

THE MAGOFFIN MESSENGER

The Newsletter of USS Magoffin (APA-199)

Veteran's Association

Issue number 42

Summer, 2008



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*The Magoffin Messenger is a quarterly publication for and by the members of the USS Magoffin Veterans Association. This newsletter as well as a wealth of other USS Magoffin information and history can be found at:
www.ussmagoffin.org*

President's Message

Greetings to the Crew and family members of the USS Magoffin. Hope you are enjoying your summer, or as we say in California, the continuation of our year round fire season.

We are now under one year and counting until we assemble in Norfolk, Virginia for our next reunion. Jim & Kay continue to work to make this a wonderful experience for all who will attend. Please think about committing early to the event as your application and selection will help us in the planning of tours, rooms, and banquet meals. I promise to set the tone by sending my paperwork and money before the end of July.

You will note in the newsletter that Magoffin County High School has selected another graduating senior for our association's scholarship for 2008. I want to express my appreciation for your support of this very worthy effort. We can all take pride in what the membership has accomplished in the past and will continue on into the future.

Please continue to be as generous as you have by contributing to the USS Magoffin Veteran's Scholarship Fund at Morehead State University.

When we meet in May of 2009, it will be the 65th anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa. That battle raged from March until June of 1944. This will be a good time for all of us to recognize

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those crewmembers who helped begin the history of the USS Magoffin, as well as thank them for their valued service to our country. They were "The Greatest Generation."

Mike Stein - President
President

Vice President's Message

All of the major plans are in place for our reunion in Norfolk Virginia in May 2009. Kay and I are looking forward to seeing you all. We are hoping for a record breaking turnout, and want you all to know that that we are thinking about you. You shipmates that get the messenger, and each year you say maybe next reunion, "Lets make this the one". I have heard from several of you that tell me you have never been to a reunion, and that you are seriously thinking about coming to Norfolk. "Well Make My Day" and show up. With the assistance of the Norfolk tourist bureau, the Doubletree Hotel, and Phillips Tour services, we think you are in for a great time. With the extra day allotted for this get together, we are trying to balance social time and on the go time, so everyone gets as much time to visit as possible. Please be advised the the weather in the Hampton Roads area in May can be a mixed bag. If you don't like the weather when you get out of bed in the morning, wait a little while, it will change.

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**USS MAGOFFIN APA-199
Veteran's Association
May 19 – May 24, 2009**

Doubletree Hotel Norfolk Airport
880 N. Military Hwy
Norfolk, Virginia 23502
757-461-9192
www.norfolkairport.doubletree.com

Standard King or Double-Bedded Rooms with a full hot breakfast buffet
\$94.00, plus applicable taxes per night

Hotel rooms include complimentary high-speed internet access, Wolfgang Puck coffee makers, hair dryers, irons/ironing boards, 27" televisions with premium cable channels and Pay-Per-View and the Sweet Dreams by Doubletree sleep experience featuring a plush-top mattress, luxurious linens topped with a down comforter and an abundant supply of jumbo pillows.

The hotel offers complimentary shuttle to and from the airport between the hours of 4:30am – 12:00am each day. We have a full service restaurant and lounge open for breakfast, lunch and dinner each day. Our new "Pre-Cor" Fitness Center is open 24 hours a day.

Please call **1-800-284-4292** by April 19, 2009 to reserve your room for the reunion. Please identify yourself as members of the **USS Magoffin - APA-199 Veteran' Association** to secure the group rate. Reservations may also be made by using the Personal On-line Group page created for the USS Magoffin APA-199 Veteran's Association.

The reunion group rate is available (3) days before and (3) days after the scheduled reunion dates.

If you should encounter any difficulties during the reservation process, please contact Marianne Collins, the Hotel Sales Manager for the reunion at her direct line 757-893-1463. She will be more than willing to assist you.



