



Summer 2018



Greetings from the Sterett Association

Summer is winding down for most of the Country, temps will be dropping soon. No doubt welcomed by all.

Sterett Web Site

We have completed the transition to the WordPress architecture. Most web pages have been updated. We still have a few glitches but we are working on them as we discover them.

New Webmaster:

Suzi Wilson of Gulf Coast Web Net is our new webmaster. Suzi is a WordPress expert and has already made many improvements for us. We welcome Suzi to the Sterett Association family.

Many thanks to **John Badeau** for his great work with our site the past few years.

DDG 104

The USS Sterett has been very busy since returning from deployment.



The ship most recently was operating off SOCAL as the opposing force in a Naval exercise.



The guided-missile destroyer USS Sterett (DDG 104) fires its Mark 45 5-inch lightweight gun as the ship conducts a live-fire exercise. Sterett is underway in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations.

Just prior to that, Sterett participated in **RIMPAC 2018**.

RIMPAC is the world's largest international maritime warfare exercise.

It is hosted and administered by the United States Navy's Pacific Fleet, headquartered at Pearl Harbor. The US invites military forces from the Pacific Rim and beyond to participate. With RIMPAC the United States Pacific Command seeks to enhance interoperability among Pacific Rim armed forces, ostensibly as a means of promoting stability in the region to the benefit of all participating nations.

Twenty-five nations, 46 ships, five submarines, and about 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel participated in RIMPAC 2018 from June 27 to Aug. 2 in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California.

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



The guided-missile destroyer USS Sterett (DDG 104) (front) participates in a photo exercise with (second and beyond) Chilean Frigate Almirante Lynch, Royal Canadian Navy frigate HMCS Ottawa, French Navy frigate FS Prairial, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Bertholf, the dry cargo and ammunition ship USNS Charles Drew, and Royal Canadian Navy commercial container ship NRU Asterix. Sterett is part of the Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group, which is currently transiting the Pacific Ocean.

Sterett Change of Command

Soon after RIMPAC, Sterett dressed herself up and prepared for a long held Naval tradition, the Change of Command:

The line officer of today's U.S. Navy looks forward to the time when – with added years and varied experience in the sea service – he or she will be ordered to command a ship. The order will stem from the Chief of Naval Personnel in approximately these words: "Proceed to the port in which USS Advance may be and upon arrival,



report to your immediate superior in command, if present, otherwise by message, for duty as commanding officer of USS Advance."

The goal of every US Naval line officer is to command a ship at sea. For CDR **Sean Lewis**, that day arrived 15 August.



CDR Claudine Caluori (right) shakes the hand of **CAPT Warren Cupps**, Commander Destroyer Squadron 1 after being properly relieved as Commanding Officer of USS Sterett (DDG 104) by **CDR Sean Lewis** (center) during a regularly scheduled Change of Command ceremony on Aug. 15, 2018.

The Sterett Association congratulates **CDR Lewis** on his assumption of command.

To **CDR Caluori** we say thank you for your leadership of Sterett and best wishes as you continue your Naval career.

While CDR Caluori was in command, Sterett was chosen as the winner of the 2018 Vice Admiral Thomas Copeman III Material Readiness Award, Marjorie Sterett Battleship Fund Award, and was the only Pacific Fleet destroyer to win the Battle "E" in 2017.

BZ

Change of Command Guests

Several Sterett Association members were in attendance at the Change of Command as invited guests.

Representing the DLG 31 and CG 31 were:

Capt. Richard Genet, Chuck Bond, Burton Dietz, Tom Jacobsmeyer and Richard Allard (and his wife Isabel).

Being Sterett sailors, the group, of course, had to rendezvous the evening before for a few toddys and the telling of sea stories!



Far from being just observers, the ship's leadership were very welcoming and engaging of the group. CDR Lewis and CDR Koy (XO), along with the new CMDCM, Lonny Bussell have all pledged to tighten the bonds between the DDG 104 and the Sterett Association. We look forward to our membership roles growing and to finding ways to share time and space with the DDG 104 crew.

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



Sterett is currently preparing for a dry-dock selected restricted availability in which the ship will receive a complete overhaul, to include several major equipment upgrades.

A Look Back

Thanks to Jeff Brown for posting this Family Gram from March-April 1990 on Facebook

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION

DD 27 (1916-18)

DD 497 (1919-1945)

DLG 31 (1947-70)

CG 31 (1971-80)

DDG 104 (Commissioned 2000)

USS STERETT (CG-31)

FAMILYGRAM

MARCH - APRIL 1990 *Serving Family and Friends of Sterett* Vol. 3, No. 2



MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PERIOD, 1990
SUBIC BAY, REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES

SHIP'S PICNIC



In celebration of USS STERETT's birthday, the crew enjoyed a picnic at All Saints' beach. USS STERETT's Chief, HSB/Thomas, MS/Navarro, HSSA/Valero, and Chief Gonzalez, take care of business.

