

THE DESTROYERMAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2025

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

USS Arleigh Burke Association Members,
Family and
Friends,

Welcome 2025!!

The Holidays
whizzed by for
me this year as
Kaye and I spent
time with our
Grandkids at
Disney World in



Florida! I hope that everyone had the
chance to spend quality time with their
loved ones.

It is hard to believe that USS Arleigh
Burke is now pressing up on 34 years of
Commissioned Service to our great Na-
tion this coming Fourth of July. Last
year, we did stand up the USS Arleigh
Burke 35th Commissioning Anniversary
Celebration Planning Committee, which
started looking at options for a 35th
Commissioning Anniversary Celebration
in 2026. That said, per discussion and
decision at the 2024 Annual Membership
Meeting we are going to look at a scaled
back event at some point in 2026, and
then shift our attention to the Admiral's
Destroyer's return from FDNF Rota in
the 2030/2031 timeframe and plan for a
major "Welcome Home" Celebration and
Party to recognize USS Arleigh Burke's
significant Service Life accomplishments.

If you are interested in helping, please let
us know.

Before I get too much farther, I am very
sad to report that we have lost several
shipmates since our last edition of *The
Destroyerman*. Chief Gunner's Mate Gor-
don Dale Mathis passed at the age of 63
on January 1st 2025. He was a real cata-
lyst in USS Arleigh Burke's Commission-
ing Crew. Ron Struewing represented
the Association and attended Dale's Fu-
neral in the Tidewater area. Operations
Specialist First Class Charles Edward
Priebe passed on October 15th 2024 at
age 62 after a long fight with cancer. And
we unexpectedly lost SN Erick Keath
Custis on December 7th 2024 at the age
of 52. Links to all three of their obituar-
ies, that contain contact information for
condolences and bereavements, can be
found on page 5. We will sorely miss
them all, "and the dust returns to the
ground it came from, and the spirit re-
turns to God who gave it." – Ephesians
12:7

USS Arleigh Burke, under the leadership
of her Captain, Commander Ty Bow-
man, completed her Fifth Patrol with
flying colors! See more details in Corey
Keniston's, Secretary's, report. The
Admiral's Destroyer continues to do
great things as part of the Sixth Fleet For-
ward Deployed Naval Force. Further,
Commander Ethan Reber relieved Com-

OFFICERS

President

Rick Easton

[Email](#)

Secretary

Corey Keniston

[Email](#)

Treasurer

Rob Jobrack

[Email](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 Dues: Ongoing
Please pay directly, by
check, to the Treasurer,
Rob Jobrack, or online

**Annual Membership
Meeting:** 1930-2015
Thursday 23 October 2024
- the 4th Thursday of Oc-
tober

mander Ty Bowman on 19 December 2024 in a Change of Command Ceremony in Rota. Commander Reber was the immediate past Executive Officer, and had previously served in Arleigh Burke as Weps and CSO.

Thank you for those who attended our October 24, 2024 Annual Association Membership Meeting, it was the best turnout we have ever had. The Board appreciates your support!!

At the meeting, we:

Elected 2025 Association Officers:

Easton-President, Jobrack-Treasurer, Keniston-Secretary

Approved 2025 Association Annual Goals:

- Support publication of three Issues of *The Destroyerman*.

- Support USS Arleigh Burke Association Online Media, to include Website and other initiatives for continued improvement.

- Support Regional Association Member Get Togethers/Mini Reunions.

- Support award of the 2025 USS Arleigh Burke Association Anchor Scholarship, and raise the funds for the 2026-2027 Academic Year Scholarship.

- Support the Oral History Initiative.

- Support the Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation, and related NMSN activities.

Approved 2025 Association Annual Expenditures:

- 2025 Administer Anchor Scholarship Support – Approval for \$3333

- 2025 Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation Support - Approval for up to \$500 (if needed)

- 2025 Online Media Budget – Approval for \$400

- 2025 Support for Oral Histories – Approval for \$500

35th Scaled Back Commissioning Anniversary Celebration and 2030/2031 Welcome Home Planning Committee. As mentioned previously, the 35th USS Arleigh Burke Commissioning Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee was stood up in 2024 and is now look-

ing at a scaled back 35th Commissioning Anniversary Celebration Event, and starting to focus on bringing the Admiral's Destroyer back from FDNF ROTA in the 2030/2031 timeframe. We welcome input from all Association Members, Family and Friends on both the 35th scaled back event as well as the Return Home. And, we are looking for Volunteers to make it all happen. If you are willing to contribute, please let our Secretary, Corey Keniston, know.

