



THE *"We Remember"* MISSOURIAN

AUGUST 2024

NUMBER 4

USS Missouri BB-63 Reunion

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

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's reunion! It is September 19-22, 2024 at the Capitol Plaza in Jefferson City, MO. Call **573-635-1234** if you still haven't made your reservations. You have until August 19th, so don't delay! Remember to tell them you are with the **USS Missouri BB-63**, so you will get your benefits and are part of the group. Let us know if there are any problems with your rooms.

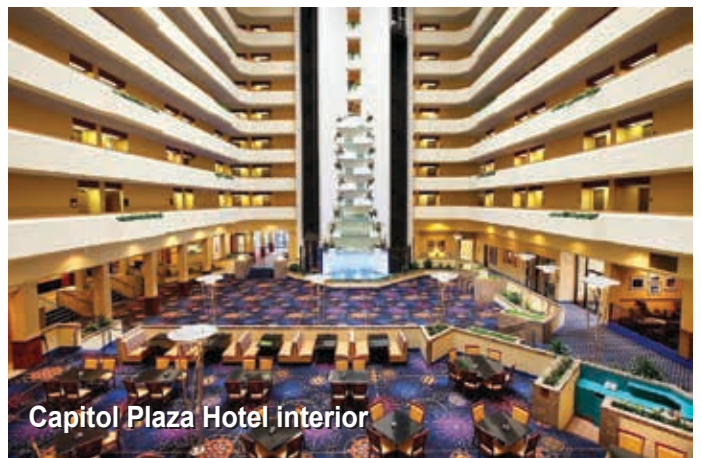
Here is your booking link:

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/13414?groupID=3963530>

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



Capitol Plaza Hotel exterior



Capitol Plaza Hotel interior

USS MISSOURI BB-63 REUNION 2024

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 our USS Missouri host. You will then receive everything you will need for the reunion. You may store your luggage in this room temporarily if your room is not ready.

Friday 9/20 – We will be visiting the Capitol building to view the model of USS Missouri BB-63. We may also 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. 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 a program and recognition of some of our shipmates following the meal. Our President, Jerry Miller will have closing comments. 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 USS Missouri BB-63 Association.
- 2) Fill out the reunion registration form and email to: Jerry Miller at JJmUSN@aol.com
- 3) Reserve your room at Capitol Plaza. (573) 635-1234
The deadline for hotel reservations is August 19.

There will be opportunity to pay Association dues at the reunion. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry at JJmUSN@aol.com or call 417-247-7744.

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 Capitol 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 Capitol 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
- 0800** – Hospitality Room opens
- 0900** – Executive Committee meeting
- 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 Names: _____

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 Capitol 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!

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Shipmates,

We have all worked diligently to reach shipmates and get them signed up for this year's reunion in Jefferson City, MO. 2024 marks the Association's 50th year and we are planning to make this a memorable reunion.

Your Association Team consists of:

President – Jerry Miller

Financial Secretary – Ken Gallagher

Newsletter Editor – Jeff Clemmer

Membership Chair – Robert Whaley

Historian – Steven Snowden

Storekeeper – Norbert Rebholz

BB-63 Curator – Frank Clay

Vice President – Larry Geyer

Secretary – Bridget Kennedy

Scholarship Chair – John McKinney

Web Site Manager – Robert Whaley

Chaplain – Greg Mock

Master @ Arms – Alfredo Pantaleon

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

Jerry Miller is your President, and the buck stops with him. He is responsible for all the actions of the Executive Committee and will handle any complaints you have. They cannot be corrected if not brought forward. He has accomplished the items that he wanted to change since becoming President. • The Web Site up and working. • Dues can now be paid electronically. • Association members vote on the reunion locations, with the popular deciding. • The Newsletter is back to two editions. • All positions of the Executive Committee are filled by your shipmates. We work for you!

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

Jeff Clemmer is the Newsletter Editor. He works to gather information that would be interesting and pertinent for our Association. His wife Cindy creates the newsletter, using her experience as a graphic designer.

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

Norb Rebholz is our Storekeeper. The ships store is much labor and it is maintained by Norb and his wife. If you have recommendations for Norb, please provide them to him.

Bridget Kennedy is the Secretary. She stepped up and took 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 all records in order. He also keeps us in good standing with the state and the IRS.