The fun included volleyball games, water skiing, or just relaxing on the beach.



The Junior Girl Scouts from Subic Bay, grades 4 - 6, visited the STERETT in April and in the process, earned a Merit Badge.



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SELECTED RESTRICTIVE AVAILABILITY (SRA) MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PERIOD



The ship began an SRA period in March to perform necessary periodic maintenance and repairs. The entire deck was stripped and re-surfaced.

Important engineering repairs took place.



Even the hull was cut open to perform some necessary work.

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USS STERETT ASSOCIATION

DD 27 (1916-18)

DD 497 (1918-1949)

DLG 31 (1947-71)

CG 31 (1971-81)

DDG 104 (Commissioned 2000)

E-3 AND BELOW ADVANCEMENTS

APRIL

FA John Guajardo
SA Thomas Howard
SA Gustavo Alvarez
SN Eric Tennel
FN Mel Sheppard
FN Alan Thompson
BTFN Timothy G. Witte
SA Carl Lane
SN Terry Richardson

ADVANCEMENT TO E-4

PC3 Darryl Baker

PROCKING

BMCS Kenneth Cox
MR1 Scott Buzzell

GOOD CONDUCT AWARDS

BT3 Alberto F. Cornista (1ST)
BM3 Kevin S. Rasmussen (2ND)
MS2 Charles Thomas (2ND)
DS1 Jose Dimatulac (4TH)
OS1 Kenneth Anderson (3RD)
EM3 Pernell Baker (1ST)
OS2 Douglas Langill (1ST)
FC3 Stephen Simmons (1ST)

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

DC3 Rodney G. Cockerel

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

ICC Andre B. Olivas
MM1 Loren Kuyper
BT3 J. Montemayor

SEA SERVICE RIBBON

MARCH

SA Pete M. Banuelos
SA Carl L. Lane
FA Mel Sheppard

APRIL

LT Mark Rahmes
BTFN Michael Andrews
SA Ted Avila
SN Edward Cardona
MSSA Timothy Hiatt
OSSN Craig James
BTFN Clifton Lassiter
OSSN Thomas Ogilbee
SN Eric Tennel
FN Alan Thompson
BTFN Jaime Vazquez
YNSN George Williams
FA Edward Wylie
RM3 Paul Jones

NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

DS1 Steve Aguirre



BITTS
& Passes

ESWS QUALIFIERS



The following individuals have distinguished themselves through the significant achievement of Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS).

The ESWS program is a self-initiated study and training program in which an understanding of the ship's weapons systems, propulsion system, and operational capabilities is achieved by the candidates.

Their final qualification is obtained in an oral board headed by the Commanding Officer and several Chief Petty Officers.

The designation authorizes the wearing of the Enlisted Surface Warfare breast insignia. Congratulations to the following personnel:

MARCH QUALIFIERS

DS1 Noli R. Beltran
DS1 Benjamin B. Henderson Jr.
DS2 Jeffrey S. Brown

REENLISTMENTS

The following personnel reenlisted in:

MARCH

HMC David Mikulak for 3 years.
SK1 Tho Le for 4 years.
EM3 Pernell Baker for 5 years.
FCCS Danny Deutsch for 4 years.
RM3 Robert Poniente for 6 years.
MM2 Sean Riehl for 5 years.

APRIL

BM2 Guy Pritchard for 5 years.
OS2 Ronald Ewest for 5 years.
BM3 James Ross for 5 years

E-3 AND BELOW ADVANCEMENTS

Congratulations to the crewmembers who were advanced to their present rank:

MARCH

FA Charles Broussard
OSSA Michael J. Grimstad
FA David Hostettler
MSSA Keith R. Johnson
OSSA David W. Walter
SA Richard A. Simas
OSSA Erik P. Neitz
SN Elisha D. Gregory
SN Lionel Quinn
SN Joseph H. Curry III
BTFN Clifton Lassiter
FN Donnie Hunt
OSSN Craig A. James

There's lots of interesting Sterett stuff on Facebook. If you're not on it, you're missing out.

Sterett Passings

This summer has been especially painful for many of us who served on the Sterett.

Along with great shipmates, we have lost two Commanding Officers who were very well respected as COs and as great men.

Because we were transitioning between newsletter distribution systems, I was unable to send a special newsletter I prepared for the loss of Capt. George Sullivan to the majority.