Itinerary for the 2009 Magoffin Reunion
May 19 – May 24, 2009

Wednesday - May -20th - AM
Ladies Tour

ROWENA'S

• Board the coach with your guide to visit Rowena's, one of the country's leading mail-order companies for fresh baked pound cakes and unique jams, jellies and sauces. Now located in Norfolk's historic Ghent section, the business began modestly in Rowena's family kitchen with gourmet holiday gifts for friends and neighbors. In May 1983, Rowena opened her gourmet manufacturing facility with one full time employee and a strong determination to succeed. In the twenty-two years since, Rowena's has grown to 20 full time employees and up to 100 part time workers during the holiday season. Her facility now includes a retail store, tearoom, staff offices, two spacious kitchens and two warehouses. A number of national publications have featured Rowena's including Bon Appétit, Gourmet, Ladies Home Journal, Taste of Home, Redbook and Southern Living. Rowena has appeared nationally on PBS, the 700 Club and the Food Network. During your visit, you will be treated to a tour of the production facility – have a chance to see the warehouse as well as the retail shop. Enjoy tasting the delicious samples following your tour.

Crew Meeting for Men - AM
BATTLESHIP WISCONSIN

• Visit the Battleship Wisconsin, one of the famous Iowa class Battleships permanently berthed on the downtown Norfolk waterfront. A crew meeting will be held on board for the association members. (Pending approval)** Meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel should the Wisconsin not be available.

LUNCH AT FREEMASON ABBEY RESTAURANT

• Both groups will join for lunch together at Freemason Abbey Restaurant is located in a turn of the 19th century converted church. Enjoy a delicious lunch amidst the charming surroundings.

VICTORY ROVER HARBOR CRUISE

• Following lunch, board the Victory Rover for a two hour cruise through the bustling Hampton Roads Harbor, one of the largest in the world.

Continued next column

Enjoy fascinating and entertaining commentary along the way aboard this naval themed vessel. You will thrill to the sight of aircraft carriers, nuclear submarines, guided cruisers and all of the other ships that form the world's most powerful armada. Light snacks will be available on board.

Package Price: \$68.00 per person, inclusive.
LUNCH INCLUDED.

Thursday, May 21, 2009, 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM

WASHINGTON, D.C. DAY TRIP

- Board the motor coach with your guide to depart for our nation's capital, Washington, DC.
- Stop at the WWII Memorial and the Korean War Memorial.
- Enjoy a visit to the United States Navy Memorial.
- Enjoy a guided driving tour of this beautiful and historic city – pass by the many famous memorials and monuments built to honor great people and historic events.

View the Washington Monument, The White House and the Lincoln Memorial. A photo stop will be included at the Lincoln Memorial. Drive past Capitol Hill and enjoy a photo stop on the steps of the United States Capitol Building (if security measures permit).

• Departure from Washington will be in late afternoon, with a dinner stop en route (payment on own) back to Norfolk.

Package Price: \$95.00 per person, inclusive. Box lunch included, dinner on own.

Friday, May 22, 2009, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

THE NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS BASE, LITTLE CREEK

• Visit The Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek which is the major operating base for the Amphibious Forces in the United States Atlantic Fleet. Home to 27 ships of the Atlantic Fleet's amphibious forces and 15,000 personnel, the Amphibious Base, Little Creek is located on 2,120 acres adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay and provides many of the troop and tank carrying ships for the Marine Corps. The Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek is the largest base of its kind in the

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world. Enjoy a windshield tour of the base, and view an amphibious training film and simulator (scale model of an amphibious assault).

LUNCH INCLUDED ON BASE

- Lunch will be included on base at the CPO Club.

SHIP VISIT (Pending Approval)

- Enjoy a tour of an active duty naval ship, pending approval.

**Package Price: \$43.00 per person, inclusive.
LUNCH INCLUDED.**

Friday, May 22, 2009, 6:30 PM - 10:30 PM

SPIRIT OF NORFOLK DINNER CRUISE

- Board the coach with your tour guide for downtown Norfolk to enjoy a three-hour dinner cruise on the magnificent spirit of Norfolk. The ship leaves the waterside pier area and travels north on the Elizabeth river, passing Nauticus, the National Maritime Center, Portsmouth Naval hospital, Portsmouth Marine Terminals, the Lamberts Point coal piers, and Norfolk Naval Base, the world's largest operational naval base and home of the Atlantic fleet. The Spirit features a top-of-the-line buffet with several hot entrees. The selection includes beef, poultry, and seafood, fresh vegetables, potato, salad, rolls and butter, and dessert. Following dinner enjoy a live band playing all your favorite hits. In addition, the spirit features professional performers who provide lively entertainment throughout the cruise. The ship has two fully enclosed, climate-controlled lower decks and an open-air upper deck.

Package Price: \$79.00 per person, inclusive.

