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## **USS WILLIAM M. WOOD (DD 715/DDR 715) ASSOCIATION**

**[www.dd715.org](http://www.dd715.org)**

Shipmates,

I, along with the other members of the Association's Executive Committee Jerry Chapman – Vice President; John “Dizzy” Dzubak – Treasurer; John Michel – Secretary; and Metrus “Dee” Messina Chaplain, are praying that all of our shipmates and their families, loved ones, and friends are healthy and safe. The corona virus is still wrecking a horrible toll on our citizens, our country, and our economy. We would like to send a huge thank-you and Bravo Zulu to all the front-line health workers, medical personnel, store clerks, and postal workers who are laboring tirelessly trying to keep our lives as close as possible to what they were before the pandemic hit. For those in our community who have been stricken – Godspeed in your recovery; and to those who are unemployed, we hope that you get re-employed as quickly as possible. Our 2023 Reunion is planned for a Cruise to the Caribbean on October 14<sup>th</sup> thru the 19<sup>th</sup>. Contact information for this event is included with this letter. This information was sent out previously by e-mail to all with e-mail address that are on file. If you did not get an email about the cruise then I ask that you send me your email address to ([rockason@hotmail.com](mailto:rockason@hotmail.com).) The Fall River reunion was a great one to Boston Mass, Newport RI and a Fall River special visit to the USS JOSEPH P. KENNEDY JR. (DD-850), a Gearing-class destroyer and sister ship to our own “Willie Wood.

Here is some brief information about our Association officers. We are looking for a membership chairperson. If you are interested please contact me.

### **President: Tom Streza** (5 years on Executive Committee – 10 reunions)

I joined the Naval Reserve on my 18th birthday. I went on active duty 17 DEC 64 and reported to the USS WOOD in Philly shipyard. We lived on barges for 5 months while she was undergoing FRAM conversion. I made YN3 in 1966 and left the Wood in June of that year. I was then transferred to the USS WRIGHT (CC-2) for the remainder on my duty. Upon leaving the service I went back to the mill then to the US Post Office. I have three kids from my first marriage. My second wife, Sandy, and I have been together 40 years. Retired in 2007 on our palatial estate of 5 acres where I have a 12x20 wood shop to do all my crafting and go to a few craft shows a year. I've been to 10 reunions and have helped with the golf outing and taking care of the Hospitality Room. I enjoy woodcrafts, which have been shown at several reunions. I also belong to the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus.

### **Vice President: Jerry L. Chapman** (15 years on Executive Committee – 10 reunions attended)

I was transferred from the USS NOA (DD-841) in 1972 (RM3) when the Wood was first deployed to its new home port of Athens Greece. After the Wood, I was transferred to the Naval Radio Transmitter

Facility in Annapolis, Maryland where I was promoted to RM2 and left the Navy in 1976. Since the Navy, I have worked at a 9-1-1 center and am now retired. My wife Nancy and I have three wonderful children and five beautiful grandchildren. We currently live in South Elgin, Illinois (along with a dog and cat).

We attended our first Wood reunion in Jacksonville Beach, Florida. The next reunion was in Chicago where I helped with the reunion and I started getting involved in the Association. I'm so glad I got involved then and wish I had gone to earlier reunions. My hobbies are Ham radio (N9JLC) and camping. I am also a member of the American Legion and my local Civil Defense unit.

**Secretary: John "Dizzy" Dzubak** (15 years on Executive Committee – 18 reunions attended)

I joined the Navy right out of High School. Did my basic training at Recruit Training Command – Great Lakes and matriculated immediately to “A” school for Machinist Mate. I arrived onboard the Wood in February, 1966 and loved it so much that they had to push me off in February, 1969. In 1969, I was employed by PPG and at the same time I earned my BA from California, PA. In 1994, I went back to school and earned a degree in Computer Science. I have a son and daughter from a 1st marriage and a daughter from a 2nd marriage. My last daughter has finally become a veterinarian. I am currently single and enjoying the heck out of my retirement, but the days seem to go by much faster in retirement. My hobbies are playing the guitar and collecting stamps and silver. I am moving much slower and more carefully now than when I was a “Snipe” back in the day. Being the Secretary has given me much joy as I get contacted from many mates.

