

# USS Laffey Association Work Parties and Reunion

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## Upcoming Association Events

**2024 Spring Work Party** – Friday, April 12, 2024 – Saturday April 20, 2024.

**2024 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** – The USS Laffey was commissioned on February 8, 1944. In celebration of this, there will be an event during the Spring Work Party, which also falls on the anniversary of the April 16, 1945 battle.

**2024 Fall Reunion** in Mt Pleasant, SC – September 22-25

**2024 Fall Work Party** dates to be announced.

# **Attending USS Laffey Work Party**

From Association President Mike Honsinger:

Typically we have 3 work parties aboard ship each year, Fall, Winter, and Spring. All work party members must be USS Laffey Association members. Work party members must be 18 years old or over. Bunks, meals, parking and access to Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum are provided free of charge. There are 28 bunks on the Laffey. Berthing for ladies is not available on the Laffey. All meals are served.

We do steel repairs/additions and painting primarily, as well as electrical and plumbing work, in addition to maintaining the museum displays aboard the ship. The work party is a great time to see many ship compartments which are typically closed to the public. The work party provides a meaningful experience preserving history and meeting visitors to the ship. Sometimes multiple family members

attend. Contact Mike Honsinger  
[President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) 281-923-4969 for  
information.

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

From Association President Mike Honsinger:  
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 (19-28 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.

Mike Honsinger  
President, USS Laffey Association  
President@Laffey.org  
MikeHonsinger@SBCGlobal.net  
281-923-4969

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

From Mike Honsinger President USS Laffey Association The Plan



If you are attending the work party, please ensure I have been notified [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) 281-923-4969.

You might have some of these items sitting around your home

that we could use on board that would help reduce our costs to put on Workparties. If you do, please bring these items with you:

Bath towels and hand towels.

Clean rags.

Paper/plastic: towels, napkins, plates, bowls, tableware, cups

Cleaning solutions of all kinds.

Cleaning supplies: sponges, buckets, scrub brushes, 3M pads

Shop supplies: Sandpaper, steel wool, extension cords, work gloves, paint brushes, any other expendable shop supplies you have lying around.

Food in cans or jars

At the beginning of each work day at 8AM, as we are finishing up breakfast, we will have a short briefing to lay out the plan for the day. Coffee will be ready at 7AM and breakfast will begin around 7:30 - 7:45. At the end of the day, at 5PM-ish, we will have a "hotwash" debrief- reviewing what was done that day and letting Jim & I know what you need for the following day. We will do this each day, so please do your best to be present for these so we can all communicate most effectively. If you do not have a "new" ID badge, issued within the last three years, I will get you lined up to have one issued on Monday morning.

**2023 Fall Workparty from 19-28 October.** If you have not received another workparty email on 2 Oct, then our President does not have you on his "Frequent Workers" list. If you plan to join us this month, or if you would like to be added to the "Frequent Worker" email

distribution list (where you will receive multiple emails during the weeks leading up to a workparty, rather than just a single email), please let President Mike Honsinger know ( [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) ) so he can add you to that list. The "Frequent Workers" emails will include our current attendance count for the upcoming workparty, indicating your ability to attend. This attendance count is very helpful for meal and bunk space planning as it lists what dates you will be onboard to work and shows whether you will be staying on the Laffey, in a RV at Patriots Point, or in a hotel.

See Presidents [Messages](#)

[www.laffey.org/PresidentsMessages.pdf](http://www.laffey.org/PresidentsMessages.pdf)

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