

John C. Butler Arizona Destroyer Escort Sailors Association
Minding the Helm 12 NOV 07

1100: Opening prayer; Pledge of Allegiance; 21 members and 2 guests present;

1110: Welcome aboard guests Joanna Burgland and John Rusineck. John DDR 808 “enlisted” as a member of the assoc. at the meet and Joanna, USAF, (Ret.) advised the group her father was a sailor on board USS Doyle DD 494, a squadron mate of member Larry Smith DD 497, whose ships bombarded Omaha Beach on D-Day silencing German guns ashore so the invasion could proceed. Joanna has been invited to attend and/or join us and we’d be pleased to meet her father someday who is living in the Great State of Oregon.

Welcome back Eileen and Mel Kowal DER 386 after spending a cool summer cruising about Puget Sound and environs. (They came back to dry out and avoid rusting). Mel, our Webmaster, showed the film *History of the Aircraft Carrier* brought by Bob Sayers. Mel will show a 25minute segment of *Victory at Sea* at the DEC meet.

The group voted to continue meeting at Home Town Buffet in Scottsdale. Reservations have been made through 2008. **NOTE:** The DEC meet will take place in the room north of our regular meeting room. We will have the regular room thereafter, unless the mgt. gives it to a larger group for the day. It seems that Tin Cans and their sailors are an afterthought until there’s a dirty job to be done then the Cans are in the van.

DUES are due by 1 JAN. Those members who “enlisted” last summer are paid up for 08. If you can’t attend the DEC meet send your check to Lloyd Brown, 2550 S. Ellsworth Rd. #170, Mesa, AZ 85209. To ease the book-keeping situation, please do not delay in sending or bringing in your dues.

Gene Stegman DE 361, to enhance our treasury, has donated the book, “Sea of Thunder” for raffle at the DEC meet.

NOTE: The names only, of all members appear on the roster in our website without any other personal info included. If you do not wish your name listed let us know and Mel will remove it.

CONGRATULATIONS: Member Del Krause DDE 847 has been accepted as a board member of the National Tin Can Sailors Association. The TCS is getting a fine new member and a loyal, dedicated, hard worker. We hope there will never be a conflict of meeting dates taking Del out of town and out of our presence, if so, we’ll understand. Good going, Del and smooth sailing in your new job.

THANKS to the generosity of our outstanding members helped by certain of Del Krause’s youngsters who continue bringing in health and comfort items, 13 boxes were packed and shipped to our troops in Afghanistan just after the NOV meet.

Postage was \$116.35. Your morale boosting thoughtfulness tells our troops they are not forgotten.

Tom Roell DD779 donated \$20.00 to the treasury for postage and pledged he’d donate \$20.00 every month for our on-going program. Thank you Tom, your consideration helps out a lot.

Bill Hurley, DDR 832 won the 50/50 draw and donated his share \$34.00 back to the treasury. Thanks Bill we appreciate your thoughtfulness in helping out.

The “Skipper” will represent the assoc. by laying our wreath on the USS Arizona Memorial during the Pearl Harbor Commemorative Ceremony on 7 DEC 07 beginning at 1055, 0755 Hawaii time, at Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol. Y’all come if you can make it. The ceremony is short and impressive, seating is available and there will be a guest speaker. Lunch will be served at Am Legion Post #1 on 7th Ave. and Van Buren Streets.

1145: Closing prayer; Adjourn.

Next Meet: Home Town Buffet, Scottsdale, Monday, DEC 10, 1100

Fair Winds and Calm Seas

Tom Alexander, “Skipper”

