

DESTROYER LEADER NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION

USS NORFOLK, DL-1 USS MITSCHER, DL-2/DDG-35

USS JOHN S. MCCAIN, DL-3/DDG-36 USS WILLIS A. LEE, DL-4 USS WILKINSON, DL-5



VOLUME XIII, ISSUE 2

MAY 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last Call For The 2009 DLA Cruise Reunion

You must act now to reserve your cabin for the 2009 Western Caribbean cruise reunion for the Destroyer Leader Association. The deadline for the final Payment is July 20 and you will need to put your deposit of \$150 per person now to Brian Forrester at 1-800-998-1228 or e-mail him at brian@hcttravel.com. Look in this newsletter for the form.

You WILL need a US PASSPORT to re-emote the USA per the new Security regulations so this must all be done now. Do not wait until the last minute to do both or you will miss out on the reunion cruise. We have a lot to do on the cruise and you can partake or just relax while on the reunion cruise. Please make sure to get a confirmation number and you can go to RCI cruise lines and log on with this number.

If you are planning on staying the night or two prior to the Cruise, call the Marriott Ft. Lauderdale Airport & Cruise Port Hotel and tell them you want the special Destroyer Leader Association rate of \$79. The phone number is (954) 342-8555. We will be having a soup and sandwich meal Sunday night and the cost will be \$10 per person. Contact me if you plan to attend this as I will need to order the food three weeks prior to the event at the hotel. Contact me via e-mail at mikebugara@hotmail.com or bugaram@excite.com.

The hotel has breakfast only and any evening meals or lunch will have to be from other than the hotel. The hotel has pick up and drop off service to the Ft. Lauderdale airport and DROP OFF ONLY service to the cruise port. You will need to take a taxi back to the Airport or hotel after the cruise. The cost is \$ 12-15 per taxi. Sign up sheets are at the front desk of the hotel for drop off to the airport and a sheet for drop off to the cruise port as this hotel does service a multitude of cruise lines. Parking at the hotel is free and they will entertain motor homes in the rear of the hotel or the adjacent parking lots next to the hotel.

The Board of Directors just held its spring meeting in Chantilly, Virginia and were all very busy during the all day planning meetings. Your next reunion (2010) will be held at the Holiday Inn Chantilly, Virginia and your planners are hard at work meeting with the tour companies and final contract negotiations for next year's reunion. We had to change the Portland, Oregon site due to situations beyond the control of the DLA. We do hope to see if we can return to these areas in the future reunions.

The reunions are open to any friends and family members who would like to attend so ask them to join us for fun and friendship. Looking forward to seeing you all soon

Mike Bugara

President, Destroyer Leader Association

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13TH ANNUAL REUNION—FINAL CALL *By Walter Alexander*

This is the final newsletter notice for the 2009 Call to Reunion aboard Royal Caribbean International's "Enchantment of the Seas" departing from Fort Lauderdale on October 26. If you plan to attend but have not reserved a cabin, please call our Cruise Host, Brian Forrester, at once. RCI has already required us to reduce the number of cabins we have blocked so that they can make them available for sale to the general public, but we still have a few cabins left. A reduced deposit of \$150 per person is required at time of booking. The deadline for final payment is July 20, 2009. These may be paid by credit card and are refundable in accordance with cruise line standard policies. Passports are required, so apply for yours at once if you don't have it yet.

If you want to arrive in Ft. Lauderdale the day prior to the cruise, make a reservation at the Marriott Ft. Lauderdale Airport & Cruise Port Hotel and request the special DLA room rate of \$79 plus tax.

Please note that Brian's travel company has switched their franchise from "Cruise Holidays" to "Holiday Cruises and Tours." His new e-mail address is brian@hct-travel.com, but his phone number remains the same (800) 998-1228. When you make (or made) your reservation, Brian will give you a cruise Reservation Number. You should then go on line to RCI's web site www.royalcaribbean.com, open "Have a Reservation? Before You Board," insert your reserva-

tion number, complete the "on-line check-in," and print "Set Sail Pass" for each passenger in your cabin. You will need this document when you arrive at the pier for boarding.

After boarding the ship, go to the Conference Center where you will receive the DLA Welcome Aboard packet. This will contain the items you normally receive at our land based reunions. Each evening RCI will provide you a list of the following day's activities for all passengers. Your DLA welcome packet will contain a Plan of the Day for our special reunion activities with times and locations. The preliminary plan is:

Monday:	Conference Center (CC), 1300–1600, Meet & greet; pickup packets
Tuesday:	CC, 1000-1600, Hospitality Room
Wednesday:	Spotlight Lounge, 0900, Memorial Service (Ed Willich serving as Chaplain)
Wednesday:	CC, 1000–1600, Hospitality Room
Thursday:	CC, 1000–1600, Hospitality Room.
Friday:	CC, 0900 Board of Directors Meeting
Friday:	CC, 1000 Annual Membership Business Meeting (DLA members only)
Friday:	CC, 1100–1600, Hospitality Room
Friday:	Spotlight Lounge, 1700, DLA Farewell Cocktail Party hosted by Brian

Each evening at dinner, Brian will circulate in the dining room to each of

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2010 REUNION INFORMATION *by Mel Young*

Shipmates,

On Saturday, April 25, 2009, the Board of Directors met at the Holiday Inn, located in Chantilly, VA. During the meeting proposals from various hotels were discussed, including the Holiday Inn where our meeting took place. Following discussions of those proposals, the Board of Directors voted to hold our 2010 Reunion in Chantilly, VA. The host hotel will be the "Holiday Inn," which is seven years old and located in Fairfax County, Virginia, about 30 minutes outside Washington, DC.

Watch for more details & information about the reunion in future issues of the newsletter. Being located so close to the Nation's Capitol, it should afford us some interesting tours & prove to be a great reunion.

