

THE DESTROYERMAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2016

Dedicated to preserving the heritage of Admiral Arleigh A. Burke and USS Arleigh Burke since 2011

FROM THE PRESIDENT

USS Arleigh Burke Association Members and Friends:

Here it is February 2016 and the Arleigh Burke Association 25th Commissioning Anniversary Planning Committee is in full swing working the details for the celebration of USS Arleigh Burke's Silver Service Anniversary over the Fourth of July Weekend this year! Below you will find the details of the events, lodging options for out of town attendees, and costs. Again, I very much appreciate all of our volunteers who are helping to support the Celebration's weekend events as well as tracking down Former Shipmates, both from the Commissioning Crew and from the ever expanding cadre of all Sailors who served at any point aboard Arleigh Burke.

Thanks also for those of you who provided your input to attend the Keynote Dinner on Saturday 2 July. Based on that information, we will hold this event at the Norfolk Town Point Club, as we did for the 20th Commissioning Celebration and where the Commissioning Breakfast was held the morning that Arleigh Burke was Commissioned. This decision means that we are limited to a maximum of 150 attendees, which is the maximum capacity of the Town Point Club for dinner. I do want to note that this number allows for half

again the number of attendees that participated in the Keynote Dinner in 2011. Reservations for the Saturday July 2nd Dinner are on a first come



first served basis. I do appreciate those few that provided tentative inputs and certainly understand that based on individual circumstances that may be all that you can do at this point, but please be sure to confirm as soon as you are able to do so in order to secure your spot.

The **Weekend's Schedule** is shaping up nicely. We will kick off on Friday July 1st and culminate our activities with fireworks viewed from USS Arleigh Burke on Monday evening July 4th. Key activities and costs:

Friday July 1st

- Norfolk Tides Baseball Game (\$32/pp – note this includes dinner on the private Norfolk Tides Shock Top Party Deck)
- Informal Arrival Get Togethers (\$No Host)
- Die Hard Get Togethers (Late! - \$No Host)

Saturday July 2nd

- Golf—NAS Oceana (\$41

OFFICERS

President

Rick Easton

EastonAdvisors@gmail.com

Secretary

Mark Fortune

mark.w.fortune@gmail.com

Treasurer

Rob Jobrack

ljbrack@cox.net



UPCOMING EVENTS

2016 Dues

Ongoing

Commissioning Silver Anniversary Celebration

July 1-4 2016

Annual Membership Meeting (TBD)

includes lunch) /Sports Challenges

- Midday Picnic—Breezy Point Park, Naval Station Norfolk (\$25pp includes beer/\$5 Ages 11-17 /Free ages 10 and under.
- Keynote Dinner - Norfolk Town Point Club (\$100/pp)
- Party After the Party (Late! - \$No Host)

Sunday July 3rd

- Golf -NAS Oceana (\$33) /Sports Challenges
- Afternoon Picnic - Dam Neck Annex, Virginia Beach (\$25pp includes beer/Ages \$5 Ages 11-17 /Free ages 10 and under.
- Norfolk Tides Baseball Game (\$13/pp – game only)

Monday July 4th

- Mid-Morning Memorial Service
- Evening Fireworks Viewed from Arleigh Burke

At this juncture the Navy intends to berth USS Arleigh Burke at the Half Moon Pier next to Nauticus in downtown Norfolk for the July 4th Weekend, assuming that real world events do not somehow impact the ship's schedule. In addition to the above events, I anticipate the ship will have a number of Visit Ship times over the

Fourth of July Weekend. As I mentioned in the last *Destroyerman* Newsletter I had the opportunity to meet with the ship's Commanding Officer, Commander Tom Myers, along with the Executive Officer and Command Master Chief, and they are working the details of where and when Arleigh Burke and the Ship's Crew will participate.

