



Message from the CO

McCard 2020 Reunion Special Announcement

Cancelled

I'm sorry to report to you today that our 2020 Annual Reunion has been formally **cancelled**. Your Officer Group has waited as long as we can in order to make this decision. We remained optimistic that a miracle would happen, but on June 12th, we met on a ZOOM conference meeting and made the final determination.

I'm sad to say that we have been taken down by a Corona!

At this point of the year, it wasn't that hard of a decision as we have been in communication with each other for the last three months. Our concern all along, since the outbreak of the virus, has been the health and welfare of the crew and the wives.

I have been in touch monthly with the Crown Plaza Hotel and Experience Rhode Island Tours to get their input, and a current update on the status of the virus in the area. Rich Angelini from Battleship Cove and the USS Joseph P Kennedy, has also helped with current status. The 75th Anniversary celebration of the Gearing Class is also in serious jeopardy of cancellation, if not already. The Officer group wish you good health during this troublesome time. Stay well, whatever it takes...

**USS Robert H McCard
Twenty Twenty-one
Reunion Announcement**

The officer group has met and discussed the rescheduled 2021 Alumni Reunion. We decided that we wanted to complete our original mission, and return the McCard group to the ships original homeport , Newport, Rhode Island, 1946-1955.

After missing the 2020 reunion, we are in hopes that the group will retain the same interest and enthusiasm for your continuing support of the McCard Alumni Reunion Group.

Our intention is to again have the reunion the last week of Sept. 2021. We will begin advertising and promoting the event in the 3rd Qtr issue of the Flag Hoist.

Let's try to make the commitment to make 2021 the biggest and best reunion. Call a shipmate.

Stay well...





O God, be with the weak and injured, give aid to those who watch and wait, and comfort to all: Mercifully accept our prayers on behalf of any who are in need. Grant to him the help of your power, that his illness may be turned to health and our cares for him to joy, by the strength of Your Holy Name. Amen

Ron Perceful 71-72 Head on Car Accident(recovering)

REMEMBER -a card, letter, or email would do wonders to cheer up friends or shipmates.

Please contact Ron Perceful revperceful@gmail.com, 2913 Woodcreek Rd. Midwest City, OK 73110, 405-326-2337 for any information update, or to update the Last Watch or Binnacle Lists.

LAST WATCH

Shipmates, let us remember our brother who has passed from us to a greater glory. He is now in the arms of his maker in eternal rest. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Joe H Mikels FT3 49-52 (April 2019)

Martin (Eric) Benson BTFN 64-67

*Day is done, Gone the sun, From the lakes, From the hills, From the sky.
All is well. Safely Rest. God is nigh.*



NEW TO THE CREW

Jose Cochran YNSN 59-63

On behalf of the entire USS Robert H. McCard (DD-822) crew, we welcome anyone who served with us. You don't have to raise your hand or swear to anything, either.

Membership Minute:

On the important subject of “Membership,” we’re concerned that some members who were current last year, or previous years, have not yet renewed for this year. This issue of the “Flag Hoist” is going to all current and former members because of the change in reunion plans this year. So it’s a good time to take advantage of the Member Renewal and Application form attached to this newsletter to assure you continue to receive them. We want all you guys back aboard!

We have limited contact info on some old members, so contact me with any McCard sailors you'd like to get in touch with, thanks! Doug McKay (dmck27@bellsouth.net; 770-698-0227)



Reunion Announcement

Our 2021 Reunion plans have been set.

Place: Warwick, Rhode Island

Date: Sept.29-Oct. 3, 2021

Location: Crown Plaza Hotel

Providence / Warwick Airport

A few details:

- a) Breakfast included. Served in our Hospitality room.
- b) Free Parking
- c) Complimentary Shuttle provided from Airport, and to other destinations within 3 mi radius of the Hotel.

This is preliminary planning information only. More specific details will be forthcoming.



1968 Letter to Wives, shared by Doug McKay

20 February 1968

Dear MC GARD Family,

The ship has completed the second tour on YANKEE Station in the Tonkin Gulf, operating with the attack carrier USS CORAL SEA. After almost five weeks at sea we arrived in Keelung, Taiwan on 17 February for a brief upkeep period.

We are scheduled to depart Keelung on 22 February and our schedule after that time is not yet firm. It's safe to assume, however, that we will return to the waters off Vietnam.

In our past Family-Grams we've mentioned hard work, long hours and drills. However, there is time for some relaxation as well. Movies are shown each evening in port and underway. While few can be considered as "first rate" movies they are generally good and fairly recent releases.

