seen each other since 1962. Terry had found the Magoffin web site and that is how we reconnected. Since Terry is retiring this year and has a pretty good knowledge of building web sites, I have asked him to take charge of our new site. Starting with the fine work of webmaster, Jerry Lopez, our site has been expanded over the last month. I might add that Terry has graciously paid for the site for the first year out of his own pocket. The new site is [ussmagoffin.org](http://ussmagoffin.org). Be sure to check it out. One of the uses for the site will be to put the newsletter on it so that the crew and any web surfers will have access to the latest news.*

*The reunion in the fall of 2004 will be held in Milwaukee, Wi. and hosted by our shipmate Tom Tessar. I know we all look forward to another great time and the chance for many of our shipmates to revisit the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. Mike Stein*

### Past Presidents Desk

I can't tell you how pleased I am with the selection of the new President Mike Stein and Vice President Jim Earven. I am glad they stepped up to the plate to continue with the Associations' agenda. They are two very capable people. Our Treasurer Joe Beninato will continue doing his outstanding work handling the dues and disbursing funds as necessary as well as maintaining the Scholarship Fund. Secretary Tom Haglage will continue doing the same outstanding work he has done in the past. As you noticed in the sidebar, we have some new Directors, Chuck Whitely, Jerry Lopez, Carl Jennings and Les Wilson who has also taken on the job as Chaplain, the new MAA and Bos'n. I want to thank them all for accepting those responsibilities. I will continue as the Newsletter Editor until someone is willing to replace me. I will still handle the Ship's Store.

Well, our 10th. Reunion in Lexington is now behind us. I was happy to assist Tom and Mary Paul Haglage in making the reunion a complete success. Their effort and attention to details, working with the Hotel Staff, Tour Director, the Magoffin County School and Historical Society definitely made this the finest reunion the crew has attended to date. I might add that they provided many things at their own expense such as the Kentucky coin packet each one of us received.

Next year our 11th. Reunion will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin hosted by Tom Tessar. The time and hotel has not been announced at this present time but he assured us that we will visit Great Lakes Naval Training Center and watch the graduation of new recruits as well as lunch in the mess hall.

Lastly, I want to thank all who supported me during my tenure as the President, especially during the trying days of the financial problems left to the Association by our previous leader.

Sam Rubin

### Editors Desk

We have a new website set up by Terry Little that expands upon the past site. We will be putting the Newsletter in that site available to all members that can get on the web. After this newsletter goes out, all future newsletters will not be sent via mail to those that have email addresses in our data base. We will however notify everyone via email that the new newsletter will be available. This will help reduce the cost of reproducing and mailing the letters. Should you however, request a mailing, it will be sent to you. My email address is [srubn@yahoo.com](mailto:srubn@yahoo.com) and my phone nr. Is 425 392 1819.

Notice on the sidebar that Mike Stein will have the 800 number at his home. Sam Rubin

## **Crew Meeting Minutes May 9, 2003 Lexington, Ky**

At 0900, President Sam Rubin called the meeting to order. Master-at-arms Willis Anson held muster and 53 members were present. Officers present were: Sam Rubin, Pres. Tom Haglage, Sec'y; Joe Beninato, Treasurer; and Directors Mike Stein, Les Wilson, Dick Dickenson, and Gene Walker. The Secretary led the crew in The Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was offered by Les Wilson and the names were read of crew members who have passed away since the last crew meeting. They were: Jerry Montgomery-52-54, John H. Johnson-44-46, Charles Unertl-55-58, Harold Reece-52-55, Bill Larson-50-52, John Pope- 52-56, Richard Phares-50-51.

### **Old Business**

The Secretary read the minutes of the last crew meeting held September 7, 2001. He also discussed a few topics of interest pertaining to the present reunion. From the floor, Chuck Whiteley suggested three cheers for the host of the reunion; applause from the membership. The president informed the membership that that would come later in the meeting. The Treasurer then gave the financial report to The Association stating that nearly \$18,000.00 dollars was in the general fund—from which the reunion expenses are to be paid—leaving an approximate balance of \$10,699.00. The Scholarship fund contained approximately \$3,170.00. The president then discussed expenses incurred concerning T-shirts and hats. He then asked secretary Tom Haglage to stand and the membership joined him (the president) in offering three cheers. Done! A motion was then made from the floor to accept the minutes as read. Approved by the membership. A motion was then made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Approved by the membership. There being no further OLD business, the president opened the discussion to NEW business.

