



# USS SPRINGFIELD

## Newsletter

<https://usspringfield.org/newsletter.pdf>



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Please send any additions, corrections or questions to Dave Schantz at the address or email above

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

July 2024  
Volume 24 Issue 7

Another quiet month for news or Sea Stories or other news to share. Barry Pines LCDC Dental Div 62-63 tells of a time when during one of our many underway replenishments, when the signalman handed a note from the Captain of the oiler to our Skipper, which read 'beware my supply officer has the conn'. Our Captain turned and said 'send this in reply - 'No sweat my Dental Officer is on the helm'. Thank you Barry.

Also, in the June newsletter, a request was made for shipmates willing and able to take on some of the leadership activities of our organization. No one responded, and it appears that the "Bluejackets" might have to redefine its activities. As I put together this newsletter, we have just 18 shipmates who indicated that they will join us at the Happy Hour we are planning and a mere 19 shipmates who have registered for the reunion. In addition, two shipmates indicated that while they have received the newsletter, they didn't bother to read it, and requested that I send them another copy. All of this makes me wonder where our future lies. Communication is needed and I welcome your ideas.

Of course more "Sea Stories" are needed for future issues if we are to continue with a newsletter, so please take a few minutes to put a few paragraphs together sharing your story.

If you haven't already sent in your reservation for the Happy Hours that we will be having during the 2024 Reunion, please do as soon as you are able to do so or at least let us know that you are planning to attend. The information is needed for planning the event. Thank you.

## USS SPRINGFIELD MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to new 2024 Annual members James Dillabough SN OL Div 63-65, CDR John Rehme & Jack Weston RM2 OR Div 63-66. Welcome aboard Charles Puckhaber ET3 OE Div 59-62 & Life Member William Collins RDSN CIC Div 63-64

Dues are needed for the Bluejackets ongoing expenses. While we are a not-for-profit-all-volunteer organization, we still have expenses to meet in keeping our organization viable. Annual membership is \$20. Life Membership is \$100. Your support is appreciated to the max.

Please make your checks payable to: USS Springfield Bluejackets Inc. and mail to: Keith Rivard-Treasurer , 160 Tommotley Dr, Loudon, TN 37774-2120 or call 865 388-2478 to charge.

## IN REMEMBRANCE



*In Loving Memory*

We have learned of no shipmates passing so once again we call upon the Marianist Spiritual Alliance who will share Masses, Prayers and Good Works in remembrance of all USS Springfield Shipmates.

[www.marianist.mission.com](http://www.marianist.mission.com)

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

**JULY:** Bob Anderson RM2 COMM,FLAG Div 59-63, Joseph Berkemeyer FN B Div 70-72, Theryn Blausier BM3 2ND,OL Div 66-69, Bill Borrows YN3 OPS Div 60-61, Frank Bowman FN BOAT Div 70-71, Evan Christian FTMSN FOX Div 61-63, Kevin Doyle LTJG FLAG,OPS Div 71-74, Rudy Eddins\* TM T&D Div 00-04, Jake Fitzgerald GMG3 G Div 68-72, Vincent Friano Jr SN 1st Div 70-72, Arthur Gonthier MM2 M Div 71-74, Charles Graham IC2 E Div 60-63, Allan Hansen ET3 OE Div 64-66, John Harrison BM3 3RD Div 60-62, Gene Hucke RM3 OI Div 60-62, Jerald Kaewell BM3 2ND Div 71-73, Angelo Lenetti SM3 F-2 Div 60-62, Arthur McGuiggan PN3 X Div 63-66, Ken Paradis RMSN OR Div 60-62, Barry Pines LCDR DENTAL Div 62-63, Michael Potvin STG2 OST Div 70-73, Gary Powell BT3 B Div 64-66, Charles Richardson RM3 OR Div 59-61, Juan Rivera SN A & B Div 63-65, F. J. Scarp Scarpinato SGT MAR DET 64-66, James Schavone FTM3 Fox Div 65-66, Fred Schimmel FTM1 FOX Div 65-69, Bruce Sweester SN S-4 Div 62-63, Roger Tuttle SN OI Div 66-68, Gene Visger SN OL Div 68-70, Michael Walters YN2 FLAG Div 71-72, David Weber SN BOAT Div 64-66, Louis Zbranek DC2 R Div 60-63

# HAPPY HOUR REGISTRATION:



Two USS Springfield Happy Hours will be held during the 2024 reunion. Please fill out the following form, and mail it along with payment to Keith Rivard, Treasurer 160 Tommotley Dr Loudon TN 37774-2120. (Make checks out to "USS Springfield Bluejackets Inc" . If you wish to charge the amount call Keith at 865 388-2478)

Please register, even if you do not plan to have drinks.

