



# YANCEY MEMORIES

## COORDINATORS MESSAGE

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. It has been a while since the last newsletter for many reasons but mostly because we are not getting any stories from you guys.

I was able to write several articles this month but I do not want to turn the newsletter into Clifton's Blog. I will always include a reunion recap, as long as we have reunions and I had a special day this year to write about. We really need stories from you about anything interesting.

As you will read, we are also getting low on funds. I am not including a separate page, which adds to the cost. I hope you all enjoy and support this newsletter and think about attending the reunion in Portland, Maine. I also have a new address: 6518 W. 126<sup>th</sup> Place, Palos Heights, IL 60463

George Clifton— [clifs@ameritech.net](mailto:clifs@ameritech.net)

We have not requested funds in almost three years but unfortunately, we are going to need to replenish our bank account soon. These funds are not used for the reunion expenses, but only for the newsletters and USS Yancey website expenses. Anything you can afford is appreciated.

Please make the check out to: Paul Dunn, our treasurer, and put USS Yancey on the note line. Mail to: Paul Dunn, 7074 Brightwood Dr., Concord Twp, OH 44077....In advance Thank You!

## HONOR FLIGHT CHICAGO by George Clifton

On May 15<sup>th</sup> of this year, I had the pleasure of being a guest on Honor Flight Chicago. Honor Flight is an organization with branches in many states that provides a trip for veterans to visit the military memorials in Washington. If it is in your state I highly recommend signing up for a future flight. Trust me you will be glad you did. The following is a recap of the day as it would take many newsletters to provide full details.

In Chicago it started at 4:00 AM at Midway airport. Since there were 115 veterans they put us in wheelchairs, they say it is easier to keep track of us. The volunteers move the vets through the registration process providing shirts, dog tags, taking pictures, serving coffee and donuts, and of course giving each of us a ticket. We boarded our flight for a 6:30 departure to arrive in DC around 9:00. Each vet is assigned a guardian for the entire day and mine met me when we arrived at Washington. Surprisingly we were greeted by a crowd of people thanking us for our service, this was the first of many times we were greeted this

way throughout the day. There were members of every local and state police and first responders as well as a band and honor guard. We boarded buses for our trip to the three memorials after driving by the Iwo Jima memorial and Arlington Cemetery.



The first stop was the WWII Memorial where we were again greeted by many. After a memorial service we were on our own to explore the WWII Memorial until time to board the bus. Next stop was the other end of the mall where the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial and the Korean Memorial are located. We spent several hours in this area visiting these memorials which were extremely emotional for many in our group. Before returning to the airport and our flight

home our final stop was at the Udvar-Hazy air museum, this time greeted by students thanking us for our service. After touring the museum, we headed for Dulles airport and our trip back to Chicago Midway airport.

Arriving at Midway airport we received a water cannon salute from the Chicago Fire Department and upon entering the terminal we were greeted by literally thousands of people welcoming us home and thanking us for our service. I am happy to say that among those thousand was my wife, sons, daughters, and several grandchildren. It was the end of a long emotional day that I will never forget.



## 2024 REUNION GETTYSBURG by George Clifton

I attended the reunion in Gettysburg this year since it was an added option to the cruise. Attendees from the Yancey were myself, John Karlis, Paul Smith and Elton Fauber and his wife Ada. This reunion was organized by a different group than the past 25 years so was a little different but just as enjoyable. The host hotel was the Hilton Garden Inn located in Gettysburg. Wednesday was registration and open hospitality room.

On Thursday we boarded 2 busses for the trip to the Gettysburg National Military Park, Museum and Visitor Center. There we watched a 20-minute movie about the battle and Lincoln's address. This was followed by the Cyclorama. The Cyclorama is an enormous 360-degree painting of Pickett's charge during the final day of the battle. We were also able to spend time in the



museum before heading to lunch at the Dobbins House, the oldest building in the city of Gettysburg. After lunch we went on a three-hour bus tour of the battlefield with our knowledgeable guide. We were able to get off the bus often as he described many aspects of the battle. It was interesting and informative. On Friday, John, Paul, and I drove over to the Eisenhower Farm. It is the only home owned by Ike and Mamie Eisenhower. The tour is free and we learned a lot about Ike as a soldier and president. We then went into Gettysburg for



lunch at the Farnsworth Inn, a quaint tavern on the main drag. Friday night was Pizza night. The group also discussed locations for next year's reunion and Portland, Maine was selected for the 2025 reunion. Next was an auction of mostly navy and LST related items. Saturday night was the traditional banquet with the missing man's table and memorial service. Goodbyes were said & hopes of seeing

everyone in Portland next year. More info on 2025 Portland, Maine Reunion in a future newsletter.



## USS Yancey Reunion Group



6518 W. 126 Place,  
Palos Heights, IL 60463

**A Newsletter Exclusively  
for Former USS Yancey  
(AKA-93) Sailors & their  
Families**

**Our Webpage:  
[www.USSYANCEY.com](http://www.USSYANCEY.com)**

**Publisher:  
Former Crew Members of  
the USS Yancey AKA-93**

**Editor:  
George Clifton  
[clifs@ameritech.net](mailto:clifs@ameritech.net)  
708-577-4108**

**Staff: Ric Nicastro  
[info@iawards.com](mailto:info@iawards.com)  
858-373-9393**

---

**Your Yancey Newsletter needs your  
stories,  
share your Yancey memories  
and your post Naval career with  
your shipmates  
Email us at: [clifs@ameritech.net](mailto:clifs@ameritech.net)**

---

---