



THE *"We Remember"* MISSOURIAN

FEBRUARY 2024

NUMBER 3

USS Missouri BB-63 Reunion

LIBERTY CALL – JEFFERSON CITY, MO REUNION – SEPT 19-22, 2024

The Reunion is set for September 19-22, 2024 at the Capital Plaza Jefferson City, MO. Call **573-635-1234** to make your reservations. Be sure you tell them you are with the USS Missouri BB-63 so you will get your benefits and are part of the group. If there are any problems with your rooms, please let me know. Here is your booking link:
<https://reservations.travelclick.com/13414?groupID=3963530>



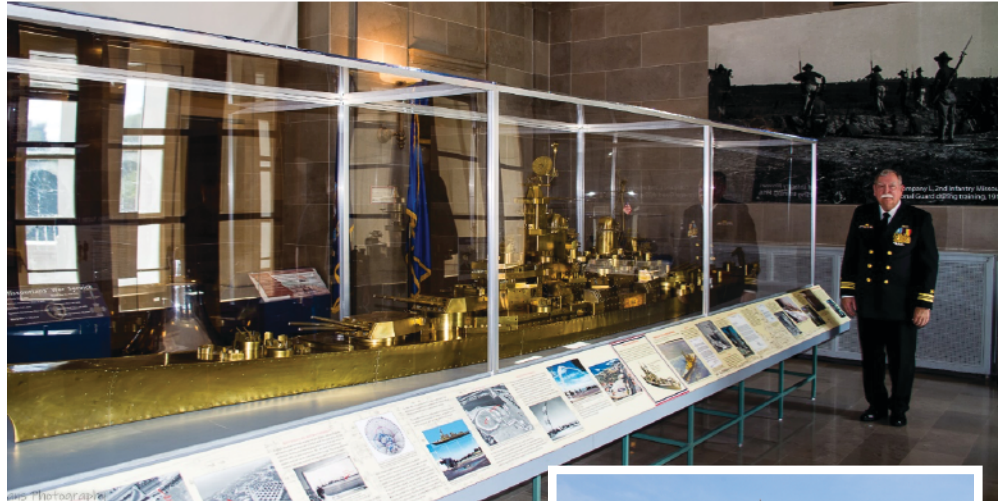
Missouri hotel guests will get a free breakfast each day. There is free parking at the hotel and shuttles to and from the Columbia, MO airport will be available for \$11. You may cancel reservations 72 hours before check-in day and there will be no charge. **Reservations must be made before 30 days before the reunion (August 19th) to get the USS Missouri rate.** No room guarantees after that date.

Thursday 9/19 - Check-in time is 3:00 PM or later, but the Hospitality Room will be open and manned at 1:30 PM. Please come to the Hospitality Room upon arrival to check in with the USS Missouri host to

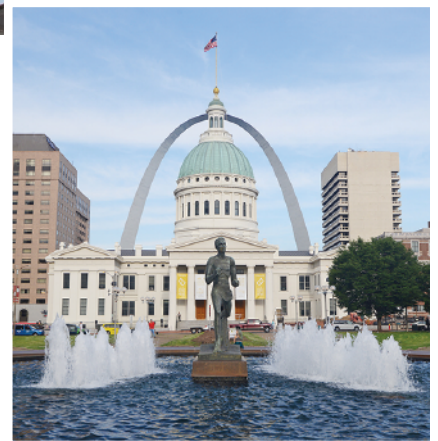


USS MISSOURI BB-63 REUNION 2024

receive everything you will need for the reunion. If your room is not ready when you arrive, you may store your luggage in the Hospitality Room until it is ready. The evening meal will be on your own, but there will be shipmates who can give you directions to area restaurants. The Hospitality Room will be open that evening until midnight for your enjoyment.



Friday 9/20 – We are working to get a ride to the Capital to view the model of USS Missouri BB-63. We may also potentially be able to meet with the Governor while we are there. The hospitality room will be open. The auction begins at 7:00 PM of special items. Prior to that will be an opportunity for you to bring your cruise book or any other special items from USS Missouri that you think others would like to see. Please respect all memorabilia, for it belongs to one of your shipmates. This will be from 8:00 - 9:00 PM.



Saturday Morning 9/21 - The Association Executive Committee will meet at 9:00 AM, followed by the General Business meeting at 10:00 AM. Everyone is encouraged to attend the General meeting. We will vote on the locations for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 reunions. Only members can vote, so make sure to pay your dues before Saturday. If you have any questions about either meeting or Plan of the Day please contact Jerry Miller or Larry Geyer. The Hospitality Room will be open from 12:00 noon until 4:30 PM.

Saturday Evening 9/21 - The Banquet Room will open at 6:00 PM with a cash bar. All shipmates are encouraged to attend. This is your opportunity to dress up and have your photo taken. Dress will be semi-formal (west coast.) At 6:30 PM, all will take their seat and the Memorial Services will commence. Directly following the Memorial Services, the meal will be served. There will be recognition of some of our shipmates following the meal. The banquet will end around 9:30 PM. Once the banquet is complete, we will move to the Hospitality Room.

