

# FLAG HOIST



USS Robert H. McCard DD822

November-December 2024

**2025 AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS ONCE MORE APPROACHING.  
PLEASE RENEW TODAY WHILE STILL FRESH IN YOUR MIND WITH THE  
FORM ENCLOSED OR ONLINE AT:**

<https://www.ussroberthmccarddd822.com>

**35TH  
ANNUAL  
REUNION**



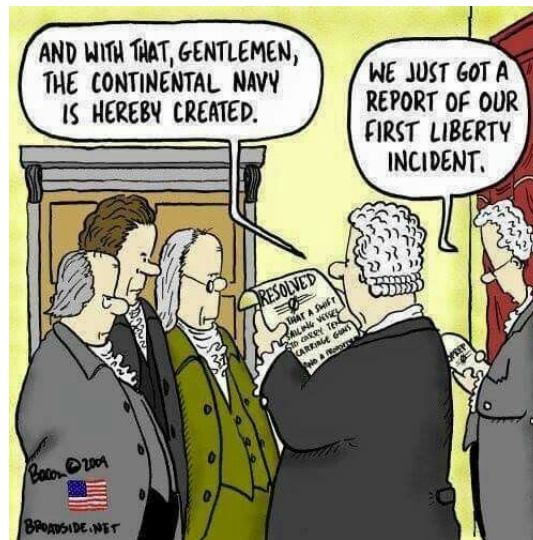
**SEPTEMBER  
2025**

## PLEASE RENEW NOW

The Robert H. McCard DD822 Reunion Association is committed to preserving our history and the unique stories from those who served aboard her. Some things change throughout history: technology, equipment and assignments. But the mission of destroyers and destroyer sailors remain constant.

Consider the Flag Hoist Newsletter, the McCard website and it's Facebook page. Their purpose is to pass on stories of days gone by with our time aboard the ship. We can only do that with your help by continuing to support OUR association by continuing your tradition of support with your membership both with your dues and stories of days aboard the ship.

Your participation help us preserve our memories of days aboard the McCard and keeps the McCard Association afloat.



**What is the significance of George Washington/s farewell address?**

He warned the United States from its greatest dangers, they being:

1. He was against forming permanent ties with other countries because choosing sides could draw the United States into war;
2. He worried about growing political conflicts within the nation. He said political parties would weaken the government;
3. Washington warned the country of too much public debt. He said government should try not to borrow money.

(Our country failed to listen to any of this...Good in the way we helped stop the carnage of WWI and WWII. Look at what the political parties have brought us in the form of laws, regulatory bodies and the constant vicious statements made by politicians. How about our debt being past the point of no return).

**CREW MEMBER RENEWAL AND APPLICATION**

USS Robert H. McCard DD822 Association

01 January-31 December 2025

Annual Electronic Flag Hoist: \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Flag Hoist Printed: \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Years Aboard: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Final Rank/Rate: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a new member: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: *Robert H. McCard (DD-822) Association*

Mail to: Ron Perceful, 27534 Airstrip Rd., Washington, OK 73093

**COMMENTS**

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Know a shipmate not a member? Give us his name, address and phone

\_\_\_\_\_

Your payment helps with the Flag Hoist newsletter, McCard website, sundry reunion expenses.

You may also renew/apply with payment at <https://www.ussroberthmccarddd822.com>

**Ahoy all shipmates and family members of the Alumni Association of the USS Robert H McCard DD822.**

**As we close out another year and head into the Holiday Season, we can reflect back on having completed another successful reunion, our 34th, while yet already involved in the planning preparations for our next reunion in Grand Rapids, Michigan. We will be posting more details very soon about registering, the tour events, and other items related to our reunion.**

**As we try to accommodate and involve as many McCard sailors as we can, we are always interested in moving our reunion site to different regions of the country. By a vote of all the attendees at our 2024 reunion, Grand Rapids, Mich. was selected for 2025.**

**With the understanding of Fall seasonal weather in the North, we are moving the date up a month, into September. We hope this will also accommodate all of us southerners before the weather turns too cold.**

**As we roll into the new year, 2025, we need support from all that can help, by paying dues for membership. We also can use help by reaching out to anyone you know that would be interested in becoming a member and coming to our reunions. Attendance is not a requirement, but we do hope that they would be interested in attending and supporting our Association. We want to keep our group as long as we can into the future, and this can't happen without our membership drive and support. We want to hold the McCard identity as long as we can.**

**So get those forms into our paymaster, with your renewals brought up to date. And if you want to use our automated online pay portal on the McCard website, feel free to do so. Check those newsletters for the link to get there.**

**In closing I want to wish all of our McCard members and their families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year. Everyone be safe in the holidays and will see everyone on the other side of 2024, in 2025.**

**God Bless you all.**

**CO, Monny J Hanna**

**USS Robert H McCard DD-822**

# TAPS

We regret to announce the Flag Hoist was notified of the following McCard shipmates/s deaths.