**Treasurer: John Michel** (10 years on Executive Committee – 9 reunions attended)

I earned a BA degree from George Mason College, Fairfax, VA in 1970 and enlisted in the Navy in August of that year. After EM "A" school, I came back East and worked aboard the USS SIERRA (AD-18) out of Norfolk. I got a CO's recommendation for OCS in Newport, RI. After OCS, I went to Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, GA. From Athens, GA I was assigned to the Wood homeported in Athens, Greece. I got out of the Navy upon departing the Wood in January, 1975, returning to a career-long job with the Department of Defense as a civilian working with various aspects of the Defense Acquisition Workforce and various assignments within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics). I retired in 2005 with over 40 year's total federal service.

### **From our business meeting:**

At our 2022 Fall River reunion, business meeting the Executive Committee voted to make our annual donation of \$1,500 for The Tin Can Sailors, Inc. specifying \$500 each for USS LAFLEY and USS JOSEPH P. KENNEDY JR museum ships, and \$500 for TCS – General Fund. A motion was made by Jerry Chapman and seconded by Tony Caminiti of sending an e-mail to all mates with e-mails about lack of attendance at this 2022 reunion and who would be interested in attending the next reunion in Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge, TN. That e-mail indicated that only a few would be likely to attend that reunion.

Financially our Association is doing well, but please take a look at the list showing shipmates and what years their dues are paid through. If you are able and if your dues are more than 3 years past (meaning you are not an active member), please try to become an active member of the Association again. **SPOILER ALERT:** There's a commercial in five, four, .....

We are looking forward to the 26<sup>th</sup> Wood reunion Caribbean Cruise on October 14<sup>th</sup> thru the 19<sup>th</sup>. This

year the cruise will take place on October 14, 2023, a Saturday leaving and ending 5 nights later. This will be starting in Charleston SC aboard the Carnival Cruise Lines. Please go to our web site [WWW.DD715.org](http://WWW.DD715.org) for the event information. As always we are looking for shipmates who are willing to volunteer and lead future reunions – please consider it and get in touch with me. If you don't have access to the “web”, information will be forthcoming in the mail.

Also, at this time I am going to ask for volunteers to help in the hospitality room. Please consider this so that one person is not doing it by themselves.

**Annual Dues – OK I warned you! Here's the commercial** - Once again it is that time of year when we ask that you continue your generosity in supporting the Wood Association (a tax exempt nonprofit 501 c19 veteran's organization) by your contribution of annual dues of \$10.00. Your checks should be made out to the Wood Association and sent to the Treasurer, John “Dizzy” Dzubak 79108 Vermont Way, Greensburg, PA 15601. When you send in your dues payment, if you pay for more than one year (multiples of \$10.00), please tell John which years you want credited. Your annual dues contributions keep the Willie Wood underway steaming to new ports each year for reunions as well as providing information to shipmates regarding activities and whereabouts of shipmates on our roster. In addition, contribution of dues makes you an “Active” member of the Association entitling you to participate in the annual business meetings, running for office, and voting at the annual business meetings. If you have not yet become an “Active” Wood Association member, or have let your active membership sail off into the sunset, please start/renew your membership by sending in your dues contribution. We look forward to seeing you at future reunions and thank you for your generosity.

We have enclosed a schedule of dues status for the current “Active” shipmates who have been making dues contributions in recent years. This schedule reflects what is in our records regarding recent dues contributions from you. The schedule shows names in alpha order and the year your dues are paid up through. Our policy is to keep shipmates “Active” for 3 years from the last year of a dues contribution, as some shipmates send in multiple years' contributions and then no contribution for a few years, and then send in multiple years again, etc.

If you have been dropped you can be reinstated as an “Active” simply by making a dues payment and mailing to John “Dizzy” Dzubak at address above. We would love to have you back aboard. Hoping to see and speak to as many of you as possible at the Cruise to the Caribbean reunion. Please consider; coming you won't regret it.

