



Spring 2019



Greetings from the Sterett Association

Not exactly a great start to Spring around much of the country but rumor has it Spring really is on the way.

Association Dues

The recent dues drive has resulted in many shipmates catching up with their annual dues and a great number becoming Lifetime Members.

We thank you for your support of the Association.

The latest list of active members can be found here: <https://www.sterett.net/about/active-members/>

The Lifetime Members list is here: <https://www.sterett.net/about/lifetime-members/>

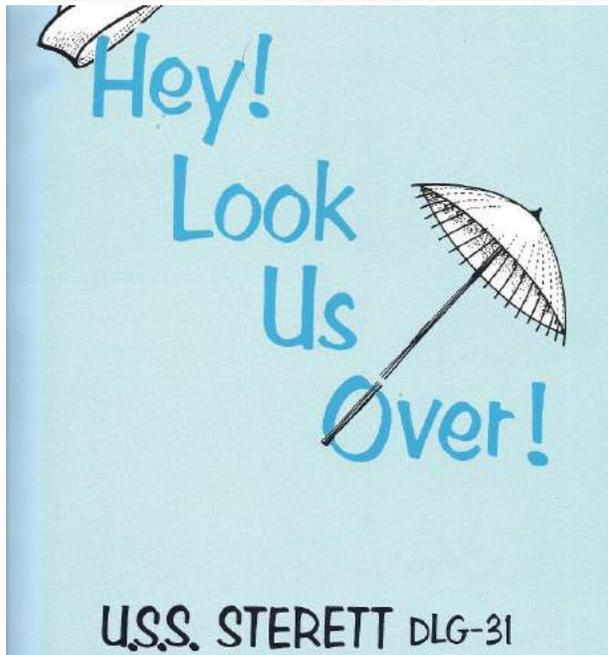
Springtime Events of Note

There have been several events in the life of the DLG/CG 31 that occurred in the springtime:

Happy Birthday USS Sterett

8 April 1967:

On this day in naval history, DLG 31 was commissioned as the third ship to bear Andrew Sterett's name in 1967.



EC-121 Incident

On April 15, 1969, a United States Navy Lockheed EC-121M Warning Star of Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron One on a reconnaissance mission was shot down by a North Korean MiG-21 aircraft over the Sea of Japan.

With the news of the downing of an American EC-121 by the North Koreans, Sterett proceeded on short notice from Yokosuka to the Sea of Japan. COMDESRON Three, embarked, assumed command of a four -ship SAR Task Unit which included Dale, Mahan , and Henry W. Tucker. With the cooperation of the Soviet Navy, this task unit recovered the bodies of two EC-121 crewmen and major debris from the aircraft. Here Sterett's boat returns with a piece of the fuselage.

Subsequently Sterett was assigned to establish an anti-air warfare station in the Sea of Japan to protect U.S. aircraft in accordance with the policy announced by President Nixon.





Battle of Dong Hoi

On April 19, 1972, Sterett became the first ship to fire a Terrier surface to air missile in a hostile engagement.



DDG 104

USS STERETT reaches a major milestone as the Command and Crew take a moment out of the busy day for a photograph to celebrate the transition back to where she belongs. In the sea!





From the CO:

The following was recently received from CDR Lewis:

Last month we undocked STERETT and remain in the BAE shipyard as we finish installing several new weapon systems, prepare for sea trials in June and move back to our true home, Naval Base San Diego.

Additionally, STERETT

*was recently awarded the **2018 Battle "E"**, this is STERETT's second consecutive year winning the Battle "E". I am extremely proud of the crew and they are extremely pumped for a 2019 "threepeat". On the topic of awards, **STERETT also earned the following awards this year:***

- **Ship's Store Excellence Award** (also the second year in a row)*
- **Intelligence Excellence Award***
- **Close in Weapon System (CIWS) Excellence Award** (the competition for this award is with all ships that carry a CIWS – Aircraft Carriers, Amphibious Assault ships, Cruisers, Destroyers, and Littoral Combat Ships)*
- **Environmental Protection and Energy Conservation Award***

*Congratulations to CDR Claudine Caluori (STERETT Commanding Officer from March 2017 – August 2018) as she was recently selected for the rank of **Captain**.*

The above accomplishments are some examples of our service members dedication to excellence and this great nation – which we like to coin onboard as the STERETT Standard!

STERETT remains dedicated to being the best warship in the Pacific, I look forward to sending you another update in the coming months and hope you are doing well. As always, you are always welcome onboard and we would love to show you around our amazing warship named after a phenomenal American hero, Andrew Sterett.