Steven Snowden is our Historian. He has taken on this challenge with new requirements passed to him by our President. He 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. He works to keep the decorum of our meetings and events in order, and he brings flags as needed to the reunion. He carries out any assignment given to him with a smile and always makes things pleasant and organized.

Robert Whaley is our Website Manager and Membership Chair. The website is up and running at **USS Missouri BB-63 Association**. You may now pay your Membership Dues online via this website. As Membership Chair, he handles all aspects of collecting dues of current members, renewing memberships and welcoming new members.

Greg Mock is our Chaplain. He fills those duties at the reunions, as well as any related duties during the year as requested.

We all must work to develop an Association that our shipmates would want to join and make the Association grow. Each of these shipmates works for you to ensure these goals are achieved. 2024 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. 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. 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. The deadline for application is July 1 of every year. This year's \$1,000 winners will be announced at the reunion in Jefferson City.

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. 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,
Just weeks away from our reunion. I look forward to seeing you all there if you can make it. This year is the 50th Anniversary of our Association. The 50th only comes once, be a part of Missouri association history. All the best, take care.

Larry Geyer
Vice president
USS Missouri Association

LETTER FROM THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is embarking on a multiyear effort to upgrade our onboard exhibit spaces. The goal of this project is to continue to spotlight the entire history of the USS Missouri, and the stories of her crew who served on board, by creating professionally designed exhibits utilizing the latest technologies and museum best practices for the long-term display of our artifacts. Through this effort we aspire to enhance the visitor experience and continue to engage with new generations.

Our first exhibit priority is to spotlight Missouri's service in WWII and pay tribute to the greatest generation of our time. WWII is not only the Missouri's first wartime service, but also what garners global appeal and represents a moment when peace was restored to the world. The exhibit has a working title of *"WWII Through the Eyes of our Sailors"*.



The goal of this exhibit will be to focus exclusively on the WWII experiences of the USS Missouri's Sailors and Marines, from the launch of the ship through the end of the war. The new exhibit will have custom designed display cases for crewmember artifacts, multimedia presentations of oral histories from our WWII crew, and an immersive interactive experience utilizing the latest technology available.

The location of this exhibit will occupy the First Class Mess area on 2nd Deck, formerly home of the "Crew's Room" Exhibit, which housed displays and artifacts on the ship's launch, WWII, the interwar years, and the Korean War.

"WWII Through the Eyes of our Sailors" is scheduled to be opened in August 2025, in time for the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII. Pictured on the prior page are preliminary renderings of the new exhibit, but the final designs are still a work in progress.

In July I was able to interview on camera Mr. Ed Buffman, *shown at right*, who served as a Gunner's Mate onboard the USS Missouri from 1944-1946 and is one of the very few WWII shipmates left. He vividly recalls his time aboard manning a 20mm gun gallery amidships on the port side, especially the kamikaze attacks during the Battle of Okinawa. His oral history will be one of the main features of the exhibit so we can share his story with our visitors.

In 2026 and 2027 we will be following the same process to renovate the current "WWII Exhibit", which occupies the 1st Lieutenant's Office and forward Ship's Store spaces near the Post Office. The two spaces will be renovated to house Korean War and Modern Era (1986 Recommissioning through 1992 Decommissioning) artifacts and displays that will, again, focus exclusively on the USS Missouri crew's experiences.



Frank Clay and Ed Buffman

We understand that several crew members are lamenting the loss of what was dubbed their "Crew's Room," and fully respect their desire to be remembered and honored on their ship. Please rest assured that all the spaces that we are renovating, now and moving forward, will embody every aspect of the crew who served aboard. It is your stories that bring visitors to the ship, which supports our organization's mission to preserve the Battleship Missouri Memorial and share her story and place in history for generations to come.

I want to thank everyone who has helped pass the word to your shipmates who are planning to visit the ship to get in touch with me before their trip. I've been able to arrange complimentary admissions and special tours to quite a few, so please continue to pass the word to have them contact me at: **curator@ussmissouri.org**.

I plan on attending this year's reunion and look forward to seeing you all in Jefferson City.

