USS MacDonough

Reunion Association

Newsletter – Summer/Fall 2024

Presidents Message!

Hello again Mighty Mac family!

I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and spirits. I hope everyone had a great summer.

Our reunion in Jacksonville, Florida was a great success, once again thanks to Helene and Ed Bayona.

The tour of the USS Orleck brought me back (sort of). Although the ladders take on a whole new meaning than they did nearly 50 years ago! The Mac was also bigger, had A/C and more weapons. But it was a nice tour.

Several members have requested more activities at our reunions. We are going to try to work that out for future reunions. Next years reunion is slated for the Norfolk/Virginia Beach area and will be hosted by our Secretary Leonard Dalenberg. I'm sure we will have a fun, memorable reunion.

I hope to see as many shipmates and family members as possible at next year's reunion in Virginia. And, for those who can't make it due to medical issues, we will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

Best Regards, Vic Radeka

Association Officers

- Victor Radeka, vaac9@yahoo.com; President
    - 4900 SW 15th St. Ft Lauderdale, FL 33317-5512. 954-793-2094
- Dominick Pace, dominickpace@aol.com, Vice President
    - 140 Dinsmore St. Apt C. Staten Island N.Y. 10314. 718-490-2926
- John Curtin, jcurtin@wowway.com; Treasurer
    - 6938 Maynard Rd., Portland, MI 48875-9687. 517-242 2239
- Ed & Helene Bayona, helene@northstate.net; Reunion Coordinators
    - 711 Liberty Rd. High Point, NC 27263-2427. 336-687-6028
- Leonard Dalenberg, macdonough@dalenberg.org; Secretary & Reunion Coordinator
    - 2210 Weiser Rd. Niles, MI 49120, 269-338-7855

Secretaries Report

1. Minutes of Jacksonville Reunion
    - 100:02 Called to order.
    - Thanks to Helene
    - First Timer, Bernie
    - Officers VP Dom Pace
    - Treasurers report available,
    - Association paid for your banquet dinner, possibly will do again at next reunion
    - Leonard – Secretary Host for future sites Va next year
    - $250 to tin can sailors
    - Vic will do 2 more years
    - Long distance award
2. Preparations for Norfolk/Virginia Beach Reunion

    Going will, hotels are a tad more expensive that we are used to. I'm trying to get one on the waterfront, with a hospitality suite and a restaurant, but so far the prices are over $150 per night, and we've set that as our goal -to stay below that amount

    There are many, many things to do in the area. If your interested, go to these sights for a look-see.

    https://www.visitnorfolk.com/group-tour/reunions/military-reunions/.

    https://www.visitvirginiabeach.com/

    https://www.riverscasino.com/portsmouth/

Treasurers Report:

Our Association is continuing in the green. The last several reunions the Association has assisted attendees with bus transportation costs and banquet expenses. The last few years we have missed many reunion attendees to age related illnesses and from passing on. Our current income from dues paying members, donations and reunion auctions have fallen drastically. I have to recommend that following this newsletter mailing future mailings will only be to those who have supported the Association through dues. The Association expenses include newsletter expenses, mailings, funeral gifts, etc.

Thank you to officers, J Curtin

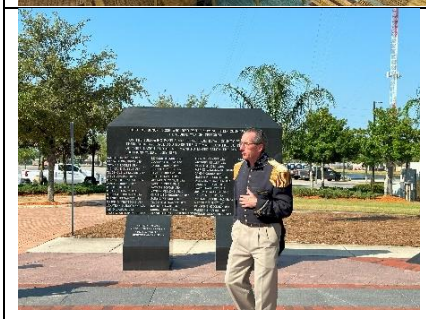
Our 2024 reunion took place May 5-9, 2024, at the Fairfield Inn & Suites. 4888 Lenior Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32216.



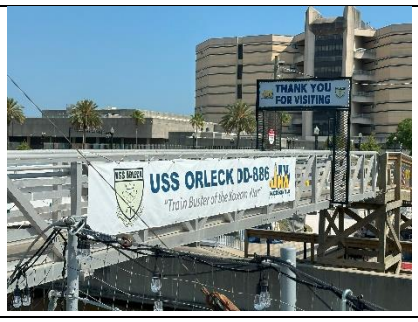






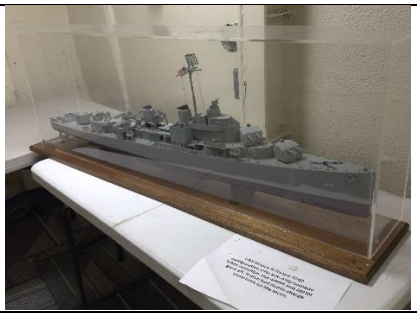






THANK YOU
FOR VISITING
USS ORLECK DD-886

























2025 Reunion: Hosted by: Leonard & Rennay Dalenberg

Our 2025 reunion will be in the Virginia Tidewater area, which includes Virginia Beach & Norfolk.

