

FLAG HOIST

October–November–December 2023



USS ROBERT H. McCARD

DD822

ATTENTION ALL HANDS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

WE NEED YOU

PLEASE MAIL YOUR FORM SOON

OUR MISSION

The Mission of the USS Robert H McCARD Alumni Association Officers and Crew is to perpetuate memory, history, and comradery of the men who gave themselves to protect the freedoms we have today. Thirty-four years of service 1945-1980.

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AND FACEBOOK

<https://www.ussroberthmccarddd822.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/162641293885636/>



******* Change in Membership Dues *******

Effective January 2024, membership dues will increase from \$10 per year to \$25 per year.

Several factors contribute to this required increase:

#1 - Our gradually diminishing membership and associated decrease in incoming revenues. This is understandable with our ages.

#2 - Increased costs to operate the Alumni Reunion Association and the annual Reunion.

The officer group of the McCard Association, and in agreement with membership discussion at our 2023 Reunion Business Meeting, has agreed to the increase of annual dues.

These steps are necessary in order to keep our 34 year old association operating and a viable association for all living McCard sailors to enjoy.

The Association offers a quarterly newsletter, The Flag Hoist, to paid members in order to communicate personal and pertinent news items of interest to the membership.

Dues are also used to help offset the expense of some activities and refreshments during the Reunion.

Another issue the association's officers are addressing is the "paid forward dues" that some members have graciously paid in the past. In order to start 2024 with a clean slate, we're asking all members in a dues paid forward status, to donate your paid forward amount as a contribution to the association.

Myself and CO Monny Hanna have agreed to donate our 4 and 7 year paid forward balances to the association, and we will also start 2024 with \$25 dues payable.

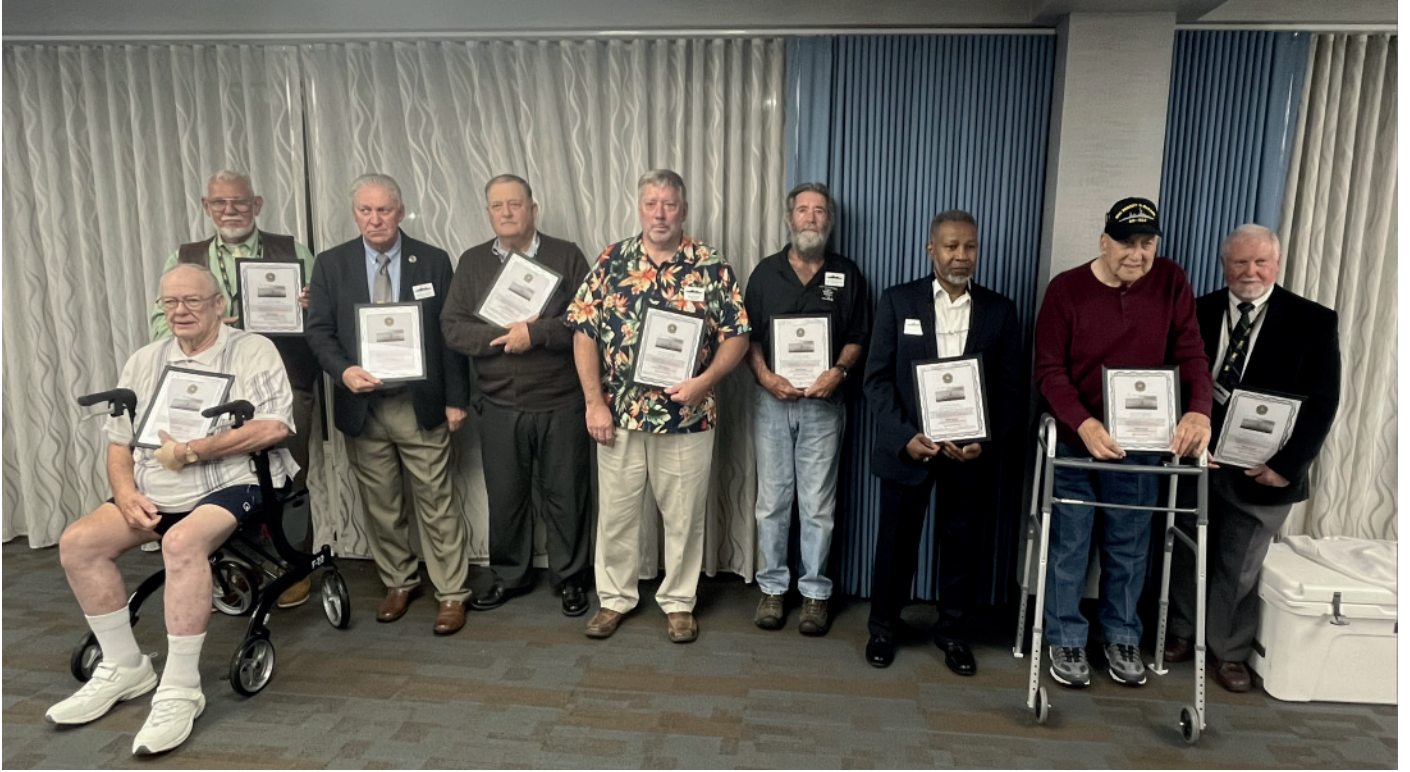
We hope that the membership will understand the necessity of increasing annual association membership dues to \$25 year year.