Sunday 9/22 - Breakfast for Missouri hotel guest and say our farewells... until next reunion.

Three things you need to do to attend the reunion:

- 1) Be a member of the Association. You may now pay your dues online or at the reunion.
- 2) Fill out the reunion registration form and email to: Jerry Miller at JJmUSN@aol.com
- 3) Reserve your room at Capital Plaza. (573) 635-1234
The deadline for hotel reservations is August 19.

Thanks to all our shipmates in advance, for making this a great reunion!

USS MISSOURI BB-63 REUNION PLAN OF THE DAY

THURSDAY – 19 SEP 2024

- 1330** – Hospitality room opens; everyone check-in at hospitality room for your packet
- 1500** – Check-in at the Capital Plaza, Jefferson City, MO.
- 1700** – Dinner on your own (we will provide recommendations)
- 1900** – Welcoming by President in hospitality room
- 2359** – Hospitality rooms secured

FRIDAY – 20 SEP 2024

- 0800** – Breakfast in hotel restaurant
- 0900** – Ride to the Capital Building
- 1215** – Hospitality room open
- 1300** – Lunch – on your own
- 1700** – Dinner – on your own
- 1900** – Hospitality room, auction of special items
- 2359** – Hospitality room secured

SATURDAY – 21 SEP 2024

- 0800** – Breakfast in restaurant
- 0900** – Executive Committee meeting
- 0900** – Hospitality Room opens
- 0950** – Hospitality Room closes for meeting
- 1000** – Business meeting; called to order
- 1200** – Lunch on your own
- 1200** – Hospitality room opens
- 1600** – Hospitality room secured
- 1800** – Cash bar opens
- 1830** – Memorial Service/Banquet starts; take your seat – dress code semi-formal (West Coast)/opportunity to dress up.
- 2000** – Meal complete, recognition, awards, music
- 2030** – Cash bar secure
- 2200** – President address
- 2230** – Banquet secured
- 2230** – Hospitality room opens when banquet complete
- 2359** – Hospitality room secured

SUNDAY – 22 SEP 2024

- 0800** – Breakfast in restaurant
- 0900** – Farewells till next reunion, 2025
- 1100** – Checking out; clear hotel

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Miller @ (417) 247-7744 or JJmUSN@aol.com or any other reunion team members.

USS Missouri BB-63 Reunion Registration Form

Name: First _____ Last _____

Years Served Onboard: 19____ to 19____ Rate/Rank _____

Guest Name: First _____ Last _____

Additional Guest: Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ @ _____

Phone Number: _____ Total # Attending _____

Thursday:

Check in any time after 1500 hours Thursday. \$11 shuttle to and from airport.

Friday:

	Price	#	Total
Go to Capital Building (need # for transportation)		_____	= _____

Saturday: (Please choose your dinner entree)

Bourbon Street Chicken	\$36.25	x _____	= _____
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Honey Glazed Salmon	\$41.25	x _____	= _____
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Ribeye Steak	\$46.25	x _____	= _____
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Total Cost \$ _____

Hospitality Room:

Soda, beer, and water will be provided with sweet and salty snacks. It will be stocked daily.

You may check in three (3) days early and stay three (3) days extra for same price.

You will be responsible for reserving your own room.

**If attending, mail in this form and money to Jerry Miller.
Please pay by check (No money orders).**

**JERRY MILLER
205 HOLLIS ST.
BONO, AR 72416**

Any issues call Jerry Miller (417) 247-7744. Sign up by August 19, 2024!

Fellow Shipmates,

We are working hard to get shipmates signed up for the reunion in Jefferson City, MO. I was not pleased with our numbers at the reunion in Albuquerque where we had 51 in attendance. My goal is to have more at our Jefferson City reunion this year.

Your Association Team consists of:

President – Jerry Miller
Vice President – Larry Geyer
Financial Secretary – Ken Gallagher
Secretary – Bridget Kennedy
Newsletter Editor – Jeff Clemmer
Scholarship Chair – John McKinney
Membership Chair – Robert Whaley
Chaplain – Greg Mock
Historian – Steven Snowden
Storekeeper – Norbert Rebholz
Master @ Arms – Alfredo Pantaleon
Web Site Manager – Robert Whaley
BB-63 Curator – Frank Clay

This team works all year to make sure that we have a well-planned and organized reunion for all our shipmates to attend.

Larry Geyer is responsible for setting up the reunion and making sure it materializes with activities which will please our shipmates.

We have gone back to two editions of our Newsletter and that work is being completed by our Editor **Jeff Clemmer** and his wife Cindy. He gives her all the credit.

The Scholarship Chair is **John McKinney**, and he gathers and chairs the selections of the winners, gets the scholarships mailed out and announces them at the reunion banquet.

The ships store is much labor, and it is headed up by **Norb Rebholz** and his wife assists him. If you have recommendations for Norb, please provide them to him.

We have a new Secretary **Bridget Kennedy** and she is still just getting her feet wet. She did step up and take the challenge when no one else would.