Oral Histories. As addressed in previous Newsletters, we are still very interested in input from the Association Membership, to include Families and Friends, on worthy stories or artifacts that contribute to USS Arleigh Burke's noteworthy Fleet Introduction and Service History, as well as thoughts you may have regarding individuals you recommend be included on the Oral History Interview list. As stated previously, this is important work to capture those pearls of historical knowledge before they are lost due to the passage of time. Also, we are looking for volunteers to help with conducting the Oral History Interviews. Please let Kenyon know if you can help here.

Anchor Scholarship. We are on track to support award of the 2025-2026 Academic Year USS Arleigh Burke Association Anchor Scholarship which will occur in June of this year. This will be our Association's Ninth Anchor Scholarship. Our Treasurer will provide the funds to the Anchor Scholarship Foundation in February. My sincere appreciation to all the Association Members who contributed in 2024 to make our Ninth Scholarship a reality. Well done!! Please see Rob's section for details.

National Museum of the Surface Navy (NMSN) October 2025, the Surface Navy's 250th Anniversary, the NMSN will officially open aboard the Battleship Iowa in the Port of Los Angeles! As agreed in the Admiral Arleigh Burke Foundation/NMSN MOU, both Admiral Burke and USS Arleigh Burke are prominently featured in the three initial exhibits: Sailor Muster including Admiral Burke, Life of a Sailor which includes a Flight III Arleigh Burke Class Destroyer, and the Great Ships Showcase which highlights USS Arleigh Burke as one of 15 Feature Ships out of approximately 400 total ships in the Exhibit.

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, the key theme for our Surface Warrior Museum is "Freedom of the Seas" and its importance to both our National Security, National Prosperity, and American Way of Life. In addition, dur-

ing the recent Surface Navy Association Annual National Symposium in Crystal City/Arlington, Virginia 14-16 January 2025, the NMSN had a Kiosk. We continued to sign up new NMSN Plank Owners, as well as a number of "Individuals" to lead the charge to make their ship interactive as either an "Identifier Ship" or a "Fleet Ship." If you might be interested in joining as a Plank Owner or sponsoring a ship, please reach out to me directly.

I close by thanking all of you who actively support and participate in the USS Arleigh Burke Association,

whether it be a donation to the USS Arleigh Burke Association Anchor Scholarship, participation directly in our Board of Director's Telcons, help recruit new Association Members, or in any other way. Special thanks to Ron Struewing who makes our outstanding Newsletter happen and gets the word out!

As we negotiate Winter and head into Spring, my best to all for a Happy and Prosperous 2025! Be safe! Rick

TREASURER'S REPORT BY ROB JOBRACK

Did you ever stop to think that most of the Sailors serving aboard the Admiral's destroyer hadn't been born when she began her service to the country?

And did you ever stop to think that the oldest destroyer in the Fleet --- the cutting edge when she was new --- is doing things that no other ship in the history of the world's navies has ever done, equaled only by her sister destroyers and Aegis cruisers? She is still on the cutting edge of naval operations with, obviously, a sharp crew.

We're part of a remarkable legacy, one that we've all contributed to. A legacy that started with the ship's namesake, Admiral Arleigh Burke and continues to this day. Old people like me take pride in watching the ship's current work because we have a long perspective on how this legacy grew.

For that legacy to continue and for it to have meaning we need your support. As we really start planning for what comes next for the ship as she approaches the end of her service life we need everyone to contribute. Not just funds, but energy & effort. Really, if we leave it for others then I don't think that legacy will last very long. I am also mindful that we are losing ship mates and Association members as we get older. As Rick notes in this newsletter, another plankowner has joined the list of those who were integral to this legacy that have died, and that list will only grow longer.

What can you do?

Join our Board Meetings and take on a small piece of the efforts. The Zoom info is in this newsletter



Reach out to local members in your area and go have a cup of coffee or perhaps an alternative brewed beverage with them. Extensive planning is not needed: keep it simple and make it a casual affair. The association can provide you with names and contact info.

The Association Officers are not geniuses: suggest activities for the Association to undertake and be willing to bite off at least a small piece of the effort.

As Treasurer, I'm sort-of contractually obligated to ask you to pay your dues and to contribute to our Anchor Scholarship Foundation. See below if you are not sure how.

