

THE DESTROYERMAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2018

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

USS Arleigh Burke Association, Family and Friends,

Happy New Year! Welcome 2018! It is hard to believe that it has already been more than 18 months since we gathered in Norfolk over the Fourth of July weekend in 2016 to celebrate USS Arleigh Burke's 25th Commissioning Anniversary! Time certainly marches on!! A key highlight in 2017, our Association took the first steps towards establishing an Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation dedicated specifically to the preservation and celebration of Admiral Arleigh Burke's life accomplishments. More on this in the Annual Meeting Summary.

I want to thank all of our Members, Friends and Corporate Supporters for their continued contribution to our Association. I also thank our Officers and those individuals who selflessly volunteer their time to tend to the routine aspects of operating our Association. In particular, specific thanks to Ron Struewing for his significant effort in putting together our outstanding Association Newsletter, *The Destroyerman*, along with all those who provide inputs. Your contribution is important and makes a difference. In addition, I thank all of those who contributed in

2017 to the Anchor Scholarship Foundation USS Arleigh Burke Association Scholarship – very much appreciated and I am confident

that due to your generosity we will be able to continue our support of this worthy cause in 2018 and beyond.

Our Annual Meeting was held on 9 November 2017 via Teleconference as in past years. We had engaged participants and robust discussion. Following are the highlights which are also captured in Mark Fortune's Annual Meeting Minutes posted on the Association Web Site:

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. We continue to look for new volunteers to step into Association Leadership positions.

Rob reported that our bank balance is in good shape with all taxes paid. Thanks very much to our Members who paid their dues and in particular to those who



OFFICERS

President

Rick Easton

EastonAdvisors@gmail.com

Secretary

Mark Fortune

mark.w.fortune@gmail.com

Treasurer

Rob Jobrack

jobrack@cox.net



UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 Dues: Ongoing
Please pay On Line or directly to the Treasurer, Rob Jobrack

2018 Tentative East Coast Event: TBD based on interest

Annual Membership Meeting: Tentatively 1930-2015 Thursday 25 October 2018 - the last Thursday of October

Paid their dues and in particular to those who joined in 2017 as Life Members.

The Membership voted to continue support for the Anchor Scholarship Foundation Arleigh Burke Association Scholarship. Kathleen Ballard was the first recipient of the Arleigh Burke Association Scholarship awarded this past June 2017. Our commitment to this cause provides a Family Member of an Arleigh Burke Sailor, current or past, with a merit \$2,250 academic scholarship. It has to be applied for and is awarded to the best qualified applicant annually.

Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation Way Ahead.

VADM John Morgan and RADM Nevin Carr will CO-Chair the Foundation. I will act as the initial Executive Director with support for financial and administrative

matters from Rob Jobrack and Mark Fortune respectively. The Membership voted to provide \$1000 from the Association to assist with initial Foundation set up costs. Power Point Slides are posted on the Association Web Site outlining the Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation immediate way ahead.

In 2018, we will conduct Association Board of Director Meetings from 1930-2015 (7:30-8:15pm) the third Thursday of every other month commencing Thursday 15 February 2018. All Members and Friends are welcome to join the teleconference! (Teleconference: 641-715-3580; Pass/AccessCode: 619219)

New update regarding the missing Roger Williams Arleigh Burke oil painting which was originally hung in the ship's wardroom at commissioning: With the help of

Cont. on page 4

TREASURER'S REPORT BY ROB JOBRACK

Where do your dues and contributions to the Association go?

- General maintenance of the association including payment of administrative fees to keep our legal status and maintain our web site
- Support the USS Arleigh Burke Association Administered Scholarship Fund managed by the Anchor Scholarship Foundation. The purpose of this administered scholarship is to recognize Admiral Arleigh Burke's significant Naval career accomplishments, the contribution of his namesake, USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) and those Sailors and their families that contribute to our nation's defense through service aboard USS Arleigh Burke.
- The Arleigh Burke Foundation – more news about this elsewhere in our newsletter.

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.