Bernard Norman
XO, McCard Alumni Reunion Association

!!!ATTENTION ON DECK !!!

There is a lot of preparation that goes into each McCard reunion from contacting visitors bureaus, hotels, tour sites, transportation, refreshments, decorations-banners and archival material. This past year Glenn Anderson once again went over and above in the preparation. He had help from Monny Hanna and Dave Kernohan. And, we can't leave out Clifford and Marcellia Leday and son Lelund for all their efforts and decoration of the hospitality room brought to us by Marcellia and Clifford Leday and son Lelund Virginia Cavella

NEW TO THE CREW 2023



David Irwin-Robert Larsen-Monny Hanna-Virgil Thorstenson-Brad Dahn-Billy Joe Golden-Eugene Robinson,Keith Hazelwood-Morgan Robertson

**YOU TOO COULD HAVE BEEN IN THIS PHOTO HAD YOU ATTENDED THE
2023 McCARD REUNION FOR THE FIRST TIME**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR 2024, RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR BECOME A
NEW MEMBER NOW. FILL OUT AND MAIL YOUR FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE.**

**THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE ASSOCIATION
ALL THESE 33 YEARS.**

****** Comments from first time McCard Reunion Attendee's ******

These positive remarks, from first time reunion attendees, should hopefully be a message to all members who have not yet had the opportunity to attend an annual ships reunion. "Come and join us."

Whether there is someone from your time on board, or your Division, as several new attendee's stated, it's about, "new friendships made", "sharing experiences and memories of our shipboard lives", "reminiscing", and "learning about our life's journey after the McCard or the Navy."

As an Association, we try to move the reunion's around to different area's in the country, in order to accommodate as many as possible. As you would expect, it's difficult to make everybody happy. I would hope that if you are within driving distance, members would try to attend. For others, the travel is difficult, we know.....

Looking forward to having more "first time" reunion attendee's in Gulfport, MS. in '24.

1) Virgil Thorstenson EMCS (R) '78-'80..... "I am an old veteran at attending and organizing veteran reunions. Once you arrive at the reunion hotel you'll see blue caps and the friendship starts. It's not long after you are sharing your home town and state. Our McCard reunion stating the 8th was no different. The ship is the common factor. I was in E division what division were you in? Maybe you were in M division, it usually starts this way. Soon all the stories and you are meeting with friends later in the day. I have been at a reunion that I knew few to none. My wife and I just get in the group and friendships are made. Tours, food, transportation was great and well organized. JAX was a huge success." Virgil and Debbie Thorstenson

2) Morgan Robertson CMDR "I want to assure you that my son Cole and I had an excellent time. We were late arriving and missed a lot of the activities (all our own fault), but we thoroughly enjoyed the time that we spent with those who attended. We also plan to come next year and, God willing, years to follow. We did not know anyone, but the point is to get to know them and to share experiences and memories of our shipboard lives and otherwise. It is a process, and we look forward to continuing it. Thanks to you and all the others who took and take the time to make it happen." Morgan Robertson

3) Keith Hazelwood EM3 '69-'70..... "We both had a great time. Was a pleasure meeting others from the ship. And the stories they all could tell. No sailors attended from my time, but wife and I had great time." Keith & Margaret Hazelwood

4) Robert (Stedje) Larsen "..... I recently became aware of the USS McCard reunion through an Internet search. Seeing that the reunion was within a day's drive for us, my wife and I decided to go. I was curious to see if anyone would be there who worked in the engine room during my tours.

Sure enough, I did meet others who served with me, but were in other divisions, and I enjoyed reminiscing and learning about what they did after serving on the ship.