Without wanting to be disrespectful to the others we lost, I will repeat parts of the memorial newsletter here.

Captain George Sullivan



George Edward Sullivan passed away on July 7, 2018 from Pulmonary Fibrosis.

For those who had the honor of serving with him, he will always be “my best CO”.

For those who watched him on the bridge, putting the ship alongside the pier without tugs or during the KAL 007 operations, he will be remembered as an amazing ship handler.

For the 362 Vietnamese rescued from the sea, he will be remembered as their life saver.

The following are unattributed reactions taken from the USS Sterett Facebook pages and emails following the announcement of Captain Sullivan’s passing.

They serve as a testament to the impact he had on the lives of those he touched:

- Best ship handler I ever saw
- He was the best COs of my 30 yrs.
- Sully was a shipmate that I never sailed with but loved as a brother. May he rest in eternal peace
- It was an honor serving under Captain George Sullivan. He was the best of the four Captains I had while onboard the Sterett



- The best CO I served under. A Navy man of Class. Sad.
- A Captains Captain. Truly the best Commanding Officer I served with during my 20 year tenure. A great man
- The BEST CO I ever had the honor to serve during my 20+ years in the Navy. Truly ONE OF A KIND!
- We are very Blessed to have known Capt. Sullivan. It is a truly sad day for all of us and for those that have been rescued by CO Capt. Sullivan.
- Best Captain I ever served under
- He's the reason I stayed in the Navy. And he was one of a kind.

I had the great fortune and honor to both work and travel with Capt. Sullivan post Navy. We became good friends. He was, by far, the finest man I've ever known.

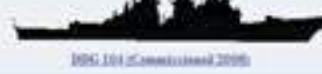
He called me Steve; I called him Captain!

To Roberta Sullivan we send our love and we thank you for sharing your sailor with us. The Sterett Association will always be at your service.

George Sullivan was laid to rest at Schofield Barracks on 21 August 2018.

RADM **Rob Reilly**, CG 31 Chief Engineer under Captain Sullivan, with Roberta's permission, tacked a USS Sterett pin on the casket.

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



Capt. Joseph Lockett 85-86 CO



RDSN Jim Adams 70-72



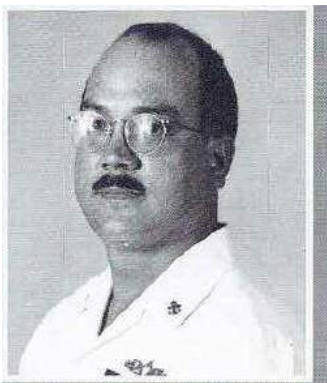
USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



MACS Ed (Wahoo) Mainville 86-88



ETC Scott Sims 88-90



ETC (SW) SIMMS, S.

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!
O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!



USS Sterett Association 2019 Reunion Information

The 2019 USS Sterett Reunion is 12 months out.

Hopefully, you've already made plans to attend.
If you're not there, your shipmates will be telling sea stories about you.

When: 19-22 September 2019

Thursday & Friday are arrival days – no scheduled events

How Much: Member/Shipmate: \$75 Guest: \$75

Where: Jacksonville, FL



Marriott Jacksonville Hotel
4670 Salisbury Road Jacksonville, Florida 32256
904-296-2222

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION

DD 27 (1916-18)

DD 497 (1918-1945)

DLG 31 (1947-75)

CG 31 (1975-80)

DDG 101 (Commissioned 2000)



General Hotel Information: <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/jaxfl-jacksonville-marriott/>

The room rate for the reunion will be **\$92** (+tax & fees).

The room rate also includes a discounted breakfast buffet price of \$12 per person, tax and gratuity not included.

Room rate will be honored three days before and after the reunion.

Important:

Reservations should not be made before 10 October 2018.

All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

Reservations will be made by individual attendees directly with Marriott reservations at **904-296-2222** or **800-962-9786**.

An online reservation link can be found here: **TBD**



Reservations must be received on or before **August 29, 2019** to guarantee the discounted rate.

Banquet Menu

The following will be offered for our Saturday evening reunion banquet.

Entrée choices must be indicated on the reunion registration forms

Beef:

Sliced London Broil with mushroom Anju sauce

Chicken:

Breast of Chicken Francaisa with Citrus Butter Sauce

Fish:

Baked Cod with garlic and lemon caper sauce

Vegetarian:

Chef's Choice

Above served with vegetable of the day.

Chef's choice Starch

Mixed greens, tomatoes, sliced cucumbers, shredded carrots with assorted dressings.