Mel Young, DLA Volunteer Reunion Planner 2010

USS Mitscher DL-2/DDG-35 | USS Tills DE-748

Mailing Address: 8611 Village Terrace, Houston, Texas 77040-7602

E-mail: dl2sailor@sbcglobal.net

Phone (330) 823-8230 | Mobile (330) 581-1307 | Fax (330) 823-8230

SHIPS COORDINATORS CORNER

USS NORFOLK DL-1

Attention on Deck! New members arriving. We gladly welcome Lt. Dave Lawrence (54-57), Albert De Pasquale RM3 (61-64), David Patton SFM3 (60-62), and Jerry Walsh EM (68-68).



It is our hope that you enjoy the camaraderie of all our Destroyer Leader shipmates and take part in our annual reunions.

As a matter of fact, there is still time to join us on our first Caribbean cruise reunion scheduled to depart Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on October 26, 2009. However, as a courtesy reminder, July 20 is the Royal Caribbean Ship's cutoff date for registration. Registration forms are enclosed, so drop everything and join the party. Some time ago ED Sullivan, the MC of his popular

(Continued on page 7)

USS MITSCHER DL-2/DDG-35

Greetings Fellow Shipmates:

This article will be short since I again have not received any input from you. Further in



this issue you will find information on the 2009 Cruise Reunion. It appears that we will be having our 2010 reunion on the East Coast, more information will be forthcoming in the August 2009 Newsletter.

My term as Ship Coordinator and Board of Director Member comes to an end at the 2009 reunion and the swearing in of the newly elected officers at the Banquet. Anyone interested in becoming the Ship Coordinator and BOD Member, please let me know so I can make arrangements for your name to be placed in nomination for the position.

It was determined at the Board of Directors Meeting,

(Continued on page 6)

USS JOHN S. MCCAIN DL-3/DDG-36

Well, here we are – another Spring. I was complaining the other day to one of my neighbors about how crummy our



Portland spring weather had been (rain, wind, a brief glance at the sun and then more rain, wind...) when I remembered that the weather has been really terrible almost everywhere but the northwest. So I quit complaining.

The weather was actually pretty decent as your DLA Board of Directors held its spring meeting in Chantilly, Virginia. Of course, we didn't have time to go out

(Continued on page 8)

USS WILLIS A. LEE DL-4

Shipmates:

Reunion time is approaching quickly. There are still cabins available and the price has gone down. So, get your reservations in soon or you will miss "ships movement."



On a good note, I received a call from a person who was Admiral Lee's personal yeoman during WWII. He was with the Admiral on seven different battleships. I'll bet he has a few stories to tell. I hope we can make him an honorary member of the association.

Frank Graham, Ship's Coordinator

Phone: (718) 934-6410 | E-mail: frankDL4@optonline.net

PREPARATIONS FOR DEPARTING THIS LIFE *by Howard Dobson, Roster Administrator*

Shipmates,

Although we hope that your day and those of our shipmates are in the distant future, each of us should prepare for that unpredictable day. As such, I ask that you place this newsletter article with your will or other important papers. It contains information for informing the Destroyer Leader Association (DLA) of your passing.

The reason why I am asking you to inform the DLA is that our shipmates are passing, and for some reason, months and often years pass before the DLA becomes aware of the death—if we become aware at all. Your service to your country was not only important to your country, but to the DLA. We feel that your having placed your life on the line to defend the freedoms that we enjoy today in this country must not be ignored. As such, we intend to honor your service to our country during the Memorial Service held at a reunion subsequent to your passing.

All of us served during the Vietnam and Cold War eras. These conflicts occurred to deter Communism that threatened democracy around the world. Each of us had a significant role during those periods despite

any seemingly insignificant job we performed. Every job contributed to the missions although many service personnel paid the ultimate sacrifice or sustained debilitating injuries at the time. Fortunately, veterans of our member ships sustained no combat-related deaths or injuries during the eras, but by serving our country at the time, we were willing to do what was necessary to protect our freedoms then and for future generations. For this, we are thankful for your service and feel that we must recognize it after your death as is customary at that time.

Below is information for contacting the DLA after your passing:

In the event of my death, please immediately notify the Destroyer Leader Association, Inc. of my passing. Contact the Howard Dobson, Roster Administrator, at (302) 764-1197 or e-mail him at howardvaldobson@verizon.net. Give him information regarding my death and funeral and burial arrangements.

Thanking you in advance for your attention to this important matter.

DOES THE DLA HAVE YOUR CURRENT INFO? *by Howard Dobson, Roster Administrator*

Do we have your correct phone number? How about your e-mail address? In March 2009 during a mass e-mail to individuals on our roster that served as a reminder for the 2009 cruise reunion, I received about 150 undeliverable e-mails. Six of those were members who dues are paid through 2009 or beyond, and two are Lifetime Members. Another three were individuals whose dues expired in December 2008.

The DLA must have accurate information so that we can convey or discuss official business with you. Please place this newsletter article with papers which you might have that are associated with tasks related to relocating.

Changes to e-mail addresses are most overlooked as they occur frequently in efforts to obtain better deals.

E-mail addresses are important to the DLA as this form of communication has essentially no cost to the DLA and the mail recipients. E-mail communications will likely become the preferred means of communication in the near future to reduce expenditures of the DLA.

Phone-number changes are also overlooked because many people seek to reduce their utility expenses. Many are either dropping their home-phone service for cell phones or changing cell phone providers for better deals. Without correct phone numbers, we cannot contact you easily to obtain your correct e-mail addresses when they differ from those on the roster.

If you are unsure if we have the correct phone number

(Continued on page 5)

ODC-DESA NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL?

Would you like to receive future issues of the ODC-DESA newsletter via e-mail? If so, please send your e-mail address to DE585@cox.net and tell us "I want Old Dominion Chapter's newsletter via e-mail delivery."

