

# THE MAGOFFIN MESSENGER

The Newsletter of USS Magoffin (APA-199)

Veteran's Association

Issue number 40

Winter, 2007



## Association Officers (800) 621-5950

### **President**

Mike Stein

### **Vice President**

Jim Earven

### **Secretary**

Tom Haglage

### **Treasurer**

Joe Beninato

### **Director**

Chuck Whiteley

### **Director**

Dick Dickenson

### **Director**

Bill Berglin

### **Director**

Jerry Lopez

### **Director**

Mac Christy

### **Director**

Carl Jennins

### **Chaplin/Director**

Ed Koczynski

### **Master at Arms**

L.G.Duncan

### **Bosun**

Pasquale Guido

### **Historian/Editor/**

### **Webmaster**

Terry Little

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

## President's Message

I hope this newsletter finds all our crewmembers in good health and enjoying the holidays. As noted in other parts of the newsletter, we are moving forward to put into place the mechanism to enact the "Shipmate Assistance Program" before our next reunion in Norfolk, Va. I would like to thank those crewmembers on both sides of the issue who took the time to contact members of the committee to express their opinions. We will have the outline of the program in place and will share it with the membership in the spring newsletter. I also would like to recognize Mac Christy for his leadership on this issue.

Vice-President Jim Earven is working diligently on putting together the program for the Norfolk reunion that will take place in a little over one year. During that pending time period, I would ask each crewmember to reach out to his closest shipmate from his Magoffin days and encourage that member

to make every effort to attend. I know that many shipmates feel that they might not know anyone from their crew, and that is true. That was my first experience in Tucson. However I made new friends at that reunion and shipmates and family members that I have met since have become part of our Magoffin Family, be they from the 40's, 50's, or 60's. We all have a common bond in that we were proud crewmembers of the "Maggie."

Now is time to pat yourselves on the back. The Scholarship Fund at Morehead State totals \$40,570.09. Well done!

Doris and I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mike Stein - President

## A Personal Opinion by the Editor

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This has been a productive year for the association. The Scholarship fund is in great shape and will be able to provide help to a Magoffin County High School Senior for years to come, Membership is up and dues receipts are up. The new Shipmate Assistance program is taking shape thanks to the hard work of Mac Christy. He and a couple of other members have been working to give form and substance to this new program. I will keep the membership updated as to the program's progress as we go along.

When I offered my objections to the program in the last newsletter there were some things that I wasn't aware of and perhaps you weren't either.

1. The association is not a "Not for Profit". This allows the association to have an assistance program without violating the law.

2. The association is not incorporated. That means that we are truly a democracy and can do what the membership wants.

I received a number of emails and letters about my last column. I have decided not to publish them because it would require a complete issue to do so.

*Continued on Page 3*

## Haze Gray and Underway

This is the way it was. Every time I start missing old "haze gray and underway," I go through this list. Funny stuff and right on target. - Author unknown.

1. Buy a steel dumpster, paint it gray inside and out, and live in it for six months.
2. Run all the pipes and wires in your house exposed on the walls.
3. Repaint your entire house every month.
4. Renovate your bathroom. Build a wall across the middle of the bathtub and move the shower head to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you turn off the water while you soap down.
5. Put lube oil in your humidifier and set it on high.
6. Once a week, blow compressed air up your chimney, making sure the wind carries the soot onto your neighbor's house. Ignore his complaints.
7. Once a month, take all major appliances apart and then reassemble them.
8. Raise the thresholds and lower the headers of your front and back doors so that you either trip or bang your head every time you pass through them.
9. Disassemble and inspect your lawnmower every week.
10. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, turn your water heater temperature up to 200 degrees. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, turn the water heater off. On Saturdays and Sundays tell your family they use too much water during the week, so no bathing will be allowed.
11. Raise your bed to within 10 inches of the ceiling, so you can't turn over without getting out and then getting back in.
12. Sleep on the shelf in your closet. Replace the closet door with a curtain. Have your spouse whip open the curtain about 3 hours after you go to sleep, shine a flashlight in your eyes and say "Sorry, wrong rack."
13. Make your family qualify to operate each appliance in your house. (dishwasher operator, blender technician, et cetera.)
14. Have your neighbor come over each day at 5 AM, blow a whistle so loud Helen Keller could hear it, and shout "Reveille, reveille, all hands heave out and trice up."
15. Have your mother-in-law write down everything she's going to do the following day, then have her make you stand in your back yard at 6 AM while she reads it to you.

