Kansas City....The tours great, the accommodations, above average, hotel staff, gracious, and the company (Shipmates and their guests) were as usual, the best!

Time to start thinking about next Reunion.
Jacksonville, Florida September 2019
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in time of war or peace

### Navy News

**ACU 4 Assault Craft Unit (Air Cushioned)**

![Image](https://example.com/image.jpg)

**ATLANTIC OCEAN (Oct. 3, 2018)**


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**Additional Important Positions**

**Immediate Past President**
Ray Zall
zallrite@earthlink.net

**Legal Advisor**
Don King

**Legal Advisor**
Don King

**Ships Store**
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**Webmaster**
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**Chaplain**
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**Secretary**
Dennis Smith

**Treasurer/ Membership**
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707-857-3522

**Directors 2016-2018**
George Betts
Dan Moffett
Al Sedler

**Directors 2017-2019**
Gary Davies
Bob Halas
Don Waggoner

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**Master at arms**
Dan Moffett

**Historian**
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**Elections**
Ray Zall
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**Reunion Chair**
Dave Long
davidlong1944@msn.com
Fellow shipmates:

By all accounts, it would seem that the 2018 reunion was quite a success. I received some good feedback on the tours as well as the hotel and the staff. And above all, it was an opportunity to remember. To re-kindled friendships, to visit with shipmates who haven’t been able to attend past reunions, and to welcome those who made their first reunion this year. We were also able to meet some of the hotel staff, who themselves are veterans. Personally, I would like to return to Kansas City to see more of the city itself and to experience more of the local food. But that’s another trip.

Over the next few weeks, I will be looking at Jacksonville Florida for our next reunion. Jacksonville does have some things to offer. Mostly, the Mayport Naval Station. I will be looking into the possibility of getting a tour bus on to the base and hopefully a guide, which many bases insist on having. At this point, I have sent out requests for quotes on hotels as well as tour companies and hope to be getting a response from them soon. And as mentioned in the last membership meeting, with Jacksonville being in 2019, the suggestion that the 2020 reunion be held in San Diego since it will be the 50th anniversary of the ship’s decommissioning.

On October 8th, the Navy announced that the newest LCS to be added to the fleet will be the USS Cleveland. Dedicated to a city that is familiar with military service and sacrifice. Those of us who live in northern Ohio feel a sense of pride. In other announcements from the Navy, there is a proposal to add 43 new ships to the fleet over the next 4 years. Problem is that there could be a requirement of 35,000 sailors to man these new ships, but projected manpower levels adds only 17,000 new sailors. Further, the Navy wants to expand the amphibious assault ships, or LPD-17 to bring them to a total of 38 ships, while phasing out the LSDs. Anyone want to re-enlist?

Secretary Dennis Smith is working on completing the minutes of the membership meeting and when finished, everything will be posted on the website for either reading or downloading. For those who receive the Masthead by U.S. Mail, you can contact me or Dennis Smith, or any officer or board member, or any other name on the list and request the minutes. We will gladly mail a copy to you.

And once again, another hurricane is bearing down on the southeast US. Our thoughts will be with those who live in or near the path of this storm.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a Happy Halloween, and a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Yours, In service,

Dave Long
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served aboard these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in times of war or peace

From your Membership Secretary -

If for any reason you change your contact info - your physical address, email or phone number - be sure to let me know - either via email or USPS mail!! My addresses are here in the Masthead. Having your current contact information is important, if for no other reason than receiving the Masthead.

When making a payment to the Association, whether dues, Ships Store or other, be sure to make your check out to the USS Mt. McKinley Association, not me.

I am still receiving inquiries and applications about and for membership in the Association. If you come in contact with any former shipmate or crew member of any other AGC, whom you find out is not an Association member, tell him about the Association and ask him to go to the website and fill out an application. Or give him my email or USPS mail address and ask him to contact me directly.

It's "Reach-Out" time for each of you! I would encourage each of you to contact any of your pals when you were on the "Mount Mac". You can obtain his contact info either via the Mount Mac website or by contacting me. It's very interesting to converse with a former shipmate. You may very well "make his day" and the contact will be much appreciated.

After a great Reunion in Kansas City I can only encourage you to make plans to attend the reunion in Jacksonville next year!!

