



## THE MAGOFFIN MESSENGER

The Newsletter of USS Magoffin (APA-199)

Veteran's Association

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(800) 621-5950

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*The Magoffin Messenger is a quarterly publication for and by the members of the USS Magoffin Veteran's Association. This newsletter as well as a wealth of other USS Magoffin information and history may be found at:  
[www.ussmagoffin.org](http://www.ussmagoffin.org)*

### President's Message

Well shipmates, the calendar says that spring is almost here. That means we are about a year away from our next reunion. The site will be San Antonio, Texas, but we haven't firmed up the dates or the hotel as of yet. We have proposals from what I am guessing is every hotel in the area, and there are some really great ones from which to choose.

My thoughts, after talking to several of you, is to try something a tad bit different this time: chose a very nice hotel that is in a nice location on the River Walk. That would put everyone smack dab in the middle of most of the sights and activities of San Antonio. If we cut way back on the organized tours, and maybe take one tour to the air base or somewhere, then we can let everyone go on liberty in the area, kind of on their own. They can see the things that interest them, and still spend plenty of time in the hospitality room visiting and telling sea stories. There are normally enough people that drive in, so that if folks team up and want to go to a special place on their own, they may. The city public transportation is rated as excellent, so that is another option for getting around.

If we chose the right hotel, with the amenities we need included in the rate, and do only one tour and the banquet, it will cut costs for everyone, and perhaps make it possible for more of the crew to attend. In the next couple of weeks, give me your feedback on this, and we will do whatever the majority thinks is the way to go. The San Antonio tourist bureau has made it very clear that they will be more than glad to help us organize and book as many, or as few tours as we want. Start making your plans to come to San Antonio, and we will have more of the details available in the next newsletter. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there next spring.

Now onto the issue of the assistance fund: after checking the wording of the minutes of the crew meeting held in Nashville, it has been determined that the assistance fund has not been done away with. It will not be funded from monies made from the raffle. The money that the Treasurer had for the fund prior to Nashville will remain as such. Any further funds will come from members who wish to contribute to the fund directly. Money can be added when you send in your dues, or sent directly to the Treasurer for that purpose. The fund will stay as is, with the caps and restrictions in place that have been used in the past. I think that because this issue has caused a rift in the membership, it would not do anyone any good to try to rehash this issue in the future. If you feel that the fund is for a good cause, donate to it.

The next issue on my agenda that I would like discussed between now and the next meeting, is possibly funding the Association's application to the Navy Memorial for a wall plaque. The Memorial has been in contact with me and I will bring all their information and requirements to present at the meeting. It is somewhat expensive, but not undoable.

Kay and I want to send out our deepest condolences to the families of our shipmates that have passed recently.

James "Bucky" Earven  
President, USS Magoffin APA-199 Veterans Association  
385 Howardsville Road, Staunton VA 24401-5749  
Phone: 540-337-0290 Cell: 540-448-5777 Fax: 540-337-1775 email: [earven@verizon.net](mailto:earven@verizon.net)

## Vice-President's Message

Les Wilson passed away on February 17, 2011. I received an e-mail and copy of the obituary from the funeral home that was handling the arrangements. The note from the young woman just said that Les had passed, and he had asked that a copy of the obituary be sent to me to pass along to his Magoffin shipmates.

I didn't serve on the Magoffin until 1961 when Les had already returned to civilian life after his service during the Korean Conflict. My first ship's reunion was in Tucson and I'm sure that was where I first met Les & Betty. Their last reunion was in 2006 in San Diego.

Sometime later Les contacted me and told me that because of their age that they wouldn't be able to travel to any future reunions, but wished us all well in the upcoming reunion in Colorado Springs.

I told Les how much we all appreciated his service to the Association and I told him that I thought he must have been a great naval officer.

I didn't know until last week that Les had also served during WWII, and had been called back to duty for service on the Magoffin during the Korean Conflict.

I began to think about the officers of the Magoffin, and realized that the vast majority of them were not career naval officers, but rather citizens like Les who spent their service time and then went on to enjoy their careers in the private or public sector, raised their families, and contributed to the fabric of this great nation, similar to the majority of us "white hats" that did their enlistment time and then went on to their careers.