**Saturday, May 23, 2009, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
RIDING VIRGINIA BEACH TOUR**

- Enjoy beautiful views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay as you ride through Virginia Beach. See the historic lighthouses and the First Landing Cross at Cape Henry where the English colonists first came ashore in 1607. Walk out on the overlook to see where the bay and the ocean meet, and where the famous Battle of the Capes took place during the Revolutionary War. Ride down the resort strip and past the Tidewater Veterans Memorial, a unique structure which pays homage to veterans everywhere.

Continued next column

Friday, May 22, 2009 Continued

MACARTHUR MEMORIAL

- Next enjoy a visit to the MacArthur Memorial for a glimpse into our country's history. During your visit you will view the outstanding collection of artifacts, documents, photographs and memorabilia housed in Norfolk's historic city hall which trace the life and times of five-star General Douglas MacArthur. You will also have the opportunity to view the 25 minute film which chronicles General MacArthur's life. The General and Mrs. MacArthur are entombed in the rotunda of the memorial. Nine separate galleries arranged in two levels circle the rotunda and tell the story of General MacArthur and the millions of American men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces from the Civil War through the Korean War. A gift shop with unique memorabilia is located on the premises.

MACARTHUR CENTER

- Visit the MacArthur Center and enjoy free time to shop and browse. MacArthur Center is home to numerous specialty shops as well as Nordstrom and Dillards. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many restaurants or in the Food Court.

DOUMAR'S

- Before returning to the hotel, enjoy a stop at Doumar's, home of the world's first ice cream cone machine. Abe Doumar created the first ice cream cone at the World's Fair of 1904 in St. Louis. It was so successful that he designed a four-iron waffle machine that he launched during the Jamestown Exposition of 1907. Today, the family business still bakes cones on the original cone machine. While at Doumar's, Mr. Doumar will give you an introduction and all passengers will be treated to an ice cream cone before boarding the bus.

**Package Price: \$37.00 per person, inclusive.
LUNCH ON OWN.**

See page 6 to reserve your space for these tours.

Please note: It is important to reserve early in order to insure that we are able to hold the dates and places.

**USS MAGOFFIN APA-199
Veteran's Association
Dinner Banquet
Saturday, May 23, 2009**

Fresh Garden Salad with assorted dressings

Choice of:

Prime Rib of Beef

10 ounces of slow Roasted Prime Rib of Beef with Au Jus

Chicken Piccata

Boneless Breast of Chicken Battered Dipped and served with a Lemon Caper Sauce

Vegetarian Delight

Penne Pasta and Fresh Garden Vegetables tossed in a light Alfredo Sauce

Each Entrée will be accompanied with the
Chef's Choice of Starch and Vegetable
Warm Rolls and Butter

Freshly Brewed Iced Tea, Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee
Dessert

\$26.00, plus taxes = \$34.21 per person

Order form for the Reunion
Please fill out this form and mail it with a check made out to
USS Magoffin Veteran's Association to
Mr. Joe Beninato, 61 Macy Street, Raynham, MA 02767

Name _____

Spouse or significant other _____

Street Address _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone# _____

Wednesday, May 20th

Tour and lunch - \$68.00 Per Person - Number of people _____ Total _____

Thursday, May 21st

D.C. Tour and lunch - \$95.00 Per Person - # of people _____ Total _____

Friday, May 22nd

Tour and Lunch - \$43.00 Per Person - # of people _____ Total _____

Friday, May 22nd

Dinner Cruise - \$79.00 Per Person - # of people _____ Total _____

Saturday, May 23rd

Riding Tour - \$37.00 Per Person - #of people _____ Total _____

Saturday, May 23rd

Banquet - \$34.21 Per Person - #of people _____ Total _____

Please circle entrée for first person

Prime Rib

Chicken Piccata

Vegetarian Delight

Please circle entrée for second person

Prime Rib

Chicken Piccata

Vegetarian Delight

Registration Fee for each member \$30.00 _____ **\$30.00**

Grand Total \$ _____

**Battle to save the
USS Gage (APA-168)
Might not be Lost**

According to the U.S. Navy Amphibious Forces Veterans Association Summer, 2008 the battle to save the last ship remaining in the *Haskell*-class configuration may not be lost. Late in 2007, it was announced that the Gage, which had be slated for destruction in 2004 by being used as a bombing target, would no longer be protected and would be removed from the rolls.

