

THE DESTROYERMAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

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MAY 2012

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,

This is the first USS Arleigh Burke Association Newsletter since unofficially standing up the USS Arleigh Burke Association in conjunction with the ship's Twenty Years of Service Celebration and Commissioning Reunion over the Fourth of July weekend last year. Although I mentioned it at the time, I want to again highlight my sincere thanks to the entire Reunion Committee for their commitment of precious time and energy in the detailed planning and execution of the entire weekend's events all of which were extremely successful. I also want to thank all of the participants including those Commissioning Crew, current Crew and Friends of Arleigh Burke present for their involvement and support of the various functions. It truly was great to see so many old shipmates, and to meet so many new individuals tied together through association with Admiral Burke and his ship. All in all it was a truly fantastic time. Chuck Killian's pictures brilliantly recorded the event for posterity, link available on Chuck's Picasa page: <https://picasaweb.google.com/chuckkillian/USSArleighBurke20thYearReunion?authuser=0&feat=directlink>. Additional information can be found on the Website: (www.arleighburkeassociation.org).

I am pleased to announce that the draft USS Arleigh Burke Association Charter has now completed its legal review – which took longer than I expected – and it will be put before the USS Arleigh Burke Association Membership in good standing during the last two weeks of May – anticipate distribution via e-mail on 18 May. Voting will be completed electronically via e-mail to the Association Secretary, Mark Fortune, at mark.w.fortune@gmail.com. All votes must be submitted by 2359 31 May. Mark will keep the vote tally and report the results by the end of the second week in June via e-mail to the membership. I believe that the draft Charter is sufficient for the USS Arleigh Burke Association's stand up and I recommend all Association Members in Good Standing cast a vote to adopt the Charter. The charter provides opportunity for revision in the future as the Association matures and as the membership desires may change.

One of the key tenants of the Charter is the requirement for an annual membership meeting. This year we intend to conduct the annual meeting by Teleconference. The



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Vote on Association Charter

18-31 May

Annual Membership Meeting

02 July (TELCON)

2012 Dues

Ongoing

current Association Officers have selected 2000-2045 Monday 2 July as the date for the 2012 Association Annual Meeting. During this meeting we intend to elect officers, review the Association's financial status, address Association dues, the Association WebSite, the Anchor Scholarship Fund which several members of the Association supported last year on behalf of the Association and the ship, discuss potential activities for the 2012-2013 year, and any other business that the membership would like to bring up. The Annual Meeting Teleconference number is: 800-366-7242; Passcode: 5163194. An Outlook Meeting Maker will be forwarded to all Members in good standing to the e-mail addresses that we have on file.

I am happy to report that Rob Jobrack, the Association Treasurer, was successful in getting our Tax Exempt status through the process with the approval paper work now in hand. Well done Rob! In regards to Association finances, I request that that all Association Members who have not already paid their 2012 dues of \$10 do so as soon as possible. Please forward a check made out to "The USS Arleigh Burke Association" to Rob at: 32 King Georges Grant, Fredericksburg, Vir-

ginia 22405.

I want to specifically thank Ron Struewing for volunteering to be the editor of the USS Arleigh Burke Association Newsletter and developing the layout of our first edition – Spring 2012. Great job Ron! At this juncture in the Association's life, our target is to publish between two and three USS Arleigh Burke Association Newsletters each year. To help support the Newsletter, I request that everyone consider forwarding their favorite Arleigh Burke story to Ron for inclusion in a future newsletter edition. Your support is appreciated!

In closing, I look forward to completing the official stand up of the USS Arleigh Burke Association this summer and the many future events that will bring all of us together. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other Association officers if you have input or questions.

Best regards,
Rick

Reunion Dinner Principal Speakers



VADM Morgan addressing the guests

“Relationships and memories must be nurtured. This Association and Newsletter is intended to do just that by keeping us connected and refreshing the fondest memories of our service together. To that end, Admiral Burke's legacy continues.”

John Morgan



CDR Corey Keniston, former USS Arleigh Burke Commanding Officer



The Honorable Sean Stackley, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition and former Bath SUPSHIPS Arleigh Burke Aegis Test Team Officer



Commemorative cake at Ship's Sunday pre-fireworks show reception

DECEMBER 2011 ASNE DINNER BY RON STRUEWING

On December 14, 2011, the USS Arleigh Burke Association co-hosted the December meeting of the Tidewater Section of the American Society of Naval Engineers. The Tidewater Section generally meets every third Wednesday at the Marriott Spring Hill Suites Hotel on Newtown Road.

For those who may not know about the society, it has three main purposes: to advance the knowledge and practice of Naval engineering in public and private applications and operations, enhance the professionalism and well being of members, and to promote Naval Engineering as a career field.

The Arleigh Burke Association members in attendance were Andy Paul, Ron Struewing, and Ray Weber. The Dinner was an excellent opportunity for fellowship and to meet many people from the Norfolk Naval Engineering community many of whom are working to further the legacy of Admiral and Mrs. Burke and DDG-51.

The guest speaker was CDR Corey Keniston, Commanding Officer of USS Arleigh Burke, who spoke about the recent mid-life modernization of the ship and preparations for her upcoming deployment in support of anti-piracy operations.

CDR Keniston discussed the fact that the initial plan for the

DDG-51 Class was to build 29 and they would have a life of about 20-25 years. Today there are over twice that many and the current plan is to modernize the all Arleigh Burke Class ships at mid-life and extend them to 40 years of service.

CDR Keniston reviewed in detail the recent HME upgrades USS Arleigh Burke received and how well the ship has been performing since leaving the yards in the spring of 2011.

He spoke of the many hours the shipyard put into the overhaul and how the crew worked closely with them to ensure a better product. Current plans are for the ship to receive a Combat System modernization in 2012.



Ray Weber, Andy Paul, Ron Struewing



CDR Corey Keniston and Dave Thomas, Section Chairman

USS ARLEIGH BURKE ASSOCIATION

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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.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.arleighburkeassociation.org