Everyone at the reunion was very welcoming and my wife and I enjoyed meeting the other attendee's. The tours of the LSC and helicopter squadron at Mayport Naval base and the tour of the USS Orleck were very well organized and interesting. I really enjoyed speaking with active duty sailors on the tour of the LSC and learning about the capabilities as well as the challenges with that class of ship. The captain was engaging and welcomed our questions.

The social at the dinner and the fundraising auction made for a very pleasant evening. My wife and I made new friends and we are looking forward to next year's reunion."

.....Robert & Linda (Stedje) Larsen

5) Billy Joe Golden BT2 "In regards to, the last, and our first reunion, 2023.

We were very impressed with information and hard work that was gathered to give us good information, accommodations, food, and entertainment.

We enjoyed the trip to Mayport and St. Augustine.

The ship tours helped us to see old Navy ships and see new Navy ships.

Enjoyed, most of all, seeing old friends and making new ones.

In closing, Thank you for all the hard work and often, thankless work
.....Billy Joe & Deborah Golden
Billy Joe's cell: 251 727-0567

6) Arthur Whigham FTG 3 '64-'66“Ive been a paid dues member for over 15 years and read the Flag Hoist every quarter. This was my my first reunion. Don't know why I waited so long!! I will definitely make the 2024 reunion in Gulfport
..... Leo “Arthur” Whigham

7) Monny Hanna EMCS (SW) R '78-'80..... I want to say it was indeed an honor to have participated and join in the reunion in Jacksonville 2023. I now see what I have been missing and it surely saddens me. But the alumni association openly accepted me and that made me want to become more involved. I have truly gained many new friends and shipmates for our great ship the USS Robert H. McCard DD822. Shipmates for ever. To see how so many enjoyed their time in what we presented for the Jacksonville 2023 reunion, inspired me to want to become a major role player into the future. It even elevated my urgency to recruit more into our fold. I think with the group staying motivated we can carry on the great legacy of our alumni association, well into the future. It was also an honor to have the reunion association in electing me and entrusting me as the new CO for the USS Robert H. McCard DD822 Alumni. I hope to make the next reunion a well planned success as the one in Jacksonville. I know we have the right staff of officers in place for the next couple of years. Thank you.....

8) Brad Dahn MM2 '72-'80 “Jacksonville was the first ships reunion that Carol and I have ever attended. It was an outstanding few days-- talking about the McCard with other shipmates even though we didn't work together. I would encourage those that have never attended to join us at the next reunion in Gulfport. It was great hearing the stories from others that served on the ship. My wife really enjoyed herself as well and liked hearing of some of the antics that happened aboard a ship.
The planners of the reunion did a fantastic job and made the event enjoyable for everyone attending. Brad and Carol Dahn MM2 78-80.

9) David Irwin BTSN Reserve 1972 “Nothing but positive comments things to say about reunion. Everything went smoothly.
Met a lot of very nice people. Everybody got along so well together. Beautiful people. Made me feel comfortable. Looking forward to reunion in Gulfport in '24.



" NO THANKS LIEUTENANT, I'LL WAIT FOR A CRUISE SHIP.
THE LAST TIME I WAS ON ONE OF THOSE, THEY MADE
ME DO MESS COOKING FOR THREE MONTHS."

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW CO

Hello McCard shipmates and honorary members.

I want to say it was indeed an honor and privilege to meet all that attended our Jacksonville, Florida 2023 reunion. In my opinion it was a great success by all that attended and commented they enjoyed all events. As my first reunion, I indeed see what I have missed not attending or being a member sooner. I assure you I will make it up moving forward. As the new CO of the McCard Alumni Association, that was also a blessing in disguise that the association chose me. For what did they see, but I am truly honored. I hope all are ready for our next reunion, currently in the planning and we will provide details soon, in our next Flag Hoist news letter. We have some changes coming hopefully for the good. We had to raise our membership dues to stay inline with rising costs of doing business and putting on the reunions. We also have rising costs for getting the newsletters out to our members. It costs money for postage, printing and the mailing out of our important newsletters so we plan to add a fee for each newsletter. So if you want to help and do your part please try to align with the digital age by getting or asking for the newsletters in email delivery in the future. If you don't have an email try using the internet websites listed in the newsletters. If you have someone in family that can receive for you, please provide that email. The McCard truly has some of the best shipmates. We ask those as members to remain a part of our Alumni association and keep our long standing identity to last into the future. We can't do this without you and ask that you help by reaching out to those that you know to keep them strong on our roster. Please don't hesitate to reach out with comments and suggestions as always to our officers of the McCard.

In closing, I want to wish you all and your families, a very **Merry Christmas, Happy New Year**, and a blessed holiday season.