The entire crew extends the hand of sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased

## WELL DONE

Day is done, Gone the sun, From the lakes, From the hill, From the sky. All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh.



GERALD DAVIS BMCM (1967-1969)

Deceased September 2024

RICHARD GROSSTICK BT3 (1950-1954)

Deceased December 2023

ROBERT WHITE (1959-1960)

Deceased September 2024



## “The origins of “Taps,”

Taps, the distinctive bugle melody played at U.S. military funerals and memorials and as a lights-out signal to soldiers at night, date back to the [American Civil War](#).

In July 1862, U.S. General Daniel Butterfield and his brigade were camped at Harrison’s Landing, Virginia, recuperating after the Seven Days Battles near Richmond. Dissatisfied with the standard bugle call employed by the Army to indicate to troops it was time to go to sleep, and thinking the call should sound more melodious, Butterfield reworked an existing bugle call used to signal the end of the day. After he had his brigade bugler, Private Oliver Wilcox Norton, play it for the men, buglers from other units became interested in the 24-note tune and it quickly spread throughout the Army, and even caught on with the Confederates.

Not long after Butterfield created “Taps,” it was played for the first time at a military funeral, for a Union cannoner killed in action. The man’s commanding officer, Captain John Tidball, decided the bugle call would be safer than the traditional firing of three rifle volleys over the soldier’s grave, a move which couldn’t be confused by the nearby enemy as an attack.

As for the name “Taps,” the most likely explanation is that it comes from the fact that prior to Butterfield’s bugle call, the lights-out call was followed by three drum beats, dubbed the “Drum Taps,” as well as “The Taps” and then simply “Taps.” When Butterfield’s call replaced the drum beats, soldiers referred to it as “Taps,” although this was an unofficial moniker, according to “Taps” historian and bugle expert Jari Villanueva. He notes that Butterfield’s bugle call was officially known as “Extinguish Lights” in American military manuals until 1891. Since that time, “Taps” also has been a formally recognized part of U.S. military funerals.

Today at Berkeley Plantation, the historic estate located at Harrison’s Landing, there’s a monument commemorating the origins of “Taps” at the site. Berkeley Plantation also happens to be the birthplace of Benjamin Harrison V, a signer of the [Declaration of Independence](#), and [William Henry Harrison](#), the nation’s ninth president.

**YES,  
YOUR HELP  
WOULD BE  
APPRECIATED**

**I'm looking for a few volunteers to help with recruiting and maintenance of the McCard Membership Roster.**

**Duties would be primarily to make phone calls to a few current and existing crew members, and to ask for their continuing support of our Association.**

**Also, there will be a few names of crew members that have become non-active and past-due on Membership Dues. Obviously there could be a number of reasons why members become non-active. Some guidance will be discussed with volunteers, but it's mostly just checking in with the crew member.**

**Kind of fun making calls to guys around the country. My furthest, and most interesting call a couple of years ago was to a crew member from Wasilla, Alaska. He wasn't home as he was traveling for work above the Arctic Circle in Alaska.**

**If interested in helping, please text or email me at below contact info.**

**Thanking you for your consideration,**

**Bernard Norman  
509-499-2649  
[cesbernie@yahoo.com](mailto:cesbernie@yahoo.com)**

## GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Have internet? The link below has a 10 minute overview of our next reunion site

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDWR8dyeQ1k>

1. Grand Rapids was the first city in the nation to add fluoride to its water in 1945
2. Frank Lloyd Wright, well-known for his unique designs, designed two homes in Grand Rapids: the Amberg Home (private residence) and the Meyer May Home, purchased by well-known office furniture manufacturer, Steelcase, was restored and is open on a limited basis.
3. Michigan ranks as the 3rd largest producer of apples in the country, with Kent County (Grand Rapids) being the biggest producer in the state.

Home of the 38th President of the United States

Gerald Ford



**The 1st issue of Flag Hoist 2025 will have full information on the 35th Annual Reunion in Grand Rapids.**

**Hotel-Tours and all forms to begin registering. It may seem early but before we know it, September will be here.**



Do you have an item of interest, scuttlebutt, sea stories, Ideas, suggestions, something related to McCard shipmates, gripes, concerns? Know someone who is on Binnacle List and needs to hear from shipmates or one who has stood the Last Watch? Send it to Dennis Replogle at [McCardFlagHoist@yahoo.com](mailto:McCardFlagHoist@yahoo.com) or 18400 Geary Ct., South Bend, IN 46637. We need to also say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all the members who continue to pay dues year after year and many contributing a little extra. We've also had many who have stepped up to become an officer of the group and though small can be time consuming at times, a Thank You goes out to all of you.