Since that time, Grace F. Napolitano, a member of Congress from the 38th district in California, and a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has written to one of her constituents who is a member of the Amphibious Forces Veterans Association that the Gage has been moved to the status of "Historic Hold". The ship is now in the process of being reviewed to be preserved as a historic ship and Representative Napolitano stated in her letter that her committee has jurisdiction over the Maritime Administration inventory and when the case for the Gage comes up, that she will "Take your views into consideration as this process moves forward.

I would urge all the members of this association to write a letter to their congress person and urge that the USS Gage be saved. She is the last of the APA's that is afloat and needs to be a museum - not a scrap pile or an artificial reef. It would help you copied Congresswoman Napolitano.

Her address is
The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
1610 Longworth
Washington, D.C. 20515

Your can obtain your representatives mailing address by going to <https://forms.house.gov/wyr/welcome.shtml>
Or by "googling" "Write your Congressman"

Is this going to be the New Navy?

Thanks to member Jerry Lopez, I visited a website that described the Command Ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC20). <http://www.msc.navy.mil/inventory/ships.asp?ship=128&type=CommandShip>

USS Mount Whitney is an MSC Command Ship and is part of the 29 ships in Military Sealift Command's Special Mission Ships Program.

- Length: 636.5 feet
- Beam: 107.9 feet
- Draft: 24.8 feet
- Displacement: 17,485 tons
- Speed: 23 knots
- Civilian: 146 civil service mariners
- Military: 157 (ship support) ~300 (staff) expandable to ~700
- Government-Owned/
Chartered: Government-owned

Navigation, deck, engineering, laundry and galley services provided by MSC civil service mariners. Commanded by a Navy officer. Navy mission crew.

In other words, most of the "Sea Going Navy" jobs are handled by Civil Servants and the Desk jobs are handled by the Tars.

Interesting. Is the Navy to soon be all technicians and all of the Maritime works will be handled by political appointees?

USS Skagit (AKA 105) Photo

Member Craig Anderson sent me the link to the website for the USS Skagit. They have a lot of photos on the site including this one that shows the Magoffin



Vice President's Message continued

It could be cool and rainy, or warm and dry. Please be forewarned and pack accordingly. Grab your ditty bag and muster on the Quarter Deck.

Jim "Bucky" Earven
Vice President
USS Magoffin (APA-199) Veterans Assoc.
385 Howardsville Road
Staunton, Virginia 24401
540-337-0290
540-448-5777 Cell
earven@verizon.net

A note from the editor

The Association website - www.ussmagoffin.org has been redesigned and updated. Check it out and let me know what you like and dislike.

Thanks

Terry Little (Webguy@ussmagoffin.org)

Great New Items in the Ships Store

Just in time for summer, Ray Furlow has added "Coozie's: to the ships store inventory. These brightly colored can coolers have a picture of the Magoffin and its name printed on them and are available in 5 colors. (black, red, green, light blue and Navy blue)



The best part is that they are only \$3.00 each.

Ship's Store

Get all of your genuine Magoffin items right here!

To order items, please include this form -

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

___ "T" Shirts @ 15.00 ea = \$ _____

XL ___ Lge ___ Med ___ Small ___

___ Ball Caps (1 size fits all) @ \$15.00 ea \$ _____

___ Patches @ \$5.00 ea \$ _____

___ Coffee Mugs @ \$10.00 ea \$ _____

___ Magoffin Pins @ \$5.00 ea \$ _____

___ Colorado Reunion Pins @ \$4.00 ea \$ _____

___ California Reunion Pins @ \$4.00 ea \$ _____

___ Magoffin Coozie's @ \$3.00 ea \$ _____

- ___ Black
- ___ Red
- ___ Green
- ___ Light Blue
- ___ Navy Blue

Total \$ _____

Please make out your check or money order to: -
USS Magoffin Association

And mail it with this completed form to
Ray Furlow
USS Magoffin Association
2525 Cobden School Rd,
Cobden IL 62920

If you need additional information please email -
rsfurlow@hotmail.com

**USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION
Bank Reconciliation
Year To Date**

BEGINNING BANK BALANCE 01/01/08 \$16,213.50

CASH RECEIPTS

Dues	\$ 760.00
Ship Store	410.00
Reunion	
Scholarship Fund	
Welfare Fund	

Total Receipts \$1170.00

CHECK DISBURSEMENTS

Postage	(\$100.00)
Awards	
Telephone (800)	
Ships store	(924.67)
Reunion Expenses	
Moorhead State Transfer	(316.00)
Newsletter/Postage	(635.95)
Scholarship	