Things of Interest: There is just way too much information to include in one newsletter.

- **A Short Maritime History of Virginia Beach**
  https://atlanticshoresliving.com/
- **Festivals – Shows – Expos**
  https://www.tidewater-virginia.net/
- **Tourism Information**
  https://www.tidewater-virginia.net/
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**
  https://www.tidewater-virginia.net/
- **ABOUT NAUTICUS**
  https://nauticus.org/about-us/



Nauticus is a maritime discovery center located along the waterfront in downtown, Norfolk, VA, offering a unique form of experiential learning for all ages. Through interactive exhibits and STEM to STERN programming, Nauticus uses the museum, Battleship *Wisconsin*, sailing center, and Schooner Virginia to tell the story of the maritime environment, industry, and the military.

THE BATTLESHIP WISCONSIN



Berthed at Nauticus, the Battleship *Wisconsin* is one of the largest and last battleships ever built by the U.S. Navy. Explore its deck through a self-guided tour or, with an additional charge, our guided tours that will take you back in time to experience this majestic ship that earned five battle stars during WWII.

Tidewater Virginia Cities – Communities

Hampton Roads

The Hampton Roads region of Virginia includes

Virginia Beach, ***Norfolk***, Portsmouth, Newport News, Chesapeake, Hampton, and Suffolk.

Virginia Beach



Virginia Beach Waterfront

Virginia Beach is famous for its beaches, boardwalk, nightlife, mild climate, saltwater fishing, museums, landmarks, cuisine, shopping, artists, and other attractions.

Local beaches offer white sand and water suitable for swimming from June thru October. The city's oceanfront boardwalk features an array of restaurants, cafes, bars, shops, bike rentals, and other businesses.

Attractions include a variety of nautical sculptures, the most famous being King Neptune. The 24 foot bronze statue is located at the Neptune Festival Park on 31st Street.

Another icon of the boardwalk is the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier. This iconic structure is a popular with fishermen, wildlife watchers, photographers, and tourists.

Throughout Virginia Beach, numerous creeks, lagoons, and tributaries of the Lynnhaven River watershed provide recreational areas for nature enthusiasts, boaters, and fishermen.

The ViBe Creative District is an important asset for the arts, culture, and technology in Virginia Beach. In 2015, the City of Virginia Beach established the ViBe Creative District to attract creative industries to the Virginia Beach Oceanfront.

During the off season, Virginia Beach is a popular location for conventions, retreats, holiday celebrations, and mid-winter getaways.

Norfolk Virginia

Norfolk Waterfront



Norfolk is one of the oldest cities in Virginia and one of four cities that occupy the port of Hampton Roads.

Norfolk is bordered by the Elizabeth River to the west and the Chesapeake Bay to the North. Across the Elizabeth River, lies Portsmouth.

The Elizabeth River Ferry and private water taxis transport passengers between Norfolk's Waterside and Olde Towne Portsmouth.

Norfolk is one of the most important East Coast cities for the financial sector. Norfolk is also home to important military assets. Located along the Elizabeth River, the Norfolk Naval Shipyard is the oldest and largest naval shipyard in the United States.

Norfolk is recognized for its history, culture, and beauty. Norfolk's museums, shopping, and fine dining attract visitors year round. The city hosts a number of annual festivals, including the Norfolk Jazz Festival, Harborfest, and others.

Northern Neck

The Northern Neck is the northernmost of three western shore peninsulas. Bounded by the Potomac River on the north and the Rappahannock River on the south, the Northern Neck is one of Tidewater Virginia's quietest areas.

Middle Peninsula

The Middle Peninsula includes the communities of Gloucester, Tappahannock, Deltaville, and Urbanna.

Lower (Virginia) Peninsula

Several communities are located on the Lower Peninsula, including Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown, Poquoson, Newport News, and Hampton.

Eastern Shore

The Eastern Shore of Virginia is home to numerous small, historic towns and villages. Among the best known are Chincoteague Island, Onancock, Wachapreague, Nassawadox, and Cape Charles.

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USS MacDonough URL

USS MacDonough F.B.