

# USS Laffey WorkParties and Reunion

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## *Upcoming Association Events*

**2024 Fall WorkParty** – Friday 18 October 2024 – Saturday 26 October 2024

**2025 Reunion in Mt Pleasant, SC** – Sunday 13 April – Thursday 17 April 2025.

**2025 Winter and Spring WorkParties** – Dates to be announced



Message from Mike Honsinger President  
USS Laffey Association 2024 Fall WorkParty  
**Folks... the future of our Association and our work contributions to the Laffey are in your hands! We really need for each of you to take an active role in recruiting new workparty participants. We are down to a pretty small and finite group of our original crewmembers that are still able to attend workparties. If every member of our Association could recruit just one son,**

**daughter, or grandchild of a crewmember to come join us, we could continue our work into the future. If relatives are not available, think about Veterans you know or patriotic friends who would like to give back and ask them to contact me via phone or email.**

Please send these links to friends:

<https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp3843713.jsp>

<https://laffey.org/wordpress/index.php/2024/06/18/fall-workparty-dates/>

Next month we will have our Fall Workparty from 18 - 26 Oct. If you want to arrive on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of Apr, you can probably stay aboard that night also, but please be sure to ask me about that when you confirm your participation via email.

We have a specific list of projects that the Association is working on, which involve scraping/painting in a big way [Torpedo Deck, upper section of port side bulkhead, roof of Bridge & others], electrical, light metal work, welding/fabricating, organizing/cleaning, administrative paperwork, meal prep/cleanup and supply-run errands. So, regardless of your skill set or strength, we do have many meaningful ways for everyone to contribute. Males over 18 may stay on board the Laffey. Meals for all workers are paid for by the Association. Call or email Mike ([President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org)) with any questions or suggestions that you have.

When you email me ( [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) ) to confirm that you plan to join us in October, I will add you to the "Frequent Worker" email distribution list. If you plan to attend in the future and would like to be added to the "Frequent Worker" email distribution list now (you will receive multiple emails during the weeks leading up to a workparty, rather than just a single email), please let me know. The "Frequent Workers" emails will include our current attendance count for the upcoming workparty, indicating your ability to attend. This attendance count is very helpful for meal and bunk space planning as it lists what dates you will be onboard to work and shows whether you will be staying on the Laffey, in a RV at Patriots Point, or in a hotel.

For those of you who might need a hotel in Oct, here is a link for getting deeply discounted rates at the Comfort Inn. Their nightly rack rates are often \$200+, so you can see that Peggy has given us a significant discount.

The rates are \$79 weekday and weekend except for 10-18 & 10-19 when the rate is \$99. <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/WQ44P2>

## **2025 USS Laffey Association Reunion Mt Pleasant SC**

**13 – 17 April 2025**



Comfort Inn & Suites, Patriots Point, Mt Pleasant, SC

The Fall 2025 Reunion will be Sunday 13 April – Thursday 17 April 2025. The reunion will be hosted at the COMFORT INN &

SUITES PATRIOTS POINT, 196 Patriots Point Rd, Mt Pleasant, SC 29464. The cost for the event will be announced.

## **Attending USS Laffey WorkParty**

From Association President Mike Honsinger:

Typically, we have three work parties aboard ship each year: Fall, Winter, and Spring. All WorkParty crewmembers must be USS Laffey Association members and be at least 18 years of age. Bunks, hearty meals, parking, and access to Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum are all provided free of charge. There are 28 male-only bunks on the Laffey. We spend a good deal of time repairing corroded areas with new metal and paint. In addition, we fix electrical and plumbing issues, as well as improve and maintain the museum displays aboard the ship. Work parties provide a meaningful experience preserving history, are a great opportunity to see the many ship compartments which are typically closed to the public and provide an opportunity to meet visitors to the ship. Often multiple Association family members attend together to create a working vacation.

If you have an interest in helping us out during the upcoming Fall WorkParty , please email Mike by late September at [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) . Jim and I have collected an extensive list of projects that we would all like to see addressed in the coming years. For each project, it is my goal to do our best to anticipate the manpower, tools, supplies, permits and

financing required so that when our crews show up, we can put everyone to work and keep you busy while you give of your time, energy, and finances to join us. If you can attend a WorkParty, please do your best to commit to specific dates when you will be aboard to eat, sleep and work, then email those commitments to me at least a week prior to the WorkParty. Thank you for all the work so many of you have put in over the years to preserve the USS Laffey for America's citizens.

Contact Mike Honsinger [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) 281-923-4969 for information.

Send comments to [President@Laffey.org](mailto:President@Laffey.org) and [webmaster@laffey.org](mailto:webmaster@laffey.org)