



# LAFFEY NEWS

*Dedicated to those who served in battle and those who pre-served in peace.*



USS LAFFEY, DD724 & DD459  
THE SHIP THAT WOULD NOT DIE

"I'll never abandon ship as long as a gun will fire"  
—F. Julian Becton, CO

Spring 2023

USS Laffey Association [www.laffey.org](http://www.laffey.org)

## President's Message



Before you begin to read this newsletter, please grab a cup of Joe or your favorite adult beverage because we have a lot to tell you about

what has been going on with our ship! I would like to begin with a number of news items, then I will tell you about our recent work party accomplishments.

I want each of you to know that your Association Officers are working together diligently towards the common goal of keeping our Association, and our ship, going for many years into the future. Our VP, Jim, is a workhorse at our work parties and is doing an outstanding job keeping corrosion at bay, with the help of former VP, Mike. Corrosion, and specifically keeping water out of the interior of the Laffey, is our highest priority mission. George keeps tight books as our Treasurer- you can feel confident that our money is being carefully watched. Recently joining our team,

as our new secretary, is Jill Vorgity, who has been a tremendous help to me with administrative and logistical issues, as well as supplementing the website team. Jill Vorgity's assistance to us leaves our former Secretary, and current Reunion Coordinator, Jill Michel, to concentrate on the many aspects of putting together our reunions, with which she does a wonderful job. Joyce, as our new Membership Chairperson, has been a big help to me by expanding and improving our membership database. Richard, along with help from Jeff and Jill, puts in a tremendous number of hours to build and maintain our website. Unfortunately, Richard needs to reduce his pace, so we have been trying to recruit, to no avail, a new webmaster. If we have missed any potential replacement webmasters, please do let Richard or me know. In the absence of a volunteer, we will hire a webmaster and already have a couple of potential excellent candidates. As

you can see, Pam does a great job keeping us all connected via our newsletter. Speaking of our newsletter, I want to let you know that we have decided to reduce the number of annual newsletters to only two, rather than quarterly as we have been doing. Since much of our news stems from our work parties, we will publish one newsletter just after our Fall work party, then a second one just after the Winter and Spring work parties. In recent years our annual cost to publish and mail hard copy newsletters has cost us about the same (\$1,000 +/-) as it does to feed an entire work party. Because your officers feel that our money is better spent on work parties, beginning in 2024, we will only mail hardcopy newsletters to former Laffey crewmembers. All other members of the Association will only receive newsletters via email or our website. Please keep your email address current by sending your info to [membership@laffey.org](mailto:membership@laffey.org), or

call or text Joyce Hanau, Membership Chairperson, at 347-439-2452.

Let's talk about money. This January I visited Tin Can Sailors DesRon 3 (TinCanSailorsOfGooseCreek.org) for their monthly meeting in Goose Creek, just outside of Charleston. I spent 10 minutes speaking to the group about our efforts on the Laffey. When I finished, a DesRon 3 member stood up and proposed that they write us a check for \$1,000. It went to a vote and passed unanimously! Next, with the assistance of Jeff Jacobs, during the Spring work party, I met President Phyllis Sheffer, of the Patriots Point Foundation (PatriotsPointFoundation.org), which is one of two foundations that specifically fund programs at Patriots Point. Phyllis then spent several hours aboard the Laffey to see what we have accomplished and listened to a 1-hour briefing in the CPO Lounge by the new Patriots Point Director of Collections and Curatorial Affairs, describing her vision for the direction of the Laffey over the next few years. Phyllis took her Laffey experience, along with my written request for funding support, to a Foundation meeting a couple of weeks ago. Afterwards, she was very pleased to let me know that their Board of Directors has approved a \$5,000 donation to our Association,

which they will present to us at our Fall work party.