Best Wishes,

Tom Streza  
President  
USS William M. Wood DD/DDR-715 Association

## March 15, 2023 Active Crew List

Adams	Norman	2021	Didomenick	Stephen	2027	Jones, Jr.	Malone (J.J.)	2020
Albrecht	Irwin	2022	Dolch Jr	Herbert M	2022	Kaefer	Chris	2025
Anrig	Bruce	2026	Drennon	Michael W.	2023	Kelley	Gene	2026
Asher	Joe	2023	Dzubak	John	2023	Koch	Don L	2020
Bartels	Carole Farrell	2023	Eastlack	Frank	2027	Kostuck	Jimmie J.	2023
Barthes	Francis J	2024	Edelblute	Gerald	2024	Krisanda	David A.	2023
Beadle	Sheryl	2022	Eklund	David	2021	Lagerman	Daniel P.	2023
Bee	Joe	2025	Elsesser	James	2025	Large	Jerry	2023
Bercel	John R.	2023	Ferguson	Mike	2022	Laswell	Larry	2022
Beyerle	Dana	2020	Fiske	Richard P.	2023	Lauten	David H.	2025
Bieber	Charles R.	2024	Flinner	William (Bill)	2025	Laux	Bill	2026
Billhimer	Joseph	2021	Foco	Robert D.	2027	Lawless	Edward	2024
Bistoff	Jim	2023	Foos	Gary	2023	Leon,Sr	William K.	2023
Bittner	Doug	2023	Frase	Dr. Lawrence	2022	Lorenz	Roger	2020
Black	Gary	2023	Friend	George C	2022	Loving	Howard H.	2021
Breaux	Silver	2021	Frohbose	John H.J	2021	Lusher	Jim	2021
Brewster	Thomas	2023	Gausman	Russell	2025	Lyle, Jr.	W. D.	2023
Buchanan	Tony	2024	Gdula	Bernard J.	2025	Malloy	Jim	2022
Bullington	Gene	2020	Geer	Robert D.	2023	Marshall	Mike	2022
Butler	Robert J.	2023	Gill	Donald K.	2025	Mawn	Kevin M.	2025
Byrne	Richard C.	2026	Gillis	Robert E.	2025	Mayrose	Dennis A.	2023
Caminiti	Anthony	2023	Gleason	Paul	2022	McAuley	Denis	2023
Carney	Tom	2024	Gluse	Michael R	2023	McAuliffe	Robert	2024
Cathcart	Charles	2025	Gormley	Thomas	2024	McCallion	Ted	2021
Chalk	John	2023	Gosewisch	Mark	2025	McCurdy	Walter R.	2020
Chapman	Jerry	2024	Goteiner	Abe	2022	McDaniel	Melvin R.	2023
Clark	Gary R.	2020	Graf	Donald V.	2022	McGee, III	Harry	2025
Clem	Neil R.	2021	Grapatin	Ron	2025	McIntosh	Ken	2021
Climer	Patrick	2024	Green	Robert L	2023	McKee	Hal R	2023
Collins	Michael C.	2022	Griffeth	Jim	2025	McLain	Bobby	2023
Cooley	Tom	2025	Guzman	Roman	2020	Meachum	Rick	2023
Copper	Walter L.	2020	Hackney	Richard R.	2023	Messina	Metrus	2023
Corcoran	Ronald	2022	Hagen	Albert	2022	Michel	John T	2027
Cornwall	John	2021	Haldeman	John	2022	Miller	Stephen B.	2023
Counts	James L.	2027	Hartnett	Joseph M.	2025	Miller	Steven L	2023
Crews	Larry D.	2020	Hartnett	Frank J	2023	Milo	Ralph	2023
Cunningham	Bob	2022	Hawks (PO)	Charlie	2023	Moeller	Michael D.	2020
Cutler	Mark	2022	Herl	Russell N.	2027	Moenck	Dean	2025
Daniel	Ken	2023	Hoffman	Gary L.	2020	Moisuk	Ron	2023
Darner	Larry R.	2024	Hohner	Clarence M.	2021	Morris	Gene R	2023
Davis	Clifford	2024	Hudgins	James C. (Carl)	2023	Morrison	Chris	2026
Davis	Ira N.	2024	Hutmacher	John S.	2025	Mugerauer	Laurie E.	2023
Davis	Arley	2020	Iseli	Carl O.	2023	Murphy	Thomas	2024
Dennison	Frederick E.	2020	Jedra	Henry	2022	Myers	Lewis G.	2022
Deyo	Bill	2024	Johansen	Brian	2021	Neal	David	2024