To make Saturday nights at sea a little out of the ordinary, the crew conducts a variety show on the moon deck which features a wide range of music, from country and western to folk songs and rock and roll. The variety show is followed by refreshments, such as pizza or hot dogs, and the evening movie.

In the past few weeks, however, off duty time has been spent studying for the advancement in rate examination. Over one third of the crew were eligible for and participated in these examinations. The results will be known in late April or May.

Even in port in Keelung we've found little time for relaxation. Unlike Hong Kong, which was scheduled for rest and recreation, our visit to Keelung is for the accomplishment of upkeep and minor repairs. Following a carrier at speeds up to 27 knots allows very little time for painting and maintenance of equipment at sea. During an upkeep period we are able to concentrate on the jobs we were unable to do at sea. This period also permits us to take advantage of the services of a repair ship in port in accomplishing jobs that destroyers are not equipped to handle.

The tasks a destroyer may be called upon to perform are many and varied. Perhaps that's why the Navy likes to consider destroyermen a special breed. A note which appeared in the ship's Plan of the Day, written by the Weapons Officer, is which, is particularly appropriate in this regard and it is appended.

Mail service in the Western Pacific has been excellent. Some letters have been received within five days after mailing. The importance of mail to a man half way around the world from his family goes without saying.

The cruise will reach the halfway mark this month and the planning date for our return to Charleston is 15 June.

I would like to thank those of you at home who have taken the time to comment on MC GARD's Family-gram. It makes our monthly effort well worth while.

Sincerely,

 G. L. DOAK
 Commander, U. S. Navy
 Commanding Officer

See Reprint next page

20 February 1968

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S. L. DOAK

Commander, U. S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Factorial

Question: How many Gearing class Destroyers are left in the world and where are they located? **Answer:** Only 6 out of the 98 Gearing class DD's are left.

Those saved are:

- 1) ROKS Jeon Buk (DD-916), ex: USS Everett F. Larson (DD/DDR-830) and, the only FRAM II variant preserved in Gangneung Unification Park, Gangneung, South Korea.
- 2) ROKS JEON JU (DD-925), ex: USS Rogers (DD-876) preserved in SapKyoHo National Sightseeing Resort, located at Dangjin-Gun, Chung Nam Province.
- 3) TCG Gayret (D-352), ex: USS Eversole (DD-789) preserved at Kocaeli Museum Ships Command, Turkey.
- 4) ROCS Te Yang (DDG-925), ex: USS Sarsfield (DD-837) preserved at Anping Port, Tainan City, Taiwan.
- 5) **USS Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. DD-850. The only ship to not be transferred and not receive foreign updates. Preserved in Fall River, MA. at Battleship Cove.**
- 6) USS Orleck DD-886. The ship formally resided as a museum piece in Lake Charles, LA., but was recently moved to a Port Arthur, TX. dry dock awaiting structural inspection and transfer to the Jacksonville Naval Museum, Jackson, FL.

Above information is from a Facebook post by Rich Angelini. For those who don't recognize the name, here is a brief introduction:

- 1) Newly elected (2019) Vice President of the Board of Directors at Battleship Cove, Fall River, MA.
- 2) From 2000 -2019, he had been the main restoration lead and volunteer overseer for the USS Joseph P Kennedy (DD-850). His main goal was to institute and follow a restoration plan, remove non-historic items, and repopulate the ship with original equipment that she would have carried during the Viet Nam War era.
- 3) His "day job" is a Naval Engineer for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Newport, RI., working with surface ship torpedos.
- 4) When we have our reunion in Newport area, Rich has accepted an invitation to speak to our group.

CREW MEMBER RENEWAL AND APPLICATION
USS Robert H. McCard Association

Please Print Clearly

Crew Member: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Years Aboard: From _____ To _____ Final Rank/Rate: _____

Do Not Send Cash...your cancelled check is your receipt.

Make checks payable to: *Robert H. McCard (DD-822) Association*
Mail to: Glenn Anderson, 113 Kemar Drive, Butler, PA 16002

Are you a new member? Yes No

\$10.00 Annual Dues Enclosed (one year) January 1st thru December 31st.