Patriots Point has a group of about 130 volunteers who serve as guides. This group recently asked, and we agreed, to sell them our "USS Laffey DD724" banners that we have historically hung on the gangway during work parties. The banners will now hang year-round and will be maintained by the local volunteers. Dave Bossard has previously negotiated substantial discounts for our gatherings with the Comfort Suites right down the road from Patriots Point. Recently the Comfort Inn agreed to provide these same deeply discounted rates to our members year-round. Details are posted to our website [FreeStuff](https://www.laffey.org/HomePage/LaffeyAssociationDiscounts-FreeStuff.pdf) (see <https://www.laffey.org/HomePage/LaffeyAssociationDiscounts-FreeStuff.pdf>). For those who serve at our work parties, you may not have realized that having your Patriots Point security badge not only allows you free access to Patriots Point year-round, but also gives you free access to nearly 50 tourist activities in the greater Charleston area. The "Reciprocity List" showing these 50 places will also soon be posted to our website, along with information on how all Laffey Association members can obtain free admission to Patriots Point, which we provided in our last newsletter. Dave and Mary

Bossard recently shut down their shop that used to provide our work party T-shirts, but Dave has helped us transition to a new provider with similar excellent quality products. Secretary Jill set us up with a new vendor and handled our first order, which turned out perfect. The new shirts, and sweatshirts (good for Winter work parties) are fluorescent green. They will be given and sold to work party crewmembers in accordance with this policy: If you do not have four serviceable work party T-shirts, we will issue you one free at each work party, until you do have four serviceable T-shirts. During any work party you may purchase unlimited additional T-shirts for \$10 each, or sweatshirts for \$20 each.

Over the last year two specific areas were refurbished with joint efforts from a Patriots Point volunteer and Laffey work party crewmembers: The Signal Bridge and the Wardroom Pantry. John Hudak has recently completed ten years of constructing walkways, stairs and handrails in the Aft Boiler Room. Just after the Spring Work party, John and I joined several key Patriots Point folks for a 3-hour evaluation and planning meeting in the Aft Boiler Room. We have now mapped out a written plan to move forward towards opening that area to the

public, possibly within a year or so. I am currently working on a written plan to refurbish the Gun Director, located just forward of the Signal Bridge. I have three local volunteers committed to helping us with this, two of whom were radar operators in the gun director, on other destroyers. I am also working on a written plan to refurbish, and open to the public, the aft crew head (for viewing purposes only). This is a project that we have already begun some electrical and plumbing work on, during the last three work parties. We could really use some new members at our work parties to help with these three big projects, along with chipping away at the long list of miscellaneous ongoing repairs that we have, so please email me if you would like to join us.

Both our Winter and our Spring Work parties did accomplish mountains of work. In both cases, we had several folks arrive Friday night, then begin work early Saturday morning, so we had seven good workdays with cooperative weather 98% of the time. The Winter Work party was seven men strong, then we topped out with twenty men and women in the Spring. Since the specifics are too numerous to list here, I will just hit the highlights. Please take a look at our website to see the many

work party pictures posted there.

#### Winter Work party:

We cut, transported, welded, then installed a stainless-steel galley sink and counter, salvaged from the Yorktown, into the Laffey Wardroom Pantry. We cut out the upper metal panel on the Wardroom Pantry door, then replaced it with Plexiglass. This heavy-lift work supported ongoing efforts by PP volunteer Bill Casassa to fully restore the Wardroom Pantry. We provided logistical support and supplies for PP volunteer Frank Shorter to scrape, then paint passageway walls by the radio and radar rooms, torpedo deck level, port side. We intend to continue to build partnerships like these with local Charleston residents who already volunteer at Patriots Point as guides, but who also have a desire to put some sweat equity into the Laffey. During heavy rains, we marked water leak pathways into the interior of the Laffey as a first step towards future repairs to stop leaks. We installed PVC drainpipes & repaired scuppers on upper exterior decks and repaired (cut, ground, welded plates, painted) holes in the lower few inches of the superstructure, just above the outer main deck. We repaired (sheet metal, caulk & paint) the Signal Bridge port door to stop significant rainwater from entering the

Signal Bridge, then installed a canvas bunk in the Signal Bridge to reflect the proper historical configuration of that room. We installed a non-functional urinal and repaired several light fixtures in the aft crew head, main deck, which is a room that we intend to open to the public in the coming year. Our crew swept and vacuumed a number of passageways and rooms throughout the tourist-access areas and made extensive repairs to a bulkhead hatch door. The following improvements were made to our Chiefs Quarters, where our work party crewmembers live: Repaired/ modified A/C duct work, vents and filters. Installed a urinal (salvaged from the Yorktown) in our berthing space. Installed several combo-lock key storage boxes and began efforts to mark all locks and keys in concert with PP's lock/key system. All Laffey keys will now be stored on board the Laffey.