### March 15, 2023 Active Crew List

Odegard	Thomas J	2021	St. Clair	O. Dean	2023
Olson	Randy	2022	Standley	Michael W.	2024
Olszewski	Jesse	2021	Stein	Bill	2021
Palanca	Nick R	2025	Stevens	David T.	2020
Pattan	William M.	2022	Stewart	Harry R. (Rick)	2023
Phelps	Claud	2025	Stover	Monty	2023
Pickenpaugh	Dan	2021	Streza	Tom	2023
Powell	Dee	2021	Stuart	Jon	2024
Presley	Herman	2022	Stucke	Paul E.	2023
Rae	Dominic	2023	Sturtevant	Keith A.	2025
Rainey	Doss F	2023	Sullivan	Gerard "Sully"	2025
Ramsey	Dan	2022	Swaney	Lyle W.	2023
Ramsey	Robert W.	2022	Symolon	Walter C	2023
Reda	Richard	2025	Tedrow	Clifford	2023
Reeve	Alan	2024	Theel	Robert	2020
Resser	Mike	2020	Tracy	Lisa	2020
Reyna	Ron	2027	Trebon	Ron	2024
Rogers	Olson C	2024	Trenholm	George R.	2022
Rohrbough	John D	2023	Tucker	Elbert R.	2023
Sales	Chuck	2022	Vanderbosch	Steven W	2026
Schwegler	Dan	2021	Walters	Jack J.	2025
Seidman	George	2021	Walters	Jim	2023
Sexton	Donald	2021	Warlick	Joseph D.	2024
Shackley	Jim	2020	Wedel	Kenneth	2020
Shoaf	Clifford	2022	West	Marc A.	2026
Shoemaker	Gene L	2025	Whitcroft	Michael	2027
Shore	Kenneth D.	2025	Wood	William Earl	2022
Siconolfi	Jeff	2023	Wyant	Charles	2025
Slattery, Jr.	Bill	2023	Wynn	Harry J	2023
Smith	Larry L.	2024	Yanasak	David	2027
Smith	James (Jim)	2024	Zielinski	Frank	2027
Smith	Don	2021	Zimmerman	Paul J	2020
Solt	Dale E.	2024	Zinna	John J.	2021
Sours	M. W. "Joe"	2024	Zitlow	Brian	2024
Southgate	Ronald W.	2024			

Last call for the William M. Wood Reunion Cruise reunion

William M. Wood Reunion Cruise information

**Call or E-mail Larry Smith if interested.**

**Phone 803-389-0562 E-mail [bcsmith1@comporium.net](mailto:bcsmith1@comporium.net)**

Date	Day	Port	Arrive	Depart	Info
10/14/2023	SAT	CHARLESTON, SC		4:00 PM	
10/15/2023	SUN	FUN DAY AT SEA			
10/16/2023	MON	HALF MOON CAY, THE BAHAMAS	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	
Complimentary water shuttle service required between ship and shore					
10/17/2023	TUE	NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	
10/18/2023	WED	FUN DAY AT SEA			
10/19/2023	THU	CHARLESTON, SC	8:00 AM		

# of Passengers	Type of Cabin	Cat of Cabin	Total Cost fare (Taxes + Cruise Fare)	Amenities	Floor			Notes
2	Inside	4a or 4b	\$1067	\$25 onboard Credits	1			The more time passes, it is likely rates will change
2	Ocean	6a, 6b or 6c	\$1207	\$25 onboard Credits	1			The more time passes, it is likely rates will change
2	Balcony	8b	\$1547	\$25 onboard Credits	6			The more time passes, it is likely rates will change
2	Suite	OS	\$2507	\$25 onboard Credits	7			The more time passes, it is likely rates will change

Gratuities are not included, they are \$ 82.50 per person

Carnival Vacation Protection is not included – the cost will depend on the cabin you choose