In closing I would say that all of us who either served with Les aboard ship, or just had the shared experience of being with him at our reunions were truly enhanced by the experience.

Mike Stein  
Vice-President

## Treasurer's Report

Joe Beninato has provided the following Bank Reconciliation as of March 16, 2011

<b>USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION</b>		
<b>BANK RECONCILIATION</b>		
<b>Year-to-Date March 16, 2011</b>		
<b>BEGINNING BANK BALANCE 01/01/11</b>		<b>\$17,694.55</b>
<b><u>CASH RECEIPTS</u></b>		
Dues	\$800.00	
Ship's Store	261.90	
Reunion	0.00	
Scholarship Fund	110.00	
Plaques	0.00	
	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>1,171.90</b>
<b><u>CHECK DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>		
Postage	(\$100.00)	
Awards	0.00	
Telephone (800)	0.00	
Shipstore	(115.40)	
Reunion Expenses	0.00	
Plaques	0.00	
Moorhead State Transfer	0.00	
Newsletter	(165.41)	
Membership Cards	0.00	
Checks & Deposits Tickets	0.00	
	<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>(380.81)</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE 03/16/</b>		<b>\$18,485.64</b>
(Broken Down as Follows)		
<b>Welfare Fund</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Education Fund Beginning 01/01/10</b>	<b>\$1,025.00</b>	
Reunion	0.00	
Disbursement	0.00	
Transferred to Moorehead State	0.00	
Donations Jan-Dec 2010	0.00	
<b><u>Education Ending Balance</u></b>		<b>\$1,025.00</b>
<b><u>General Fund Ending Balance 03/16/2011</u></b>		<b>\$15,960.64</b>

## OBITUARY

Leslie J. Wilson, of Falmouth, died on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at Royal Megansett Nursing Home. He was 87 years old. He is survived by his wife Betty (Smith) Wilson; they had been married for 59 years.

He was born in Des Moines, Iowa, the son of Leslie J. Wilson, Sr. and Florence (Black) Wilson. He attended Dowling High School and Dowling Junior College in Des Moines, and was graduated cum laude from Fordham University.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as communications officer of the USS Admiral Hugh Rodman. He was recalled to active duty during the Korean Conflict, serving as communications officer of the USS Magoffin and of the USS Rankin, as well as on the staff of Commander, Transport Division 13. He held the rank of Lieutenant, USNR, Retired.

His first employment in 1947 was with the New York publishing firm of Prentice-Hall, Inc., where he met his future wife, also an employee of the firm. Immediately after their marriage in 1952, they moved to Boston, where he joined Addison-Wesley Publishing Company of Reading, MA. During his 33 years with Addison-Wesley, he held a variety of editorial, marketing and management positions. During his last few years with the firm, he traveled widely in Europe, Latin America and the Pacific as an executive of the International Division. He retired as Corporate Vice President in 1985.

During the 29 years that he and his wife lived in Wakefield, Massachusetts, he was active in community affairs. He was elected for five three-year terms as a Trustee of the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library and served as chairman of that body. For some 15 years, he was a Trustee of the Melrose-Wakefield Hospital; during 11 of those years he was a member of the Executive Committee of the board, and of the Joint Conference Committee. He was a past president of St. Joseph's Holy Name Society, and was honored by that society as an Outstanding Catholic Man of the Year. He served for over 20 years as a Trustee of the Wakefield Savings Bank, and had been a member of the auditing and compensation committees. He was also a member of Wakefield Council 104, Knights of Columbus, and later, Falmouth Council 813, where he was an honorary life member. He was a communicant of St. Patrick's Church, in Falmouth.

In 1978, he and his wife purchased a condominium at Wood Rise and became year-round weekenders, getting to know many people in Falmouth. Upon his retirement in 1985 they became permanent residents of Falmouth. He shared his wife's interests in travel, reading and golf. He was a member of the Woods Hole Golf Club, a former member of its Board of Governors and a past president of the Senior-Seniors.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 AM on Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> in St. Patrick's Church, 511 Main St., Falmouth, MA. Burial will follow in the VA National Cemetery in Bourne.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Cape Cod Healthcare Foundation, P.O. Box 370, Hyannis, MA 02601 and Falmouth Service Center, 611 Gifford Street., Falmouth, MA 02540-2947.

