



# YANCEY MEMORIES

## COORDINATORS MESSAGE

I hope you are all doing well considering all the strange weather and fires and floods around the entire country. We have been very lucky here in Illinois so far this season and I hope it continues. Once more I need to request stories for future issues. Many other ships organizations have gone to having just online only newsletters. We can do that but prefer the printed edition due to the number of shipmates that are not online. I have also provided 2025 reunion information. Right now, it is limited, but unfortunately, it is currently all I have. I will keep the website updated as I learn more. I hope to see many of you at the reunion. Although several of us attended with the AAFA group in Gettysburg this will be the first time Amphibious Ships Reunion Group will be merged with them. Trust me when I say they are a great group of friendly welcoming sailors.

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

**Your Yancey Newsletter Needs Your Stories,  
share your Yancey and your Post Naval Career Stories  
with your shipmates. email us at: [clifs@ameritech.net](mailto:clifs@ameritech.net)**

## ON THE MIDNIGHT WATCH by Tom Morris 66-69



CAPT J. W. McCARTER,  
USMC, CCO

During the 1967 USS Yancey Med Cruise we loaded a company of Marines that were stationed on board for the duration of the cruise. We forgot that they were there most of the time and had little interaction with them with them having their own set of duties and responsibilities. Captain James McCarter was the CCO for the Marine company and had little interaction with the sailors, he was a hard-core officer with a reputation of being a hard ass. I was on a midnight watch & approached by Capt. McCarter about 2:00 AM and he started talking to me and we engaged in a casual two-sided conversation of a personal nature, where we were each from, why we selected the branch of the service we chose. I was quite impressed, & intimidated

that a captain in the Marines and company commander, with his reputation would strike up a conversation with an enlisted seaman. The conversation lasted approximately 15 minutes and one I never will forget because within months he would be in Vietnam and one of the many casualties. I often wondered if he had the transfer to Nam on his mind that night, however he never mentioned Nam. Fifty years passed when my wife Eileen and I were planning to take our grandchildren to Washington DC. I went on the internet and searched for Capt. McCarter's location on the Vietnam Memorial and noticed there were no pictures of him on that website, while most others had them. I contacted the organization that handles the maintenance of the wall and copied his picture from the Yancey Med Trip 67 and sent it to them. Now when you search for him you will see the same picture from our 1967 Med cruise book in X Division. Next time you are at the war memorial Capt. McCarver can be found at Panel 28E Line 3, and burial at Arlington, section 6 Site 5744-A-1

## FACT OR FICTION? Said to come from Herman Melville's 1847 book "Omoo"

Cannonballs used to be stored aboard warships in piles, in a brass frame or tray called a "Monkey".

In very cold weather the brass would contract, spilling the cannonballs, hence very cold weather is "cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."



## A COUPLE OF NAVY TRUISMS

Four people you never screw with: the doc, the DK, PC and the ship's barber.  
In the summer, deck seamen wanted to be signalmen. In the winter they wanted to be radiomen.

## 2025 REUNION—PORTLAND MAINE September 14 –17



The reunion will be Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday September 17<sup>th</sup>, with checkout on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Below is the hotel information. It is recommended that reservations be made as soon as possible since this will give the reunion planners an idea of the number attending for planning, meals, tours etc. Reservations can be cancelled with no charge up to 24 hours before checking in.

**Best Western Merry Manor Inn  
700 Main Street  
South Portland, Maine 04106**

To make room reservations call the hotel directly at 207-774-6151. The room rate is \$119 plus 9% tax, ask for the AAFA ROOM BLOCK this special rate it's only available Sept 11 through Sept 20th.

**Free Buffet Breakfast, Coffee and Tea available 24/7 in the lobby, Reimbursement For Taxi To & From The Airport, Free Parking, Free High Speed Internet, Microwave.**



**Merry Manor Inn**



**River Cruise**



**Maritime Museum**

The hospitality room will be open for the entire reunion and you may bring in alcohol if you wish. That is where all the activities will be held including daily breakfast, a cheese, cracker & cookie reception with free beer and wine on Monday, a pizza party, meeting, and auction on Tuesday and finally on Wednesday will be a Buffet Banquet featuring Prime Rib, Baked Haddock, Vegetable Alfredo. The guest speaker will be Al LeGrow Capt. USN (Ret).

A tour of the Maine Maritime Museum and River Cruise past the Bath Iron Works Shipyard is scheduled for Monday. The other days you are on your own to explore Portland.

There is much more information and registration form on the AAFA website. Simply go to [www.gatornavy.com](http://www.gatornavy.com) and click on the 2025 Reunion tab in the upper right corner. The reunion cost is very reasonable at only \$185 for all the activities, hospitality room and tour.

## USS Yancey Reunion Group



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

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## THE WORLD IS OUR BEACHHEAD

### Shipmate Who Has Passed

#### Dick McIntosh by Susan Walker

My dad, Dick McIntosh TE2, served on the USS Yancey during the Korean War. I am sad to inform you that he passed in December 2023 at the age of 93. He so enjoyed receiving your newsletter. He was in the Navy January 1951 - November 1954. I'm not sure exactly how much of that time was spent on the Yancey. I do know that he was very proud of that time he and mom attended a couple of the reunions. I am including a picture. The family will be sending Paul Dunn a contribution to your newsletter in Dad's name.