Total Disbursements (1,976.62)

ENDING BALANCE \$15,406.88

(Broken Down as Follows)

Welfare Fund \$1,316.00

Education Fund beginning 01/01/08 \$316.00

Disbursement

Transferred to Moorehead State (316.00)

Donations Jan - Dec 2008

Education Ending Balance 03/31/08

General Operating Fund 03/31/ 2008 \$ 14,090.88

Welcome Aboard

Dan Biggio, was a seaman in the boatgroup from 1965 through 1967. He now resides in Southside AL,

2008 Magoffin Memorial Scholarship Awarded



Sheena Rochelle Bailey is the 2008 USS Magoffin Veterans' Association Scholarship recipient. Sheena is the 18 year old daughter of Joe Dale and Josie Bailey of Salyersville, Kentucky. She plans to attend **Morehead State University** in the fall and pursue a career in the medical field. She is a four year member of *Health Occupational Students of America (HOSA)*, and she received the 2008 Social Studies and Health Science Departmental awards at Magoffin County High School. Sheena also received a *Certificate of Achievement* for Allied Health and graduated on June 6, 2008 with a 4.54 GPA.

Sheena is honored to receive this award because she has several uncles that are veterans. A special uncle, Chalmer Wireman, lost his battle with cancer in June 2007. He served during the Vietnam Era and was a Military Policeman in Germany. After serving his tour of duty, he entered the Kentucky State Police Academy. In 1985 he was elected Sheriff of Magoffin County where he served for 13 years. Chalmer chose a career in law enforcement because of his experience in the army. This is why receiving this scholarship is such an honor.

Sheena is the granddaughter of Dave and Joan Bailey of Royalton, Kentucky and Chester Wireman of Royalton, Kentucky and Oma Stone of Salyersville, Kentucky. Sheena would like to thank all of those involved in choosing her as the recipient of the USS Magoffin Veterans' Association Scholarship.

Members with unpaid dues who are still carried on the rolls

Clifford Barrick, John Barry, Joseph Beninato, Phil Berker, Rolland Bispo, William Calvert, Charles Cassidy, Jimmy Charlton, William "Bill" Cigler, Pettis O. Clayton, August-Cooper, Eugene Durham, Francis J. Fitzpatrick, Joe Flanagan, James Ford, Al Gaskill, Jim Gillivan, Marvin Gray, Hugh Griffith Jr., Larry Guenther, Pasquale Guido, David Hammond, Jack Heiken, James Housley, Paul-Houze, David Johnson, Sheldon Jones, Sid Jordon, James King, Robert Kuklenski, John Martin, Carl McCann, Thomas McCants, Gary Miller, Tom Moore, Bill Munger, Kenneth Nelson, Robert Paquette, Charles Peterson, Merval Rhodes, Emmon Rogers, Wallace Schaeffer, Gerald Schultz, John Sharp, Ronald Shreffler, Larry Skero, Vince Skero, Kent Skluka, Richard Snodgrass, Marinus VanDeWouwer, Lawrence Wolf

Life Members

John Adams - Pete Agostini - Junior Carey- Bernie Currie, James DeWitt, James Graves - Lawson Hornor- Charles Jardine - William Kershner, - George Latham Jr. - Billy Joe Logson - Harold McElroy- Tom Nass - Joseph Petruzzi- Richard Phares- John Pope - Luke Raich - Harold Reece - Wilton Schanzenbach - Thomas Tessar

Members Paid through 2008

Alonzo Aguilar, Forrest Albertson, Craig Anderson, Leo Ayers, Tom Baker, Terry Barta, Kit Birkett, Ronald Bjork, Bob Blower, Wayne Chapman, Raymond Cheely, Mac Christy, Don Culpepper, James A. DeWitt, Harold Drugan, Kenneth Duttarer, Welsey Eaton, Daryl Elliff, Dave Engelman, George Fortis, Richard Gehrlich, Lester Gideon, Philip F. Hearn, Joseph Hogard, Guy Johnson, Roy Jones, Theodore Jones, Lawrence Kahbeah, Frank Kennon, Ed Kopczynski, Jerry Lopez, George Macioce, Fred Mackenzie, Robert Marcus, Billy Maxwell, Carol McElroy, William McIntyre, Bruce Melsha, Dennis Molloy, James Mozis, Daniel Mullen, Wesley Neal, Donald D. Ogburn, Albert Oliveria, Robert Olson, Russ Osborne, Pat Patterson MD, John J. Pearce, EE Renfro, William Ring, Emory Riseley, Ellis Roth, Sam Rubin, Don Schirmer, Richard Scott, Bill Showler, Harold Skow, Earl D. Sons, John G. Spiese, Ray Spinks, Bill Stutzman, Jim Taylor, William Tracy, Jim Transou, John Tull, Charles Whiteley, Jesse Wilkinson, Thomas Williamson, James Wilson