#### Spring Work party:

We prepped, then painted a large portion of the main deck, all three gun mounts, their barrels and hardware, as well as the deck under gun mount 52. This was a huge undertaking! We painted red all firehose racks on the exterior deck, then added canvas firehoses and secured them into place. We painted blue all freshwater deck

hardware. Efforts to repair holes in the lower few inches of superstructure, just above the outer main deck, were continued. That involved grinding away rusty steel to find good metal, then welding on a steel patch, then priming and painting the area. We built a replacement step on the port bridge wing, further addressed the leaking port door on the Signal Bridge and repaired a Bridge doorknob. We repaired a number of light fixtures throughout the ship, particularly in the crew's mess. We welded two plates on the Gun Mount 52 deck that were leaking down to the main deck, refurbished hardware on several deck hatches, and repaired scuppers & drains on upper exterior decks. We made the following improvements to the Chiefs Quarters: Our CPO lounge bench seating and the Captain's chair on the Bridge were upholstered by volunteers Vanessa & Bill Umbel, kin to John Hudak, who drove up from Florida (see pictures later in the newsletter). Although the Captain's chair had been reupholstered only two years ago, unfortunately, tourist traffic had already

damaged it. A very unique lock was created to allow one-way access to the crew's mess from the CPO Quarters via the Plexiglass door. The functionality of A/C ducts and vents in our aft berthing space was improved. All bunks, individual storage lockers, community storage lockers, and loose personal gear were inventoried and labeled. Owners are being contacted to determine their intentions to return to future work parties. The new urinal in our aft berthing space was made fully functional. The week before the work party began, I escorted a contractor to repair our washing machine. The concrete floor and ceiling insulation were repaired in our forward head. A fan was installed in the exhaust vent duct to better evacuate air from our galley.

- Mike Honsinger

### Upcoming Association Events

**2023 Reunion in Atlantic City, NJ** – Sun, Sept 10 (Arrival reception) – Wed, Sept 13 (Final Dinner),

Sept 14 Departure.  
Contact Jill Michel for more information.  
reunions@laffey.org

**Open House for USS Mansfield DD728 Reunion**  
– Friday, October 20

**2023 Fall Work Party** –  
Thurs-Sat, Oct 19-28

**2024 Winter Work Party** –  
TBD, Late January/Early February

**2024 Spring Work Party** –  
TBD, Late March/Early April

### Current News

#### USS Laffey Association Reunion

September 10 thru  
September 13th (leaving on  
14th) in Atlantic City, New  
Jersey



[Resorts Casino Hotel](https://resortscas.com)  
<https://resortscas.com>

1133 Boardwalk, Atlantic  
City, NJ 08401

**From Jill Michel Reunions Coordinator:**

Are you ready for some Fun in the Sun & hopefully some Good Luck with the one-armed bandits?

This year the USS Laffey Reunion will be held in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The home of the first Boardwalk, and where the Miss America Parade and Pageant were held for 85 years. We have rooms reserved at Resorts AC Casino & Hotel.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling 1(609) 340-6760: Code: VLAFF23. Room rate is \$79/night (with resort fees & taxes will end up being approximately \$125/night). If you arrive early or plan to stay later, Thursday would be the same cost. Friday \$179; Saturday \$269 (before fees & taxes). Resorts was the first Casino opened in Atlantic City in 1978 and YES it has been renovated since then. The hotel is located on the Boardwalk, next to Hard Rock Casino and Steel Pier which was once the home of the Diving Horse.

Getting to Atlantic City: If you are flying into the area, Spirit Airlines flies into the Atlantic City Airport. If you fly into another airport, Philadelphia is the next closest international airport which is a little over an hour away. If you aren't planning on renting a vehicle, we can try to coordinate your arrival with others that have vehicles in the area. Parking fee at the Hotel is \$10/stay. On your ride to the hotel, check out the street names and see how many you remember from all of those long hours of playing Monopoly.

We will be going out on a Sight Seeing Cruise along the coast and hold our Memorial Service onboard. The next day we will be going to Historic Smithville and having lunch in the Rustic Smithville Inn. You will have some time to browse through the Shops, Winery and picturesque lake. Wednesday morning, Board & General Meetings followed that evening by Farewell Dinner.

Reunion Dates: September 10th through September 13th. (leaving on 14th) September 10th at 5pm, the Hospitality Room will open for Registration.