There are two easy ways to send funds to the association:

Using PayPal via the association website, USSArleigh-BurkeAssociation.org, or send a check made out to USS Arleigh Burke Association to:

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

You can also direct your funds toward:

- Payment of annual membership dues.
- The USS Arleigh Burke Association Administered Scholarship Fund managed by the Anchor Scholarship Foundation. This is a \$2,250 annual scholarship that the association has committed to fund each year. More information can be found on the Anchor Scholarship web site, <http://www.anchorship.org>.
- General contributions to support the USS Arleigh Burke Association or Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation.

Membership categories and dues for 2018 are:

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

Cont. on page 3

FROM THE SECRETARY BY MARK FORTUNE

USS Arleigh Burke Association Members and Friends,

I hope everyone enjoyed a Happy Holiday season! Happy New Year to each and every one of you!



The Association held its annual meeting via teleconference on 09 November. 10 members participated in the teleconference. Annual meeting minutes went out via email on 13 November.

Highlights include:

Election of Officers – Rick Easton, Rob Jobrack, and Mark Fortune will be returning to their respective offices.

2018 Anchor Scholarship – All in attendance agreed to contribute to this year's \$2500 Anchor Scholarship. Funding for the scholarship needs to be raised outside of normal Association funds. If you would like to contribute please make sure you indicate your contribution is for the scholarship fund

Arleigh Burke Foundation - The Arleigh Burke Foundation got off to its official start with a \$1000 contribution from the Association. A 3-slide PowerPoint brief was emailed on 09 November prior to the annual meeting that explains the way ahead

The need to track 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. Take 15 minutes a week or a month to contact former shipmates and encourage them to contact me (mark.w.fortune@gmail.com) through our website [USS Arleigh Burke Association/registration](http://USSArleighBurkeAssociation.com), or through any one of our numerous Facebook pages - Search for USS Arleigh Burke Association, Arleigh Burke Plank Owners, or USS Arleigh Burke. 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! Details on how to do that are contained in Rob Jobrack's Treasurer Report. Go to the USS Arleigh Burke Association website and 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.

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

Best regards,

Mark

TREASURER'S REPORT (CONT.)

Member: \$20

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

Lifetime Member: \$1000

Is your 25th reunion gear wearing out? We still have

crew ball caps and T-shirts (limited sizes available), and coins available for purchase. 10% discount and free shipping on all orders.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Captain Charlie Cragin and the concurrence of the Board, I submitted a letter on behalf of the Association to Senator Collins of Maine requesting her to ask the Navy to reopen the investigation into the paintings disappearance. After her staff initially responded, Charlie engaged with the Senator over the Holidays and she committed to look into the matter further in 2018. It would be helpful for the Navy to pin down as closely as possible the timeframe in which the painting likely disappeared from the ship so that effort can be focused with those aboard during that timeframe, as well as places, such as shipyards, where the ship was that would have been likely place for removal. Again, any information from our Association Members or Friends regarding the painting that you may have to include just knowledge that it was hanging in the ship's Wardroom or onboard someplace while you served aboard or visited the ship will be helpful. This is a truly unique and historical painting that we want to get back in order to have it for future generations to enjoy.

I am seeking a volunteer to help manage the Association

Web Site. It will not take very much time, but we need someone who has some familiarity with websites and can dedicate one or two hours each month to keeping our Website current. In addition, it would be great if we can find a volunteer to organize an Informal Dinner Get Together in 2018. If you are interested in volunteering to help with these things please give me a shout. Also, we still need help tracking down and capturing contact information of former Arleigh Burke Sailors. Please reach out to Mark Fortune if you can spare some time pursuing old shipmates.

As we enter 2018 it is an excellent time to continue building our Association and provide all Sailors past and present who have sailed as part of USS Arleigh Burke's Ship's Company a community which fosters the values of our great namesake and enables the shared comradery of those who understand what it means to sail in a ship that was "Built to Fight!" My best to all of you for a great 2018!

Rick

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? BY CAPT MARK VANDROFF

For those who may remember me, I was a division officer during pre-commissioning served as Auxiliaries Officer, Damage Control Assistant, First Lieutenant, and finally CIC Officer before leaving in March of 1994.