Ken Gallagher has been our Financial Secretary for many years. He still works full-time and maintains our financial records and keeps our membership records in order. No one is jumping up to take his position for it is a lot of work. He also keeps us in good standing with the state and the IRS.

Steven Snowden is our Historian, and he has taken on this challenge with new requirements passed to him by our President. He has accepted the challenge and is doing an excellent job of gathering and saving our history so it may be passed on to others.

Al Pantaleon is our Master-at-Arms, and he has the flags and works to keep the decorum of our meetings and events in order, plus he brings flags as needed to the reunion. He carries out any assignment I give him with a smile and always makes things pleasant and organized.

Robert Whaley has taken on the task of getting our website up and active. We are happy to say it is now active! You may view the website by going to **USS Missouri BB-63 Association**. You may now pay your Membership Dues online via this website, and he is our new Membership Committee Chair.

We all must work to develop things which would cause shipmates to desire to be members and make the Association grow. Each of these shipmates works for you to ensure these goals are achieved. A heads up to all, 2024 will be the Association's 50th year and we will be planning things to make that reunion a memorable one! It is also election year, and we have three elected positions. President, Financial Secretary, and Secretary.

If you have any interest in an officer position, please contact **Jerry Miller at (417) 247-7744** or **JJmUSN@aol.com**. To fill one of these positions you need to be a member of the Association, a crew member or spouse.

If you are planning a trip to Hawaii, make sure to contact our Curator **Frank Clay**. He has promised to ensure you get a special tour of the ship. Please call him when you know you are going and have the dates. Call again the day before you plan to tour our ship so he can pre-plan your arrival. This will make sure he is in the office, or he can have the arrangement made in advance. His contact information is:

Frank Clay's contact information:

BB-63 Curator / Frank Clay
USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc.
63 Cowpens Street
Honolulu, HI 96818
(808) 455-1600 ext: 229 **frankc@ussmissouri.org**



We will have two Newsletters each year and we need to make sure our Editor Jeff Clemmer gets information which our shipmates would be interested in, so he may review it and see if he can work it into our Newsletter. This work goes on from year to year and we are always looking

for ways to improve our Newsletter, if you have thoughts, please run them by Jeff or myself.

Membership is the responsibility of all members and shipmates. Robert Whaley is the New Chair, but we all have contacts, and we should be working to make sure every shipmate knows how to become a member, find the website and all about our reunions.

Four Scholarships are available for our shipmates and relations. Apply before July 1, 2024, and you may be the \$1000 winner. John McKinney is the Scholarship Chair.

Vice President Larry is the contact point if you have any input for the reunion team. This is Larry's third year, and he has many new ideas of what we need to do to improve our reunion.

I want to remind everyone that there are **deadlines** we have in registering for the reunion, reserving a room, and picking your meal choice. It is very important that you meet these deadlines, so we may serve you. They will be posted in the August 5th Newsletter and everywhere we can before then. Please read and follow these deadlines. This year the deadline is **August 19th**. It makes all things work for you and us.

Being President of USS Missouri BB-63 Association is a great honor. I feel everyone should desire to fill this position and the next election is September 21, 2024 at the reunion.

Jerry Miller
President
USS Missouri Association

LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Hello shipmates,

Happy New Year to all. Last year's reunion was great; small group of our shipmates and a lot of new shipmates. Looking forward to this year's reunion. It will be our 50th Anniversary of the Missouri Association. This should bring out more shipmates for this 50th Anniversary. This marks my 18th year with the Missouri Association, and I am very proud to be a part of it. Shipmates take care, see you all in September..

Larry Geyer
Vice president
USS Missouri Association

LETTER FROM THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL

Aloha everyone!

It was very nice to meet so many of you during the September 2023 reunion in Albuquerque. This year I was able to stay for the entire reunion and appreciate the hospitality and fellowship everyone shared with me. Seeing the continued camaraderie between shipmates and the

strong common bond you all share through your service on the USS Missouri was very touching to witness and I look forward to seeing you all again this year.

January 29, 2024 marked two milestones for the Mighty Mo's history, the 80th anniversary of her launching from the Brooklyn Naval Yard and 25th anniversary of the ship opening as a memorial in Pearl Harbor. We commemorated both anniversaries with a Living History Day event on Saturday, January 27. The festivities included numerous military and history-related displays, exhibitors, guest speakers, and family-friendly activities. The ship's last XO CAPT Ken Jordan, USN (ret.) was in attendance as well.

We've come a long way from 25 years ago! Our non-profit organization started with only 7 staff members and now we have a staff of 116 personnel who are all passionate about preserving the USS Missouri and presenting her place in history.

We are working on a new exhibit project and need your help with reaching out to any remaining USS Missouri WWII crewmembers. We are on the cusp of losing the last of the Greatest Generation, and I'm hoping to have contact with these WWII shipmates again before it's too late. If you are in touch with any of them, please send me their contact information.

Also, if you or any shipmates you are in touch with are planning to visit the ship this year, please contact me at curator@ussmissouri.org. With advance notice, I can arrange for complimentary admission for you and your group and a special tour.