Lodging/Hotel Options:

Marriott Waterside

We have a block of 20 rooms at the Marriott Waterside which is located half a block from the Town Point Club, and is the closest hotel to both the Town Point Club as well as Nauticus and the Half Moon Pier where Arleigh Burke will be berthed for the four day weekend. **Cost is \$149/room/night** double occupancy, includes two breakfast buffet coupons daily, internet access and discounted parking - \$13/night (instead of \$20/night). This is where the majority of out of town folks stayed in 2011. To make your reservation at the Marriott Waterside please call 800-228-9290 or 757-627-4200 on or before May 1st and inform them that you are part of the "Arleigh Burke Anniversary" Group staying at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott, located at 235

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TREASURER'S REPORT BY ROB JOBRACK

Are you or your company interested in making the 25th reunion more affordable for your shipmates? We have plenty of sponsorship opportunities for events and memorabilia, and sponsors will receive special recognition at the reunion. Please contact any member of the Board if you are interested.



Please remember that the USS Arleigh Burke Association is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt non-profit organization under section 501 (c)(19) of the internal revenue code.

Electronic receipts for dues payments are going out this month, so please ensure your email address is on file with Mark Fortune, our Secretary.

Please remember that in order to vote in association

matters you must be a member in good standing.

Membership categories and dues for 2016 are:

USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51) Ship's Company:
Free

Member: \$20

Sustaining Member : \$125 (10 year sustaining equals Lifetime)

Lifetime Member: \$1000

Haven't paid your dues yet? It's easy. You can send a check to the treasurer at

USS Arleigh Burke Association
32 King Georges Grant
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

Or you can pay via the association [website](#) using our Pay-

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FROM THE SECRETARY BY MARK FORTUNE

USS Arleigh Burke Association Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday season! To our current USS Arleigh Burke sailors: Thanks for taking the watch!



The 25th Anniversary of the commissioning of USS Arleigh Burke is fast approaching. We will be holding a reunion to celebrate the 25th Anniversary and we want to get as many former shipmates there as possible. Family and friends are welcome too! If you know the location of former USS Arleigh Burke sailors, please contact me via email:

mark.w.fortune@gmail.com and pass me their information. The better thing to do is to have them go to the USS Arleigh Burke Association website at <http://www.arleighburkeassociation.org/registration.php> and ask them to please register under the membership tab. If you have not registered, please go to the website and do so today! This is also the best way to ensure that you receive all of the newsletters, emails, and details of the upcoming reunion.

Our planning for the reunion is in full swing and we

are holding committee meetings every two weeks on Thursdays from 1930 to 2015. The next meetings are March 3rd and 17th. If you live in the Hampton Roads area and would like to be a part of the reunion committee that is planning the events for reunion, please let me know via the information provided above.

We want to make this event truly memorable and we can only do that with your support. Please consider the upcoming 25th Anniversary of the commissioning of USS Arleigh Burke in your 4th of July plans by attending, volunteering on a committee, or tracking down former USS Arleigh Burke sailors. We also want to remember our fallen shipmates during the reunion. If you have any information on shipmates we have lost, please send those names and any other details you may have to my Gmail account above.

You can find us on Facebook! Search for USS Arleigh Burke Association, Arleigh Burke Plank Owners, or USS Arleigh Burke.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or any of the other Association Officers if you have questions or comments.

Best regards,

Mark

ARLEIGH BURKE CLASS UPDATE BY CAPTAIN MARK VANDROFF

Greetings Shipmates!

2015 was an important year in the building the class of ships that carries Admiral Burke's legacy into the future. Seven DDG 51 class ships are now under construction.

At Ingalls, 2015 saw the christening of DDG 113, the future JOHN FINN, in April. The sponsor, Mrs. Laura Stavridis, and her husband, retired Admiral James Stavridis (former CO of USS BARRY (DDG 52)), honored us with their presence and remarks to the Ingalls workforce. In September, Ingalls conducted AEGIS Light Off on DDG 113 and the ship is well on



Mrs. Stavridis breaking the traditional champagne

ARLEIGH BURKE CLASS UPDATE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

its way towards its sea trials and delivery in 2016.