Place: Resorts AC Casino & Hotel, 1133 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ

Cost: \$200/per Person

Make Check Payable: USS Laffey Association & Send to: George Kessler, 9686 Baughman Road, Harrison, Ohio 45030. You may also pay using PayPal. Click on the PayPal icon on the USS Laffey home page [www.laffey.org](http://www.laffey.org). Be sure to include your name and the words "2023 Reunion".

Please email or text: [jill.michel@comcast.net](mailto:jill.michel@comcast.net); or [reunions@laffey.org](mailto:reunions@laffey.org); 609-870-0600 Cell Phone

Note: The method you send the Registration Information is how you will receive your Confirmation.

Upon receiving Registration Information, a return email or text will be sent stating "It has been Received"; after confirmation that payment was received, you will get another email or text stating "Payment & Registration has been received."

Any questions, please feel free to email, call or text.

Jill Michel : [jill.michel@comcast.net](mailto:jill.michel@comcast.net); or [reunions@laffey.org](mailto:reunions@laffey.org); 609-870-0600

We will need the following information:

## 2023 USS LAFFEY REUNION REGISTRATION

Reunion Dates: September 10-13, Atlantic City, New Jersey

Cost: \$200 per person (regardless of activities attended). Send reunion registration form and payment (check payable to USS Laffey Association) to: George Kessler, 9686 Baughman Road, Harrison, OH 45030.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Number and name of persons attending \_\_\_\_\_

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

What years did you serve on the USS Laffey? \_\_\_\_\_ What was your rank/rate? \_\_\_\_\_

What day do you expect to arrive? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you have a car at the hotel during your stay \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to try to coordinate transportation to Resorts from Airport? \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name and number (not traveling with you) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs / Food Allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Join us at a Work Party!**

Typically, we have three work parties aboard ship each year: Fall, Winter, and Spring. All work party crewmembers must be USS Laffey Association members and be at least 18 years of age. Bunks, hearty meals, parking, and access to Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum are all provided free of charge. There are 28 male-only bunks on the Laffey. We spend a good deal of time repairing corroded areas with new metal and paint. In addition, we fix electrical and plumbing issues, as well as improve and maintain the museum displays aboard the ship. Work parties provide a meaningful experience preserving history, are a great opportunity to see the many ship compartments which are typically closed to the public and provide an opportunity to meet visitors to the ship. Often multiple Association family members attend together to create a working vacation.

If you have an interest in helping us out during the upcoming Fall Work Party (20-28 Oct), please email Mike by late September at [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org). Jim and I have collected an extensive list of projects that we would all like to see addressed in the coming years. For each project, it is my goal to do our best to anticipate the manpower, tools, supplies, permits and financing required so that when our crews show up, we can put everyone to work and keep you busy while you give of your time, energy, and finances to join us. If you can attend a work party, please do your best to commit to specific dates when you will be aboard to eat, sleep and work, then email those commitments to me at least a week prior to the work party. Thank you for all the work so many of you have put in over the years to preserve the USS Laffey for America's citizens.

### **Board of Directors changes.**

At our October 2022 Board of Directors and General Meeting, Director Francis LaSala resigned, then Mike Pereira was voted in as a new Director. The USS Laffey Association would like to thank Francis for his service to our Association and his dedication to our cause. Additionally, we would like to thank Mike for his willingness to continue to serve us in his new role as Director, and for continuing to be our Corrosion Control Subject Matter Expert. Thank you, Gentlemen!

### **2023 Remembrance Ceremony**

At the 2023 Spring Work Party we held the Remembrance Ceremony for 32 men who died on 16

April 1945. USS Laffey Association President Mike Honsinger led the ceremony on the fantail of the ship with a prayer and a recognition of each man who died. Gary Barylski rang the bell for each man. Gary and Jill Vorgity solemnly threw the memorial floral wreath overboard. Many thanks to Mike, Gary, Jill, and all of us for honoring these brave men and all who fought for the ship, their shipmates, and the country.