By receiving the newsletter via e-mail, you will help ODC reduce the costs of printing and postage. We have not raised the cost of dues for more than ten years despite continuously rising postage rates. If you elect to receive the newsletter via e-mail, you will receive it in color and about five days earlier than by postal mail. Please consider this lower cost option. We'll be discuss-

ing this at the Business Meeting.

If you do not have e-mail, or if you simply don't want to receive the newsletter e-mail version, no response is required, and you will continue to receive the paper version by mail as you do now.

Obviously, some people do not have e-mail, so we are still going to be printing and mailing some paper copies. But the fewer we have to mail the better when it comes to paying the bills. During recent years a substantial portion of each member's membership fee (dues) has gone to pay for the printing and mailing of this newsletter. Producing a newsletter is a high priority,

but very little is left over to cover other activities or projects. We have not raised the Chapter portion of membership fees in recent years, but that, or a special assessment to cover paper copy mailing, could be a next step; we don't want to do either if it can be avoided by reducing costs.

Please, if you have broadband e-mail and are willing to read the newsletter on your computer monitor (or print on your printer), send us the e-mail address where you want to receive it. Note this is not recommended for those that have dial-up e-mail service.

Submitted by Walter Alexander

DOES DLA HAVE YOUR CURRENT INFO? (Continued from Page 4)

or e-mail address for you, please provide Howard Dobson, Roster Administrator your current information. His number is (302) 764-1197 and his e-mail address is howardvaldobson@verizon.net. If you e-mail him, please include you first and last names in the message because e-mails do not identify the sender by name unless you have set up your e-mail account to do so.

*Lord, keep our servicemen and women safe,
whether they serve at home or overseas.*

*Hold them in your loving hands and
protect them as they protect us. "*

*Let's all keep those currently serving and those who
have gone before in our thoughts. They are the reason for
the many freedoms we enjoy.*

In God We Trust.



IN MEMORIAM

*Our thoughts and prayers
are with the family of:*

*Roy Lyons, DL-1
Departed May 6, 2009*

*Robert Rodenberger, DDG-36
Departed May 9, 2009*

*Edward Schibbelhute, DL-4
Departed December 2006*

*Michael Shuter, DL-1
Departed 2007*

Sailor, rest your oars.

FREE 411 TELEPHONE-DIRECTORY SERVICE

by Howard Dobson, Roster Administrator

At last, a 411 information system that is really free exists thanks to the internet giant, Google. I learned of this service through an article in American Submariner, a publication of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. The service is limited to businesses only—no personal numbers. There is no charge for requesting and receiving the directory assistance, AND there are no advertisements or commercials to listen to. Now, you do not have to invest in mobile internet service or buy an expensive GPS unit, and you don't have to note or dial the number of the business that you wish to contact—the service dials the number and connects you.

All you need is a telephone—any telephone, home or mobile. You dial 1-800-GOOG-411 (1-800-466-4411). Then provide a city and state and the name of the business or a type of business. Afterward, you are connected to that business.

Although the directory assistance is free, your phone carrier might charge you for the phone call itself as determined by the plan that you have. For example, if you call during the day with a cell phone, you will be charged for the call as you would for any other daytime call. If you have unlimited cell phone minutes in late evenings and weekend or unlimited calling on a home phone, you will not incur a charge for the call.

I hope that you find this information useful.

USS MITSCHER DL-2/DDG-35

Continued from page 3

held April 25, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Chantilly, Virginia (near Dulles Airport), that this would be the site for our 2010 reunion due to the fact that we did not get favorable reply from the West Coast area. The dates for our reunion will be the 14th through the 17th of October, 2010. Please mark your calendars for this Reunion and help make this a great reunion. More information will be forth coming in later copies of the DLA Newsletter.

Please note that the cut-off date of July 17, 2009 was established at the BOD meeting for all Shipmates to forward to their Ship Coordinator places that they would be interested in for our 2011 Reunion. Please get this info into me by July 17, 2009 so I can get this info to our President and it can be placed in the August 2009 Newsletter. If any of you would like to have anything placed in the August 2009 Newsletter, please get that info to me by July 15, 2009. You can mail, call or email me, my info is listed below.

Bob Lange, USS Mitscher DL-2/ DDG-35
1835 Norfolk Road
Glen Burnie , Maryland 21061-4351
Phone: (410) 768-0751
E-mail: Mitscherdl2@cablespeed.com

WELCOME ABOARD!!! NEW MEMBERS FOR 2009

Mackey Burgess, DL-3
Albert DePasquale, DL 1
Richard Lucier, DL-2
David Patton, DL-1
Robert "Dan" Roy, DL-3
Patrick Stewart, DL-2
Steve Title, DL-2



New Member Robert "Dan" Roy on his bike.

USS NORFOLK DL-1 *Continued from page 7*

talent show, would start off the program with the same announcement “We are going to have a really B..I..G show tonight” and that is what this cruise reunion is designed to do—give us a B..I..G.. show.

Currently, our President, reunion planning staff, DLA staff & our cruise reunion staff have finalized the details of our reunion so if there are any questions be sure to contact us.

F L A S H !!! don’t forget your passport.

Now hear this!!! In support of our newsletter, we need your stories of your experiences in the Navy, land and at sea. Everyone one has had an experience whether it be funny, happy, sad, and of course, humiliating in our Naval service that now can be told. Please send it to me for publishing in our newsletter. Again it is said by all our ships coordinators, this your newsletter and we want to make it interesting. Your stories are the key ingredient.

Lacking any input for this newsletter, I would like to share a humiliating experience involving me and another shipmate aboard the USS Norfolk. It was not long after settling in aboard ship after leaving Boot Camp and Radioman school that I was assigned weekend duty to assist a senior PO, whose name I can’t remember up to this day. Our job was to spray paint our Operations berthing compartment on Saturday and rest Sunday.