Wes Brubacher, Mt Mac '60-'61

Important Notification
History of the United States Navy

The history of the United States Navy divides into two major periods: the "Old Navy", a small but respected force of sailing ships that was also notable for innovation in the use of ironclads during the American Civil War, and the "New Navy", the result of a modernization effort that began in the 1880s and made it the largest in the world by the 1920s.

The United States Navy claims 13 October 1775 as the date of its official establishment, when the Second Continental Congress passed a resolution creating the Continental Navy. With the end of the American Revolutionary War, the Continental Navy was disbanded. Under first President George Washington threats to American merchant shipping by Barbary pirates from four North African Muslim States, in the Mediterranean, led to the Naval Act of 1794, which created a permanent standing U.S. Navy. The original six frigates were authorized as part of the Act. Over the next 20 years, the Navy fought the French Republic Navy in the Quasi-War (1798–99), Barbary states in the First and Second Barbary Wars, and the British in the War of 1812. After the War of 1812, the U.S. Navy was at peace until the Mexican–American War in 1846, and served to combat piracy in the Mediterranean and Caribbean seas, as well fighting the slave trade off the coast of West Africa. In 1845, the Naval Academy was founded at old Fort Severn at Annapolis, Maryland by the Chesapeake Bay. In 1861, the American Civil War began and the U.S. Navy fought the small Confederate States Navy with both sailing ships and new revolutionary ironclad ships while forming a blockade that shut down the Confederacy's civilian coastal shipping. After the Civil War, most of its ships were laid up in reserve, and by 1878, the Navy was just 6,000 men.

In 1882, the U.S. Navy consisted of many outdated ship designs. Over the next decade, Congress approved building multiple modern steel-hulled armored cruisers and battleships, and by around the start of the 20th century had moved from twelfth place in 1870 to fifth place in terms of numbers of ships. After winning two major battles during the 1898 Spanish–American War, the American Navy continued to build more ships, and by the end of World War I had more men and women in uniform than the British Royal Navy. The Washington Naval Conference of 1921 recognized the Navy as equal in capital ship size to the Royal Navy, and during the 1920s and 1930s, the Navy built several aircraft carriers and battleships. The Navy was drawn into World War II after the Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, and over the next four years fought many historic battles including the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Battle of Midway, multiple naval battles during the Guadalcanal Campaign, and the largest naval battle in history, the Battle of Leyte Gulf. Much of the Navy’s activity concerned the support of landings, not only with the "island-hopping" campaign in the Pacific, but also with the European landings. When the Japanese surrendered, a large flotilla entered Tokyo Bay to witness the formal ceremony conducted on the battleship Missouri, on which officials from the Japanese government signed the Japanese Instrument of Surrender. By the end of the war, the Navy had over 1,600 warships.

After World War II ended, the U.S. Navy entered the 45 year long Cold War and participated in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the First Persian Gulf War, and the Second Persian Gulf War / Iraq War. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1990-91, the Soviet Red Navy fell apart, which made the United States the world's undisputed naval superpower. Nuclear power and ballistic missile technology led to new ship propulsion and weapon systems, which were used in the Nimitz-class aircraft carriers and Ohio-class submarines. By 1978, the number of ships had dwindled to less than 400, many of which were from World War II, which prompted Ronald Reagan to institute a program for a modern, 600-ship Navy. Today, the United States is the world's undisputed naval superpower, with the ability to engage and project power in two simultaneous limited wars along separate fronts. In March 2007, the U.S. Navy reached its smallest fleet size, with 274 ships, since World War I. Former U.S. Navy admirals who head the U.S. Naval Institute have raised concerns about what they see as the ability to respond to 'aggressive moves by Iran and China.
This Newsletter is dedicated to all the men who served on these extraordinary ships in service to their country whether in times of war or peace.

Report for heavenly duty

No new members since 4/30/2018

Deceased Shipmate
Anthony 'Tony' J Kujawa

In February 1952, Tony joined the U.S. Navy and was stationed in San Diego during boot camp. He served during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953) and was stationed aboard the U.S.S. Mt. McKinley, U.S.S. Estes and U.S.S. Mt. Olympus, which were command and communications ships.

More Laughs

The Empire State Building...

Two men are drinking in a bar at the top of the Empire State Building. One turns to the other and says: "You know last week I discovered that if you jump from the top of this building-by the time you fall to the tenth floor, the winds around the building are so intense that they carry you around the building and back into the window."