### **New Business**

President Sam Rubin announced that he would no longer serve as president and would take nominations from the floor for that office. Tom Haglage was immediately nominated and seconded. Tom asked to say a word and stated that he did not have a computer and reluctantly declined the nomination. Mike Stein was nominated and seconded. Jim Earven was nominated and seconded. Joe Beninato was nominated and seconded and he immediately refused the nomination. As there were no further applicants, The two nominees were asked for and gave a brief history of their qualifications. Since there was no sitting vice-president, each was asked if he would be willing to serve in that office should he not be elected president. Both agreed. The nominees were asked to leave the room while the voting took place. Mike Stein won a large majority of the votes and both men were called back into the meeting room. Both accepted their new offices and both gave short acceptance speeches, after which the membership applauded their new officers. At 0950, president Sam Rubin called for a 10-minute break.

### **Break**

At 10:08, the president called the meeting to order. Nominations were taken for a new Bos'n. Pasquale Guido was nominated, seconded and approved by the membership. Nominations were taken for a new Master-at-Arms. L.G. Duncan was nominated, seconded and approved by the membership. Nominations were taken for a new Chaplain. Les Wilson was nominated, seconded and approved by the membership. At this point, Jim Earven, the newly elected VP suggested that we recognize Treasurer Joe Beninato for the superb job he has done managing the Association finances. A comment was made from the floor that "who would have ever thought 40 years ago that we would be trusting him with our money?" A discussion then ensued about the newsletter and its contents. A lengthy, lively discussion took place about how to find old crewmembers and how to get them together. Les Wilson (association historian) then spoke concerning the Magoffin County Historical Museum and getting our souvenirs and memorabilia to them. The president then asked if there was any other new business. Mac Christy spoke of the importance of Magoffin County history. Chuck Whiteley spoke of the ship's history in Korea. Bob Olson told of almost sinking the ship when she was launched because of a valve that had been installed backwards. At this point, sea stories began to flow and lasted approximately five minutes.

The president then suggested that we begin discussions of our next reunion. Tom Tessar presented an excellent case for Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Sam Rubin supported Tom's proposal as he recalled his own days at Great Lakes Training Center where he attended signalman school. Sam then proposed Branson, Mo and Tom Tessar enthusiastically supported Sam's proposal stating that it would also be an excellent place for a reunion. The subject was put to a vote and Milwaukee was chosen by a landslide.

The president then asked Mac Christy to discuss associate memberships for the families of deceased members. Pros and cons were discussed and it was agreed that Sam Rubin would write the changes to the by-laws for presentation to the membership at a later date. A motion was made and seconded to that effect. A discussion then took place about acknowledging the ladies contributions to the Association. Treasurer Joe Beninato then presented a plan for a trust to provide money for the scholarship fund. The membership favored his plan and authorized him to proceed with it. Chuck Whiteley then volunteered to be a director to replace Mike Stein. He was accepted and approved by the membership.

Jerry Lopez spoke of his concern for our unsecured website. Mike Stein took the podium to inform Jerry and the membership that he is already addressing the matter and he seized the opportunity to praise Jerry for his efforts in establishing the website. The president then informed the membership that we needed one more director. Carl Jennings was nominated and seconded. Approved by the membership. Floyd Carper then presented some information that he had for those interested about some LST movements. The president then discussed the t-shirt situation and the difficulties in getting them.

Secretary Tom Haglage then took the podium to discuss the scholarship check we present each May and to propose that we raise the amount from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00. The response was overwhelmingly favorable and much discussion ensued. Ideas were presented in how best to achieve this end. After intense discussion, it was agreed that personal donations to the Scholarship fund

would be the most logical way. A motion was made to increase the scholarship check to \$1,000.00, seconded by Les Wilson and approved unanimously. President Sam Rubin then asked if there was any further new business. There was no response. At 11:20 the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Tom Haglage, Sec'y*

### Two Important Requests

Now that the new association web site is up and running at [www.ussmagoffin.org](http://www.ussmagoffin.org), I need each member to help us build the best site possible.

If you have photos or newspaper articles from any era in the Magoffin's history, please let me know. I will arrange to have them digitized and will return them to you in good shape. When they are put on the web site, I will give you full credit.