If you'd like to keep in touch with us, please visit our website and sign up as a Crewmember to receive our newsletter and communications:

<https://ussmissouri.org/get-involved/former-crewmembers>

I wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2024.

Frank Clay

BB-63 Curator

USS Missouri Memorial Association



LETTER FROM THE WEBSITE MANAGER

The Missouri website is up and running! <https://ussmissouriassociation.com>.

There are also some new changes coming. Members and new members will now be able to renew and join the association via the web site! Just have a couple of hiccups to fix and that will be up and running. The website has an event calendar with dates of upcoming events and special military dates listed. On the *Contact Us* page, there is a form that enables anyone with questions about the scholarship program, ship's store, or membership payment to get a direct response.

The scuttlebutt section is also up and running. You will have to create a username and password for use.

I am also now the Membership chair. This is a new assignment and with the help of Ken, we should have a smooth transition. My contact email is:

ussmissouriassnmembership@gmail.com.

As membership chair I hopefully, with the help of other members, will get the association numbers back up and growing.

Robert H. Whaley III
BM1 (SW) USN Retired
Website Manager
USS Missouri Association

LETTER FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Hello Shipmates,

The newsletter has been successfully available by email for 1 year! Cindy has tried to make the newsletter informative, attractive and easy to read. We know there are still some shipmates who cannot access the internet for whatever reason. For these individuals, we will make sure they can obtain a printed physical copy. If you know of anyone who is unable to receive emails, please let me know their name and address. Cindy and I aim to create these newsletters to be customized for our association. If you have any articles you would like to share or know of any shipmates you would like to spotlight, please send the information to me at my email: **clemmer5@aol.com**.

Jeff Clemmer
GMCM USN Retired
Newsletter Editor
USS Missouri Association

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ~ DECEMBER 2, 2023

Called to order at 2:12 central time. The reason Robert did not attend the meeting was because I could not get the phone to pick up the call and add it to the conference call. I will review that problem, Al did not answer the call. Steve has not sent me his phone number. I had it before but sent that information to Ken. I told Greg we would not need him in the teleconference. All others were present.

Last minutes not read. Forgot to have them next to me.

Old Business:

- School scholarship funds for the 3rd quarter \$16,308.44 as of 30 September.
- \$5,000 was transferred to checking account for website.
- 31 October \$3,557.57 is in checking account.
- \$19,000 was sent to Norm for the ship store
- Thanks to Jeff for all the stuff for the auction
- 2023 reunion: Good place; people were friendly. Good crowd.
- Thanks for all the help in setting up selling
- Helpful to get there a day earlier helps with getting everything ready for shipmates
- Was good to have list of people who were going to attend

New Business:

- Is going to be in Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington; Wilmington, NC
- Scholarship name will stay the same
- Everyone needs to send something in to the newsletter about you
- Website is up and working
- Dues can be paid through the website now (Robert has this now)
- If you know someone who has passed away, please get it to Ken
- Pay for rooms for anyone who served before 1955
- Will sell the Challenge Coins for 20 dollars
- Will sell Challenge coins to David for cost
- Gave away 3 scholarships this year
- Put application for scholarship on website
- We will put by laws in the newsletter
- Norm is still sick
- Jerry, Ken, and Bridget are up for reelection
- Joseph Dunn visited the Battleship that Larry works on
- There is a video on youtube about honoring some vets with Larry

Meeting Closed at 2.34

GET TO KNOW YOUR TEAM

USS Missouri BB-63 Association, Inc.

ELECTED POSITIONS

President **Jerry Miller** (417) 247-7744
205 Hollis St JJmUSN@aol.com
Bono, AR 72416

Jerry has overseen the newsletter going electronic and bringing our Web page to life and making it useful. He will continue to improve our services and ensure the Association grows and stays financially stable.

Financial Secretary **Ken Gallagher** (860) 682-3281
102 Wakefield Circle kens4gcell.kg@gmail.com
East Hartford, CT 06517

Ken Gallagher has been our Financial Secretary for many years. He still works full-time and maintains our financial records and keeps our membership records in order. He also keeps us in good standing with the state and the IRS.

Secretary **Bridget Kennedy** (919) 607-1605
245 Lumberjack Ln Wbkennedy1991@gmail.com
Louisburg, NC 27549

Bridget is responsible for taking record of all meetings and maintaining a copy of the minutes. She also sends out emails to all members regarding events and happenings.

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Vice President **Larry Geyer** (562) 883-0702
1015 E. Carson St #6 BB63BM2@hotmail.com
Long Beach, CA 90807

Larry keeps the wheels turning with the operations of the association. He is the one challenged with setting up our reunion and is always available to answer questions.

Newsletter Editor **Jeff & Cindy Clemmer** (704) 349-3458
2307 Hillside Dr clemmer5@aol.com
Dallas, NC 28034

Jeff gathers all the information provided to him via email and organizes documents into a readable format. Cindy creates the newsletter using her skills as a former graphic designer.