The RALPH JOHNSON (DDG 114) entered the water in December 2015. She will deliver early in 2017.



RALPH JOHNSON (DDG 114)

The PAUL IGNATIUS (DDG 117) keel was laid in October of 2015 and the ship's namesake (and former SECNAV) joined us for the occasion.



Paul Ignatius (SECNAV 1967-1969)

The DELBERT D BLACK (DDG 119) has started construction with a keel laying planned for May of 2016.

Our friends at Bath Iron Works are making progress on DDG 115 (RAFEL PERALTA), DDG 116

(THOMAS HUDNER), and DDG 118 (DANIEL IN-OUYE). DDG 115 was christened and entered the water in October. She achieved ALO in December.



RAFEL PERALTA (DDG 115)

DDG 116's keel was laid in November of 2015 and Captain Hudner and members of his family honored us with his presence.



CAPT. (RET) Thomas J. Hudner, Jr with family and CAPT Vandroff

Until next time,
Mark

USS ARLEIGH BURKE, BUILT TO FIGHT

By ENS. Michelle Kim, USS Arleigh Burke Public Affairs

NORFOLK- After an eleven-month midlife yard-period at BAE Shipyards, USS Arleigh Burke moved to Naval Station Norfolk and successfully completed Light Off Assessment (LOA) and Damage Control Materials Assessment (DCMA) on November 20, 2015.

The assessments are extensive materials inspections of a ship's engineering plant and damage control equipment. The inspections consist of more than 600 checks, completed over a two-week time period, in order to assess a ship's readiness for sea. The crew of Arleigh Burke showed their expertise through their teamwork and determination. Whether it was painting and chipping intakes and uptakes, bilge diving, painting spaces, or conducting checks, everyone in the command played a role in the success of LOA.

While the engineers were busy in the plant, Sailors throughout the ship patiently waited for the completion of USS Arleigh Burke's new Aegis Baseline 9 combat system. The new Aegis baseline is embedded with a wide array of new capabilities designed to combat emerging global threats. The Aegis Baseline 9 replaces

the original Military Specification (MILSPEC) computing infrastructure with a network-based, open architecture computing environment. The SPY-1D radar has also been enhanced with a multi-mission signal processor that allows Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD), a new capability that allows Arleigh Burke to conduct Air Warfare while simultaneously executing its Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) mission.

The Aegis Baseline 9 upgrade includes the fire control system Naval Integrated Fire Control-Counter Air (NIFC-CA), which links its SPY-1D air radar with airborne sensor platforms for both detection and firing solutions beyond the horizon. In conjunction with these developments in her radar and fire control system, Arleigh Burke will be equipped with new Standard Missile 6 (SM-6), a missile with greater speed, range, and capability to hit evasive targets than previous missiles. With the Aegis Baseline 9 combat system Arleigh Burke will continue to be an integral player in global maritime security, engaging in air, undersea, surface, strike and ballistic missile defense.

ARLEIGH BURKE DEPARTING BAE SHIPYARD IN NORFOLK



Photographs courtesy of BAE Shipyard



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FROM THE PRESIDENT**(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)**

E. Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510-1668; or click on the Marriott Waterside Arleigh Burke Association link below: Note: a major credit card is required to hold a reservation.

[Book your group rate for Arleigh Burke Anniversary](#)

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside (Old Omni)

We also have a block of 10 rooms at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside which is located about four blocks from the Town Point Club and is on the Elizabeth River. **Cost is \$119/room/night** double occupancy. Breakfast and parking are **NOT** included. To make your reservation at the Sheraton Waterside please call 757 640-2747 on or before May 1st and inform them that you are part of the "Arleigh Burke Anniversary" Group staying at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510; or click one of the Links below: Note: a major credit card is required to hold a reservation.