# Attending Friday: \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Names: Shipmate: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest/Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual DUES (if not currently paid or a life member): \$20.00 = \$ 20.00  
Happy Hour (Friday, Sept 13, 2024. 4-6 PM Includes one drink) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Happy Hour (Saturday, Sept 14, 2024. 4-6 PM Includes one drink) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Happy Hour (Friday, Sept 13, 2024. 4-6 PM Includes no drink) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$0 = \$ 0.00  
Happy Hour (Saturday, Sept 14, 2024. 4-6 PM Includes no drink) # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$0 = \$ 0.00  
Please respond if attending even if not planning to have drinks. Thank you. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## THE STORY OF THE FOURTH OF JULY

### The Declaration of Independence

We celebrate American Independence Day on the Fourth of July every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation.

But July 4, 1776 wasn't the day that the declare independence (they did that on we started the American Revolution in April 1775). And it wasn't the day draft of the Declaration of Independence the date on which the Declaration was didn't happen until November 1776). was August 2, 1776).

So what did happen on July 4, 1776?

The Continental Congress approved tion of Independence on July 4, 1776.

a couple of days after the draft was submitted on July 2nd and finally agreed on all of the edits and changes.

July 4, 1776, became the date that was included on the Declaration of Independence, and the fancy handwritten copy that was signed in August (the copy now displayed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.) It's also the date that was printed on the Dunlap Broadside, the original printed copies of the Declaration that were circulated throughout the new nation. So when people thought of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 was the date they remembered.

But "for the first 15 or 20 years after the Declaration was written, people didn't celebrate it much on any date. It was too new and too much else was happening in the young nation. By the 1790s, a time of bitter partisan conflicts, the Declaration had become controversial. One party, the Democratic-Republicans, admired Jefferson and the Declaration. But the other party, the Federalists, thought the Declaration was too French and too anti-British, which went against their current policies.

By 1817, John Adams complained in a letter that America seemed uninterested in its past. But that would soon change.

After the War of 1812, the Federalist party began to come apart and the new parties of the 1820s and 1830s all considered themselves inheritors of Jefferson and the Democratic-Republicans. Printed copies of the Declaration began to circulate again, all with the date July 4, 1776, listed at the top. The deaths of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams on July 4, 1826, may even have helped to promote the idea of July 4 as an important date to be celebrated.

Celebrations of the Fourth of July became more common as the years went on and in 1870, almost a hundred years after the Declaration was written, Congress first declared July 4 to be a national holiday as part of a bill to officially recognize several holidays, including Christmas. Further legislation about national holidays, including July 4, was passed in 1939 and 1941.



Continental Congress decided to July 2, 1776). It wasn't the day either (that had happened back Thomas Jefferson wrote the first ence (that was in June 1776). Or delivered to Great Britain (that Or the date it was signed (that

the final wording of the Declara- They'd been working on it for a



# 2024 REGISTRATION FORM

SEPTEMBER 12 - 15, 2024 REUNION

U.S. 6th Fleet in VSM and U.S.S. Springfield Blue Jackets

NOTE: Do not cut this page; please return this entire form!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Aboard 19\_\_ - 19\_\_ Div \_\_\_\_\_ Fly or Drive \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Your Rank / Rate \_\_\_\_\_ Ship: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you: Staying at the Reunion hotel? \_\_\_ Y/N On active duty? \_\_\_ Y/N Over 80? \_\_\_ Y/N

Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_)-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_)-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