Chaplain **Greg Mock** (715) 225-9372
S197 Mock Rd clemmer5@aol.com
Mondovi, WI 54755

Greg is responsible for spiritual guidance and support for all members.

Historian**Steven Snowden**(916) 705-6735
stevesnowden@sbcglobal.net

Steven builds on our history with interesting reads and photos. There are many memories made in the Navy and on the USS Missouri. We want to capture those stories and add them to our history.

Storekeeper**Norbert Rebholz**104 Kimber Drive
McMurray, PA 15317(412) 670-6555
battleshipbosnmate@gmail.com

Norbert has the responsibility of effectively running our ship's store and maintaining a stock of inventory. He brings an assortment of items to each reunion for purchase.

Scholarship Chairman**John McKinney**76 Ocean House Rd
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107-1142(207) 272-0447
jmckinney1maine@yahoo.com

John gathers information on applicants seeking our scholarship toward college tuition. He answers any questions regarding scholarship applications and distributions.

Master at Arms**Alfredo Pantaleon**171 Burke Ave
Staten Island, NY 10314(201) 667-0218
libra666@juno.com

Alfredo is responsible for the Association's banner and colors. Under the direction of the President, he shall maintain order at all meetings and functions.

**Web Site Manager &
Membership Chairman****Robert H. Whaley III**490 Hicks Creek Rd
Troutman, NC 28166(828) 455-9203
ussmissouriassnmembership@gmail.com

Robert is responsible for creating and maintaining the USS Missouri reunion website, updating it regularly to keep information current. He has also taken on the task of bringing in new members to our association and maintaining all records regarding membership.

HONORARY POSITION**BB-63 Curator
USS Missouri Memorial
Association, Inc.****Frank Clay**
63 Cowpens Street
Honolulu, HI 96818(808) 455-1600 ext: 229
frankc@ussmissouri.org

Frank collects and maintains the exhibitions of precious collections of the USS Missouri BB-63.

USS MISSOURI BB-63 ASSOCIATION, INC. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

This Scholarship Program is funded by the membership of the USS Missouri Association, Inc. These funds are set aside for the purpose of aiding progeny (child, grandchild, great grandchild, or legally adopted) of USS Missouri BB-63 members who have served aboard USS Missouri BB-63. This shall be to accomplish their goal in gaining a higher education in the college of their choice. There will be up to four awards each fiscal year and will be announced at the reunion. **Each award will be in the amount of \$1000.00.**

The following are a few key requirements:

1. Applications will need to be filled out by the applicant.
2. The applicant must be pursuing higher education credits in a goal of gaining an Associate Degree or higher.
3. Applications must be received by USS Missouri Association by July 1 of the year applied for. Applicant may apply for this scholarship twice during their college years.
4. Applicant must be accepted or enrolled by date application is received.

The Chairman of Scholarships will examine application and present to three members of the Association for selection by August 10, so checks may be cut for individuals and handed off to the Scholarship Chairman.

Please submit applications to:

John McKinney

Scholarship Chairman

76 Ocean House Rd

Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107-1142

UPDATE FROM JOHN: Three \$1000.00 scholarships were given out in 2023! One went to a person starting his first year of Teacher's College, one went to a person starting her third year of college in Social Services and one went to a person taking classes beyond her master's degree to pursue a better job in education.

SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION

NAME

Last: _____ First: _____ Middle Initial: _____

HOME ADDRESS

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone number: _____

PARENTS INFORMATION

Father: _____ Mother: _____

USS MISSOURI BB-63 CONNECTION

Full Name of Reference: _____

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Graduated from: _____ GPA: _____

COLLEGE INFORMATION

Name of Institution: _____

Course of Study or Major: _____

Class grade (freshman, sophomore, etc) _____ Hrs this Sem. _____

PLEASE ATTACH ESSAY EXPLAINING WHY YOU QUALIFY FOR THESE FUNDS.

All the above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Deadline for application is July 1st of the attending school year.

The amount of this scholarship is \$1000.00

Mail application to:
John McKinney
76 Ocean House Road
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107-1142

HISTORY OF OUR ASSOCIATION

We are a 501(C) 19 registered in the state of Connecticut. We were organized in 1974 and our Founders are:

- John T. Finn
- Lou Dellaripa
- William T. Walsh
- Joseph G. Writh
- Thomas F. Fluck
- Walter Yucka
- Joseph Vella
- Anthony Angarano

List of Presidents by Year and Locations of Reunions

1974	<i>1st</i> / New York City	John T. Finn
1975	Hartford, Connecticut	John T. Finn
1976	Seattle, Washington	John T. Finn
1977	Boston, Massachusetts	John T. Finn
1978	Kansas City, Missouri	John T. Finn
1979	Norfolk, Virginia	John T. Finn
1980	Orlando, Florida	John T. Finn
1981	Buffalo, New York	John T. Finn
1982	Charleston, SC	John T. Finn
1983	<i>10th</i> / Carlisle, Pennsylvania	Jack Haynes
1984	Portland, Maine	Jack Haynes
1985	Annapolis, Maryland	George Schuette
1986	Nashville, Tennessee	George Schuette
1987	New Orleans, Louisiana	Ralph Berry
1988	Long Beach, California	Ralph Berry
1989	Charleston, South Carolina	Ralph Berry
1990	Providence, Rhode Island	Anthony Alessandro
1991	North Norfolk, Virginia	Anthony Alessandro
1992	Chicago, Illinois	Anthony Alessandro
1993	<i>20th</i> / Orlando, Florida	Angelo, Goffredo
1994	San Antonio, Texas	Angelo, Goffredo
1995	Seattle, Washington	Angelo, Goffredo
1996	Louisville, Kentucky	Angelo Goffredo