The bartender just shakes his head in disapproval while wiping the bar.

The 2nd Man says: "What are you a nut? There is no way that could happen."

1st Man: "No it’s true let me prove it to you." So he gets up from the bar, jumps over the balcony, and careens to the street below. When he passes the tenth floor, the high wind whips him around the building and back into the tenth-floor window and he takes the elevator back up to the bar.

The 2nd Man tells him: "You know I saw that with my own eyes, but that must have been a one time fluke."

1st Man: "No, I’ll prove it again" and again he jumps and hurtles toward the street where the tenth-floor wind gently carries him around the building and into the window. Once upstairs he urges his fellow drinker to try it.

2nd Man: "Well what the hell, it works, I’ll try it." he jumps over the balcony, plunges downward, passes the eleventh, tenth, ninth, eighth floors... and hits the sidewalk with a ‘splat.’

Back upstairs the Bartender turns to the other drinker: "You know, Superman, you’re a real jerk when you’re drunk.

USS Mount McKinley Financial Statement as of September 2018

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“This Financial Statement is a summary of the activity of the Treasury of the Association. If anyone desires a complete detailed statement, contact the Treasurer directly”. Address information on page 2.

“The figures for the Ship’s Store sales and raffle at the reunion were not available. They should be available later this month and will included in the next Masthead Financial Report”

Thank you!
Forrest Gump Goes to Heaven...

The day finally arrived: Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven. He is met at the Pearly Gates by Saint Peter himself. The gates are closed, however, and Forest approaches the gatekeeper.

Saint Peter says, "Well, Forrest, it’s certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must inform you that the place is filling up fast, and we’ve been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The tests are fairly short, but you need to pass before you can get into Heaven."

Forrest responds, "It shore is good to be here Saint Peter. I was looking forward to this. Nobody ever told me about any entrance exams. Shore hope the test ain’t too hard; life was a big enough test as it was."

Saint Peter goes on, "Yes, I know Forrest. But, the test I have for you is only three questions. Here is the first: What days of the week begin with the letter ‘T’? Second, how many seconds are there in a year? Third, what is God’s first name?"

Forrest goes away to think the questions over. He returns the next day and goes up to Saint Peter to try to answer the exam questions.

Saint Peter waves him up and asks, "Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers."

Forrest says, "Well, the first one, How many days of the week begin with the letter ‘T’?" "Shucks, that one’s easy; that’d be Today and Tomorrow!"

The saint’s eyes open wide and he exclaims, "Forrest! That’s not what I was thinking, but ... you do have a point though, and I guess I didn’t specify, so I give you credit for that answer."

"How about the next one" says Saint Peter, "how many seconds in a year?"

"Now that one’s harder," says Forrest. "But, I thunk and thunk about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve."

Astounded, Saint Peter says, "Twelve! Twelve! Forrest, how in Heaven’s name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?"

Forrest says, "Shucks, there gotta be twelve: January second, February second, March second...."

"Hold it," interrupts Saint Peter. "I see where you’re going with it."

"And I guess I see your point, though that wasn’t quite what I had in mind. I’ll give you credit for that one too."

"Let’s go on with the next and final question," says Saint Peter, "Can you tell me God’s first name?"

Forest says, "Well shore, I know God’s first name. Everybody probly knows It’s Howard."

"Howard?" asks Saint Peter. "What makes you think it’s ‘Howard’?"

Forest answers, "It’s in the prayer."

"The prayer?" asks Saint Peter, "Which prayer?"

"The Lord’s Prayer," responds Forest: "Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Howard be thy name..."
USS Mt McKinley Association Our Purpose:
To Promote Patriotism and Camaraderie among those who served on board the USS Mt McKinley during that ship’s 25 years and 10 months active service to the U.S. Navy from May 1st 1944 to (commissioned) to March 26th 1970 (de-commissioned)

Kansas City, Missouri Reunion
Some Pictures, of good times!

Dave & Darlene Long with Syd-ney "Squid" Beckley, restaur-ant supervisor, at reunion

Historic marker, Ft. Leavenworth

Busload of happy Kansas Reunion attendees
Touring Kansas City

Bob and Mary Ruth Halas
Shipmates forever

Kansas City, Shipmates, good times.