*Continued next column*

16. Submit a request chit to your father-in-law requesting permission to leave your house before 3 PM.

17. Empty all the garbage bins in your house and sweep the driveway three times a day, whether it needs it or not "Now sweepers, sweepers, man your brooms, give the ship a clean sweep down fore and aft, empty all trash cans over the fantail."

18. Have your neighbor collect all your mail for a month, read your magazines and randomly lose every 5th item before delivering it to you.

19. Watch no TV except for movies played in the middle of the night. Have your family vote on which movie to watch, then show a different one.

20. When your children are in bed, run into their room with a megaphone shouting that your home is under attack and ordering them to their battle stations "Now general quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations."

21. Make your family menu a week ahead of time without consulting the pantry or refrigerator.

22. Post a menu on the kitchen door informing your family that they are having steak for dinner. Then make them wait in line for an hour. When they finally get to the kitchen, tell them you are out of steak, but they can have dried ham or hot dogs. Repeat daily until they ignore the menu and just ask for hot dogs.

23. Bake a cake. Prop up one side of the pan so the cake bakes unevenly. Spread icing real thick to level it off.

24. Get up every night around midnight and have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on stale bread.

25. Set your alarm clock to go off at random during the night. At the alarm, jump up and dress as fast as you can, making sure to button your top shirt button and tuck your pants into your socks. Run out into the backyard and uncoil the garden hose.

26. Every week or so, throw your cat or dog in the pool and shout "Man overboard port side." Rate your family members on how fast they respond.

27. Put the headphones from your stereo on your head, but don't plug them in. Hang a paper cup around your neck on a string. Stand in front of the stove, and speak into the paper cup "Stove manned and ready." After an hour or so, speak into the cup again "Stove secured." Roll up the headphones and paper cup and stow them in a shoe box.

28. Place a podium at the end of your driveway. Have your family stand watches at the podium, rotating at 4 hour intervals. This is best done when the weather is worst. January is a good time.

*Continued next page*

### Haze Gray and Underway (Continued)

29. When a thunderstorm is in your area, get a wobbly rocking chair, sit in it and rock as hard as you can until you become nauseous. Make sure to have a supply of stale crackers in your shirt pocket.

30. For former engineers: Bring your lawn mower into the living room, and run it all day long.

31. Make coffee using eighteen scoops of budget priced coffee grounds per pot. Allow the pot to simmer 5 hours before drinking.

32. Have someone under the age of ten give you a haircut with sheep shears.

33. Sew the back pockets of your jeans on the front.

34. Every couple of weeks, dress up in your best clothes and go to the scummiest part of town. Find the most rundown trashiest bar. Drink beer until you are hammered. Walk all the way home.

35. Lock yourself and your family in the house for six weeks. Tell them that at the end of the 6th week you are going to take them to Disney World for "liberty." At the end of the 6th week, inform them the trip to Disney World has been canceled because they need to get ready for an inspection, and it will be another week before they can leave the house.

Sure do miss your time in the Navy

Merry Christmas you swabbies. and other pollywogs.

**From Mac Christy**

### Editors Opinion (Continued)

Suffice it to say that the opinions were divided with strong feeling on both sides.

The fact of the matter is that the program was voted in. There is no legal objection. The program will be instituted.

On a personal note - My niece just returned from her second Iraq deployment and made First Class, my next niece who is in the Army just made E-5, got married, and deploys to Afghanistan in April and in my third niece, who is in the Airforce is still an E-4 and is deploying to Qatar in February. (They all love one another but would never want to run the chance of being in the same service.)

Judi and I hosted Thanksgiving for 8 soldiers from Fort Campbell, KY

### Deaths in the Military

Below is some very interesting data referencing deaths in the military. I guarantee you will not read this in your local newspaper nor will you see it on the daily news broadcast.

#### Deaths in the Military

1980 .....	2,392	1981 .....	2,380
1982 .....	2,318	1983 .....	2,465
1984 .....	1,999	1985 .....	2,252
1986 .....	1,984	1987 .....	1,983
1988 .....	1,819	1989 .....	1,636
1990 .....	1,508	1991 .....	1,787
1992 .....	1,293	1993 .....	1,213
1994 .....	1,075	1995 .....	1,040
1996 .....	974	1997 .....	817
1998 .....	826	1999 .....	795
2000 .....	774	2001 .....	890
2002 .....	1007	2003 .....	1,410 [534*]
2004 .....	1,887		[900*]
2005 .....			[919*]
2006 .....			[920*]