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ArleighBurkeAnniversary> or

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1602173520&key=A164308>

Thanks to the efforts of Mark Fortune and Rob Jobrack we have enhanced our Association's [website](#) to accept credit cards via PayPal. As PayPal charges fees of approximately 3% for each transaction, and our Association has limited resources, when possible we encourage you to make and send payments by check to our Treasurer, Rob Jobrack. With the exception of the Annual

Dues, if you prefer the convenience of charging your costs for the 25th Commissioning Celebration, please include the additional 3% to cover the fees that the Association has to pay. The Association is dedicated to keep costs of events as close to actual costs as possible.

Again, I have asked Rob Jobrack to reach out to everyone whose dues are not current through 2015, and I request that you bring them up to date as soon as possible. I also encourage all those who can afford to join our Association as either a Sustaining or Life Member to do so. If you pay Sustaining dues annually over ten years it converts to a Lifetime Membership. Your participation at one of those levels will help strengthen our Association.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, or any of the USS Arleigh Burke Association Officers, if you have any thoughts or other inputs that you would like to share, and in particular if you can volunteer to help with planning for the 25th Commissioning Celebration. Our next edition of *The Destroyerman* Newsletter is targeted for May/June 2016. In the interim, updates on the 25th Commissioning Celebration will be via email and posted on our Association Website. I hope that the entire Arleigh Burke Family had a wonderful 2015-2016 Holiday Season and all of you are off to a Happy and Prosperous New Year!!

Best regards, Rick

NORFOLK TIDES SHOCK TOP PARTY DECK (01 JULY)**MENU**

All Beef Jumbo Hot Dogs

Carolina Style Pulled Pork BBQ

Jumbo Size Crispy Fried Chicken

Includes Potato Chips, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Cookies, Assorted Soda, and Watermelon

- Located just beyond the right fielder's reach

- \$32 Price includes Game Ticket

- We will have the area EXCLUSIVELY for one hour and 30 minutes after the park opens.

- Game starts at 1905

TREASURER'S REPORT**(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)**

Pal button. You may also pay for the Silver Reunion events using the PayPal button.

Please note: The association is a non-profit organization and we try to hold down event costs to make association events affordable to all. When we use the elec-

tronic payment feature we pay transaction and service fees so we ask you to pay 3% to cover the cost of this convenience. This will not apply to dues, only to other fees and costs such as those for reunion.

Reunion Events and prices below:

EVENT	Payment by Check	Electronic Payment
Friday July 1 (start at 7:05 PM) Norfolk Tides Baseball Game	\$32	\$32.96
Saturday July 2 Golf (NAS Oceana)	\$41	\$42.23
Saturday July 2 Midday Picnic (Breezy Point Park, NAVSTA Norfolk)	\$25 Adult \$5 Children (age 11-17)	\$25.75 \$5.15
Saturday July 2 Keynote Dinner	\$100 per person	\$103 per person
Sunday July 3 Golf (NAS Oceana)	\$33	\$33.99
Sunday July 3 Picnic (Dam Neck Annex in Virginia Beach)	\$25 Adult \$5 Children (age 11-17)	\$25.75 \$5.15
Sunday July 3 (start at 6:05 PM) Norfolk Tides Baseball Game	\$13	\$13.39

SHIP AND CREW AT WORK (PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF DDG-51 PAO)

DCC Klettke training the Aviation Firefighting Team

Countermeasure Washdown testing during Sea Trials





USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.arleighburkeassociation.org

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!

[https://www.facebook.com/
USSArleighBurkeAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/USSArleighBurkeAssociation)

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**USS ARLEIGH BURKE
OFFICIAL WEBSITE**

[HTTP://WWW.ARLEIGHBURKE.NAVY.MIL/](http://www.arleighburke.navy.mil/)



The purpose of the USS Arleigh Burke Association is to represent the professional values of all those who have served onboard USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51) or have an on-going interest in promoting the ship and crew, the Arleigh Burke Class of Aegis Guided Missile Destroyers, as well as the United States Navy. Toward that end, this Association serves as the professional association for all ARLEIGH BURKE crewmembers and their supporters, past, present and future.