Frank Clay
BB-63 Curator
USS Missouri Memorial Association

LETTER FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Hello, I'm Robert Whaley (BM2 Whaley) everyone calls me Boats. I am the membership chair for the association. I handle all the renewals and new memberships for the association. My contact email is **ussmissouriassnmembership@gmail.com**. Hopefully with the help of the members of the association we can get the membership back up and growing. As the Membership chair, some of my duties are as follows; Receive dues and donations and maintain a listing of members who have paid dues and donations. Maintain a list of all crew members and Association members, address or email address, and phone numbers. If you have any changes in your contact info please notify me. Provide a list of deceased shipmates each year. If you have any knowledge of a crew member passing please let me know. Send all dues and donations to the financial secretary. Issue membership cards to all members. Email and/or call existing members about upcoming dues

Robert H. Whaley III
BM1 (SW) USN Retired
Membership Chair
USS Missouri Association

LETTER FROM THE WEBSITE MANAGER

The Missouri website is up and running! The web address is **<https://ussmissouriassociation.com>**. Members and New Members will be able to renew and join the association via the web site. The event calendar on the website has the dates of upcoming events and special military dates listed as well. You can also use the website to register and pay for tours and your dinner for USS Missouri Association Reunions.

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

LETTER FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Hello Shipmates,

Cindy and I strive to make the newsletter informative, attractive and easy to read. We know there are still some shipmates with no internet access. For these individuals, we 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. 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

U.S.S. MISSOURI (BB-63) ASSOCIATION, INC.

UNITED STATES NAVY AND MARINE CORPS VETERANS

"WE REMEMBER"



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I SUBMIT MY NAME FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE USS MISSOURI (BB-63) ASSOCIATION,
FORMED IN 1974 TO PROMOTE THE FRATERNAL CIVIC AND PATRIOTIC TIES
AMONG FORMER SHIPMATES WHO SERVED ABOARD THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI (BB-63)

Please print or type:

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____ @ _____

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

Type of Membership (circle one): New Renewal

Scholarship Donation: _____

Membership donations are \$25.00 per year and expire on December 31st of each year.

Your donation entitles you to all rights and privileges accorded in the bylaws of the Association.

Make donation payable to the **USS MISSOURI (BB-63) ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Mail donation and Application to:

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

Robert H. Whaley III

USS Missouri Ass. Membership Chair

490 Hicks Creek Rd

Troutman NC 28166

GET TO KNOW YOUR TEAM

USS Missouri BB-63 Association, Inc.

ELECTED POSITIONS

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

Jerry is responsible for all the actions of the Executive Committee and handles any complaints. 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 maintains our financial records and keeps all 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.

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 in charge 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 graphic designer.

Chaplain **Greg Mock** (715) 225-9372
S197 Mock Rd
Mondovi, WI 54755

Greg is responsible for providing 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. He keeps us informed with all the happenings at the USS Missouri and ensures that we will have a memorable tour when we visit.

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 \$1,000.00.**

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 \$1,000.00 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 \$1,000.00

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	1st / 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	10th / 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	20th / 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 (Al), 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.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES ~ JUNE 1, 2024

Teleconference Minutes for Executive Committee on June 1 @ 1:00 PM.

Meeting called to order at 1:00 PM.

Missing – Norb, Al, Robert, and Greg

Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed out in March.

Financial report approved and filed for audit.

Old Business:

- Quorum for this meeting is three.
- Reunion for 2024 is going to be in Jefferson City, MO 19 – 22 September 2024.
- There will be an election for President, Financial Secretary, and Secretary.
- Guest speaker Adm. Ken Davis has been confirmed.

New Business :

- Location for 2025 Reunion will be between Boston, Wilmington, NC and Mobile.
- Reunion 2026 will be in either San Diego, Seattle, Phoenix or Colorado Springs.
- Reunion 2027 will be between Nashville or Mobile. If you have others, please let me know.
- The gift for the 50th reunion will be ready by reunion.
- The Newsletter is due out August 5, 2024. If you have anything you want in the Newsletter please get it to Jeff by July 15th. Every officer should have something in the Newsletter.

Auction for 2024 reunion, each office should bring one item for auction.

Jerry – one item

Larry – one item

Ken – one item

Bridget – one item and auctioneer

Norb – one item

Al – one item

Greg – one item

Robert – one item

Jeff – one item

Steven – one item

John – one item

Any questions please call Jerry.

Web Site – any questions please contact Robert.

Please pass info of deceased shipmates to Robert for our Memorial Services. Sept 2023 – Sept 2024

The Association will pay one night's room for all '55 and earlier crew members.

By-Laws are on the Web Site. Please review and if you have any changes notify Jerry Miller or bring them to the September meeting and get them on the agenda for review.