<b>MEMBERSHIP FOR US AND SIXTH FLEET IN VSM</b> Membership year is from January 1 thru December 31	Annual Membership New Life Membership	\$20 \$150	=	\$
<b>Shipmate/Member Registration Fee (Required if Attending)</b>	Shipmate/Member Reg. fee now: <b>After Aug. 13</b>	\$35 \$50	=	\$
<b>Additional Guest(s) Registration Fee (Required for each additional guest attending)</b>	Number of Guests _____ <b>After Aug. 13</b>	Times \$35 \$50	=	\$
<b>Thursday: Fun Night @Hotel Dessert Reception Sept. 12</b> 7:00 PM Entertainment - Red Blazer Chorus	Number of People _____	Times \$25	=	\$
<b>Friday: Group Breakfast at Hotel Sept 12</b> 7:00 AM (Price included in the Hotel Rate)	Number of People _____	Times N/A	=	\$
<b>Friday: Niagara State Park</b> Lunch on your own today, Trolly included Buses depart the hotel at 9:00 AM <b>Sept. 13</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$43	=	\$
<b>Friday Night: Group Supper at the Hotel</b> 6:00 PM <b>Sept. 13</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$50	=	\$
<b>Saturday: Group Breakfast at Hotel</b> 7:00 AM (Price included in the Hotel Rate) <b>Sept. 14</b>	Number of People _____	Times N/A	=	\$
<b>Saturday: Buffalo Naval and Military Park</b> Lunch on your own today Buses shuttle at 9:00, 9:30 and 10:00 AM <b>Sept. 14</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$70	=	\$
<b>Saturday Night: Banquet Program</b> 6:00 PM <b>Sept. 14</b>	Number of People _____	Times \$70	=	\$
<b>Sunday: Group Breakfast at Hotel (</b> 7:00 AM (Price included in the Hotel Rate) <b>Sept. 15</b>	Number of People _____	Times N/A	=	\$
<b>Sunday: Admiral Philip Dur Book Signing</b> In the Lobby Book is <b>Between Land and Sea</b> <b>Sept. 15</b>	Number of People XXXXX	Times \$0		XXXXXXXX
<b>"These Meal and Tour times are subject to change"</b>	<b>Add up total amount here</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>=</b> \$

Example: One Shipmate, alone taking everything: =\$263.00 (plus Membership if applicable)  
One Shipmate/Member plus one adult guest taking everything: =\$526.00 (plus Membership if applicable)

Please make checks payable to US & Sixth Fleet in Villefranche-sur-Mer and mail to: US & 6th Fleet in Villefranche-sur-Mer  
PO BOX 7445  
Brockton, MA 02303-7445

NOTES: Final deadline for registering is **August 10, 2024**  
\*You can use this form to pay your dues whether you're going to the reunion or not.  
Questions: Call 508-580-3808. **PLEASE SEND THE ORIGINAL REGISTRATION FORM BACK TO US!!!!**



**If you or your guests have any disability or dietary needs briefly list that here:** \_\_\_\_\_

For reservations call 1-716-681-2400 Ext 3 and identify with the US 6th Fleet VSM reunion Group 0799AFC770

There is shuttle service from the Buffalo Airport to the M Hotel. Airlines serving the Buffalo International Airport include American, Delta, United, Southwest, Frontier and Jet Blue. Call the hotel 716-681-2400 on arrival.

**\*\*KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM\*\***

## **2024 USS SPRINGFIELD BLUEJACKETS REUNION**

Please note: The 2024 Reunion is being held in conjunction with The US NAVY & Villefranche-sur-Mer Reunion from September 12-15 in Buffalo, NY. at The M Hotel, 2040 Walden Avenue Buffalo, NY and a full weekend of remembrances and fun tours along with the unveiling of a permanent exhibit aboard the USS Little Rock is planned. A full listing of the weekend events are included in the newsletter of the reunion. You should have received this in the mail but the registration form and Newsletter are available at [usspringfield.org/vsmnewsletter.pdf](http://usspringfield.org/vsmnewsletter.pdf)

Since this a reunion that involves shipmates from a number of different ships including the USS Little Rock, the USS Des Moines, the USS Salem, the USS Newport News and the USS Boston, and hopefully other 6th Fleet Flagships. it will provide an opportunity to meet with other shipmates and share experiences and fun times.

Understandably, not all Springfield Shipmates were aboard the ship when it was in Villefranche, but our two happy hours and many other opportunities will exist to share time with Springfield Shipmates.

*Please let us know if you are planning to attend the Happy Hour whether you plan to have drinks or not. Thank you.*

To reserve a room call The M Hotel today directly at 716-681-2400, ext 3. Ask for Ann Marie and use code 0799AFC770 or identify yourself and as a member of the 6th Fleet in VSM reunion group.



*You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism..*

Erma Bombeck

### **SHIP STORE**

On sale in the USS Springfield Ship Store are Coffee Mugs, USS Springfield Window Stickers, Polo Shirts, Ball Caps and more. Visit our Ship Store on-line at <https://store16038547.company.site> or [usspringfield.org](http://usspringfield.org) or if you don't have access to the internet call Keith Rivard (865-388-2478). All proceeds go to support the USS Springfield Bluejackets, Inc. (*Also—Please let us know if you are looking for something specific and are unable to find it.*)  
*Make checks payable to USS Springfield Bluejackets and mail to:*

***Keith Rivard-Treasurer 160 Tommotley Dr Loudon, TN 37774***

