

# THE DESTROYERMAN

## NEWSLETTER OF THE USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2017

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

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

USS Arleigh Burke Association, Family and Friends,

Welcome 2017! It is hard to believe that the Holidays are over and we are already a month or so into the New Year. 2016 certainly was both significant and memorable for Arleigh Burke past and present Sailors and Friends with the celebration of USS Arleigh Burke's 25th Commissioning Anniversary! As we look to the future, with the first Sailors who served in the Admiral's ship starting to step away from their professional work careers, it is now a good time to build on past camaradery and move forward to enhance our effort in support of the key tenants of our Association's Charter. I do appreciate all of the volunteer support over the past five plus years, and look forward to including new volunteers as we move forward!

Our Annual Meeting was held on 27 October 2016 via Teleconference as in past years. First, your current officers were reelected for another year. In addition to serving again as your President, Rob Jobrack and Mark Fortune will be serving as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Other highlights: Rob reported that our bank balance is in good shape with all bills paid post

the 25th Anniversary Activities. Thanks again to our Membership and Sponsors – in particular BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin!



The Membership voted to amend the By-Laws to remove Term Limits for key Officers. That said, your current Officers are looking for volunteers to take the reins. I would definitely like to see at least one, if not all three, of our Officer positions turn over in 2017 going into 2018.

The Membership voted to support the Anchor Scholarship Foundation with an Arleigh Burke Association annual scholarship at the \$2,500 level. This commitment provides the Family Member of an Arleigh Burke Sailor, current or past, with a merit \$2,250 academic scholarship every year commencing in 2017. To support this commitment and not impact our treasury, the Association is seeking additional Membership support with tax deductible contributions. Anyone who is willing to help with this worthy cause please send your check made

### OFFICERS

#### President

Rick Easton

[EastonAdvisors@gmail.com](mailto:EastonAdvisors@gmail.com)

#### Secretary

Mark Fortune

[mark.w.fortune@gmail.com](mailto:mark.w.fortune@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Rob Jobrack

[Jobrack@cox.net](mailto:Jobrack@cox.net)



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**2017 Dues:** Ongoing

**Annual Membership Meeting:** (Summer 2017)

out to the USS Arleigh Burke Association to our Treasurer, Rob Jobrack, at 32 King Georges Grant, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405. Any amount will be helpful and greatly appreciated.

I am seeking a couple of volunteers to put together and lead one or two 2017/2018 Association Events, such as an Arleigh Burke Association Washington Nationals Night Out, and/or an Informal Dinner Get Together, similar to the one that Mark Vandroff and Rob Jobrack put together about three years ago. In addition, Mark Fortune still needs help in tracking down and capturing contact information of former Arleigh Burke Sailors. Please reach out to him if you can spare some time pursuing old shipmates. Our next Arleigh Burke Association Board of Director's Meeting is 1930 Thursday 16 February – if you can join the teleconference that would be great! (Teleconference: 641-715-3580; Pass/AccessCode: 619219)

I want to thank Commander Jason Stepp, Commanding Officer of USS Arleigh Burke, for his and the current Arleigh Burke Crew's continued support of the Association, along with Captain Casey Moton, PMS 400D DDG51 Program Manager, and Dave Rosenberg, Association Historian, for their contributions to the Newsletter. Thanks to Ron Struewing for his significant effort as editor as well - he is the one who deserves the credit for bring this outstanding publication together!

In closing, my sincere thanks to the Association Membership for your support, without that we would not be where we are today with two very successful major celebrations under our belt. Again, I ask for your consideration in support of the 2017 Arleigh Burke Association Anchor Scholarship.

My best for the rest of the winter and spring!

Rick

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## TREASURER'S REPORT BY ROB JOBRACK

As you may know, the Arleigh Burke Association is sponsoring a scholarship through the Anchor Scholarship foundation to recognize Admiral Burke's Naval career, the USS Arleigh Burke, and her Sailors and their families.

We are accepting donations to support our sponsorship. If you would like to contribute, please let us know. Any contributions for this cause scholarship will be applied directly to the scholarship fund.

We still have some 25th reunion memorabilia left, although we are limited T-shirt sizes and we only have crew ball caps left.

Please contact me if you'd like to purchase additional items.



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

Membership categories and dues for 2017 are:

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

Member: \$20

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

Lifetime Member: \$1000

Checks should be made out to USS Arleigh Burke Association and mailed to:

USS Arleigh Burke Association

32 King Georges Grant

Fredericksburg, VA 22405

**FROM THE SECRETARY BY MARK FORTUNE**

USS Arleigh Burke Association Members and Friends,

Welcome to 2017! I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season.



We held our annual our annual meeting on 27 October 2016. Association members that dialed in to the telcon were Rick Easton, Rob Jobrack, Ron Struewing, Chuck Killian, Ray Weber and me. Elections were held and a nomination was made to keep the existing officer in place by Ray Weber. Ron Struewing seconded the motion and the motion was carried. Rick Easton, Rob Jobrack, and I will remain on as officers of the Association for another year. Another motion was made by Ron Struewing to amend the by-law that puts a term limit of 5 years on any one person serving in the same position. Ray Weber seconded the motion and by a 5 yeas to 0 nays vote, the motion carried.