Members with dues paid past 2008

Clyde Alexander, David Andress, Willis Anson, D. A. Beals, Richard Bee, Merble Bellin, Bill Berglin, Bill Betz Jr., Vernon Bidinger, Dan Biggio, Floyd Carper, Jr., Daniel Childress, F.E. "Bud" Church, Arthur Corral, Thomas R. Cota, John Crowley, Michael Dejarquette, Dick Dickenson, Jack Donnell, L.G. Duncan, Jeff Eagon, James Earven, Robert Foster, M. Allan Frank, Ray Furlow, Paul H. Goguen, William Gossett Jr., Jack W. Hagg,

Members with dues paid past '08 Continued

Thomas Haglage, William Hancock, Don Hellmann, Robert Henderson, Don Hummel, Carl E. Jennings, Jack L. Johnson, Terry Key, Robert King, Charles Krebs, Keith Kyle, Wendell Lackner, Erwin Langlo, Laurus Lehwalder, Terrence Little, John B Little Jr., Thomas Lovett, Herald Lowther, Dan Lukensow. William Lutz ,Jr., Terry Mackey, Derrell Maroney, John Masters, Richard McDonald, Jerry Mihlbach, Andrew Miller, Fred Miller, David Moore, Louis Noll, Robert O'Brien, Michael O'Hara, Donald E Pavey, Charles Phipps, Al Poortvliet, Ralph D. (Tex) Raily, G Rasmussen, Daniel Rech, Mike Riley, Claude Rubeling, James Saeugling, Ross C. Sakers Jr., Pat Savage, William Schulz, Wallace Shropshire, Harry Simpson, Fred Small, Martin Sours, Ralph Springer, Michael P. Stein, Michael G Stevens, Mark Strohman, Gerald Swanson, Wayne Swary, Karl Tellefsen, , Harlan Truxillo, Jack Tyson, Ted Vonasek, Eugene Walker, Bill Wall, Richard Wall, Thomas A Ward, Gilbert Wayson, Wallace Wilhelm, Leslie Wilson, Howard Wood, Jack Wright, Robert Youngs

Renew Your Membership!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Phone number (_____) _____

What year(s) are these dues for? _____

Spouses Name _____

Rate/Rank _____ Division _____

Years on the Magoffin - From _____ To _____

Dues are \$10.00 per year.

Please make checks payable to - USS Magoffin Association

Please mail dues to:

**USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION
Mr. Joe Beninato, Treasurer
61 Macy Street, Raynham, MA 02767**

Do you know of a Shipmate in need?

The Association would like every member to be able to attend the upcoming reunion in Norfolk, Virginia and it is aware that some shipmates who might like to attend will not be able to due to the economic hardships they face.

If you know of such a member or are in that situation yourself, please let Vice President James Earven know as soon as possible. There is a "Shipmate Assistance" program that might be able to help.

Please contact Jim by writing him at
James Earven, V.P.,
USS Magoffin Veteran's Association
385 Howardsville Road
Staunton, VA 24401

Or you can email Jim at
J. L. Earven [earven@verizon.net]

Soon to be on the web site

Thanks to Bill McIntyre who served on the Magoffin in 1945 and has friends in high places, the Association is now in possession of the complete history of the USS Magoffin from commissioning to scrapping. These are the official Department of the Navy files.

The files are being scanned and will soon be posted on the Association website - www.ussmagoffin.org.

Our thanks to Bill who claims that he might be the oldest surviving member of the crew. He was born on April 30th, 1926. Can anyone beat that?

A Letter from a Shipmate

I am writing to you in the hopes you will publish some or all of my info in the Magoo's Newsletter.