From all of us in the Sterett Association a hearty WELL DONE to the Officers and crew of the DDG 104.

Looking for a new Tat?

Here's a couple of ideas for some fresh ink from a vintage Tattoo Pattern Book, courtesy of John King:

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION

DD 27 (1916-18)

DD 497 (1919-1940)

DLG 31 (1947-70)

CG 31 (1971-80)

DDG 101 (Cannellman 2000)



Larry Motz thought this might draw a smile:

US Navy Veterans



What my friends thought I did.



What my wife thought I did.



What society thought I did.



What my Chief thought I did.



What I tell people I did.



What I actually did.

If we only knew:

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



**NIGERIAN MAN DIES AND
AUTHORITIES FIND \$27 BILLION
IN HIS APARTMENT.**



**HE HAD BEEN TRYING TO GIVE IT
AWAY FOR 15 YEARS BUT NO
ONE WOULD RETURN HIS EMAILS.**

mematic.net

Hand Salute:

Maybe you didn't know:

All U.S. citizens, whether military or civilian, are expected to stand and salute when the national anthem is played. A provision in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which was signed by President George W. Bush, authorizes military veterans not in military uniform to render a military-style hand salute at the playing of the national anthem. The provision does not address whether head cover should be removed prior to rendering a salute. The accepted practice is to follow the same protocol as you would if you were in uniform.

Message from shipmate Greg Strausberg:

I served on the Sterett CG 31 from 75 to 78. I don't think I will be able to attend the reunion this year. Please say hello to my shipmates that do make it.

Thanks.



Congratulations:

Recently posted on Facebook by Ken Brown:

Last night, we were honored to attend the retirement ceremony of Keith Brown after 25 years, 10 months and 23 days of faithful service serving our country in the United States Marines.



From the past

I recently ran across this odd picture while surfing the internet on a picture site called PICRYL. Lots of pictures of Sterett in Subic and during the KAL 007 Ops.

<https://picryl.com/search?q=%23missile%2Bcruiser%2Buss%2Bsterett>

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Sterett Passings

PN3 Thomas R. Griffin 70-72



RD/OS3 Jim Adams 72-74



William W. Veer DD 407



OS2 John Dewveall

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



BM2 Ken Owens 86-88



OSSN Jimmy Hye 84-86



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 less than **5** 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



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.

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

An online reservation link can be found here:

https://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkIdData=USS+Sterett+Association%5EJAXFL%60USAUSAA%6092.00%60USD%60false%602%609%2F16%2F19%609%2F25%2F19%608%2F26%2F19&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes&fbclid=IwAR1Z91xwzmGhhXNp-dMSLO4B1yKeM55NTZKyraMuraTbgruVqLtWhxf6dfk



Or call: 904-296-2222 or 800-962-9786.

Be sure to specify USS Sterett Association

**** 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 originally planned tour to the Budweiser brewery was cancelled. Budweiser no longer has this tour available.

A search for an alternate location which would fit our Saturday afternoon time constraints was unsuccessful.

Therefore, Saturday afternoon will be free time.

We encourage our guests to take advantage of this time to explore the many attractions offered by Jacksonville.



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.

USS STERETT ASSOCIATION



For golf enthusiasts:

The following golfing events have been arranged:

Thursday Sep 19 at NAS Jacksonville Golf Course (AM tee times to be assigned 7 days before the event)

Friday Sep 20 at the Hidden Hills Country Club (AM tee times at 0938, 0946 & 0954)

If interest, please contact Chuck Bond at acts.9.15.saul@gmail.com or call/text at (360)720-4401.

For NFL fans:

The Jacksonville Jaguars will play the Tennessee Titans on Thursday evening, September 19. Kickoff scheduled at 2020 (8:20 PM). (Non-sponsored event)



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. Credit cards can be used using the PayPal interface.

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 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 must 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:

- **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.**

Who's Going:

We are often asked about who has signed up to attend the reunion.

It's still early. Many wait until the last couple of months to register. Publishing a who's going list too early can cause a misleading and discouraging impression about attendance.

We had 185 guests at the last reunion in Nashville. We are confident the upcoming reunion will exceed that mark.

We will publish a list as we draw closer to September.

We do ask that you register as soon as you have decided to attend. It makes the process easier for us and ensures we have it all covered.

See you in Jacksonville

For the Sterett Association:
Steve Hayes