Saturday Tour

The location for Saturday tours is always a difficult choice. The tour must fit between the business meeting and the banquet, which leaves a limited time to get to a destination, tour, eat some lunch and get back in time to get ready for dinner.

After much discussion, we decided to select the Jacksonville Budweiser Brewery as our tour destination. Other destinations were either too far away or of insufficient interest to our members.

We encourage all guests to come early and stay beyond the reunion to take in all Jacksonville has to offer.

In 2017 we visited Jack Daniels Distillery.

In 2019 we'll order the beer chaser!



BEERMASTER TOUR

Stimulate your senses and satisfy your curiosity as you explore the art of brewing on the Jacksonville Beermaster Tour. The tour provides a unique opportunity to experience a behind-the-scenes look at the brewing of Budweiser.

On the Tour, you will visit the Brew Hall, Primary Fermentation Cellar, Lager Cellar, Packaging Facility, Quality Assurance and Finishing Cellar. Guests 21+ can enjoy a sample directly from a Finishing Tank.



The Association will provide bus transportation.



Saturday Afternoon Tour Lunch

The Association will arrange to order and pick up sandwiches from **Jimmy Johns** for the ride to the Budweiser Brewery.

All sandwiches will be 8" on French bread and will include a cookie, a pickle spear and a bottle of water. Mayonnaise, Mustard and Ketchup will be available.

Lunch Options:

Ham & Provolone	Lettuce tomato & mayo	630 Cal
The Original Roast Beef	Lettuce, tomato & mayo	540 Cal
Turkey Breast	Lettuce tomato & mayo	510 Cal
Perfect Italian	Salami, Capicola, provolone, onion, lettuce, tomato, oil & vinegar, oregano-basil	620 Cal
The Veggie	Sliced provolone, avocado, cucumber, lettuce, tomato & mayo	690 Cal

Sorry, no substitutions.

Lunch orders must be received no later than Thursday, 19 September.

Fees:

The normal cost for the Beermaster tour itself is \$30.

For the Sterett reunion, the cost of the Budweiser tour, including a Jimmy John box lunch will be

\$27.50

Tour sign up, choice of sandwich and payment of fees will be required as part of the reunion registration process.

Area Attractions

As the **largest city in the continental U.S.**, Jacksonville is the perfect place to explore and discover something new, from its extensive park system (the largest in the nation with two national parks, seven state parks, and more than 400 city parks), to its beautiful relaxing beaches (22 miles of them), and its historic neighborhoods that are filled with character and charm.

When in town be sure to check out these "Only in Jax" spots:

"Only in Jax" Attractions:

- Adventure Kayak Florida <https://www.adventurekayakflorida.com/>
- Catty Shack Ranch and Wildlife Refuge: <http://cattyslack.org/>



- Beaches Museum & History Park: <http://www.beachmuseum.org>
- Fort Caroline National Memorial <https://www.nps.gov/timu/learn/historyculture/foca.htm>
- Kayak Amelia Eco-Tours <https://ameliaadventures.com/>
- Kingsley Plantation https://www.nps.gov/timu/learn/historyculture/kp_visiting.htm
- Museum of Science and History MOSH: www.themosh.org
- Nature & Sunset cruises onboard the St. Johns River Taxi www.jaxrivertaxi.com
- Sweet Pete's Candy Factory Tour in Downtown: www.sweetpetescandy.com
- The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens: www.cummermuseum.org
- The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens: www.jacksonvillezoo.org
- The Jax Ale Trail Passport: www.JaxAleTrail.com
- Top to Bottom Walking Tour of Downtown: <http://adlibtours.com/Tours.html>

Locally Owned Boutiques:

- Eco Relics in Riverside (Reclaimed wood furniture, salvaged materials) <http://ecorelics.com>
- Midnight Sun in Five Points Riverside (Eclectic gifts) <http://www.themidnightsun.net>
- Natural Life at the St. Johns Town Center (Boho clothing) www.naturallife.com
- Rethreaded www.rethreaded.com
- Rosie True in the San Marco Square (Women's boutiques) www.rosietrue.com
- Rusted Market in San Marco (Antiques, cool gifts) www.facebook.com/rustedmarket
- Violet in Five Points in Riverside (Women's boutiques) www.facebook.com/violet.riverside

Do not leave Jax without having one of these local experiences:

- Checking out The Land of the Tiger at the **Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens**.
- Catching a show at the Bryan-Gooding Planetarium at **MOSH**.
- Drinking one of the **Top 26 Cocktails** in Jacksonville.
- Discovering our African-American heritage at **Kingsley Plantation**.
- Fishing, swimming, biking, and surfing at **Hanna Park**.
- Exploring the Gardens at **the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens**. They are nearly 100 years old!
- **Golfing** at one of our area's 70 courses.