Well, everything that had to be covered was done so the last action to be done was to post no entry signs on the watertight doors and close them tight before turning on the spray gun. The morning progressed productively and vision of relaxing on Sunday inspired us to complete the mission ASAP. As lunch time was

approaching, I noticed my senior PO’s eyes were very red and bulging out & I was getting slap happy. We decided to secure our painting and go to chow.

We proceeded to take the ladder to the main deck pass the Quarterdeck, the OD & down the ladder to the mess deck. However, what appeared to be a routine journey to the mess deck was abruptly interrupted by the OD at the Quarterdeck with a stern look on his face. He told us to turn around and look at the deck and the paint tracks we left behind. Needless to say, we spent our relaxing Sunday on our hands and knees cleaning the paint off the deck and ladders. It turns out that we forgot to turn on the ventilating fans for our berthing compartment. Therefore, we got drunk on paint fumes. Humiliating, yes. But worse, the loss of a relaxing Sunday.

“Remember, no one can make you feel inferior without your consent.” Eleanor Roosevelt

Here is a thought for the day that Ski Strozinsky submitted for everyone to enjoy:



*Before you can love your enemy,
you have to make one first.*

Bob Godas, Ship’s Coordinator
E-mail: bobg190@optonline.net

13TH ANNUAL REUNION—FINAL CALL *Continued from page 2*

our tables and give reminders and any changes to the POD.

If you have any special dietary needs, you must inform your table wait staff at each meal.

This DLA cruise reunion is open to family or friends. Those not affiliated with the DLA will receive the same amenities as members. This cruise should be a memorable time for destroyer leader sailors and their guests. Pack your sea bags. I look forward to seeing you onboard!

USS JOHN S. McCAIN DL-3/DDG-36 *Continued from page 3*

and enjoy it ... but we did accomplish a good amount of work on the Association's behalf. Among the issues brought up was the change in geographical location of the 2010 reunion. For several valid reasons, it had been decided that the "west coast" was just not a feasible area of the country for next year. Thus, the 2010 reunion will occur at the Chantilly Holiday Inn ... just a few miles from DC.

Since I reside in Portland, I've unofficially taken on the task of identifying and researching possible locations in the western states for our 2011 reunion. The site does not have to be in the coastal states-- and I don't think we'll be going to

Hawaii--so I'm open to suggestions from DLA members. Where, from the eastern slope of the Rockies westward, would you like to go/visit/sight-see/"hang" with your friends? If you'd let me have your suggestions prior to August 1, I'll try to do the necessary research and pass it



on to President Mike and our reunion planner(s). Remember that we choose the site for 2011 during this year's cruise reunion.

And speaking of cruises, have you seen this ship? This is the USS New York LPD-21. She carries a crew of 360 and can transport 700 Marines and the helos to take them ashore. A portion of her bow was built using 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Centers twin towers in Manhattan—notice also the "twin towers" configuration. Maybe to remind folks not to mess with U.S.?

Remember, I'm available almost any time (well, during daylight hours)! My contact information is below. Keep in touch!

Curtis Hanson, Ship's Coordinator | Phone: (503) 698-6558 | E-mail: curthanson.sag@verizon.net

WHAT'S NEW AT THE DLA SHIP STORE *by Bill Svensen Ship Store Manager*

Hello Shipmates, Thank you for the orders.

Since the reunion in St. Louis, we have added several new items. Available is the 2008 Memory Book, DLA/USN Challenge Coin, DLA wooden 4" Ornament, DLA 11" Plain Wooden Wall Tribute, and the Same with Blue Background. Looks Great on the Wall. It is time to get those orders in in time for the Cruise this year. (Hats- Gold Shirts-Tee Shirts)! Please call for the size and availability before you send the order, Thank You!

Due to the continued price increases in Shipping and Packaging, the Board Of Directors voted to eliminate free shipping. Please be sure to add the proper fee as shown on the order.

PIPE ME ASHORE Bos'n...

Here is a Captain with class.....so much for tradition! Now this is the way to retire.....or is it???



Captain (in his summer whites) doing his final salutes...then the boatswain (bos'n) "pipes him ashore"he passes through the "side-boys" down the "after-brow" and...



... "ashore" where he "doffs" his uniform blouse, dons a Hawaiian shirt, his wife cuts off his uniform trousers into shorts.



then he puts on some flip-flops and grabs a mug of beer.

*Submitted by Bob
Godas and John
Saia*



WHO WE ARE

The DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION is a nonprofit, nonsectarian, and nonpolitical organization that helps those who served aboard the U.S. Navy's five original Destroyer Leaders mentioned above meet and communicate. It encourages the exchange of information about historical events and the preservation of accurate histories of the ships for future generations, and it is an intermediary to the public for its better understanding of the contributions of its members' naval service. One of the Association's major tasks is the coordination of an annual reunion for the combined membership.

The DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION is the result of the incorporation of the former "Destroyer Leader Group" in January 2003. That Group, also referred to as the "Elite Group," was founded in 1997. It held its first reunion in Norfolk, Va. of that year. Since then, membership has grown to just under 400 dues paying members. There are 1,200 shipmates from the five Destroyer Leaders and we would like each one of you to contact our shipmates and ask them to join our elite group of dedicated shipmates. We are looking for any photos, Cruise books, sea stories which you may have and want to share with your shipmates along with any one looking for their friends who they served.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND COMMITTEES

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WE ARE ON THE WEB

www.destroyerleaderassociation.org



DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION, INC. 13th ANNUAL REUNION **Caribbean Cruise Vacation**

5 Night Western Caribbean Cruise

DEPARTING **26-OCT-2009**
FROM **FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

aboard *Enchantment of the Seas*



Day	Ports of Call	Arrive	Depart
1	Fort Lauderdale, Florida		5:00 PM
2	Key West, Florida	7:00 AM	2:00 PM
3	Cozumel, Mexico	10:00 AM	6:00 PM
4	Belize City, Belize	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
5	Cruising		
6	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	7:00 AM	



Itinerary subject to change.