Our membership categories and dues for 2025:

- USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51) Ship's Company: Free
- Member: \$20
- Sustaining Member: \$125 (10 year sustaining equals Lifetime)
- Lifetime Member: \$1000

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.

Payments and donations to the association can be made in two ways:

1. Using PayPal via the association website, arleighburkeassociation.org/

2. Send a check made out to USS Arleigh Burke Association to:

USS Arleigh Burke Association

32 King Georges Grant

Fredericksburg, VA 22405

FROM THE SECRETARY BY COREY KENISTON

USS Arleigh Burke Association
Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! 2025 is off to a great start and our membership drive is going strong. Do you know someone who served on the Admiral's Destroyer or contributed to the success of the Ship Class? Share our webpage with them (<https://ddg51.org/>) and invite them to join by clicking on the "Association" tab and following the instruction under "Membership." At a minimum, share their contact information with me, secretary@arleighburkeassociation.org, and I'll extend the invitation! If you don't know if you are a "Member in Good Standing" and want to, . . . I know! Reach out to me and I'll confirm you are current in your dues. Current Arleigh Burke Sailors – Free, Annual Membership – \$20.00, Sustaining Members – \$125.00, Lifetime Member – \$1000.00 (of cumulative support).

Your Board of Directors is considering several options to celebrate the 35th Commissioning Anniversary of USS ARLEIGH BURKE in 2026. We have traditionally celebrated every five years over the 4th of July Weekend, but attendance has been waning because the ship remains forward deployed to our Europe Forces. We'd love to hear from you about alternate ways we might mark the occasion. We intend to send a survey to all "Members in Good Standing" in February and look forward to hearing everyone's ideas. This is a significant milestone as the Admiral's Destroyer turns 35 and more of the ship class are still being built! As the timing for our ship's return to the homeland is announced, we'll plan a more typical weekend long "welcome home" celebration in Norfolk – but that might not be until 2031!

Our website continues to excel! It is a treasure trove of information about the Admiral, the Ship, the People, Aegis BMD, the Association, and Reunions. The history project (formerly "oral histories") is world class and is being used by many as the source reference for the success of our ship's class. CAPT John Ingram underscored the relevance of this effort, "And this is what



success feels like. Remember that. I felt that way about Burke. We did a good job and we were successful. And I learned what success felt like. And I used that as a measuring stick for other things that I got involved in. You know, if you do something the right way and you have success, even if it was hard, it's something that you should keep in mind. You know, this is what it takes. These are the kind of things that you have to do to ensure success." There are several completed oral histories posted at <https://ddg51.org/purpose/history-project/>.

While there is a sense of urgency for documenting firsthand experiences of the "Arleigh Burke to Sea" period and first deployment as we are starting to lose the heroes that made it happen, we are looking to capture stories across the ship's lifetime. If you have suggestions for those to interview (including yourself) to help capture the adventures, please let me know secretary@arleighburkeassociation.org and we will get the process started.

You have a lot of reasons to be proud of today's crew. USS ARLEIGH BURKE has recently completed her Fifth Forward-Deployed Naval Forces-Europe (FDFNF-E) Patrol and returned to Rota, Spain on 07 December 2024 after a four-month patrol in support of regional Allies and partners, and U.S. national security interests in Europe and Africa. "Arleigh Burke Sailors continuously amaze me with their hard work and dedication, no matter the challenges thrown their way," said Cmdr. Tyrchra Bowman, the ship's commanding officer. "I could not have asked for a better crew, and I am immensely grateful for having the opportunity to command America's Lead Destroyer." Burke's patrol included many significant milestones, including deterrence operations in the eastern Mediterranean Sea; numerous gunshoot qualifications utilizing the MK 15 - Phalanx Close-In Weapon System (CIWS), the MK 38 25 mm machine gun system (MGS), and the 5-inch (127 mm)/54-caliber (Mk 45) lightweight gun; the pinning of eight new Chief Petty Officers; and a visit by Italian Navy Rear Admiral Andrea Petroni, Commander of Second Naval Division and Commander of Italian Maritime Forces, along with crew members of the Italian frigate Luigi Rizzo (F 595) for a passenger exchange; and seven underway replenishments, 11 flight quarters, and 14 small boat operations. Arleigh Burke closed out its fifth

patrol by joining the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group to serve as Air and Missile Defense Commander while the strike group transited to the Mediterranean Sea. The ship then returned to Rota, where the crew was welcomed by friends, family, and volunteers from the USO after 115 days away from home and 22,450 miles traveled.

