

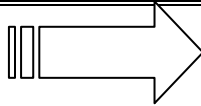
ALL AHEAD, FULL!

The unofficial, spontaneous & voluntary publication of the *Ens. John C. Butler Arizona Chapter Destroyer Escort Sailors Association*, meeting at the *HomeTown Buffet*, 1312 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, Arizona the 2d Monday each month at 1100. Paid for anonymously by a benevolent individual and distributed free of charge to all who may have a modicum of interest in our progress and projects. Or not!

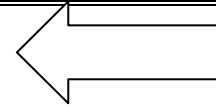
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Next Meet: 13 SEP 2010



OUR HEARTFELT THANKS AND TIP O' THE WHITE HAT TO OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS AND FINANCIAL DONORS WHO MAKE OUR CARE PACKAGE PROJECT GO. WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOUR HELP AND GENEROSITY.

1100: Opening Prayer, Chaplain **Al Guier DDE 719**;
Pledge of Allegiance;

The **high lite** of our meet came when **Joanna Burgan USAF Ret.** introduced her dad, **Jack Burgan DD 494** who is visiting from Grants Pass, Oregon. It was good to see Jack and **Larry Smith DD 497** exchanging scuttlebutt before and after our meet. Larry and Jack were in the same **DD squadron**, but different ships that scraped bottom along **Omaha Beach on D-Day** exchanging rounds with **German arty** until they silenced the guns that had brought the landings at Omaha Beach to a standstill. **Gen. Bradley** halted the insertion of more troops on Omaha while considering moving the remainder over to **Utah Beach**. That, of course, would have added more confusion to the chaos that exists on beaches at all amphibious landing sites.

Larry's and Jack's ships along with other squadron **Tin Can's** effective gunfire caused Bradley to resume landing troops on Omaha Beach and, as they say, the rest is history. **Ah, yes! That accurate naval gunfire did it yet again.**

Thanks Larry and Jack and all of our other heroic WW II members for what you have done for those of us who came behind you.

On the subject of WW II vets, **Bob Kessler DE 354** communicates with our **troops, thru The Hospitalized Veterans Association** and has been sending **regular donations** for their support. Very modestly, Bob showed the skipper several responses he received from our appreciative troops. Additionally, Bob nearly always brings in copies of info from publications that he subscribes to for our reading pleasure. He puts that info on one of the tables for our members to peruse.

Bob is now **91years old** having enlisted in the navy in OCT 1939 by lying about his age when a high school sophomore. After signalman school and other assignments he took **USS Kenneth M. Willett DE 354** from commissioning on **19 JUL 44** straight to the **Pacific** for escort duty then getting into the war when **Willett's gunners** shot down a Japanese Betty trying to bomb the convoy Willett was protecting.

Bob will be leaving us in early OCT for **Gulf Port, Mississippi** where he'll be with fellow **retired GI's** In a veteran's community. We'll miss you at the meets, Bob. **You will always be on our mailing list and in our hearts as a shipmate.**

Del Krause DDE 847 read a thank you letter to the group from one of our care package recipients in Afghanistan. It's great hearing from those kids who are taking the hits for us.

The group decided to have a NOV picnic again this year. **John Rusinek DDR 808** will look into a location (where it doesn't rain) at a time (when it doesn't rain) and other pertinent arrangements. He'll report at the SEP meet.

Henry Hight CVE 68 won the 50/50 draw of \$60.00 and graciously returned his share to the treasury. Thanks Henry, we 'preciate it.

To date we have packed and shipped 292 Care Packages to our troops in Afgahnistan. Thanks to all the donors and the working party that packs 'n' ships 'em.

Calm Seas and Fair Winds