For online guestbook and directions, please visit [www.ccgfuneralhome.com](http://www.ccgfuneralhome.com).

## MEMBERSHIP STATUS LISTING

Here's a listing as of March 16, 2011 showing the membership status of Crew Members:

### New Member

Larry Brooks of Black Hawk, South Dakota joined in January 2011. Larry served as an E-3 in the Operations Department during 1965-1966. Welcome aboard, Larry.

### Life Members

Jane Adams, Evelyn Agostini, Elsie Betz, Carol Carey, Betty Childress, Celeste Graves, Dianne Guido, Marylou Jardine, Ruth Latham, Marilyn Petruzzi, Wilma Phares, Charlene Pope, Betty Raich, Macky Reece, Wilma Schanzenbach, Betty Jo Taylor, Donna Tessar, Betty Wilson, Keta Woodall

### Members with dues paid thru 2010

Richard Bee, Joseph Beninato, Mac Christy, Michael Dejarnette, David Engelmann, Francis J. Fitzpatrick, Ray Furlow, William Hancock, Joe Holloman, Ronald Huntress, Carl E. Jennings, Theodore Jones, Lawrence Kahbeah, Ed Kopczynski, Wendell Lackner, Jerry Lopez, Tom Lopez, George Macioce, Fred Mackenzie, Robert Mancuso, Michael McGraw, Dennis Molloy, Louis Noll, Donald Ogborn, Albert Oliveria, Charles Peterson, G. Rasmussen, Daniel Rech, Mike Riley, Ellis Roth, Pat Savage, Fred Small, Gene Spores, Michael G. Stevens, Wayne Swary, Harlan Truxillo, Charles Whiteley, Jack Wright,

### Members with dues paid thru 2011

Clyde Alexander, Craig Anderson, Bill Berglin, Vernon Bidinger, Kit Birkett, Larry Brooks, Floyd Carper, Jr., Wayne Chapman, F. E. Bud Church, Arthur Corral, John Crowley, Dick Dickerson, Wesley Eaton, Daryl Ellif, Al Gaskill, Richard Gehrich, Paul H. Goguen, William Gossett, Jr., Don Hummel, Guy Johnson, Terry Key, Robert King, Erwin Langlo, Thomas Lovett, Dan Lukensow, William McIntyre, Bruce Melsha, Andrew Miller, James Mozis, Robert O'Brien, Robert Olson, Charles Phipps, Ralph D. "Tex" Railey, William Ring, Emory Riseley, Claude Rubeling, Don Schirmer, Ronald Shreffler, Wallace Shropshire, Martin Sours, John G. Spiese, Ralph Springer, Mark Strohman, Bill Stutzman, Ted Vonasek, Bill Wall, Thomas A. Ward, Gilbert Wayson, Wallace Wilhelm, Jesse Wilkenson, Thomas Williamson

### Members with dues paid thru 2012

Paul Andress, Willis Anson, Terry Barta, D.A. Beals, Dan Biggio, Jack Donnell, L.G. Duncan, Jeff Eagon, James Earven, M. Allan Frank, Jack W. Hagg, Thomas Haglage, Don Hellmann, Paul Houze, Jack Johnson, Herald Lowther, Terry Mackey, Robert Marcus, Derrell Maroney, John Masters, Billy Maxwell, Richard McDonald, Jerry Miihlbach, David Moore, Michael O'Hara, Donald E. Pavey, E.E. Renfro, Emmon Rogers, Sam Rubin, James Saeugling, William Schulz, Mike Stein, Gerald Swanson, Jack Tyson, Richard Wall, Robert Youngs

### Members paid through 2013 and later

Merble Belin 2013, Raymond Cheely 2013, Lester Gideon 2013, Eugene Walker 2013, Keith Kyle 2014, Terrence Little 2014, Fred Miller 2014, Ross C. Sakers, Jr. 2014, Pat Patterson, MD 2015, Joe Ford 2016, George Fotis 2016, Don Culpepper 2018, Karl Tellefsen 2019, Charles Krebbs 2020, Al Poortvliet 2020

### Renew Your Membership

Dues for 2011 and future years are presently \$20.00 per year, as approved by the membership at the Crew Meeting at the Norfolk Reunion in May 2009. Dues payments received after March 16, 2011 will be reflected in the next issue of the Magoffin Messenger. If you are paying pay your dues for 2011, 2012, 2013 or beyond, please use the form below:

### USS MAGOFFIN VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES PAYMENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Payment for which Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Years Onboard Magoffin \_\_\_\_\_

Rate/Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

USS Magoffin Association.