A change of command occurred shortly after returning to homeport and Commander Ethan Reber relieved Commander Tyrchra Bowman as Commanding Officer on December 19, 2024.

Your Association leadership encourages you to join us for our Board of Director's Association meetings on the third Thursday of each month. When we discuss the Association's business, the more participation in the conversation, the stronger the Association will be.

I look forward to working alongside you and to seeing everyone at future events. I hope you had a great holiday season and your battery is charged and ready for an amazing and prosperous 2025!

Corey

LOSS OF FORMER SHIPMATES



SN Erick Keath Custis

September 23, 1972 - December 7, 2024

[Link obituary](#)

GMC (SW) Gordon Dale Mathis

May 18, 1961 - January 1, 2025



[Link to obituary](#)

OS1 (SW) Charles Edward Priebe

February 2, 1962 - October 15, 2024



Chuck passed after a long and courageous fight with cancer.

[Link to obituary](#)

ARLEIGH BURKE CLASS UPDATE

BY CAPT. SETH MILLER, DESTROYER SHIPBUILDING PROGRAM MANAGER

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe 2025 is already here. Time passes rather quickly with 25 ships under contract in various stages of construction at two shipyards. I am happy to report that we have achieved many new shipbuilding milestones since my last update in September 2024.

Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII), Ingalls Shipbuilding achieved the Lay Keel milestone in the production of the future USS Sam Nunn (DDG 133) on September 16, 2024. A formal Keel Lay Ceremony followed on November 22, 2024. The ship is named in honor of Samuel Augustus Nunn Jr., who served as a U.S. Senator from Georgia (1972 – 1997). Senator Nunn served as Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee and has been a long-standing advocate of the Arleigh Burke-class Destroyer program. Senator Nunn was joined by his daughter and ship sponsor, Michelle Nunn, in welding their initials onto a steel plate, declaring the keel of DDG 133 to be “truly and fairly laid.”

General Dynamics Bath Iron Works (BIW) launched the future USS Patrick Gallagher (DDG 127) on October 15, 2024. DDG 127 safely launched from BIW’s floating dry dock to pier side where she is being outfitted and undergoing generator, main engine, and system light offs. DDG 127 also successfully achieved Aegis light Off (ALO) on December 31, 2024. This milestone marks the beginning of the ship’s combat systems test program that will culminate in readiness for Builder’s Trials, Acceptance Trials, and eventual delivery to the fleet.

The Future USS John Basilone (DDG 122) sailed away from BIW on November 1, 2024, enroute to New York City, where she was commissioned on November 9, 2024, in conjunction with Veterans Day Weekend. The ship is named in honor of U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant, John Basilone, who was killed in action during the Battle of Iwo Jima in WWII. Gunnery Sergeant Basilone received the Medal of Honor for heroism displayed

in the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942, and for conspicuous gallantry displayed in the Battle of Iwo Jima. DDG 122 is homeported in Mayport, FL and will begin Combat Systems Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT) on January 27, 2025.

USS Jack H. Lucas (DDG 125) commenced Post Shake-down Availability (PSA) on October 21, 2024. A full work package, including the installation of the Multi-Function Towed Array (MFTA) capability, is underway at BAE San Diego. Flight III Initial Operational Test & Evaluation (IOT&E) will resume following the completion of DDG 125 PSA on or about February 24, 2025. The program is working with all stakeholders towards achieving the CNO’s North Star objective of transferring a fully tested and certified Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) ship to the fleet by September 2027.

In addition to achieving these shipbuilding milestones, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro (SECNAV) announced the sponsors for DDG 142, and named DDGs 145, 146, 147, 148, and 149. At a ship naming celebration held at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, in Washington DC, on December 12, 2024, SECNAV announced the sponsors of the future USS Charles J. French (DDG 142) would be the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Shalanda Young and the late Navy Mess Specialist 1st Class Petty Officer Charles Jackson French’s great niece, Ms. Vanessa French Wilson. Petty Officer French saved 15 of his shipmates after their high-speed transport was sunk in combat during the Battle of Guadalcanal in World War II. SECNAV posthumously upgraded Petty Officer French’s personal letter of commendation from Admiral Halsey and awarded him the Navy and Marine Corps Medal in May 2022 in recognition of his heroic actions.