After leaving ARLEIGH BURKE, I served as Weapons Officer and Combat Systems Officer in USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66) until January 1999. I was selected for lateral transfer into the Engineering Duty Officer (EDO) community in 1999 and have served in mostly NAVSEA billets in my 19 years as an EDO. This has included being the DDG 51 Class Major Program Manager (PM) and my current assignment as Commanding

Officer, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock. Serving as the DDG 51 Class Major Program Manager was a special privilege for someone who served on the first ship of the class. My goal as PM was to have every ship we delivered to the fleet be a product that would have made Admiral Burke proud.

I married my wife Jennifer in 2003. We currently live in Bethesda, MD and have a nine year old daughter, Vivian.

ANCHOR SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE BY KATHLEEN BALLARD

Hello Arleigh Burke Association,

My name is Kathleen Ballard and I was selected this past summer as the first recipient of the Arleigh Burke Association-sponsored Anchor Scholarship. I must extend my appreciation once more to all who are a part of propelling me further in my academic pursuits--it is with financial relief from your gracious scholarship that I am able to attain this higher education. Thank you.

In the October newsletter, I had recently arrived on campus at Northeastern University as a second-year Pharmacy major. I am excited to say it was quite the semester. Through my involvement in Student Government Association (SGA), I completed the first half of my 2017-2018 term as Elections Chair. I ran a committee of seven members, for which our first task was to spearhead the annual NortheasternVotes campaign. As a coalition we worked with other student clubs to register prospective voters and educate them on how to vote (students like myself are registered out-of-state). Elections Committee also revised the entirety of our Direct Elections Manual (hefty legislation governing every aspect of student body elections) and presented it to the Senate for a near-unanimous adoption of the document. With spring semester upon us now, we are preparing for the approaching elections season--planning events, ordering giveaways, posting information for potential candidates--and will soon be in the midst of yet another tough elections period. Student Government is serious work!

Last semester, I also continued teaching health education curriculum to local Boston public high school students through an organization called Peer Health Exchange (PHE). Being a Health Educator for teens in the Boston community is my way of giving-back through education and the empowerment of young people. I also taught a section of the class "Introduction to College" required for all Northeastern freshmen. Every Friday, I met with thirteen students and taught lessons that myself and the other facilitator had planned. It is uniquely-rewarding to develop a mentorship with people and spread my acquired wisdom. I also joined a sorority on campus, Kappa Kappa Gamma (KKG), whose values and spirit as an organization are captured in each of the 155 individuals of my chapter. KKG has maintained the highest average GPA of all Northeastern sororities for four consecutive semesters now!

Over the past few months, I have expanded my knowledge in more than just the fundamentals of organic chemistry, or the names of every bone in my body (adults have 206!). I have grown my time-management and public speaking skills, nurtured friendships, improved exercise habits and furthered my independence. From the looks of it, I have an even tougher semester ahead of me, but I intend to savor every minute.

With gratitude,

Kathleen



My friend Nathan and I at the home of Northeastern University's President, Joseph E. Aoun, for a faculty and staff holiday party. We were invited as executive board members of Student Government.



My sorority "family" with me, the newest addition, at the bottom. We are the "Foxes"

**Photos cont.
on page 8**

THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS INITIATES AND CANCELS A NEW FORM OF NAVAL CORRESPONDENCE IN ONE LETTER, NOVEMBER 1957

BY DAVID ALAN ROSENBERG, PH.D., CAPT, USN (RET.)

The fall of 1957 was a difficult time for the United States and the United States Navy. The Cold War was at its height and the Eisenhower Administration was facing multiple challenges from the Soviet Union in Europe and the Middle East and from the Soviets and Communist China in East Asia. The U.S. Navy was largely forward deployed with the Second Fleet in the Atlantic, the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, and the Seventh Fleet in the Western Pacific charged with defending allies shore, critical sea lines of communication and with launching nuclear strikes against the enemy in the event of hostilities. That summer, the USSR secretly launched an intercontinental ballistic missile ahead of the United States and in October the Soviet Union put up Sputnik, the first earth satellite, shocking America that was still months away from doing the same. Talk of a “missile gap” with the Soviets began.