Mike Honsinger, Gary Barylski, Jill Vorgity and Marc Maresca

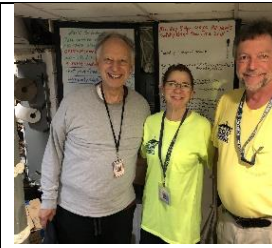
### **2023 Spring Work Party**

Thanks to the participants of the work party including:

Hank Ashton, Tom Aust, Jim Berg & Joe Reyes, Gary Barylski, Jim Bossard & Rachael Kendrick, Steve "Ernie" Doyle & Harry Stoner, Richard Felsing, Bill Fitzsimmons, Mike Honsinger, John Hudak, Peter Liller, Joe Luque & David Cook, Marcus Maresca, Mike Pereira, Max Saus, Frank Shorter, Jill Vorgity & husband Bruce Lampe, Donny Watson

Highlights for this work party include, but not limited to maintenance and restoration for Laffey's watertight integrity. Scraped, grinded, and wire brushed, primed, painted all three Gun Mounts and outer two-feet of the main deck. Spot corrosion removal in many areas.

Visitors to the ship expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the work party efforts.



Richard Felsinger,  
Jill Vorgity, and  
Mike Honsinger



John Hudak and Joe Luque in  
Aft Boiler Room



Ernie Doyle and  
Harry Stoner  
welding



Tom Aust and son-in-law Jim  
Berg prepping Gun Mount 52



David Cook (Joe  
Luque's stepson)  
prepping the deck  
for resurfacing



Pete Liller and Rachel  
Kendrick painting Mount 51



Joe Reyes (up top)  
and Don Masch  
prepping Mount 52

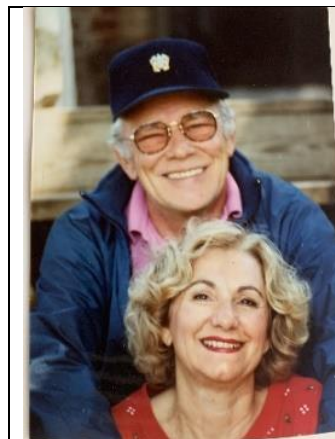


Rachel Kendrick, Pete Liller  
and Mike Honsinger

**Welcome New Association Secretary Jill Vorgity**

From Mike Honsinger "With the approval of the Association Board of Directors, Jill Vorgity is the new Association Secretary. Jill's email is [secretary@laffey.org](mailto:secretary@laffey.org).

Jill follows in the tradition of many previous secretaries since her father Don Vorgity was a USS Laffey crew member 1952-1956 and Past President of the USS Laffey Association 1987 - 1991. Past secretaries include Gemma McKlukie (father Jim Spriggs WWII), Jill Michel (Father John Michel WWII) and Hilary Becton Wagner (father Admiral Becton WWII). We greatly appreciate the service of Jill, her husband Bruce Lampe, and son Donald Lampe-Vorgity for the USS Laffey Association."



Jill's Parents Don and  
Nina Vorgity



Bruce Lampe, Jill  
Vorgity, Donald Lampe-  
Vorgity



## Open House aboard the Laffey for USS Mansfield DD728 Reunion

The day before we kick off our Fall Work Party, our Association is going to host a reunion for the [USS Mansfield Association](http://www.ussmansfield.com) (www.ussmansfield.com ) on Friday, 20 October 2023. It is your President's vision that this will be the first of many such opportunities for our former crewmembers to have fun sharing their many years of hard work preserving the Laffey with the former crewmembers of other Sumner ships. There were 58 Sumner class destroyers built and another 12 were built as destroyer minelayers. The Laffey is the only surviving ship in the U.S. of the 70, and is seemingly the only one in the world (29 of them were sold to other navies, where they served many more years). So, hosting reunions for sister ships is a great opportunity to not only share what we have built, but also to recruit some new support for maintaining and improving the Laffey. Mansfield crewmembers will arrive mid-morning to spend the day aboard the Laffey. Our Fall Work Party crewmembers will have the opportunity to show the Mansfield folks not only what we have created on the Laffey so far, but also the areas of the ship that we occupy and what we are improving for the public to enjoy in the future. Lunch together in the crew's mess area will give both groups a chance to get to know each other better. The afternoon will wind down with cold drinks and appetizers in the Chiefs Lounge.

## Taps for Fallen Shipmates



## [TapsToHonorFallenShipmates](http://www.laffey.org/Shipmates/TapsToHonorFallenShipmates.pdf)

(www.laffey.org/Shipmates/TapsToHonorFallenShipmates.pdf)



**David Eugene Clark** passed away on March 16th, 2023. , Dave was a Navy Veteran, serving in the Korean War on destroyers; his final assignment was Quartermaster Second Class on the USS Laffey.