- Paddle boarding or surfing in **Jacksonville Beach**.
- Running, biking or walking the **RiverWalk** from Downtown to Riverside.
- Sipping a beer at one of our local tap rooms and getting your **Jax Ale Trail** Passport stamped.
- Snapping a selfie at **Friendship Fountain** overlooking the Downtown Jacksonville Skyline.
- Spotting **the murals in Downtown** Jacksonville.
- Taking a kayaking tour of the **Timucuan Preserve** and its marshes.
- Riding on the **Jacksonville River Taxi** in Downtown.
- Visiting **Atlantic Beach**, it's only 15 miles from Downtown and it's as quaint a beach town as they get!
- Walking through the Currents of Times exhibit at **MOSH**.
- Watching a movie at **Sun Ray Cinema** in Five Points in Riverside.



For the golf enthusiasts:

Look for information about a golfing event. Details **TBD**.

Reunion Registration

Go to <https://www.sterett.net/reunion-register/> for reunion registration information and follow the link provided to register.

You will find both on line and mail in forms.

The registration process requires banquet entrée selection, along with tour and tour lunch options.

On line payment of fees and tour, including lunch, will be through PayPal.

You do not need a PayPal account to make the payment.



Reunion Check In

As soon as possible after arriving at the hotel, stop by the hospitality room to check in. Upon check in, you will be given name tags for you and your guests, a hat pin for your ball cap/lapel and a card indicating which dinner entrée you prefer at Saturday dinner. Be sure to bring the card with you to dinner and place it on the table.

Kick back, have a beer or a soft drink and look around for that shipmate you've been anxious to catch up with. The hospitality room serves as a place to hang out when you're not doing other things.

Ship's Store Sales

Duffy Groener, our ship's store custodian, will have Sterett "stuff" available for sale in the hospitality room. These items include ball caps, lighters, windbreakers, polo shirts, challenge coins, coffee mugs, window stickers and sew on patches.

Off Limits

The Sterett reunion is a time to reunite with shipmates and friends. It is a time to reflect back on the people who helped to make us who we are today. It is a time to remember the good times we shared in days past. It is a time to laugh at the crazy things we did when we were young and reckless.

It is not a time for airing our political differences, arguing about the state of the world today or taking up personal causes.

Please keep it civil and light hearted.

Dress Code

Casual attire throughout the weekend – wear what's comfortable

Saturday banquet – Dressy casual:

Slacks

Dress shirt, casual button-down shirt, open-collar or polo shirt

Optional tie

Business Meeting

We will conduct our business meeting on Saturday morning.

This meeting is **restricted to members in good standing** (dues current).

The meeting will be conducted generally following Robert's Rules of Order.

The following items are covered at the business meeting:

Election of new officers:

The Sterett Association needs you to step up.

If our organization is to survive, we have to have the active support of our younger shipmates.



Sterett was in service for 27 years. If you enjoy the reunions and other aspects of the Sterett Association, then get active.

We need shipmates who served across the years of Sterett's service life to step up and take a position.

Sterett Association officers are elected for a two year period.

The following positions will be elected:

President

Vice President

Secretary/Treasurer

3 Officer At Large positions

(Ships Storekeeper is a voluntary position)

2021 Reunion

The location for the 2021 Sterett reunion will be decided at the business meeting.

A few things to consider:

Sterett shipmates live from one end of the Country to the other.

The reunion location has been moved around the country to accommodate shipmates that live in various places.

We've been to the Rockies (Littleton, CO), the mid Atlantic (Baltimore, MD), the southwest coast (San Diego, CA), the Gulf Coast (Biloxi, MS), the northeast (Portland/Bath, ME), the northwest (Silverdale/Tacoma, WA), sort of in the middle (Branson, MO) and now the southeast coast (Jacksonville FL).

Perhaps it's time to pay those who reside west of the Mississippi another visit.

We would all like the next reunion to be in our own back yard but please give some thought to other shipmates who weren't able to make the trip to Jacksonville.

For a successful reunion, we must have a Sterett shipmate in the selected area who is willing to take on the duties of Reunion Coordinator.

Want it in your town?

Be prepared to convince the members that it's the best location for 2021.

(Joe Gaughan can provide tips!)

Jacksonville will be another great reunion location. Don't miss the opportunity to mingle with your Sterett shipmates at the 2019 reunion.



Remember:

- **Discounted Reservations will not be available until 10 October 2018.**
- **Rooms must be booked by 29 August, 2019 to guarantee the discounted rate. Following this date, discounted rooms will be on a space and rate available basis.**

See you in Jacksonville