Admiral Arleigh Burke, in the first months of his second two year term as Chief of Naval Operations, still commanded the Navy’s operating forces from his headquarters in the Office of the CNO (OPNAV) in the Pentagon. Advising President Eisenhower as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and making decisions in coordination with his Atlantic, Pacific and European commanders in Norfolk, Pearl Harbor and London took up much of his time, while the rest was spent on budget deliberations. Pressure was increasing to spend more on antisubmarine warfare programs and to accelerate the planned deployment of land and sea-based ballistic missiles. Burke’s previous decisions to make all subma-

rines nuclear, start the Polaris Fleet Ballistic Missile program, and invest in guided missiles, electronics and advanced aircraft like the F4H Phantom II and A2F Intruder was threatening to reduce future Navy force levels.

In the midst of this busy time, the office of the Deputy CNO for Administration (Op-02) drafted a new form of naval correspondence; a simplified, revised “Speedletter” similar to a mailgram that had been used in World War II, which would purportedly reduce “unnecessary verbiage” and would be simple to prepare and edit. The CNO, who had spent much more of his naval career on staffs in the Bureau of Ordnance, Fast Carrier Task Force 58 in World War II, U.S. Naval Forces Japan in the Korean War, and OPNAV than he liked to recall, was all for increased efficiencies and reduction in paperwork. Nevertheless, Admiral Burke always wrote in short, complete sentences and always stressed to his staff and commanders that their orders and communications had to be clear and fully understandable.

When the harried CNO was presented with the revised “Speedletter”, including its removal of articles like “the” and “a” and adverbs and adjectives, to be sent to all ships and stations under his signature, the following memo, dated 23 November 1957, a copy of which is reproduced from Admiral Burke’s personal papers at the Naval History and Heritage Command, was the result. The new “Speedletter” was never seen again.

NOTE 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* and I would like to get that going again. If you would like to submit a short article such as Dom Domingo and Ray Weber have in the past and I did in this issue, letting eve-

ryone know what you have been up to since you left the ship, please contact me, rstruewing@cox.net, and provide a short article for publication in a future issue. Thank you.

ADMIRAL ARLEIGH BURKE SPEEDLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Op-02/opk
Ser 57P02

SPEEDLETTER

23 NOV 1957

From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: All Ships and Stations

Paper work has increased and may be attributed somewhat to technological advances being made, evolution Navy going through, and place in international affairs thrust upon Navy. Reflecting upon advancements made last ten years, and looking to future, can easily appreciate will be considerable paper work. Problem then is keep unnecessary weeded out and simplify and expedite that which necessary.

For same reasons, there has been steady increase message traffic. Communications media have become so overloaded readiness Naval Communications Service meet emergency seriously impaired. Additionally, and of grave importance, considerable useful information being divulged to foreign agents through extensive use made of unprotected communications.

In recognition thereof, some commands advocated reviving mailgram. This contrary to basic concept naval communications which were established and are maintained at considerable expense to handle information by rapid means only. All matters handled by mail should be handled outside Naval Communications Service.

Some time ago, CNO proposed to SECNAV that speedletter be simplified and scope extended include any routine matter, whether urgent or not. This proposal approved and promulgated by SECNAV Instruction 5216.5 SUP-1 of 7 May 1956, which authorizes format that does not entail use speedletter form, but is approximately same as message. This letter simple to prepare, doesn't invite unnecessary verbiage, regular stationery may be used, and pen and ink corrections encouraged. Is ideally suited to matters that are strictly routine, ephemeral, and which can be couched in a few words. Conveniences pertinent to prompt signature and local distribution are matters peculiar to the command.

If one can command by precept and example, this speedletter is an example—

3 more pieces of useless paper.



ARLEIGH BURKE



Anchor Scholarship Update cont.

A continuation of pictures with my closest friends! We were celebrating Nathan's 20th birthday here (he's the tallest one).

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)

MAIL

USS Arleigh Burke Association
Attn. Rob Jobrack
32 King Georges Grant
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Ron Struewing
rstruewing@cox.net

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.