Send Flag Hoist (Check One): _____ **Via U.S.P.S. (Address Above) OR** _____ **Via E-mail**

Comments/Questions: _____

You may contact Treasurer Glenn Anderson directly @ 724/487-7873; glenn.just4fun@gmail.com

Association holds **reunions each year at locations voted upon by the membership. There is a website for members as well as a quarterly Newsletter titled Flag Hoist.**



Conveniently located in

Fall River off I- 195, Battleship

Cove harbors the world's largest collection of historic naval ships, including five National Historic Landmarks: Battleship Massachusetts, Destroyer Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., Submarine Lionfish, and PT Boats 617 and 796.

Things to see and do at Battleship Cove

Historic naval ships, military exhibits, and related memorabilia tell the stories of brave sailors and their proud fighting days long ago. Walk where these sailors fought, man the guns they used to defend our freedom, or try on a Navy bunk for size!

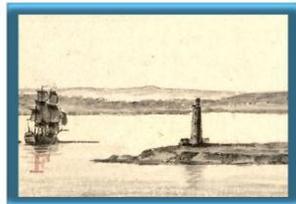
Battleship Cove holds six navy warships from the WWII era including a submarine. Explore the Battleship Massachusetts, a submarine, a PT boat, a Japanese suicide boat and more among the fleet of six vessels open to the public.

The USS Massachusetts (Battleship Massachusetts) is open for exploration - there are nine deck to explore on your own or with a tour.

Exploring life on board is interesting; try out the hammocks that served as sailor's bunks, climb the turrets, and admire the enormous main deck.

One of the most ambitious oral history programs in the country, the Veterans' Voices Oral History Project at Battleship Cove collects and preserves the life experiences of veterans as a growing, living record of American culture.

2021 Newport Reunion Tours





The home to five National Historic Landmarks and Official Veteran Memorials on both state and national levels, Battleship Cove has been providing the preservation of both the military heritage of the New England region and that of the United States since 1965.

With battleship USS Massachusetts (BB-59), destroyer USS Joseph P. Kennedy Jr (DD-850), submarine USS Lionfish (SS-298), PT Boats 617 and 796, and German missile corvette Hiddensee, you will be sure to have an educational

Newport, Rhode Island



The US Navy has roots in Newport's early colonial fleet, and has been a significant presence in Newport since the 1860s. Its major components were Naval War College and the Torpedo Station (now Naval Undersea Warfare Center) both of which were founded immediately after the Civil War. The Navy presence on Aquidneck Island grew and eventually included the Naval Education Training Center and the North Atlantic Destroyer Squadron which had its home port at the Newport Naval base until the 1970s. Despite the loss of the fleet, the Navy is still the largest employer in the area, bringing many industry and service businesses

The Naval War College (NWC or NAVWARCOL) and Museum is the **staff college** and "Home of Thought" for the **United States Navy** at **Naval Station Newport** in **Newport, Rhode Island**.^[1] The NWC educates and develops leaders, supports defining the future Navy and associated roles and missions, supports combat readiness, and strengthens global maritime partnerships.

The Naval War College is one of the senior service colleges including the **Army War College**, the **Marine Corps War College**, and the **Air War College**. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Defense operates the **National War College**.

Beavertail Point Lighthouse The lighthouse established in 1749 at Beavertail Point, at the southern tip of Conanicut Island, was the granddaddy of all Rhode Island lighthouses and the third oldest in the U.S. - after Boston Harbor and Nantucket's Brant Point - in the American colonies.

Notice: The new web site is partially up and running. The last 4 Flag Hoist are already posted there. Check it out, and there is more to come.

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



Ship's Ball Cap: High quality caps with the McCard profile (Before Fram and After Fram available). The hats are adjustable "one size fits all." Cost is \$20.00 includes shipping. **New members** receive one Ship's Ball Cap Free.

Ship's Patch: This official patch measures 3 1/2" x 3 7/8" and is the same high quality as ships patches made for today's Navy. Ideal for sewing on a jacket, sweatshirt, t shirt, etc. Cost is \$3.00 plus mailing.



Ship's Patch and Ball Cap Order Form

Please send me _____ **McCard ship patch** at \$3.00 each + shipping

(1 Patch \$3.00+.49 Shipping, 2 Patches \$6.00+.70 Shipping, 3 Patches \$9.00+.91 Shipping)

Please send me _____ (Before Fram) **McCard Ship Ball Cap** at \$20.00 each.

Please send me _____ (After Fram) **McCard Ship Ball Cap** at \$20.00 each.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send check Payable to "Robert H. McCard Association" with correct amount to: Glenn Anderson, 113 Kemar Drive, Butler, PA 16002



USS Robert H McCard Association
C/O Ron Perceful
2913 Woodcreek Rd.
Midwest City, OK 73110