Motion to adjourn made by Jerry and approved by all. Adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Minutes presented by Jerry Miller

CUSTOM USS MISSOURI COINS AVAILABLE



Coin Front



Coin Back

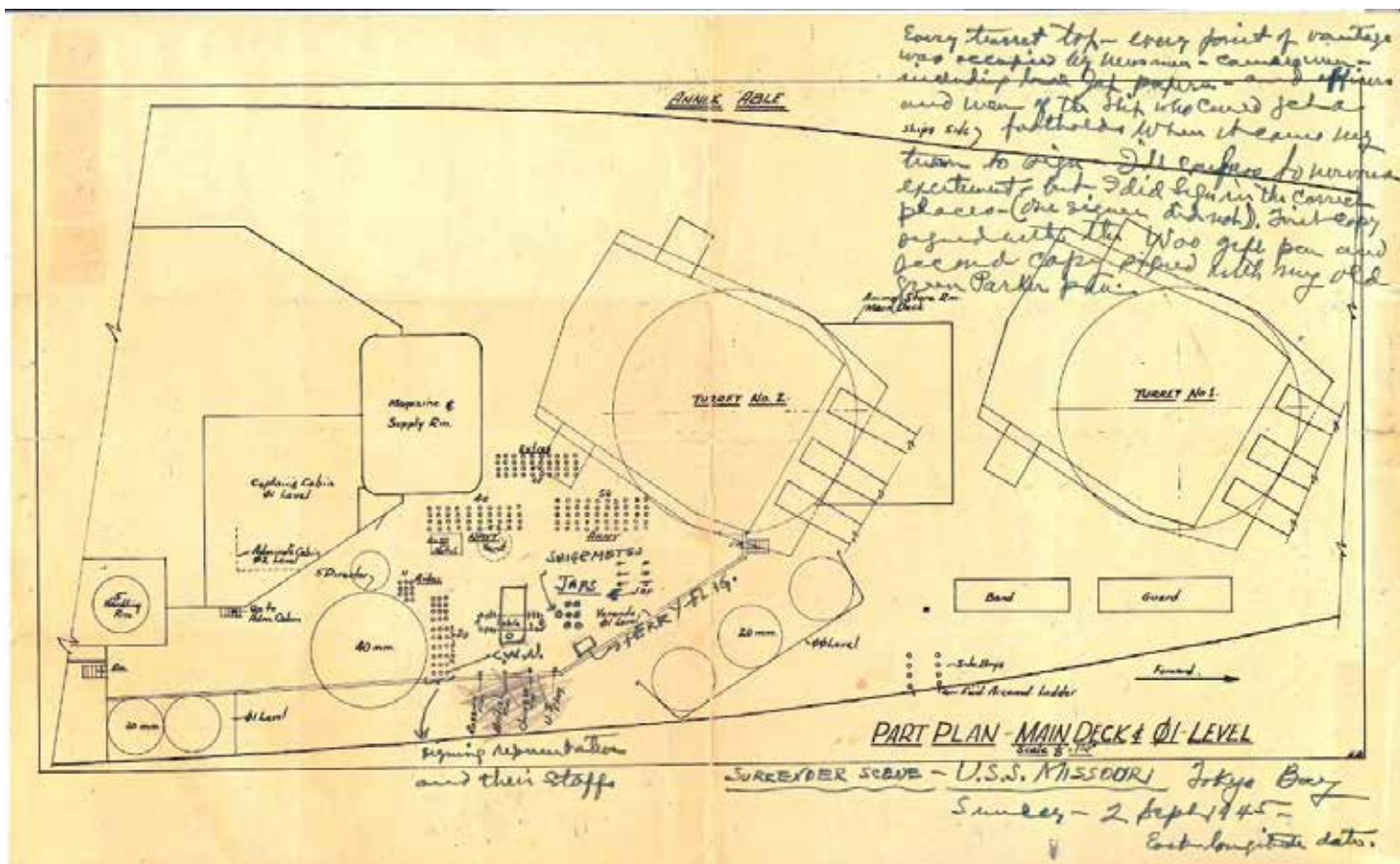
The coins shown above were designed by Jeff Clemmer and created by **SOS Custom Coins** of Perkinston, Mississippi expressly for the servicemen who served onboard the USS Missouri. SOS Custom Coins, in business since 1998, is owned and operated by Retired Senior Chief Bill Dixon. Bill served 26 years as a Seabee.