Figures so noted with an asterisk (\*) indicates deaths as a result of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

You may initially feel confused when you look at these figures --especially when you see that in 1980, during the term of President Jimmy Carter, there were 2,392 US military fatalities. What this clearly indicates is that our media and our liberal politicians pick and choose and tend to present only those facts that support their agenda driven reporting. Another fact our left media and politicians like to slant is that these brave men and women losing their lives are minorities. Wrong again -

The latest census shows the following:

European descent (white) .....	69.12%
Hispanic .....	12.5%
African American .....	12.3%
Asian .....	3.7%
Native American .....	1.0%
Other .....	2.6%

The fatalities over the past three years in Iraqi Freedom are:

European descent (white) .....	74.31%
Hispanic .....	10.74%
African American ...	9.67%
Asian .....	1.81%
Native American .....	1.09%
Other .....	2.33%

These statistics are published by DOD and may be viewed at: American War and Military Operations Casualties: Lists and Statistics  
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL32492.pdf>

### Hand Salute

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma) today praised the passage by unanimous consent of his bill (S.1877) clarifying U.S. law to allow veterans and servicemen not in uniform to salute the Flag.

Current law (US Code Title 4, Chapter 1) states that veterans and servicemen not in uniform should place their hand over their heart without clarifying whether they can or should salute the Flag.

"The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service, Senator Inhofe said. "Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform. Unfortunately, current U.S. law leaves confusion as to whether veterans and service members out of uniform can or should salute the Flag. My legislation will clarify this regulation, allowing veterans and servicemen alike to salute the flag, whether they are in uniform or not.

"I look forward to seeing those who have served saluting proudly at baseball games, parades, and formal events. I believe this is an appropriate way to honor and recognize the 25 million veterans in the United States who have served in the military and remain as role models to others citizens. Those who are currently serving or have served in the military have earned this right, and their recognition will be an inspiration to others.

This Bill was passed July 25, 2007. Please let your veteran friends know about the passage of this Bill.

**Thanks to Sam Rubin for this information**

### Welcome Aboard

Welcome aboard to the following new Member

- Martin Sours of Phoenix, AZ. Martin was an Ensign in charge of 3rd division from 1962 through 1964.

### Ship's Store

The Ship's Store is now reopen and ready for business. Ray Furlow has restocked many of the old items and has added some new ones.

Magoffin "T" Shirts -	\$15.00 each
Magoffin Ball Caps -	\$15.00 each
Magoffin Patches - 3 inch	\$ 5.00 each
Magoffin Coffee Mugs	\$10.00 each
Magoffin Pins	\$ 5.00 each
Colorado Reunion Pins	\$ 4.00 each
California Reunion Pins	\$ 4.00 each

To order items, please include this form -

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ "T" Shirts @ 15.00 ea = \_\_\_\_\_

XL \_\_\_\_\_ Lge \_\_\_\_\_ Med \_\_\_\_\_ Small \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Ball Caps (1 size fits all) @ \$15.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Patches @ \$5.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Coffee Mugs @ \$10.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Magoffin Pins @ \$5.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Colorado Reunion Pins @ \$4.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

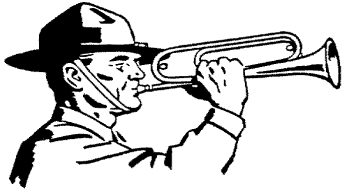
\_\_\_\_\_ California Reunion Pins @ \$4.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Please make out your check or money order to: -  
**USS Magoffin Association**

And mail it with this completed form to  
Ray Furlow  
USS Magoffin Association  
2525 Cobden School Rd,  
Cobden IL 62920