While onboard enjoy:

- Bungee trampolines, serious fun for thrill-seekers
- Massive suspension bridge spanning the Pool Deck
- Fitness Center and Day Spa
- Chops Grille
- Casino RoyaleSM
- Rock-climbing wall
- Themed bars and lounges
- Stunning Centrum, an open atrium featuring shopping & more
- Pool area featuring an interactive Splash Deck
- Solarium with a sliding roof & indoor/outdoor pool
- Adventure Ocean[®] youth facilities
- Latté-tudesSM specialty coffee house featuring Seattle's Best Coffee[®]

DON'T MISS THE BOAT!

Join your fellow shipmates and families on this 5 day fun-filled Destroyer Leader Association 13th Annual Reunion @ Sea. Reserve your cabin now on this magnificent floating hotel visiting the beautiful and popular Western Caribbean. Prices include Welcome reception cocktail party, Captain's cocktail reception, group dining, taxes, government fees, gratuities, registration fee and fuel surcharges.

Interior Stateroom
from USD 611.00 p.p.

Oceanview Stateroom
from USD 683.00 p.p.

Balcony Stateroom
from USD 961.00 p.p.

Fares are cruise only, per person, USD, based on double occupancy, availability and subject to change.



Relax...you're with us

For information and reservations contact:

Brian Forrester

CRUISE HOLIDAYS OF SCOTTSDALE

6969 E. Shea Blvd., Suite 101

Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Phone: (800) 998-1228 or (480) 998-1112 Fax: (480) 998-3849

brian@cruiseholidaysaz.com



Destroyer Leader Association, Inc.
13th Annual Reunion
RCI Lines, Ship, Enchantment / Ft. Lauderdale, FL
5-days / October 26 – October 31 / 2009

Name: _____ Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Home #: _____ Cell #: _____
Work: # _____ Ext. : _____ E-mail: _____
3rd/Passenger: _____ 4th/Passenger: _____

“LEGAL NAMES ARE REQUIRED ON ALL DOCUMENTATION”
(i.e. ROBERT not BOB, ELIZABETH not LIZ, middle names are not necessary)

***** PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING *****

Interior cabins from \$611 p.p. _____ Oceanview cabins from \$683 p.p. _____ Balcony cabins from \$961 p.p. _____
*****Call for 3rd/4th passenger and single rates*****

- **Fares are cruise only, per person, USD, based on double occupancy, capacity controlled and are subject to availability and change.**
- **Above fares includes your cabin, all applicable taxes & fees, port charges, fuel surcharges, gratuities, association registration fee, onboard meals, nightly onboard entertainment, 24 hour complimentary room service, nightly group dining, Welcome cocktail party and Captains cocktail reception.**

Are you going to need Hotel accommodations in Ft.Lauderdale pre/post cruise? Yes _____

If yes, please call the Marriott Ft. Lauderdale. Airport & Cruiseport Hotel @ 800-228-9290 or 954-342-8333 and make your reservation under the Destroyer Leader Group name. The rate is \$79 a night and includes free airport & cruiseport shuttle & free parking while you are on the cruise.

Please state your ship's hull number: _____

Travel Care Insurance: \$59.50 per person

YES @ time of deposit _____ or @ final payment _____ or I decline Insurance _____

***If you have any pre-existing medical conditions, you should purchase your Travel Care Insurance at the time of deposit.**

Make checks payable to: Cruise Holidays of Scottsdale, 6969 E. Shea Blvd. #101, Scottsdale AZ 85254

Phone: 800 998 1228 or 480-998-1112

E-mail: brian@cruiseholidaysaz.com

A deposit of \$150 per person is due @ time of booking and final payment is due July 20 /2009

**** Deposits are fully refundable until time of final payment ****

Credit card payments: Amex _____ Visa _____ MC _____ Discover _____

Account #: _____ Exp.: _____ Security Code: _____

Name as it appears on the card: _____

I authorize Cruise Holidays to charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please sign and return by mail or fax to **480-998-3849**

You will need a passport or passport card for this cruise.



Destroyer Leader Association, Inc.

Membership Application

*USS Norfolk, DL-1; USS Mitscher, DL-2/DDG-35; USS John S. McCain, DL-3/DDG-36;
USS Willis A. Lee, DL-4; USS Wilkinson, DL-5*

Name: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Street: _____

City, State, & Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Ship 1 _____

Name	Hull No.	Rate/Rank	Division	Dates Aboard
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Ship 2 _____

Name	Hull No.	Rate/Rank	Division	Dates Aboard
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This application applies to the following types of memberships within the Destroyer Leader Association as applicable to your situation:

- **REGULAR** ☐ **NEW MEMBER** ☐ **RENEWAL/REINSTATED MEMBER** **\$20.00/year**
Any individual who served aboard any ship listed above while it was commissioned AND whose age is under 80.
- **LIFETIME** **Exempt From Dues**
Any individual who served aboard any ship listed above while it was commissioned AND whose age is 80 or older.
- **ASSOCIATE** ☐ **FIRST-TIME MEMBER** ☐ **RENEWAL/REINSTATED MEMBER** **\$15.00/year**
Any individual who did NOT serve aboard any ship listed above but has interest in the Association and its activities AND has been nominated by a **regular** or **lifetime** member.

PRORATED, FIRST-YEAR DUES FOR NEW REGULAR MEMBERS ONLY:

- Joining April 1-June 30: \$15.00
- Joining July 1-October 30: \$10.00
- Joining November 1-December 31: \$20.00 covers the current AND subsequent year

PRORATED, FIRST-YEAR DUES FOR NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ONLY:

Joining after July 1: \$10.00

Please circle the type of membership above and mail this completed application along with a check or money order of the appropriate amount payable to Destroyer Leader Association to:

Al Webb, DLA Treasurer
3213 28th St., Ct. E
Tacoma, WA 98443

Please provide the following information related to your payment:

Check/Money Order No.: _____ Date: _____ Amount: _____

Dues are payable upon application AND annually thereafter by 01 January of the subsequent year and expire on 31 December of the current year. Payment of dues for advance years is permissible. The Association does NOT send dues reminders via the U.S. Postal Service.