Membership Dues are \$20.00 per year

Mail dues payments to:

USS Magoffin Association

Mr. Joe Beninato, Treasurer

61 Macy Street

Raynham, MA 02767

### Six Former Crew Members Pass Away

The officers and directors of the association extend sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following former crew members:

<u>Crew Member</u>	<u>On Board</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Frank Lee Kennon	1944-1946	09/24/2010
Eugene Crowley	1944-1946	11/20/2010
William F. Dooley	1954-1957	12/15/2010
Leslie Wilson	1950-1952	02/17/2011
Leo R. Ayers, Jr.	1964-1966	02/15/2011
Bill Betz, Jr.	1952-1957	03/07/2011

**Items available from the Ship's Store are listed below:**

**USS Magoffin Baseball Cap** – High Quality dark blue adjustable cap with "USS Magoffin APA-199" and the ship's picture on the front. \$15.00 each.

**The Magoffin Coffee Mug** – Ceramic Mug with the ship's logo, picture of the Magoffin and "No Beach Beyond Our Reach" printed on it. \$10.00 each

**The Magoffin Tee Shirt** – White brand name tee shirt with "USS Magoffin" and the ship's picture on the front. Various sizes: S, M, L, XL, & XXL. \$15.00 each. See [www.ussmagoffin.org](http://www.ussmagoffin.org) for more information on sizes and colors.

**The Magoffin Lapel Pin** – Pin has the ship's logo on an enameled base. \$5.00 each.

**The Magoffin Patch** – A 3" patch to sew on your jacket or vest. \$5.00

**Magoffin Can Cooler (Coozies)** - Keep your beverage cool and show pride in your ship. Available in a variety of colors, Red, Green, Black, Light Blue, Navy Blue. \$3.00 each.

**Magoffin Letter Opener** – Great for zipping open envelopes. \$2.00 each.

**Pins from past reunions** – Norfolk, Colorado and San Diego pins are available. \$4.00 each.

**Special Order High Quality Collared "USS Magoffin" shirts.** These shirts may be ordered with or without pockets and various colors (maroon, red, gold, oxford gray & navy blue) are available. The lettering and ship's outline look great on the front of the shirt. Contact Ray Furlow at 1-888-893-4347 for more information or check out details on the Magoffin website, [www.ussmagoffin.org](http://www.ussmagoffin.org). Prices vary, but start at under \$20.00 plus shipping of \$5.00 for one shirt. These shirts are great.

**ORDER FORM FOR THE SHIP'S STORE**

Please send me the following items from the Ship's Store:

Item Description	Color	Size	Quantity	Price	Subtotal
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Shipping Charges: Up to \$25 order – add \$7.00, \$25.01 to \$50.00 – add \$9.00  
 \$50.01 to \$75.00 order – add \$12.00, \$75.01 to \$100.00 order – add \$16.00

Enclose a check or money order made payable to USS Magoffin Association and mail to: Total Order Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Ray Furlow  
 USS Magoffin Veteran's Association  
 2525 Cobden School Road  
 Cobden, Illinois 62920

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Charley the Wal-Mart greeter

Charley, a new retiree greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean shaven, sharp minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. "Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a fantastic job, but your being late so often is bothersome.

"Yes, I know boss, and I am working on it" said Charley.

"Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear. It's odd, though, your coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say if you came in late there?"

"They said, 'Good morning, Admiral. May I get you a cup of coffee, sir?'"

*From Tom Haglage.*

USS Magoffin (APA-199)  
1944 to 1946 and 1950 to 1968

"No beach beyond our reach"

*Watch for news about the  
Spring 2012 Reunion in  
San Antonio, Texas in  
Future newsletters*

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