The coins are an adaptation of the Recommissioning Ceremony coin, mounted on a teak plaque (shown below) that were presented to all servicemen present at the May 10, 1986 Recommissioning Ceremony.

Every shipmate who attends this year's reunion in Jefferson City will receive a complimentary coin. Additional coins will be available for purchase from the ships store and at the reunion.



Deck Plan of USS Missouri (BB-63) During the Surrender Ceremony



Written in the hand of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz:

"Every turret top - every point of vantage was occupied by newsmen - cameramen - including local Jap papers - and officers and men from the ship who could get a foothold. When it came my time to sign - I'll confess to nervous excitement - but I did sign in the correct places - (one signer did not). First copy signed with the Woo gift pen, and the second copy signed with my old green Parker pen.[1]"

Nimitz also wrote on the diagram, initialing with C.W.N where he stood, and drawing an arrow from one row stating "signing representatives and their staffs." He also identified the document with "Surrender Scene- U.S.S. Missouri Tokyo Bay, Sunday - 2 Sept 1945 -, East longitude date."

[1] Mrs. Nimitz identified the Woo pen as one gifted to him by E. Ching and Y.C. Woo. The other pen was a fifty-cent pen bought on their travels.

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Written on back of Nimitz's hand-edited diagram of attendees' placement on USS Missouri's main deck during the Japanese surrender.[1]

U.S.S. South Dakota - Tokyo Bay - Sunday 2 Sept '45.

Best Beloved [REDACTED in letter, but read by Mrs. Nimitz] -

The big moment is over and the Japs have signed the formal terms of surrender. Everything clocked in a minute, by minute, schedule and the ceremony started at exactly 9 am Tokyo time. The press came off in a transport destroyer before eight am - followed by another destroyer carrying all the guests except the Supreme Comdr's private party - which came alongside (as did all the destroyers) at 830. I don't see how I can describe this scene - or why I attempt it, because there present at least 200 correspondents who have by now written, and broad-cast thousands of words of description - which - even as I write at 1130am - is either being read or heard by you and all our children - wherever they may be. Many of our officers from the ships still at sea were present - they having flown in by planes. Among these was Shafroth who particularly asked that I include in this letter my his best wishes to you and Mary. Fortunately the bad weather of the past two days passed on and we were blessed with dry though overcast skies. Last night - I was tremendously pleased (and surprised), to receive your fine letters of the 23 and the 24 Aug with enclosures - which were brought up from Guam by one of our officers who brought up important mail. This rapid time - Your 24 Aug letter - written on my 25 was only 7 days from Berkeley to Tokyo Bay. Now must close. [REDACTED, but read by Mrs. Nimitz, All my heart's devotion. Love and kisses to my sweetheart. Ever yours, Chester]

[1] Mrs. Nimitz read this aloud during an oral history interview. In the interview she indicated that this was one of the letters she deemed significant enough to save. She deposited it in a safe deposit box and brought it home because it was beginning to deteriorate. She brought the letter to her oral history interview and read it aloud to the tape recorder.

From the Papers of Chester W. Nimitz, Box 101, Archives Branch, Naval History and Heritage Command.

U.S.S. South Dakota - Tokyo Bay -
Sunday 2 Sept '45.

The big moment is over and the Japs have signed the formal terms of surrender. Everything clocked in a minute by minute schedule and the ceremony started at exactly 9 am Tokyo time. The Press came off in a transport destroyer before 8 am followed by another destroyer carrying all the guests except the Supreme Comdr's private party - which came alongside (as did all the destroyers) at 830. I don't see how I can describe this scene - or why I attempt it, because there present at least 200 correspondents who have by now written and broad-cast thousands of words of description - which - even as I write at 1130 am - is either being read or heard by you and all our children - wherever they may be. Many of our officers from the ships still at sea were present - they having flown in by planes. Among these was Shafroth who particularly asked that I include in this letter my his best wishes to you and Mary. Fortunately the bad weather of the past two days passed on and we were blessed with dry though overcast skies. Last night - I was tremendously pleased (and surprised), to receive your fine letters of 23 and 24 Aug with enclosures - which were brought up from Guam by one of our officers who brought up important mail. This is rapid time - Your 24 Aug letter - written on my 25 was only 7 days from Berkeley to Tokyo Bay. Now must close.