1997	Denver, Colorado	Herbert Fahr Jr.
1998	Honolulu, Hawaii	Herbert Fahr Jr.
1999	Jefferson City, Missouri	Herbert Fahr Jr.
2000	San Francisco, California	Herbert Fahr Jr.
2001	Buffalo, New York	John P. Sullivan
2002	Crystal City, Virginia	John P. Sullivan
2003	30th / Honolulu, Hawaii	John P. Sullivan
2004	Baton Rouge, Louisiana	John P. Sullivan
2005	Albuquerque, New Mexico	William D. Morton
2006	Portland, Maine	William D. Morton
2007	Nashville, Tennessee	William D. Morton
2008	San Antonio, Texas	William D. Morton
2009	Norfolk, Virginia	John Stempick Jr.
2010	Leslie, Illinois	John Stempick Jr.
2011	Mesa, Arizona	John Stempick Jr.
2012	Mobile, Alabama	John Stempick Jr.
2013	40th / Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	John Stempick Jr.
2014	Kissimmee, Florida	John Stempick Jr.
2015	Charleston, South Carolina	John Stempick Jr.
2016	Washington, DC	John Stempick Jr.
2017	Reno, Nevada	Joseph T. Doran
2018	Daytona, Ohio	Joseph T. Doran
2019	Norwalk, Connecticut	Joseph T. Doran
2020	San Antonio (Covid)	Joseph T. Doran
2021	San Antonio, Texas	Joseph T. Doran
2022	Charleston, South Carolina	Jerry Miller
2023	Albuquerque, New Mexico	Jerry Miller
2024	50th / Jefferson City, Missouri	Jerry Miller

USS MISSOURI BB-63 COMMANDING OFFICERS

CAPT. Callaghan, William McCombe, USN (USNA 1918) :VADM	11.06.1944 - 14.05.1945
CAPT. Murray, Stuart Shadrick (Sunshine), USN (USNA) 1919 :ADM	14.05.1945 - 06.11.1945
CAPT. Hillenkoetter, Roscoe Henry, USN (USNA 1919) :VADM	06.11.1945 - 31.05.1946
CAPT. Hill, Tom Burbridge, USN (USNA 1922) :ADM	31.05.1946 - 02.04.1947
CAPT. Dennison, Robert Lee, USN (USNA 1923) :ADM	02.04.1947 - 23.01.1948
CDR. Colwell, John Barr, USN (USNA 1931) :VADM	23.01.1948 - 24.02.1948
CAPT. Thach Jr., James Harmon, USN (USNA 1923) :ADM	24.02.1948 - 05.02.1949
CAPT. Smith, Harold Page, USN (USNA 1924) :ADM	05.02.1949 - 10.12.1949
CAPT. Brown, William Drane, USN (USNA 1924) :VADM	10.12.1949 - 03.02.1950
CDR. Peckham, George Edward, USN (USNA 1931) :RADM	03.02.1950 - 07.02.1950
CAPT. Smith, Harold Page, USN (USNA 1924) :ADM	07.02.1950 - 19.04.1950
CAPT. Duke, Irving Terrill, USN (USNA 1925) :VADM	19.04.1950 - 02.03.1951
CAPT. Wright, George Charles, USN (USNA 1925) :VADM	02.03.1951 - 18.10.1951
CAPT. Sylvester, John (Jack), USN (USNA 1926) :VADM	18.10.1951 - 04.09.1952
CAPT. Edsall, Warner Ryerson, USN (USNA 1927)	04.09.1952 - 26.03.1953
CAPT. North, James Robert	26.03.1953 - 04.04.1953
CAPT. Brodie Jr., Robert (Steve), USN (USNA 1927) :RADM	04.04.1953 - 01.04.1954
CAPT. Keith, Robert Taylor Scott, USN (USNA 1928) :VADM	01.04.1954 - 18.09.1954
CAPT. North, James Robert	18.09.1954 - 26.02.1955
DECOMMISSIONED 26.02.1955 - 10.05.1986	
CAPT. Kaiss, Albert Lee, USN	10.05.1986 - 20.06.1986
CAPT. Carney, James Allen (AI), USN	20.06.1986 - 06.07.1988
CAPT. Chernesky Jr., John Joseph, USN	06.07.1988 - 13.06.1990
CAPT. Kaiss, Albert Lee, CAPT USN	13.06.1990 - 31.03.1992



DUES 2024

**Check your membership card. Does it show 24 or later?
If not, you have not paid any dues since the date shown! Act NOW!!!
Help keep our Association going!**

In order to run an organization such as ours, we need your help. By sending your donation early in the year, it gets your membership card early and helps us with our expenses and bookkeeping. It also keeps you on the mailing list! Make the effort. Put this notice with your **"BILLS TO BE PAID"** and send your check in the next mail. Dues can be either mailed in or paid for on the website. (Yearly dues are \$25.00.)