Association members that would like to become more involved in what the association is doing are welcome to join us for our Monthly Board of Directors Teleconferences that deal with the Association's business. They take place the third Thursday of each Month and are from 1930-2015 EST. If you are interested in participating or attending, please contact me and I will provide you with the dial-in information.

Finally, tracking down our former shipmates is a daunting task without help from those that have served

across the 25 years that USS Arleigh Burke has been in commission. Your association takes great strides to track down our former shipmates, but we need your help. Join the association for \$20 a year or \$1000 for a lifetime and then take 15 minutes a week to contact former shipmates and encourage them to join as well. As we gain more members, our association will keep growing and we will ensure that our ship has a long and valued association with our nation's defense and success. Please join the association today and help us track down our former shipmates. If you know the location of former USS Arleigh Burke sailors, please contact me via email [mark.w.fortune@gmail.com](mailto:mark.w.fortune@gmail.com) and pass me there 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 about upcoming events.

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

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

Best regards,

Mark

**FROM THE EDITOR BY RON STRUEWING**

Association members, It has been a while since we posted a "Where are they now?" article in *The Destroyerman*. If you would like to submit a short article as Dom Domingo and Ray Weber have in the past letting everyone know what you have been up to since you left the ship, please contact me [rstruewing@cox.net](mailto:rstruewing@cox.net) and provide an article for publication. The cutoff for inputs for the June 2017 newsletter is the first week in May.



USS ARLEIGH BURKE towing USS LEYTE GULF during a training exercise in OCT 2016

## AN ACTIVE YEAR FOR USS ARLEIGH BURKE

BY LCDR ETHAN REBER, USS ARLEIGH BURKE

USS ARLEIGH BURKE – 2016 has proven to be a banner year for the USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51.)

Ship operations have been in full swing since departing BAE Shipyard; with the lion's share of effort fixed on building a solid foundation of readiness for deployment in 2018. In February, Arleigh Burke completed her Combat Systems and Hull, Mechanical, and Electrical (HM&E) Sea Trials, which paved way for a flawless execution of Combat System Ship Qualification Trials into the summer months. In mid-June, Arleigh Burke concurrently supported a successful Naval Undersea Warfare Command Mk 48 ADCAP prototype torpedo test in the waters off the coast of the Bahamas while visiting AUTECH.

From a successful firing of a vertically launched anti-submarine rocket (VLA), to five Standard Missile test shots, to countless main gun battery firings, Arleigh Burke stood out as having expended more ordnance during the calendar year than any other East Coast Destroyer. She operated cooperatively with the Spanish air defense frigate SPS CRISTOBAL COLON (F 105), demonstrating successful combat systems integration and coordinated engagement capabilities between the most modern

AEGIS fighting ships of these two countries.