[REDACTED, but read by Mrs. Nimitz, All my heart's devotion. Love and kisses to my sweetheart. Ever yours, Chester]

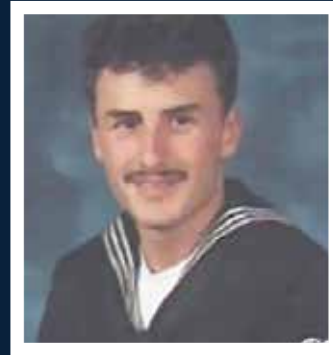


Remembering

John Edward Sawin



May 4, 1966 -
October 23, 2023



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1985 - 1987

Rate: MMFN M Division

Engineering Department

Hailed from: Omak, WA

Rest in Peace Shipmate



Remembering

Charles H. Senn



February 26, 1930 -
February 22, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1950

Rate: ET3

Hailed from: Chesterfield, VA

Rest in Peace Shipmate



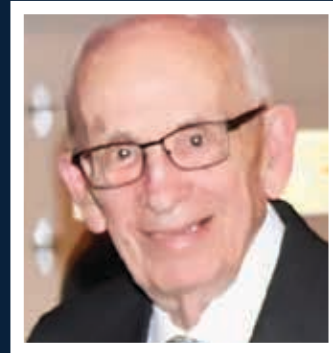


Remembering

**Theodore
Campbell**



June 18, 1930 -
March 6, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1948

Hailed from: Bethlehem, PA

Rest in Peace Shipmate

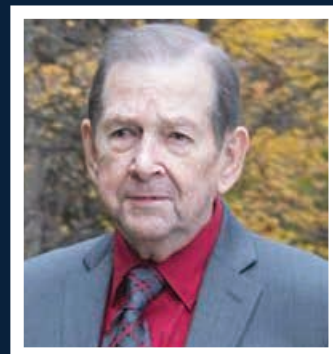


Remembering

**John "Jack"
Stempick**



December 2, 1931 -
March 12, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 1954

Rate: SN 2nd Division

Hailed from: Hamden, CT

Rest in Peace Shipmate

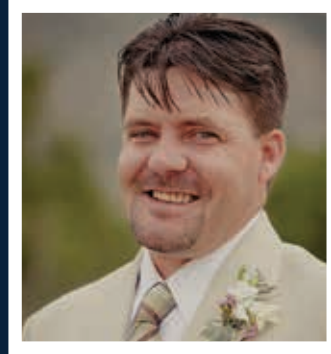




Remembering
**Nicholas
Weber**



January 28, 1972 -
April 21, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1990 - 1992

Rate: SN Deck Department

Hailed from: Albuquerque, NM

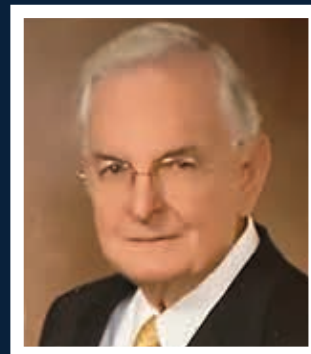
Rest in Peace Shipmate



Remembering
**Jack
Kramer**



August 27, 1931 -
May 15, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1952 - 1954

Rate: ATAN V Division

Rest in Peace Shipmate



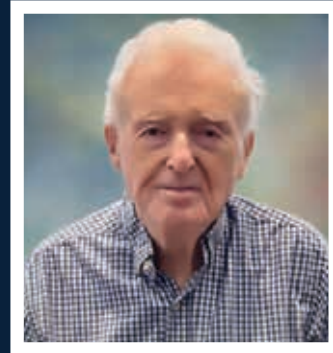


Remembering

Paul "Mac" McClintock



April 5, 1928 -
June 27, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1947 - 1948

Rate: S1C Radio Operator Translating
Morse Code

Hailed from: Hamill, SD

Rest in Peace Shipmate

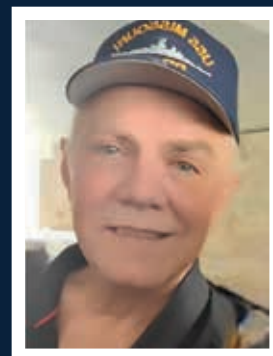


Remembering

William "Bill" Hall



June 24, 1954 -
July 26, 2024



USS Missouri Crewmember

Years: 1985 - 1988

Rate: GMG2 G3 Division

Hailed from: Wintersville, OH

Rest in Peace Shipmate