If you need additional information please email -  
rsfurlow@hotmail.com



## TAPS

### James E. Gallo

Fire Control Technician G First Class James E. "Jim" Gallo, U.S. Navy retired, 79, passed away Sept. 10, 2007, in Sentara Leigh Hospital. He was predeceased by his father, Michael Gallo; his mother, Caroline Gallo; and his brother, Eugene Gallo. A native of Adena, Ohio, Jim honorably served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1948 to 1973. During his long naval career, he served aboard the USS Missouri, USS Newport News, USS Berry, USS Magoffin, USS Sylvania and the USS Canisteo. He was one of the two sailors selected from the entire USS Navy to test the Vulcan Gun System aboard the USS Canisteo. Jim was assigned to shore duty in Orange, Texas, shore duty at Little Creek, Va., and instructor duty at Dam Neck Training Center, Va. He retired from AMSU at Little Creek. He was a member of Fleet Reserve Association Branch 5 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post No. 4809. For many years, Jim was a waiter/night manager at the Breezy Point Club, NAS Norfolk and a bartender at the Helm/456 Club, Little Creek Amphibious Base. After he retired from the U.S. Navy he worked for Yates Business Systems and Remco Business Systems. Jim is survived by Phana, his wife of 55 years; his son, James E. "Jim" (Deborah) Gallo Jr. of Montclair, Va.; two daughters, Sarita (Christopher) Bizjak of Culpeper, Va., and Felicia Gayda of Fairfax, Va.; Jim will be deeply missed but never forgotten by his family and friends who cherished him for his sweet, gentle, loving, kind and selfless nature. The Gallo family would like to express their gratitude to all the doctors, nurses and medical personnel who took such great care of Jim during his illness. Jim's family would also like to thank all of their friends for their prayers, love and support during this most difficult time. A memorial service to celebrate Jim's life will be held in St. John's United Methodist Church at 11 a.m. today. The Rev. E. Clifton Whitlock will officiate at the service. Jim donated his body for scientific research. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial donations be made to the American Lung Association or to St. John's United Methodist Church Capital Improvement Fund, 2709 Green-dale Ave., Norfolk, VA 23518.

## Former Skipper Update

Thanks to Mike Stein, our president and an inveterate Googler, here is some information about one of the Magoffin's former skippers.

**JAMES F. BRADLEY, JR.** - He was graduated from USNA in June 1944 as an Ensign. After Amphibious Training he was spot promoted to full Lieutenant and took command of USS *LST890*. He made a logistic landing at Iwo Jima and on April 1, 1945 was in the first beaching wave at Okinawa. He was relieved and reported to staff (COMPHIBPAC) and participated in planning for the invasion of Japan. (Operation Olympic) After WW-II he served as Aide to COMJOINTASK ONE) and observed the nuclear bomb tests at Bikini Atoll. In 1947, he attended Submarine school and served in USS *Sablefish* (SS303). He was later Executive Officer USS *Cobler* and commanded USS *Guavina* (AGSS362) USS *Batfish* (SS303). He then served as Executive Officer U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, CT. when the Polaris system became operable. He was appointed to U.S. Embassy, Bonn, Germany as assistant Naval Attaché. During the Vietnam War he commanded USS *Magoffin* (APA-199) and made 3 landings of Marines to support U.S. Army on Operations Hammer and Anvil. He was assigned to the Intelligence Division of OPNAV and became the director of Undersea Warfare in ONI. He was also the Navy representative on the National Undersea Reconnaissance Office (NURO). He was responsible for all Submarine Special Ops world wide. He retired in February, 1974 and went to work for Westinghouse Electric Corp. and served in Europe as the senior vice president of Europe, Mid-East and North Africa. He retired from Westinghouse in 1988 after living in Europe for 16 years. He is married to the former Miss Peggy Roedlett of Pehlam, NJ and they have two daughters, Ricky and Gayle.

His significant decorations are: Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit (2), U.S. Navy Commendation Medals (2) and the Service Cross, First Class, of the Republic of Germany.

**Members with dues paid through '07**

Joseph Beninato, Bill Berglin, Kit Birkett, Rolland Bispo, Jimmy D. Charlton, F.E. Bud Church, William "Bill" Cigler, John Crowley, Jack Donnell, Welsey Eaton, Joe E.Flanagan,Robert Foster, Al Gaskill, Richard Gehrlch, Hugh Griffith Jr., Pasquale Guido, Thomas Haglage, David W. Hammond, Paul Houze, Carl E. Jennings, Guy Johnson, Sheldon Jones, Lawrence Kahbeah, Herald Lowther, Fred Mackenzie, John Martin, Fred Miller, Tom Moore, Michael O'Hara, Robert Paquette, Charles Peterson, Daniel Rech, Merval Rhodes, Emmon Rogers, Bill Showler, Ronald Shreffler, Larry Skero, Vince Skero, Harold Skow, Richard Snodgrass, Gerald Swanson, Bill Wall, Gilbert Wayson, James Wilson,