## [DavidClark](https://ompsfuneralhome.com/obituary/david-eugene-clark/)

(<https://ompsfuneralhome.com/obituary/david-eugene-clark/>)

**Michael J. Courtney** of Appleton, WI Passing (1938 – 2023) From Sonny Walker “I am deeply sorry to inform you all that we have lost another of my shipmates. Actually he was all of our shipmates but to our RM Gang in the early 60s he was a brother. Mike and I were really good friends. I was the first and only guy Mike ever put on report when he made Third Class RM. We were called to the Ops Officer's stateroom and he chewed both of us out. He didn't even remember after 40 years that he wrote me up. Lt. Robison tore the chit up and put it in the trash and told us to shake and get the hell out of his office.

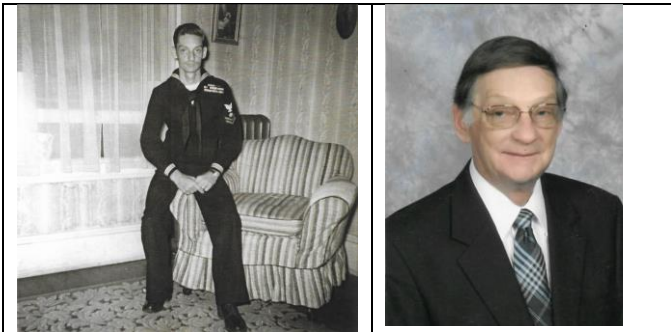


We went on leave for a few days and went to Rome along with Ray Lippi and Murph Kilpatrick. He started a business with his kids and made and sold "Mike's Pop Corn" It really took off. Cher and I saw it in a store in Maryland. Goodbye to my friend and shipmate.” See [MichaelCourtney](https://www.wichmannfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/michael-courtney) (<https://www.wichmannfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/michael-courtney>)

**Gayron L Ferguson(Fergie) MM2**  
 Passed on January 11, 2023 at age 74. From Ken Rohloff, “He served on Laffey in the #2 engine room in the late 60's early 70's.”  
 Obituary:  
[GayronFerguson](https://www.ratterman.com/obituaries/Gayron-Ferguson/#!/Obituary)  
 (https://www.ratterman.com/obituaries/Gayron-Ferguson/#!/Obituary)



**Calvin C. Sweeney BTG2**



From Greg Sweeney “It is with sadness I report the passing of my father Calvin C. Sweeney on April 17th 2023. He served 1953 to 1957, mostly on the Laffey as a boilerman, BTG2, petty officer 2nd class. We visited the Laffey several times, and even had his 79th birthday party there. What a great memory that was.”

**Chief’s Quarter Improvements**



<p>Vanessa Umbel sewing covers for the Chief’s quarters bench seats</p>	<p>The finished product! Looks great, Vanessa!</p>
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**Access to Locked Chiefs Quarters**

We now have a lockbox bolted to the wall just outside our galley. In it is a tethered key to access the galley, where the rest of our keys are in another combo lockbox. We limit the distribution of these combinations to limit the number of folks with access to the Chiefs Quarters, outside of work party timeframes. If you require access to the Chiefs Quarters, please call President Mike (281-923-4969) or VP Jim (484-824-1117) to obtain the lock combination(s).

**Update Your Contact Information**

We would like to begin adding cell phone numbers to our membership database, particularly if you will be attending any of our work parties. You can check the accuracy of most of the data we have on file for you by taking a look at **LaffeyRoster25May2023.pdf** emailed to all members along with this newsletter. To provide corrections, verify your home phone or email address on file, or to add your cell phone, please contact Joyce Hanau at [membership@laffey.org](mailto:membership@laffey.org) or 347-439-2452.

**Annual Dues Reminder from Membership Chairperson Joyce Hanau.**

**GREETINGS FROM JOYCE HANAU, YOUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON**

Hello, I have recently accepted the position of Membership Chairperson and I am happy to join the Association to help with all membership matters.

Mike Honsinger and I have been working to update our roster to improve communication throughout the organization. You may recall we recently requested all members to review their information on the roster and advise of any changes or updates. I have received many responses and your cooperation is really appreciated. In case you haven’t gotten around to reviewing your info, please do so as soon as possible so I may keep our records up to date.

And now the friendly reminder....