Payment of dues entitles members of the Association to a subscription to its quarterly newsletter, "Destroyer Leader Newsletter." This publication has dues reminders and important information about the Association and its yearly reunions.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address your concerns about the Association to Mike Bugara, President, at (401) 635-8860 or e-mail him at bugaram@excite.com or visit the web site at www.destroyerleaderassociation.org.

The Destroyer Leader Association, Inc. is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(19) not-for-profit corporation.

DLA SHIP STORE

ITEM	PRICE	QTY	SUB TOTAL
DLA Pins	\$5.00		
For Men		_____	_____
For women		_____	_____
Charms Pins St. Louis Seattle Baton Rouge	\$5.00		
For Men		_____	_____
For women		_____	_____
DLA Patch	\$10.00	_____	_____
W.A. Lee Patch	\$10.00	_____	_____
DLA Decals	\$3.00		
Inside		_____	_____
Outside		_____	_____
Static Cling Decals w/Name & #	\$ 6.00	_____	_____
<i>(Circle decal you want)</i>			
DL-1 DL-2 DDG-35 DL-3 DDG-36 DL-4 DL-5			
Reunion Memory Books	\$20.00		
<i>(Circle book you want)</i>			
2005 2006 2007 2008		_____	_____
Name Tag Magnets	\$5.00	_____	_____
Norfolk Mace	\$5.00	_____	_____
DLA Logo Golf Shirts	\$28.00	_____	_____
2XL	\$30.00	_____	_____
3XL	\$31.00	_____	_____
Please call for availability			
DLA Tee Shirts	\$12.00	_____	_____
Please call for availability			
Caps—All ships <i>(Circle one)</i>			
Old style	\$15.00	_____	_____
DDG-35 DDG-36			
DL-4 DL-5			
New Style	\$25.00	_____	_____
DL-1 DL-2 DDG-35			
DL-3 DDG-36 DL-4			
Please call for availability			
Lanyard— blue w/yellow print	\$6.00	_____	_____
USN DLA			
DLA Coffee Cups	\$5.00	_____	_____
Sub-total A			_____

ITEM	PRICE	QTY	SUB TOTAL
DLA-USN Challenge Coin	\$7.00	_____	_____
Charleston Charm (Women)	\$5.00	_____	_____
USN Emblem Sew on 3” Diam.	\$5.00	_____	_____
Watch Cap: Genuine USN issue	\$10.00	_____	_____
Pin for Hat, Jacket, or Lapel	\$5.00	_____	_____
Sailor in whites			
Tin Can Sailor Round Pin 1”	\$5.00	_____	_____
Sailor on Ash Can			
Plank Owner Pins	\$5.00	_____	_____
Atlantic Fleet	\$5.00	_____	_____
Pacific Fleet	\$5.00	_____	_____
Pictures (Circle choices)	\$10.00	_____	_____
DL-1 DL-2 DL-3			
DL-4 B/W DL-4 Col. FRM S/W Col.			
DL-5 B/W DL-5 Col DDG-35			
Norfolk Deck Plans (CD)			
USS Norfolk Bldg. plans			
DLA Logo Custom Designed	\$7.00	_____	_____
Ornament-Round 4”			
Wall Tribute-Round 11”	\$25.00	_____	_____
US Navy Flag Pin	\$5.00	_____	_____
USA Flag Pin	\$5.00	_____	_____
USA Flag on 6” Sticker	\$1.00	_____	_____
USA Flag on 18” Sticker	\$3.00	_____	_____

Sub-total B	_____
+ Sub-total A	_____
= Total	_____
+ Shipping Charge (see below)	_____
= Grand Total	_____

Shipping Charges

Purchases	Shipping	Purchases	Shipping
\$00.00 to \$4.99	\$1.00	\$25.00 to \$34.99	\$6.00
\$5.00 to \$9.99	\$2.00	\$50.00 to \$64.99	\$7.00
\$10.00 to \$14.99	\$3.00	\$65.00 and up	\$8.00
\$15.00 to \$24.99	\$4.00		

The ship's store is open all year long. Check out the new items for 2009. Please call for available sizes on Ship Caps and Golf & Tee Shirts. Send completed order form & check made out to the **Destroyer Leader Association** to:

Bill Svendsen, Ship Store Coordinator, 10822 Crestwood Drive, Kirtland, Ohio 44094
Phone: (440) 256-8083



Jim Rigell
Editor & Secretary
Destroyer Leader Association
8611 Village Terrace
Houston, Texas 77040



**DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION
FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Hilton Airport Hotel, 10330 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, Missouri
Meeting Minutes of Thursday, 18 September 2008**

Opening:

The Board of Directors Meeting of the DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION was called to order at 2002 hours (8:02 P.M.) on Thursday September 18th, 2008, at the Hilton Airport Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.

Attendance: Board of Directors Present:

Mike Bugara, DL-4, President	Ray Caldwell, Publicity V.P.
Larry Rossi, DL-1, History VP	Frank Graham, DL-4, Dir. At Large
Jim Rigell, DL-3, Secretary/News Ed	Gary Dunn, DL-4, Director At Large
Al Webb, DL-2 Treasurer	Bill LaBarth, DL-2, Past President
Larry Rossi, (temp) Coord. DL-1, USS Norfolk	Frank Graham, Coord. DL-4 USS Willis A. Lee
Bob Lange, Coord. DL-2/DDG-35 USS Mitscher	Maurice Mullen, Coord. DL-5 USS Wilkinson
Curt Hanson, Coord. DL-3/DDG-36 USS John S. McCain	

Board of Directors Absent: None

Others Present:

Walter Alexander, DL-1, Reunion and Planning Coordinator
John Manley, Chaplain
Bill Swenson, Ship Store Coord.