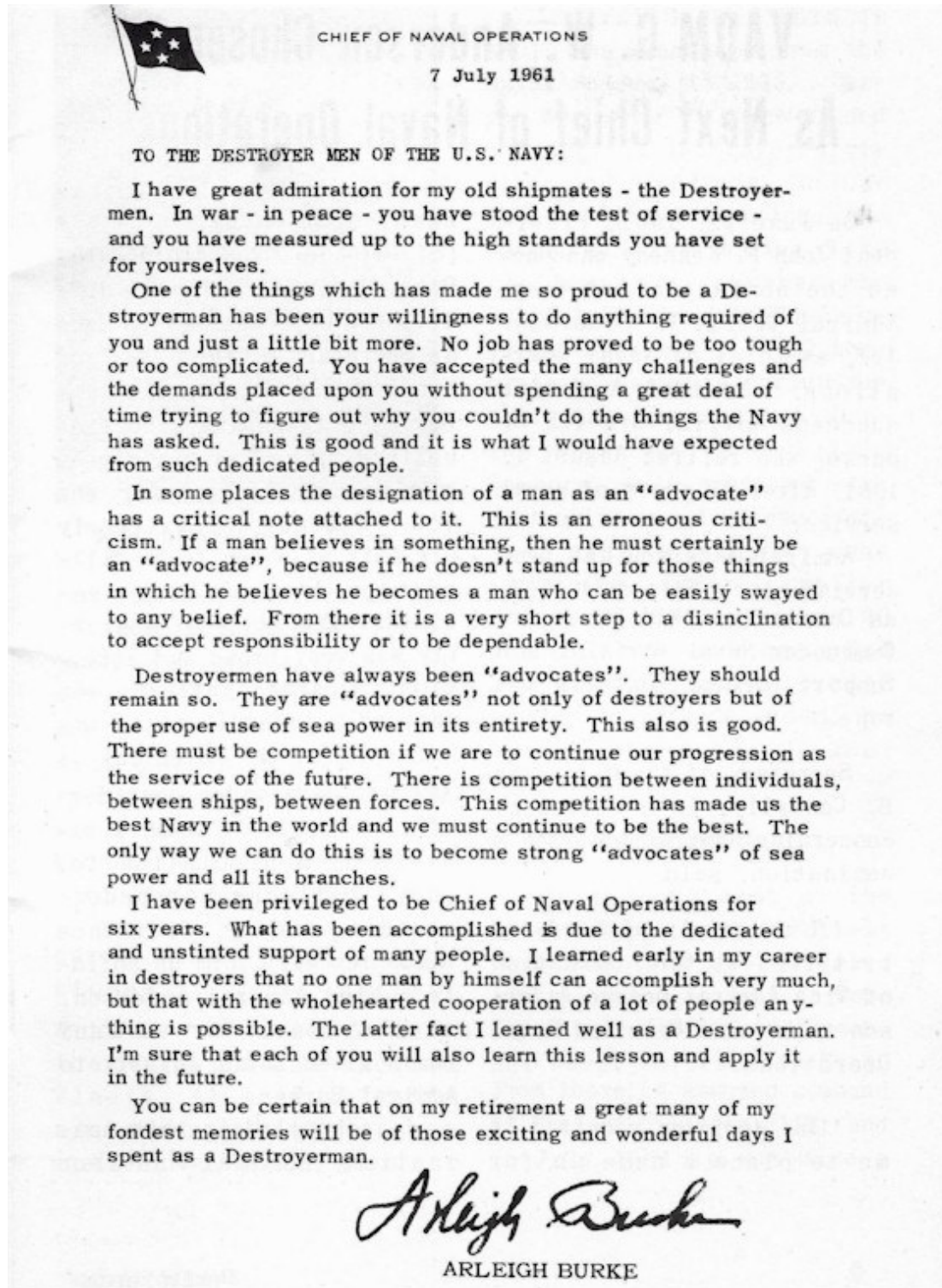
Arleigh Burke finished the summer with a short dry-docking for repairs to her degaussing system. In mid-September, she was back underway for the joint Navy-Air Force IFF Mode V data collection mission and air defense exercise BOLD QUEST. During this exercise, Arleigh Burke demonstrated her ability to seamlessly operate in a joint force construct while further supporting national military test objectives.

Arleigh Burke opened her brow to the public while in port for particularly notable events this year, such as providing tours to midshipmen of the US Naval Academy, Virginia Military Institute Cadets, and local community leaders from the City of Norfolk. While moored at the Nauticus National Maritime Center in downtown Norfolk, Virginia, the crew hosted both a grand Independence Day weekend celebration and commemoration of the ship's twenty-five year anniversary of commissioned service--an illustrious event that welcomed guests from all over, including members of the original crew and the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral John M. Richardson.



**Editor's Note:** As mentioned in the SEP 2016 issue, while researching Arleigh Burke history, Dr. David Rosenberg has uncovered so many fascinating facts and stories. The following letters and photographs are provided by Dr. Rosenberg.

## ARLEIGH BURKE HISTORY BY DAVID A. ROSENBERG, PH.D. CAPT, USN (RET.)



## ADM. BURKE'S FAREWELL LETTER TO THE US NAVY



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

10 July 1961

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY:

There comes a time in every man's life when he must attempt to evaluate what he has done to better his country, his service, his family and his group. This review can very well comprise the legacy a man bequeaths to his successors.

I have now--with more than a twinge of reluctance--reached this stage, and in retrospect I find it impossible to single out any one item which I can truthfully say was exclusively and inalienably mine. This is a truism which most men recognize eventually because they learn that major accomplishments can be achieved only with the cooperation of friends and shipmates.

In forty-two years of naval service I have had a unique opportunity to serve my country which I deeply appreciate. I have also been blessed by the loyalty, support and friendship of the most dedicated people I have ever known, not least of whom is my devoted wife.

Experience has brought me a full appreciation of the prize cargo a man can hoist aboard. To this beloved Navy I do commend:

Love of country, overshadowing all other loves,  
including service, family and the sea.

Individual desire to excel, not for aggrandizement  
of self, but to increase the excellence of the Navy.

Devotion--perhaps consecration--to personal integrity  
in oneself, in one's service, in one's country.

Courage to stand for principle, regardless of efforts  
to dilute this courage through compromise or evasion.

My service life has been rich and rewarding, and no man can ask for more. May you, too, find satisfaction and throughout your careers experience fair winds and following seas.

*Arleigh Burke*  
ARLEIGH BURKE





Presentation of the Distinguished Service Medal to Admiral Arleigh Burke by President Kennedy





USS ARLEIGH BURKE coming alongside USNS SUPPLY during an OPFOR assignment with USS George H. W. Bush Carrier Strike Group C2X

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## USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

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### WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[www.arleighburkeassociation.org](http://www.arleighburkeassociation.org)

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### WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!

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

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### MAIL

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Fredricksburg, VA 22405

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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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.