Secondly, there is a new section in the website named "Sea Tales". "Sea Tales" is meant to be a collection of oral history and yarns about the Magoffin and her crews.

Everybody has at least one story about life aboard that has always stuck with them. Please share these stories with your shipmates.

At the last reunion, I heard about how the ship almost sunk on her maiden voyage and how the ship's mascot jumped up on a hatch only to discover that the cover was off. I wasn't able to get the details written down but would love to share these episodes with everyone.

None of us are getting any younger and each year the pool of memories shrinks. Please help me to preserve some of these recollections. They can be serious or humorous, they should be what you remember – not necessarily "facts checked" official history. Tell us your favorite story!

You can write a letter, send an e-mail or call me. I will write up the story, send it to you for approval and then publish it on the web site.

My address is:

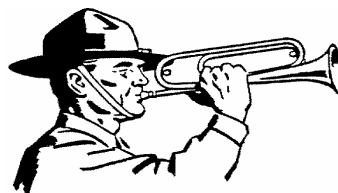
Terry Little  
 14902 Silver Sands Street  
 Houston, TX 77095

My toll free home phone number is:  
 888.391.6440

[Traveltj@houston.rr.com](mailto:Traveltj@houston.rr.com)

Or [Webguy@ussmagoffin.org](mailto:Webguy@ussmagoffin.org)

The Plaque below is mounted under the flagpole we donated to Magoffin County High School. Does anyone know where it was purchased. Note the misspelling of Veterans. It should be replaced. Contact Mike Stein.



## TAPS

Richard Phares

50-52

March 2003

### Comfort

*There is a tower of strength  
 For you and me-  
 'Tis that which we call faith  
 And as the sea  
 Off dashes on the rocks  
 To no avail  
 So storms may come to us  
 But in the gale  
 We lean upon that faith  
 And soon once more  
 We see a beacon of light-  
 It is the shore.*

Franklin Lee Stevenson

## Active Membership

As of June 15, 2003 the following members have paid their dues for 2003:

Aguilar\*, Alexander, Andress, Anson\*, Anderson, Arnold\*, Ayers, Balta\*, Barrick\*, Beals, Berglin, Bellin, Beninato, Betz\*\*\*, Bidinger\*\*, Blomgren, Brady, Bryant\*, Calvert, Carey, Carper, Cheely\*, Christy, Church, Clifton, Culpepper\*, Dejarnette, Dickenson, Duncan\*\*, Durham, Dutterer, Eagon\*, Earven, Engleman, Fitzpatrick, Flanagan\*\*, Flanagan\*\*, Ford, Foster, Frank, French, Furlow, Gaskill, Gehrlich\*\*\*, Gideon, Gillivan, Griffith\*\*, Guido, Hagg\*\*, Haglage, Hammond\*, Hancock, Heiken, Hellman\*, Henderson\*\*\*, Hogard, Horner, Hummel, Jennings\*, Guy Johnson, JL Johnson, Jones Roy, Jordan, Joslin, Kennon, Kershner\*\*, King\*\*, Kopczynski, Krebs, Kuklinski\*, Kyle\*, Lackner, Langlo, Latham\*, Little\*, Lopez, Lowther, Luken-sow, Lutz\*, Macioce, Mackey\*, Marcus\*, Maroney\*, Masters\*, McCants\*, Melsha, Mhlbach, Miller\*, Morris, Mozis\*, Montgomery\*, Mullen\*, Munger, Nass\*\*, Noll\*\*, O'Brien\*, Olivera\*, Olson, Paquette, Patterson, Pearce\*, Phares\*, Phipps, Poortvliet\*, Pope, Raich, Reece, Renfro, Rhodes\*, Riley, Ring\*, Rogers, Roth\*, Rubeling, Rubin\*, Saeugling, Sakers\*\*, Savage, Scadlock\*, Schaefer\*, Schulz, Schirmer, Sharp, Shropshire\*\*, Shultz, Simpson\*\*, Skow, Sluka\*, Small, Snodgrass\*, Sons\*, Spiese\*\*, Stein\*, Stevens, Stutzman, Swanson\*, Swary\*\*, Tellefsen\*, Tessar\*, Transou\*, Truxillo, Tull, Tyson, Unertl. Vandewouwer, Vernoy, Walker, Wall, Ward, Whiteley\*, Wilhelm\*\*, Williamson, Wil-kinson, Wilson, Jim Wilson, Wood\*, Woodall and Youngs.