Your check should be made out to: USS Missouri (BB-63) Association

Send payment to:

**Membership Chairman / Kenneth Gallagher
102 Wakefield Cr
East Hartford, CT 06118**

Check appropriate box for dues:

2024 **2025** **2026**

Yearly Dues are \$25.00

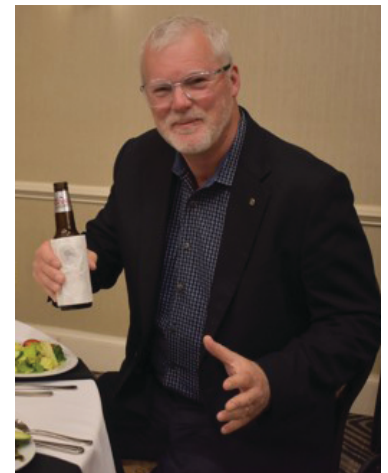
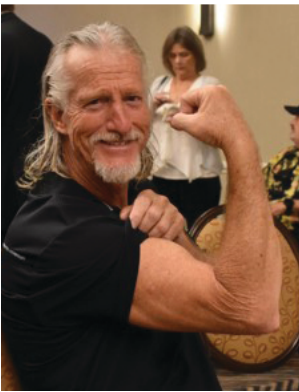
Amount Dues: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund Donation: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

To make your payment via website, go to <https://ussmissouriassociation.com>
and follow the directions listed there.

PHOTOS OF 2023 REUNION IN ALBUQUERQUE, NM







Seaman Billy Ray Lyerly

Billy Ray Lyerly enlisted in the Navy in 1950, whereupon he was sent to Great Lakes Recruit Training for his Basic Training. His Basic Training was cut short and during the start of his fourth week, the complete class of trainees were sent to the train station in Chicago to board trains for an unknown destination. They were accompanied by Shore Patrol and were given a bag of sandwiches to eat on the train. They arrived at their destination, the Norfolk Naval Station, for assignment to USS Missouri BB63. When the additional sailors arrived the ship was being maintained by a skeleton crew and midshipmen. The ship added 952 enlisted men and 36 officers to bring the total number of ships personnel to 114 officers and 2070 crewmen. The ship got underway after 5 days of supply and ammunitions onload. The ship's next destination was the Panama Canal for transit to the Pacific, but as fate would have it, the ship ran into a Hurricane and sustained considerable damage to the equipment that was brought onboard. The Missouri had to spend 5 extra days in Hawaii making needed repairs and

add additional 20mm and 40mm guns for defense against aircraft. Exactly one month and one day after leaving the east coast, two hurricanes, naval gunfire support training and replacing two helicopters lost during the hurricanes, The Missouri arrived off Korea to take her place on the battle line.

Seaman Billy Lyerly was assigned to 3rd division and his General Quarters Station was a Ships anti-aircraft gun that was later mounted in the gun tub on Turret Two. They only manned this station when the Turrets were not firing. He has some amazing stories of his Korean War deployment. The shelling of the coast-line of North and South Korea, Inchon and Wonsan, General Douglas MacArthur's visit onboard the mighty Mo, the bitter cold of the 1950/1951 winter, Bob Hope's show on the fantail, the ship's stop in Japan and Pearl Harbor and Long Beach with arrival April 1951 back in Norfolk Va to a Large Homecoming Crowd.

Billy Ray Lyerly spent the second half of his Naval career as a Shore Patrolman in the port of Naples and one of the persons he met and befriended was none other than the Mafia Boss, Charles (Lucky) Luciano who operated a café in Naples.

After his service, Billy Ray attended East Carolina University, went to NC Highway Patrol School in Chapel Hill NC, met his wife Elizabeth Ann, got married in 1957, spent 12 years as a Patrolman and 18 years as a senior supervisor with the NC Department of Motor Vehicles in enforcement. He retired to Dallas, NC, has two children, attends Antioch Lutheran Church and loves spending his time telling USS Missouri Battleship stories to everyone who will listen.