Opening Remarks, By Mike Bugara:

Want to thank everyone for coming and participating in the meeting and tireless efforts this year, past years, and in the coming years for making this meeting a success. This year we are doing very well, except with a few room issues with the hotel. Hope those problems have been corrected. Comments from Curt Hanson, that things were coming along, with the room problems.

- 1. Al Webb, Treasurer's Report:** As of 9/09/08 There Deposits total were \$9,662 and Checks were \$15,225.30, and balance of check book was \$7,766.68. Mike did mention that an amount of \$3,750.00 was issued to Cruise Holidays as a deposit for the Reunion Cruise, and this money would be returned in 2009. There was mention of a check that was un-cashed since May of 2008. This will be looked in to by Al Webb. A complete printout of the Treasurer's Report is available. **Move was made to approve the Treasurer's Report and seconded and it was approved.**
- 2. Jim Rigell asked to do the Reading of Minutes of last meeting : Curt Hanson made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and was seconded and passed.** The correction in the minutes of the Ship Coordinators being listed as Board of Directors was noted.

3. **Recruitment and Retention project: Mike Bugara addressed the group and Ship Coordinators:** Mike thanked the entire group for getting the information out to the masses. He said that the Ship's coordinators did an outstanding job of getting the cards out to each and everyone. Reinforced that names and addresses for post card mailing is confidential. **Motion on the floor to continue mailing of post cards in 2010, and motion was seconded and approved for 2010.**
4. **Reunion Report, 2008 Reunion Highlights – 2009 Cruise Report Walter Alexander**
 - A. At this point, there are 9 or 10 that haven't signed in or registered., but are expected tomorrow. Another problem is that the info. in the envelopes is not read. Reasons for not coming to reunion, are varied. Thinks the Hotel should get the 5 Star Award.
 - B. A Discussion followed, addresses those persons that didn't make the reunion and who qualified for total refunds. **A motion was made that the person in the hospital would get a complete refund, and someone that felt like gas was too high to come, would not get their money back. The motion passed. Walt commented that, "at this time, everything was going according to plan"!**
5. **The cruise, Brian, the booking agent for the cruise, will be here tomorrow afternoon and will answer any questions and take reservations and deposits.** There are 75 rooms reserved for the Reunion. All other information is in the packets handed out to you. The Marriott Courtyard Hotel arrangements are being made for the pre-cruise night at about \$79.00 per room. They are also going to provide transportation to and from the ship. Handicapped passengers will be taken care of. All tours will be listed on line when you make your final payment. It is not recommended that we do tours with Bryan. Charms were brought up and it was agreed that we continue with them.
6. **Newsletter Report – Jim Rigell:** Discussion of Cost of printing and mailing of the newsletter. Since moving to the traditional newspaper type print of full page with center page staples, versus the photo-copy type print, the cost has gone up. Postage increase was prohibitive for the full size Catalog envelope, at \$1.00 per item. These two items have caused us to go to a half size (folded) and a photo copy rather than print. The postage is less for a folded 6 X 9 envelope versus a full size catalog type. Last year we published three quarterly editions of newsletter for around \$995.35 which would amount to \$331.78 per quarter. We all agreed to go back to Photo Copy and folded to 6 X 9 to off set costs of printing and mailing. We have been able to hold the cost at near this number of \$300.00.
7. **Website Report – Ray Caldwell:** Ray Caldwell reports that progress on the website is going smooth and working with Tracey on the passwords, etc. Look for changes to the website to make it better under the direction of Tracey.
8. **Ship's Store – Bill Svendsen:** Bill Svendsen is in the process of taking over the duties and he will be checking the inventory to see what we need to do away with, and what new stuff we can get. He is doing a knock out job and something we will be looking into is putting some items on the website, for next year.
9. **Appointment of new Ship Coordinator for USS Norfolk DL-1:** Ed Jehlik has stepped down as ship's coordinator of the USS Norfolk and in the interim, Larry Rossi was asked to sit in until the annual meeting. At that time when we have the break-out sessions, another person can be nominated and elected if so desired. Curtis brought up the fact that the break-out sessions have not been a

success due to persons leaving the meeting area Order of business will be to have Pledge of Allegiance and then go to break out session for 15 minutes.

10. **Roster - Howard Dobson:** Howard got a big hand for doing such a good job on the Roster, but there appears to be a slight breakdown in communication about who paid dues and who hasn't. We can work on it.
11. **Memorial Service – Mike Bugara:** A little different service this year, we are going to have the service outside on the Helo Pad and we will have our Master At Arms, Bob Lang to get everyone seated. The Eagles Elite Drill Team will assist with the service, and will perform for the reunion attendees. Discussion ensued regarding order of presentation. Hat will be passed for donations and they will accept nothing else.
12. **Any other business that needs to be brought before the board – Mike Bugara:** Motion was made to adjourn at 9:30 PM (2130) and seconded, and we are adjourned.

Minutes submitted for approval by: Jim Rigell, Secretary

Minutes approved by:



DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, September 20, 2008
St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel
MEETING MINUTES

Opening:

The Annual Business Meeting of the DESTROYER LEADER ASSOCIATION at 9:00 AM(0900) on Saturday, 20 September 2008 at the St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel.

Attendance: Fifty three members were present. Members were required to show their membership card for admittance or have their names checked against the roster by the Chief Master-at-arms Bob Lange DL-2 and Gary Dunn.DL-4.