Paid 2003 dues.

158 have paid 2003 dues.

\* Paid 2004 dues.

\*\*Paid 2005 dues.

\*\*\*Paid 2006 dues.

(If I accidentally missed you or made a mistake, let me know and it will be in the next newsletter.)

# Magoffin County High School

201 Hornet Drive  
Salyersville, KY 41465  
(606) 349-2011



William Helton  
Principal

May 12, 2003

Dear Mr. Sam Rubin,

Thanks for your support of our recent scholarship presentation. We believe that the day was a success and that the veterans of the USS Magoffin felt welcomed and honored by our school and community. Will there ever again be a time when so many people from so many different states visit us at one time? Maybe so, with the gracious Magoffin County reception that was given on May 8, 2003.

The day would not have been a success without the help of so many people like you and the organization you represent. Seeing this many people come together and make an event so successful takes teamwork. Thank you again for all your hard work and dedication to the students of Magoffin County High School and the people of Salyersville and Magoffin County.

Together, we can make a difference!

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of William Helton in cursive.

William Helton,  
Principal

Handwritten signature of Tony Skaggs in cursive.

Tony Skaggs,  
Assistant Principal

Handwritten signature of Sarah Beth Howard in cursive.

Sarah Beth Howard,  
Counselor

Handwritten signature of Marci C. Kazez in cursive.

Marci C. Kazez,  
Counselor

May 8, 2003

Dear USS Magoffin Scholarship Committee,

How honored I am to receive this scholarship. I regret that I could not be present for today's ceremony but I am pleased to have my family represent me. My family means a lot to me and I know they are also appreciative of this award.

Every day, when I raise the flag, I see the plaque beside the flag pole and I am reminded of the great service your association has given to Magoffin County High School. I am also thankful for the service you gave our country.

I look forward to attending Alice Lloyd College and this money will certainly help with my expenses. I hope to make you proud of me as a recipient of this scholarship.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Charles V. Fletcher in cursive.

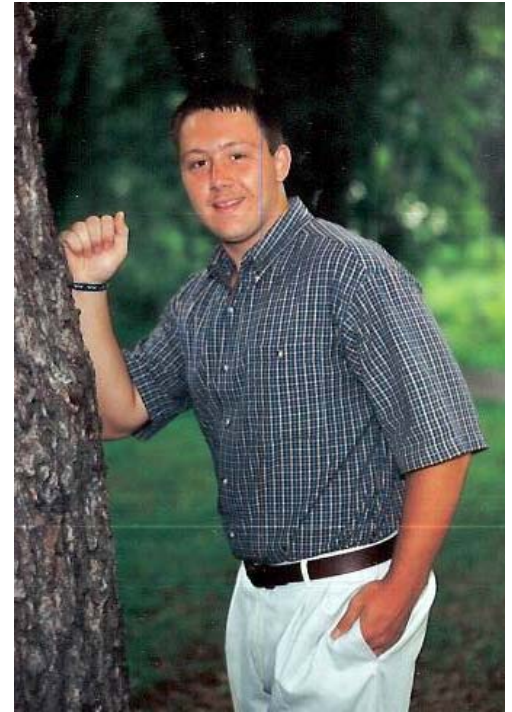
Charles V. Fletcher

## Shipmates

I apologize for reducing the letters down to such a small size but I am trying to pack so much in so few pages this month with all the reunion information and pictures.

Below is the picture of Charles Fletcher, the scholarship recipient for 2003.

*Editor*



## T-Shirts

We now have Magoffin t-shirts for sale. Check order blank on last page. S to XXXL. Models are my son-in-law, daughter and their daughter. Jeff, Gale and Julie Pelan. Above the ship is USS Magoffin Veterans Association. Below is APA199 Editor



## Banquet Evening Photos



**40's Crew Members**



**50's Crew Members**



**Harlan Storytelling**



**Hosts Tom and Mary Paul Haglage**

## Banquet Photos



**60's Crew Members**



**Top, Les Wilson at the Bar  
Bottom, Riley Beninato Group**



**Riley and Rubin**



**Salyersville**



**Magoffin County H.S. Gym**



**On the way to the top**



**Top of the Natural Bridge**



**Our tour bus trip**

This is just a small sample of the photos taken during our Reunion, Go to our web site [usmagoffin.org](http://usmagoffin.org) for a larger group of photos