SECNAV named DDG 145 the future USS Intrepid during a ceremony held in the legendary aircraft carrier Intrepid Museum Ship in New York City on January 3, 2025. DDG 145 is the fifth vessel to bear the name Intrepid, “honoring her past namesakes and the courageous service of all our Sailors.” At this ceremony, SECNAV also announced the sponsor of DDG 145 would be his wife, Betty Del Toro.

Following the naming of DDG 145, SECNAV met with former U.S. Senator Robert Kerrey to inform him DDG 146 would be named the future USS Robert Kerrey. The formal announcement was later made by SECNAV in Washington, DC on January 4, 2025. Senator Kerrey served as a U.S. Navy SEAL from 1966 to 1969 during the Vietnam War, achieving the rank of Lieutenant (junior grade). President Nixon awarded Senator Kerrey the Medal of Honor in 1970 for his heroic actions leading his squad in a counterattack against the Viet Cong on Hon Tre Island in 1969 despite suffering significant wounds that resulted in the loss of the lower part to his right leg. Senator Kerrey was the first Navy SEAL to be awarded the Medal of Honor. In addition to serving as a U.S. Senator from Nebraska from 1989 to 2001, he served as the 35th Governor of Nebraska from 1983 to 1987.

During his keynote address to the Surface Navy Association’s 37th National Symposium held on January 15, 2025, SECNAV announced the names of the remaining three DDGs placed on contract during his tenure to be: the future USS Ray Mabus (DDG 147), the future USS Kyle Carpenter (DDG 148), and the future USS Robert R. Ingram (DDG 149).

DDG 147 honors former Secretary of the Navy Raymond Edwin Mabus, Jr. Secretary Mabus was confirmed as the 75th SECNAV in 2009 and served in this position until 2017, becoming the longest serving SECNAV since World War I. Liz Mabus, the daughter of Secretary Mabus, will serve as the sponsor of DDG 147.

DDG 148 honors Corporal William “Kyle” Carpenter, USMC, Retired. President Obama awarded Corporal Carpenter the Medal of Honor in 2014 for his selfless actions while serving as an Automatic Rifleman during the defense of the village of Marjah, Helmand Province, Afghanistan from a Taliban attack on November 21, 2010. During the attack, Corporal Carpenter shielded a fellow Marine and absorbed the detonation blast from a grenade, saving the life of his fellow Marine but leaving himself with the loss of his right eye and severe wounds to his right arm and jaw. Corporal Carpenter is the youngest living Medal of Honor recipient. Robin and Brittany Carpenter, the mother and spouse of Corporal Carpenter, will serve as the sponsors of DDG 148.

DDG 149 honors Hospital Corpsman Third Class (HM3) Robert Ronald Ingram, USN, Retired. President Clinton awarded Petty Officer Ingram the Medal of Honor in 1998 for his gallant and intrepid actions in administering live saving aid to a platoon of Marines during a fierce fire-fight with North Vietnamese forces in Quang Ngai Province on March 28, 1966, despite being seriously wounded by four subsequent rounds of enemy gunfire during the attack. His actions resulted in many lives being saved. Twenty-four of the men he served with in Vietnam attended his Medal of Honor Ceremony, some 30 years after his original award nomination paperwork was apparently lost. Dana Ingram, the daughter of Petty Officer Ingram, will serve as the sponsor of DDG 149.

This marks my last entry in *The Destroyerman* as Program Manager of the DDG 51 Arleigh Burke Class Destroyer program. The DDG 51 Shipbuilding Program Change of Office will take place on May 16, 2025, in conjunction with my retirement ceremony. After 29 years of proud Navy service, highlighted by my distinct privilege of serving as the DDG 51 Program Manager for the past six years, I will “pass the watch” to Captain Jay Young. Captain Young currently serves as Commanding Officer of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Maintenance Center. Given his vast and distinguished experience in previous acquisition, maintenance, and construction tours, I am confident

the DDG 51 Program will continue to excel under his leadership. I look forward to reading about your many DDG 51 Program accomplishments in future volumes of *The Destroyerman*. For Captain Young, I wish you and the DDG 51 Team much success in continuing to deliver this vital warfighting capability to our Sailors. To my DDG 51 Program Office team, thank you for giving me your

very best over the past six years. Together, we built and delivered decisive, combat ready, surface power so crucial to our nation's maritime strategy and national security interests. In adhering to Rear Admiral Meyer's philosophy, continue to "Build a Little, Test a Little, Learn a Lot." I wish you all "fair winds and following seas."