**Members with dues paid through '08**

Alonzo Aguilar, Craig Anderson, Leo Ayers, Tom Baker, Terry Barta, Merble Bellin , Ronald Bjork, Bob Blower,Wayne Chapman, Raymond Cheely, Daniel Childress, Mac Christy, Don Culpepper, James A. DeWitt, Harold Drugan, Kenneth Duttarer, Daryl Elliff, Dave Engelman, George Fortis, Lester Gideon, Jack W. Hagg, Joseph Hogard, Roy Jones, Theodore-Jones, Terry Key, Ed Kopczynski, Jerry Lopez, George Macioce, Dennis Molloy, Robert Marcus, Billy Maxwell, William McIntyre, Bruce Melsha, James Mozis, Daniel Mullen, Wesley Neal, Robert O'Brien, Donald D. Ogburn, Albert Oliveria, Robert Olson, Russ Osborne, Pat Patterson MD, John J. Pearce, EE Renfro, William Ring, Emory Riseley, Ellis Roth, Sam Rubin, Don Schirmer, Richard Scott, Fred Small, Martin Sours, John G.Spiese, Ray Spinks, Bill Stutzman, Wayne Swary, Jim Taylor, William Tracy, Jim Transou, John Tull, Charles Whiteley, Jesse Wilkinson, Thomas Williamson,

**Life Members**

John Adams - Pete Agostini - Junior Carey- James Graves - Lawson Hornor- Charles Jardine - William Kershner, - GeorgeLatham Jr. - Billy Joe Logson - Harold McElroy- Tom Nass - Joseph Petruzzi- Richard Phares- John Pope - Luke Raich - Harold Reece - Wilton Schanzenbach - Thomas Tessar

**Members with dues paid past '08**

Clyde Alexander, Paul Andres, Willis Anson, D. A. Beals. Richard Bee, Bill Betz Jr., Vernon Bidingier, Floyd Carper, Jr., Arthur Corral, Thomas R. Cota, Michael Dejarnette, Dick Dickenson, L.G. Duncan, Jeff Eagon, James Earven, M. Allan Frank,

Ray Furlow, Paul H. Goguen, William Gossett Jr. William Hancock, DonHellmann, Robert Henderson, Don Hummel, Jack L. Johnson, Robert King, Charles Krebs, Keith Kyle, Wendell Lackner, Erwin Langlo, Terrence J. Little, John B. Little Jr., Thomas Lovett, Dan Lukensow, William Lutz Jr., Terry Mackey, Derrell Maroney, John Masters, Richard McDonald, Jerry Mhlbach, David Moore, Louis Noll, Donald E Pavey, Charles Phipps, Al Poortvliet, G. Rasmussen, Mike Riley, Claude Rubeling, James Saeugling, Ross C. Sakers Jr., Pat Savage, William Schulz, Wallace Shropshire, Harry Simpson, Ralph Springer, Michael P. Stein, Michael G. Stevens, Karl Tellefsen, Harlan Truxillo, Jack Tyson, Ted Vonasek, Richard Wall, Thomas A. Ward, Wallace Wilhelm, Leslie Wilson, Howard Wood, Jack Wright, Robert Youngs

**Renew Your Membership!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

What year(s) are these dues for? \_\_\_\_\_

Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Years on the Magoffin - From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$10.00 per year.

**Please make checks payable to - USS Magoffin Association**

**Please mail dues to:**

**USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION  
Mr. Joe Beninato, Treasurer  
61 Sunrise Drive - Edison, NJ 08817**

**USS MAGOFFIN ASSOCIATION  
Bank Reconciliation  
Year To Date**

BEGINNING BANK BALANCE 01/01/07	\$ 18,217.52
CASH RECEIPTS	
Dues	\$ 2790.00
Ship Store	876.50
Reunion	17,072.00
Scholarship Fund	316.00
Welfare Fund	1,316.00
Total Receipts	\$22,070.50
CHECK DISBURSEMENTS	
Awards	(95.81)
Telephone (800)	(41.50)
Shipstore	(959.26)
Reunion Expenses	(16,653.32)
Moorhead State Transfer	(5,000.00)
Newsletter	(944.08)
Scholarship	-
Total Disbursements	(23,693.97)
ENDING BALANCE	\$16,594.07
(Broken Down as Follows)	
Education Fund Beginning 01/01/07	\$ 5,065.00
Disbursement transferred to Morehead State	(5,000.00)
Donations Jan-Dec 2007	<u>316.00</u>
Education Ending Balance 8/31//07	<u>\$ 381.00</u>
General Operating Fund 8 /31,/2007	<u>\$ 16,213.05</u>

*Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year to the  
Ships Company*

*from the Officers and Trustee of the  
USS Magoffin (AFA-199)  
Veteran's Association*

**A True Story**

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies school teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks out of her classroom.