*Above Left:
Bill Lyerly, 92,
sporting a brand new
Battleship cap.*

*Above: Young Billy Ray,
shortly after enlisting
and (at right) as a
Shore Patrolman
in Naples, Italy.*

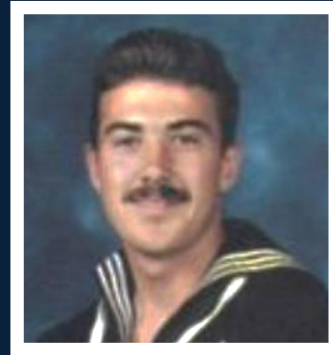


Remembering

**Cecil
Freeman**



October 11, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1985 - 1987

Rate: BM3 6th Division & 2nd Division

Deck Department

Hailed from: Pueblo West, CO

Rest in Peace Shipmate

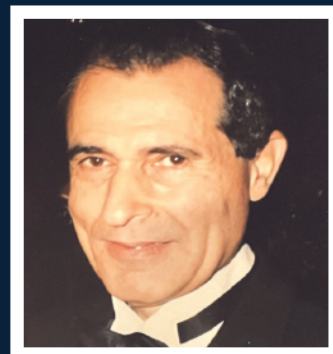


Remembering

**Joseph A.
Magri**



July 1, 1932 -
October 26, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 1953

Rate: SN FM Division

Gunnery Department

Hailed from: Brooklyn, NY

Rest in Peace Shipmate





Remembering

**William H.
Verneau, Jr.**



December 1, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1953 - 1954

Rate: FN M Division

Engineering Department

Hailed from: West Haven, CT

Rest in Peace Shipmate

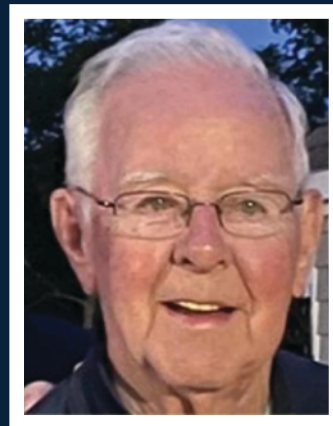


Remembering

**John "Jack"
Finch**



December 3, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1946 - 1948

Hailed from: Kingston, NY

Rest in Peace Shipmate





Remembering

**Larry
Doong**



May 21, 1954 -
December 4, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1990 - 1992

Rate: CDR

Engineering Department

Hailed from: Maui, HI

Rest in Peace Shipmate

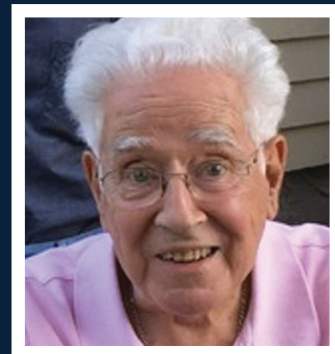


Remembering

**Allen B.
Schenck**



January 25, 1932 -
December 17, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 53

Rate: SN Division: SA

Gunnery Department

Hailed from: Dryden, NY

Rest in Peace Shipmate





Remembering

Gerald "Jerry"
Musegades



November 9, 1933 -
December 23, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 1953

Rate: CTSN

Flag Staff

Hailed from: Rio Rancho, NM

Rest in Peace Shipmate



Remembering

L.D.
Hollyfield



November 23, 1928 -
December 29, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1947

Rate: SC2

Hailed from: Dellroy, OH

Rest in Peace Shipmate





Remembering

**Jack
Jacobs**



January 1, 1928 -
December 31, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1947

Rate: SC2

Hailed from: Tulsa, OK

Rest in Peace Shipmate

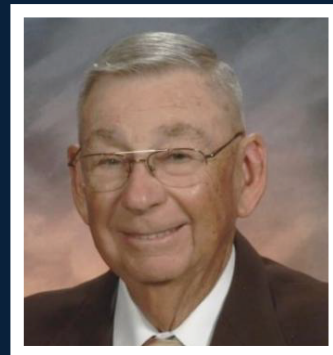


Remembering

**Elwood "Alex"
Alexanderson**



March 28, 1931 -
December 31, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 1955

Rate: ET2 T Division

Operations Department

Hailed from: Albuquerque, NM

Rest in Peace Shipmate



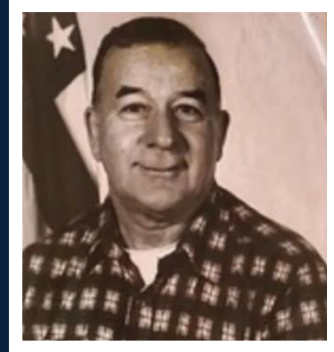


Remembering

**Harold
Whitehouse**



July 1, 1928 -
January 4, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1947 - 1948

Rate: BT3 B Division

Engineering Department (Fire Room #2)

Hailed from: Portsmouth, NH

Rest in Peace Shipmate



Remembering

**Richard A.
Brown**



July 12, 1933 -
January 11, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1953 - 1955

Rate: QM2 N Division

Navigation Department

Hailed from: Defiance, OH

Rest in Peace Shipmate



Remembering
**Denny
Wilburn**

April 2, 1932 -
January 20, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 1955

Rate: ET3 E Division

Operations Department

Hailed from: Indianapolis, IN

Rest in Peace Shipmate



*Time to come home dear brother,
Your tour of duty through.
You've given as much as anyone
Could be expected to do.
Just a few steps further
The smoke will start to clear.
Others here will guide you
You have no need of fear.
You have not failed your brothers
You clearly gave it all.
And through your selfless actions
Others will hear the call.
So take your place of honor
Among those who have gone before.
And know you will be remembered
For now and evermore.*