To The Ladies & Gentlemen  
of The Magoffin Association,

Now that our long  
anticipated reunion is behind  
us, it is difficult to believe  
that all the fun and chal-  
enge Tommy and I had  
planning the event is now  
only a wonderful memory.  
It was an exciting time for  
us having all you marvelous  
people come to our Bluegrass  
State of Ky. We're certain that  
the Magoffin County event  
was the highlight for all of  
us. What a welcome from all  
those beautiful and genuine  
people! They were so proud  
having (for the first time) all  
you Magoffin veterans. It

-2-

brought many tears to my  
eyes seeing you all connect  
and bond to something so  
special in all your lives.

We hope you all enjoyed  
your time spent here in  
Lexington and took back  
fond memories of another  
memorable reunion. I want  
to thank the association for  
remembering me with the  
very nice \$50.00 gift certificate  
from Irish Acres. I was over-  
whelmed and touched with  
your generosity. It was my  
pleasure to help my mate  
serve his shipmates and make  
you all feel welcome here  
in our beautiful state of Ky.

Thank you all for  
coming. May your memories

be cherished ones. We  
look forward to our next  
reunion with great anticipa-  
tion. God bless you all  
and may the wind be at  
your back, until we meet  
again.

Gratefully  
Mary Paul Hagloze

### Financial Statement Bank Reconciliation Year to Date

Beginning Cash Balance 1/1/03	\$ 9,585.00
Cash Receipts	21,847.47
Check Disbursements ( 20,700.00 )	
Deposits in Transit	
Outstanding Checks	
<b>Ending Bank Balance 6/18/03</b>	<b><u>\$ 10,732.47</u></b>
Less Outstanding Checks	0.00
<b>Ending Bank Balance</b>	<b><u>\$10,732.47</u></b>
Education Fund Beginning Balance	\$3,172.11
Disbursement	(500.00)
Receipts	<u>1,655.00</u>
<b>Education Ending Balance YTD</b>	<b><u>4,327.11</u></b>
<b>Net Operating Account Balance 08/31/02</b>	<b><u>\$6,405.36</u></b>

Respectfully submitted by;  
Joe Beninato, Treasurer

### Constitution and Bylaws Suggested Revision

#### Article III Membership

The membership is to be open to all USS Magoffin personnel  
having served aboard the ship **as well as any direct descen-  
dents**. The widow of any deceased member may become an  
Honorary Member upon request.

Per the Bylaws, Amendments to be voted on at the next re-  
union.  
Sam Rubin

**DUES POLICY:** A notice to pay dues is not sent because of the cost involved. There are four (4) issues of the *Magoffin Newsletter* published each year. After we have mailed an individual two (2) issues, we determine if he has paid dues for the current year. If NOT, one more issue will be mailed. If dues have not been received by this time, we assume that the individual is not interested in the Association. The name will be eliminated from the mailing list.

**Order Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Nr \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Item name	Quantity	Subtotal
Magoffin ball caps \$13.00 ea		
Lapel Pins \$ 4.50 ea		
Magoffin t-shirts \$15.00 ea		
S M L XL XXL XXXL		
<u>Circle the sizes and show amounts</u>		
Prices include shipping costs		<u>Total</u>

Send checks to: **USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION  
SHIP'S STORE  
104 214TH. N.E.  
SAMMAMISH, WA 98074**

**REGISTRATION FORM  
USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SERVED ABOARD MO/YR. \_\_\_\_\_ TO MO/R. \_\_\_\_\_

BATTLE STATION \_\_\_\_\_

RATING/RANK \_\_\_\_\_ DIVISION \_\_\_\_\_

WIFE/SIGNIFICANT \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL FRIENDS WHILE ON BOARD \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship fund donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MY 2003 DUES (\$10.00) ARE ENCLOSED ( )

MY 2004 DUES (\$10.00) ARE ENCLOSED ( )

MY 2005 DUES (\$10.00) ARE ENCLOSED ( )

If you have previously filled out this form completely, just your name and address would be required to re-register unless something has changed otherwise.

**MAIL DUES TO:  
USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION  
Joe Beninato, Treasurer  
61 Sunrise Drive  
Edison, NJ 08817**