When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks. Looking around, confused, they asked, "Ms. Cothren, where're our desks?" She replied, "You can't have a desk until you tell me what you have done to earn the right to sit at a desk."

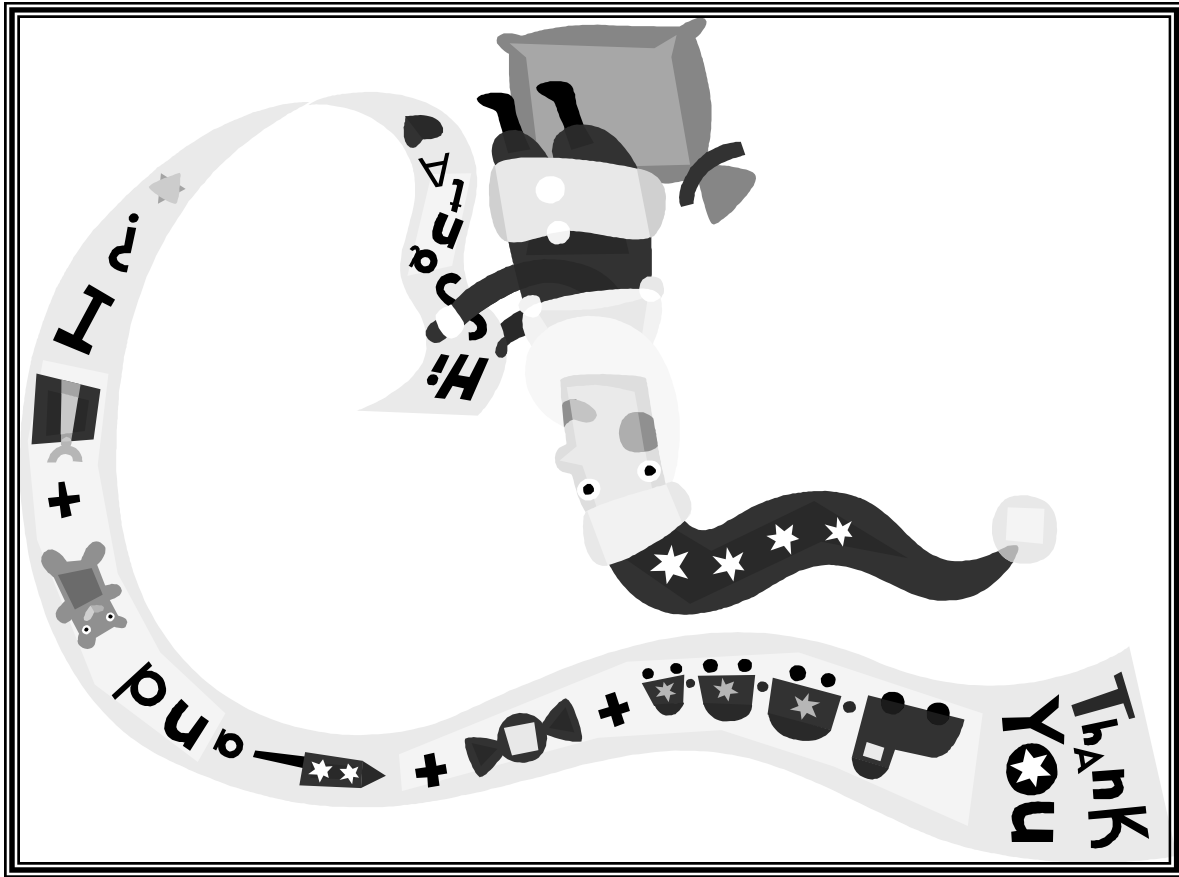
They thought, "Well, maybe it's our grades." No," she said. "Maybe it's our behavior." She told them, "No, it's not even your behavior." And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom. By early afternoon, television news crews had started gathering in Ms. Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom, Martha Cothren said, "Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you." At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand along side the wall.

By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place, those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, "You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it."

*Thanks to Jim Earvin for sending this along. This is a true story that happened in Arkansas. The teacher, Martha Cothren, was voted the V.F.W. teacher of the year in 2006. She is the daughter of a WW-II POW and regularly has veterans visit her classes You can find more information about her at <http://www.snopes.com/glurge/nodesks.asp>*



USS Magoffin (APA-199)  
Veterans Association

Terry Little, Editor  
1914 Irvin Cobb Road  
Murray, KY 42071



"No beach beyond our reach"

**Defending America - WWII, Korea, Cold War, Viet Nam**