Thank you.

Monny Hanna

Do you have "Scuttlebutt" Know anyone ill or hospitalized, A Shipmate who has stood the "Last Watch" or some "Sea Story" or suggestions for your newsletter?

Please contact Yeoman Dennis Replogle,
dreplogle_McCard@yahoo.com or 18400 Geary Ct., South Bend, IN
46637, 574-327-0324

USS Robert H McCard DD822 Association
2023 Annual Meeting Minutes
DoubleTree Inn, Jacksonville FL
November 11, 2023

Meeting called to order at 9:04 am by CO Steve Shepherd.

Attendees: Steve Shepherd, John Hagen, Ron Perceful, Eugene Robinson, Clifford Leday, Virgil Thorstenson, Keith Hazelwood, Bob Crans, Terry Long, Dave Tomkin, Vic Tornero, Buster Kernohan, David Lofy, Dennis Replogle, Bernard Norman, Robert Larsen, Billy Joe Golden, Jim Boyd, David Irwin, John Childs, Monny Hanna, Glenn Anderson and Brad Dahn.

Minutes from 2022 were read, motion to approve by Bob Crans, it was seconded, and the motion carried.

The 2024 Reunion was discussed, as well as several locations. Many people are generally unwilling to come to the West Coast. San Antonio was well attended, as was Branson. It would be better to choose a location that is close to one of the members who is willing to help. Charleston, SC; Dauphine Island, AL; Branson, MO; Dubuque, IA; Gulfport, MI; and Tampa, FL were all suggested as sites for the 2024 reunion.

2024 Reunion Location –

Dubuque IA – Virgil Thorstenson will help coordinate

Mobile AL – Billy Joe Golden will help coordinate

Gulfport MS – Monny Hanna will help coordinate

Branson MO – Steve Shepherd will help coordinate

We had no volunteers to coordinate Charleston SC or Tampa FL and they were eliminated.

Since Gulfport and Mobile are so close, they were combined to Gulfport MS.

Branson – 2, Gulfport – 12, Dubuque – 6

2024 Reunion Location will be Gulfport MS. The tentative date will be after Labor Day. September 15 is peak of hurricane season. Vic Tornero moved the second week of October, it was seconded. The person planning the reunion shall have the flexibility to choose the best option for the Association. The motion passed without opposition.

Officer Recognition:

Steve recognized the officers that served the past two years, and especially Glenn Anderson for all of his years of service and work, and he was given a round of applause. John Hagen has done excellent work as XO with recruitment, and he was given a round of applause. Cliff & Marcellia Leday have done a lot of work on the newsletter and other things, and we recognized them for their hard work with a round of applause. Dennis Replogle has helped Marcellia with all his support and assistance in publishing the Flag Hoist. Monny Hanna also received a round of applause for his work in putting together this reunion in Jacksonville, and the tour of Mayport Naval Base and the tour of the active Navy Ship USS Cooperstown.

Treasurer's Report:

Glenn Anderson gave the Treasurer's report - He gave the breakdown of the costs of this Reunion – the total was \$4,710.83. We were committed to \$3,500 food and beverage costs, and taxes & fees. The two tours were almost \$4,000. The buses were expensive because of the proximity to tour sites. The hospitality room was about \$500. Total cost was \$9,912.68 for this reunion. That's an average cost of \$206.50 per person for the whole reunion. Attendees paid about \$135 per person. Bank Balance is \$1,082. Balance forward from 2022 was \$4,406. Dues collected were \$640, contributions were \$395, sold \$60 in hats – total of \$1,095. The suggestion was made to increase the dues to \$25 a year. The effort was made to bring more people to the reunion by reducing the cost per person. Since we're a non-profit, we should not keep a large balance in the account. Anyone can check with Glenn to review the records of the Association. There's also the cost of newsletter mailing four times a year, and at least half of the members request it by mail.

Vic Tornero moved the annual dues increase to \$25, seconded by Clifford Leday. Virgil said that 95% of other associations have annual dues of \$25 to \$50 in 2024 (he is a member of 4 reunion groups.) There were several speeches for the motion. The question was called, the vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Eugene Robinson moved to make the dues \$30 in 2025, it was seconded. There was discussion regarding this motion. The motion passed unanimously. Donations are always accepted.