Order of Business:

1. The meeting was called to order at 0900 by President Mike Bugara, DL-4. The Invocation, was given by Chaplain, John Manley, DL-5. The Pledge Allegiance led by Mike Bugara, DL-4. According to the business order in accordance with our by-laws it is up to the president to make appointments for the master at arms and parliamentary. Mike Bugara appointed Mr. Bob Lang (DL-2) and Gary Dunn DL-4 as Masters at Arms, for the year 2008 and appointed Mr. Curtis Hanson DL-3, Parliamentary.
2. **GOOD OF THE ASSN. AND THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Mike announced that something different will take place at the beginning of the meeting. We will split into 5 groups by ships for 15 minutes and discuss the 5 star award and three positions that are up for election this year:

- A. DL-1 – Ships Coordinator
- B. DL-3 – Ships Coordinator
- C. DL-5 -- Ships Coordinator

Meeting was called back to order. Roll Call was asked for by ships:

DL-1	Bob Godas-Ship Coord-new	yes on the Five Star Award
DL-2	Bob Lang-Ship Coord.-ext. term.	yes on the Five Star Award
DL-3	Curtis Hanson-Ship Coord-ext. term	yes on the Five Star Award
DL-4	Frank Graham-Ship Coord –ext. term	yes on the Five Star Award
DL-5	Frank Brennan--Ship Coord.-new	no on the Five Star Award

3. **READING OF MINUTES:** The Secretary, Jim Rigell, DL-3 read the minutes from the last meeting held in Charleston, S.C. at 0900 on Saturday, 06 October 2007, at the Radisson Hotel Airport By Mike Bugara, President. . 42 Members were present. **A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read and the motion carried.**

4. **READING OF COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:** Mike Bugara read a letter from the Catering Sales Mgr. that caused Bill LaBarth to say a few words in favor of using the 5 star award as a tool to get the service we deserve. Walt Alexander spoke in favor of the Hotel and the award. Mel Young also spoke in Favor of the hotel and award. Frank Graham also brought forth a few remarks about this award and the hotel. The DL-5 crew re-considered on the award and came up with a favorable vote. **A motion was made to award the Five Star Award to the Hotel, and was seconded, and the motion passed.**
5. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Al Webb, as of 9/09/08 the Bank of last years was \$13,329.98, BalanceDeposits total were \$9,662 and Checks paid out were \$15,225.30, and balance of check book was \$7,766.68. Mike did mention that an amount of \$3,750.00 was issued to Cruise Holidays as a deposit for the Reunion Cruise, and this money would be returned in 2009. There was mention of a check that was un-cashed since May of 2008. This will be looked in to by Al Webb. A printout of the Treasurer's Report is available. **Motion was made to accept the report and numbers, and seconded and the motion passed.**
6. **FINANCE AND AUDIT REPORT BY CHAIRMAN, LEE STROZINSKY:** Lee Strozinsky tracks all expenses and reports from the Board of Directors, and this is kept separate because of an IRS rule. Transportation to and from a Board Of Directors meeting is reimburses. The receipts all go to Mike for approval and then to Al Webb and a check is cut and sent out. All the documents that were received by the recipients were reviewed and were in proper form and have been forwarded to the treasurer of the DL Assn. for payment. **A motion was made to accept this report, it was seconded and approved by the membership.**
7. **REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT BY WALT ALEXANDER: 2009 Cruise Reunion** now has 30 cabins reserved and all balcony cabins are gone. Bryan is going to send out postcards to all non dues paying members at his expense, announcing the reunion cruise. Any questions about the cruise, refer to the two page brochure or contact Bryan. All other information will be in the newsletter. Information about the Marriott Courtyard for the night before will be announced as it becomes available to us.
8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS, MIKE BUGARA:** Light to heavy discussion regarding making individual names of shipmates available on the website, available to those that are paid up members or with a current password. It is understood that the information will not be made available to the general public. A format was then discussed and agreed upon. **A motion was put before the membership. The motion was seconded and passed or approved by the membership.**
9. **NEW BUSINESS:** Mike opened the floor to new business with the election of officers. He introduced Don Webster, of Willis A. Lee DL-4, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Webster indicated there was good news and bad news. Bylaws were explained to new members for terms of election and the duties Vice President and Treasurer up for election. Nominations from the floor can be made after we have the official nominees. We will start with Vice President, incumbent Larry Rossi of DL-1 and then Treasurer, Al Webb DL-2. Nominations from the floor were open and a motion was made to close the nominations. **The majority of the membership agreed to close the nomination, and was seconded and passed by the membership. For the position of Treasurer, Al Webb, a nomination from the floor was made to close the**

nominations. This was seconded and nominations were passed by the membership. Motion was made to elect both incumbents for Vice President and Treasurer, and seconded and pass by the membership.

10. WEBSITE UPDATE REPORT BY VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLICITY, RAYMOND

CALDWELL: Anyone that has pictures for the website, please put your pictures on a CD and send them to him, and he will see that they get put on the website. The suggestion came up that the newsletter be sent out to all paid members, by the news letter editor. Another suggestion came up that this be done by Howard Dobson as he has the entire roster encapsulated on his computer.

11. REUNION REPORT FOR 2010: Melvin Young will discuss details.

Jim Rigell has volunteered to do a report on Albuquerque, New Mexico for a possibility. He found that after a visit with the Convention Visitors Bureau, (CVB) this would not be a likely place for a Military Reunion. Mike Bugara did a report on San Diego, Ca. with quite a variety of things to do and see pertaining to Military and civilian guests. Curt Hanson presented information on Portland, Oregon with quite an array of things to do and see by all. Mel Young is responsible for doing a count of interest for the various cities, that were suggested. **A count of 21 voted for San Diego, CA. and 35 voted for Portland, OR. for 2010. Mel Young also wanted to remind those attending the reunion,** that the yellow slips that are included with your reunion packages are critical to the fine tuning of the DLA reunions. Please fill these forms out as soon as possible and get them turned in for our evaluation on what needs to be changed or what we keep doing as we have in the past, as well as new destinations for our Reunions. **A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded and approved by the membership. The general Business Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 on Sat. 20th of Sept.**

Compiled and submitted for approval by: Jim Rigell, Secretary, 4-08-09

Final approval by: Mike Bugara, President.