On the encouragement of the S.C. VA's doctors I applied for a disability rating with the VA for Diabetis Type II, with the doctor's believed may have been due to service in Viet Nam. So I did just that only to be turned down 100% by the VA. Not surprizingly , I was "just" a little upset.

My point is that the (VA) have the USS Magoffin in and around Da Nang from the years 1965-1967

continued next column

Shipmates Letter Continued

as the following:

16 January. 1966 to 18 February, 1966
30 May, 1967 to 03 June, 1967
20 July 1967 to 05 August, 1967

Hence, their reason for turning me down. Tell the "Guys" who served from 1966 to 1967 that these are the only dates that "Maggie" entered or was near Da Nang harbor! What happened to the 6 months we were the station ship in Da Nang? Was that some "Top Secret" mission that no one knows about? I'm sure that Pasquale Guido would be very surprised to learn this news.

If the VA cannot even find out the ship's movements any better than their finding the above dates - how can they be expected to make a clear cut (accurate) decision about my case?

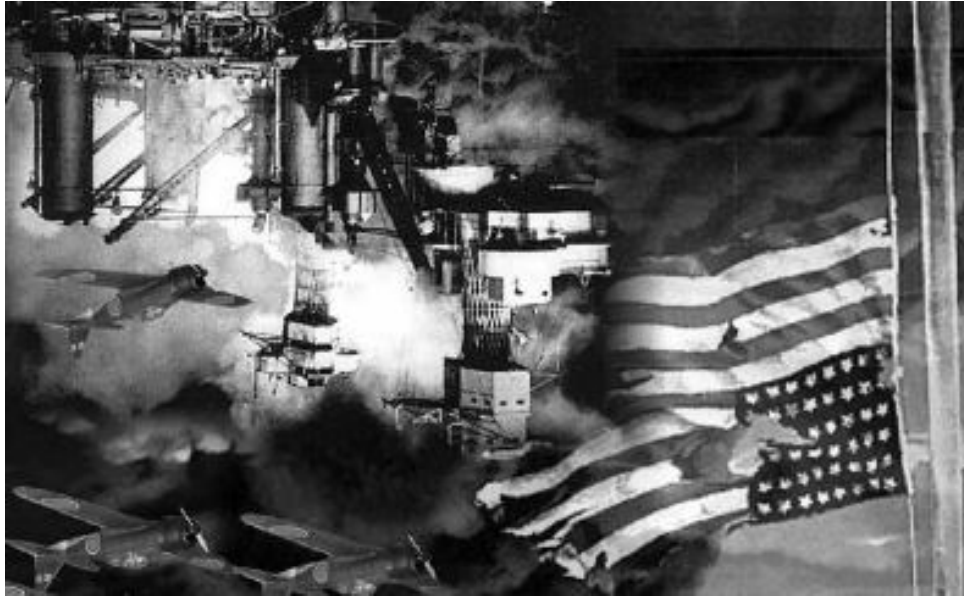
Another reason I applied for a VA disability was due to blindness. In February, 1966 I broke the only pair of glasses I had. Since there was no Optometrist aboard or at USNH, Subic Bay, I didn't get a new pair until June of 1966 when we returned to San Diego. By then my vision had "doubled" in near-sightedness. They claim that I was NOT blind. My God, at 20 feet I could Not even see an eye chart, let alone what letter was on the top. My eyesight was 20/200 right eye and 20/400 left eye; no glasses for 4 months = 20/400 right eye, 20/800 left eye!!

And do you know what my watch was during the "No see, No glasses" time? You guessed it; Lookout!! How can I report anything, if I can't see it? You don't know how many times I was reprimanded for "falling asleep on watch" because I did not report something I could not see!

Pasquale Guido knew about this condition of mine but its so long ago he may not remember the incident!

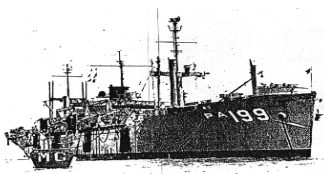
I do wish you'd print the dates the ship was in Viet Nam. Those who were there should get a "kick" (I didn't) out of when the Magoo was in "Harms Way"!

Forrest Albertson
Goose Creek, S.C.



**USS Magoffin (APA-199)
Veterans Association**

**Terry Little, Editor
1914 Irvin Cobb Road**



"No beach beyond our reach"

Defending America - WWII, Korea, Cold War, Viet Nam