ONLINE MEDIA BY KENYON HISER

The Association online site address is now ddg51.org. The former addresses (arleighburkeassociation.org, ~.com, etc.) will all still work, and take you to ddg51.org. Association e-mails remain on ArleighBurkeAssociation.com (secretary and admin) and ~.org (other officers).

Recent online posts:

Kevin J Brennan, Phd - Memories of a contributor to success of Aegis Ashore - ddg51.org/2025/01/02/kevin-j-brennan-phd/

Change of Command - CDR Reber relieves CDR Bowman - ddg51.org/2024/12/29/change-of-command/

Fletcher Factor - What was the "Fletcher Factor?" - ddg51.org/2024/11/15/fletcher-factor/

Change of Command

Commander Ethan Reber (top right) relieved Commander Tyrchra Bowman (bottom right) as Commanding Officer on December 19, 2024.

Fair Winds and Following Seas to Commander Bowman, who led the ship through two successful FDNF-E deployments, including the first SM-3 operational employment. We look forward to continued success of Arleigh Burke under the leadership of Commander Reber.



Commander Ethan Reber



Commander Tyrchra Bowman

The Fletcher Factor

by Kenyon Hiser with help from the Fletcher family and Maine Maritime Museum

I don't remember Abbot's official title, but I presume it had something to do with schedule and metrics.

Abbot seemed to have been a timeless fixture of the shipyard when we arrived. He and his wife Eileen seemed to adopt some of us, maybe as you might a stray dog. I recall visits to the family summer camp down on Orr's Island.

I recall Abbot stating that he moored his sailboat in the same location that his father and grandfather did, but since he happened to be born outside Maine, he could never be a true Mainac.

Somehow I ended up crewing with him on the Monhegan. I don't think I added any value. It was a pretty becalmed sail – but he had an uncanny sense of where to find any small breath of wind. He would bemoan that his old sailboat, built in 1966, had a much lower handicap than the most modern plastic high-tech racing machines.

Back to the shipyard – Abbot had acquired the unenviable job of proving, despite all indications to the contrary, that the ship would be delivered on time. You could find him in any shop, checking progress, and working on the graphs. He would be in any status meeting, or anywhere in the shipyard, with his blue plastic BIW windbreaker, hard hat (always green, as he never accepted a white management hat), and yard bike. He would work with metrics that to mere mortals would be doom and gloom, but to him showed that all indications were positive, and he just needed us to trust him.

This was the “Fletcher factor” which, when applied to the metrics, would get us over the finish line.

An engineer might observe that the “Fletcher factor” involved both a time machine and the square root of minus

one. But Abbot never wavered from his task, dragging us to the finish line despite what the metrics indicated was possible.



Image courtesy of Maine Maritime Museum

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Association members, Starting with this issue I am working to get the “Where are they now?” section in each issue of *The Destroyerman*. If you would like to submit a short article such others have done in previous issues, to let everyone know what you have been up to since you left the ship, please contact me and provide a short article for publication in a future issue. I can send you some examples if desired. My email address is: NewsLetter@arleighburkeassociation.org

Thank you.

The ASSOCIATION STORE IS OPEN

Ball caps (30+ years as shown and blue 25th anniversary ball caps: Crew ballcaps: \$20; O5/06/Flag ballcaps: \$25. This includes shipping costs.

25th anniversary T-shirt for only \$5.



2025 BOD Meeting Dates

Feb 20 Mar 20 Apr 17 May 15 Jun 19 Jul 17 Aug 21 Sep 18 Oct 16

Oct 23 -- Annual Association Meeting Nov 20

All Telcons kick off at 1930 EST:

Teleconference for BOD/ Annual Meetings:

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89532348202?pwd=o97aQmfG0XxADZeoP8bC5y7eoGbFmE.1>

Meeting ID: 895 3234 8202 Passcode: 057513

Phone: 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 895 3234 8202 , Passcode: 057513

**WE'RE ON THE WEB
AND SOCIAL MEDIA!**

[.ArleighBurkeAssociation.org](https://ArleighBurkeAssociation.org)



MAIL

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Ron Struewing

[Newsletter](#)

ONLINE MEDIA

Kenyon Hiser

[Online Media](#)

**USS ARLEIGH BURKE
OFFICIAL WEBSITE**

[HTTPS://WWW.SURFLANT.USFF.NAVY.MIL/DDG51/](https://www.surflant.usff.navy.mil/DDG51/)



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 ongoing 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.