There are 357 members in the McCard Association in the Facebook Group. We send about 100 newsletters per quarter. Marcellia was able to send the Flag Hoist via Facebook Messenger as well as their email. There were lots of suggestions for decreasing the number of newsletters mailed. Marcellia reported it costs \$400 per printing (it's usually 12 pages) and \$2.00 per piece for each newsletter. Cliff and Marcellia have been donating the cost. John Hagen moved that there be an additional charge of \$5.00 per copy of the Flag Hoist, the motion was seconded, the motion passed. The notice will be prominently displayed in the next Flag Hoist (mailed to the current list), and on Facebook.

Ron Perceful suggested they mail out a renewal notice to folks; Steve Shepherd said the officers can take care of that.

Ron Perceful moved to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by John Hagen, the motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers – (2024-2025)

Dennis Replogle was nominated for Yeoman and was elected without opposition.

Monny Hanna was nominated for CO and was elected without opposition.

Ron Perceful volunteered to be Paymaster and was elected without opposition.

Bernard Norman was nominated for XO and was elected without opposition.

Ron Perceful made the motion that officers can serve no more than two consecutive two-year terms, the motion was seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

John Hagen put in a plug for recruitment.

Monny Hanna moved that all shirt orders be sent to Virgil Thorstenson, it was seconded and passed unanimously.

Brad Dahn asked for the information of association members to help with contacting, Glenn will provide it to him.

Keith Hazelwood said to keep your cruise book because it is a legal document according to the VA and is acceptable as proof OF you being aboard for your illness claim.

Steve Shepherd has updated the Association's Charter and will post it on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44am.

USS Robert H. McCard DD822 Association

Financial Report January 2023 to November 2023

Beginning Balance	\$ 4,604.96
Registrations Paid 2023	\$ 725.00
Contributions	\$ 600.00
McCard caps	\$ 60.00
McCard Patches	\$ 0.00
Reunion Name Tags	\$ 192.60
Money collected for tours	\$ 4,210.00
Buses for 2 tours	\$ 3,560.63
USS Orleck Tour	\$ 585.00
St. Augustine Trolley	\$ 1,077.20
Banquet and evening snacks	\$ 4,710.83
Crew Dinner Tips	\$ 146.95
Money collected for Banquet	\$ 1,920.00
Money for Hospitality Snacks	\$ 472.05
Reunion auction	\$ 2,825.00
Total cost of reunion	\$10,160.26
Money Collected for Reunion	\$ 6,130.00
Current McCard account total	\$ 3,770.06

Complete data and receipts are available for auditing. My Spreadsheet provides complete details of money received and spent.

You can see from the numbers that we didn't charge the full amount for this year's reunion. There was extra money in the account that we could use to reduce the cost and make our tours and dinners available to all. Everything has become more expensive and need to find ways to reduce costs so that more crew members can join the fun.

I am turning over my paymaster post to Ron Perceful and grateful that he has accepted this role. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve my McCard crew members.

Pay Master Glenn Anderson





Shipmates,

I want to thank the Association for entrusting me as CO of the reunion association. Over the years, things have changed drastically, with a number of issues, and I have grown to expect the unexpected. For the second time in 2 years, I came home with a special gift - COVID!

My frustration may have shown. I appreciate the work of John Vick, Cliff and Marcellia Leday, and especially Glenn Anderson. We owe a special debt of gratitude to Glenn for his hard work. Thank you Monny and I pass the gavel to you!. BZ my friends!

In closing, I appreciate every member, every volunteer, for the work on the reunions. Remember that we are starting to see the last generation of McCard sailors. Contact everyone you know and encourage them to join up and get involved!

Steve Shepherd, Past CO

Fellow Crew Mates,

The 2023 reunion was another great reunion with tours to remember. Boarding the USS Cooperstown, an active Littoral Combat Ship was something that will remain in our memories for quite some time. Great tour given by the crew. The advances in technology were on display on this tour.

10 new members were inducted. Way to go to everyone for this great feat.

New officers were elected and what a great group of officers. Monny Hanna elected new CO and Bernie, Ron and Dennis all seasoned officers. A special hats off to Glenn Anderson for his 7 years of service as paymaster and overseeing reunions as he has.

As retiring XO. In recruiting efforts I enjoyed all the conversations with crew members of the McCard. Rewarding experience for me, and good luck to Bernie in taking over XO duties.

Looking forward to Gulfport for 2024 next fall. Everyone have a safe and healthy year!

John Hagen, Past XO

Hello Fellow Shipmates and Crew.

I want to thank all members for electing me as your Yeoman for the past 2 years. It was a pleasure to serve you all and I sincerely wish you all the best and for great success to the newly elected USS Robert H. McCard Association DD822 Officers at the helm. Until the next reunion in Gulfport, MS. Marcellia and I wish every one a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Clifford Leday, Past Yeoman