Annual dues are payable the 1st of each year. There are quite a few members that have not paid their dues for a year or two. These funds are essential to our operation, please send your dues promptly.

You may mail your check to: Joyce Hanau 1956 Lincoln Avenue East Meadow, NY 11554 347-439-2452 email [membership@laffey.org](mailto:membership@laffey.org)

You may also pay using PayPal. Click on the PayPal icon on the USS Laffey home page [www.laffey.org](http://www.laffey.org). Be sure to include your name and the words "Annual Dues".

Annual members (renews every January 1st regardless of when you join): \$25/year. Life membership (one-time payment): 55 years old and younger \$375; 56 to 60 \$250; 61 to 64 \$225; 65 and older \$125

Thanks! Joyce

**New Membership Cards**

Our Membership Chairperson, Joyce Hanau, has sent new membership cards for all renewals through January 2024. If you have not received yours yet, please contact Joyce at [membership@laffey.org](mailto:membership@laffey.org) or 347-439-2452.

**1st Quarter 2023 Donations from Treasurer George Kessler**

All donations are greatly appreciated. Anyone wishing to make a donation, should make the check payable to the USS Laffey Association and mail to  
 George Kessler  
 9686 Baughman Rd  
 Harrison, Ohio 45030

You may also make a donation on PayPal. On the [Laffey homepage](http://www.laffey.org) ([www.laffey.org](http://www.laffey.org)), tap on the PayPal icon at the bottom of the page. Enter the donation amount and comments, e.g. In Memory of.....

**Memorial Donations:**

In Memory of Karl Bussert  
 Mark Kersey (Grandson) -----\$1000.00

**General Donations:**

Russell Villerot -----\$ 300.00  
 Harry Stoner -----\$ 10.00  
 Julian Winston -----\$ 25.00  
 Tin Can Sailors Goose Creek -----\$1000.00

**Work Party Donations:**

Vernon & Mary Honsinger -----\$ 200.00

Julian Winston -----\$ 100.00  
 Gary & Pam Barylski -----\$ 100.00  
 Henry Brooks -----\$ 50.00

**Banners for Ship:**

Patriots Point Volunteers-----\$ 250.00

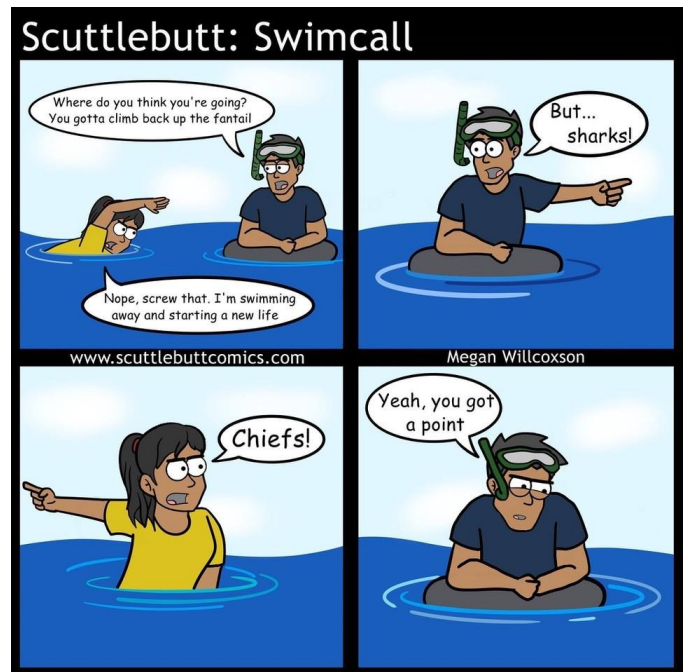
**USS Laffey Website** [www.laffey.org](http://www.laffey.org)

Send inputs to Richard Felsing  
[webmaster@laffey.org](mailto:webmaster@laffey.org)  
 843-367-2208.

**Laffey News**

Send inputs or comments to Pam Barylski Newsletter Editor [newsletter@laffey.org](mailto:newsletter@laffey.org)

Currently we are publishing the Laffey News on the website [Laffey homepage](http://www.laffey.org) ([www.laffey.org](http://www.laffey.org)). Tap on Laffey News at the bottom of the page.



USS Laffey DD724 Association  
Pamela Barylski, Editor  
1476 Remsing Street  
Hartland, MI 48353

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