

# BATTLESHIP NORTH CAROLINA

# SCUTTLEBUTT

FEBRUARY 2013

VOL. 1

## ALL HANDS ON DECK

The Friends Membership Committee is looking for volunteers to help with recruiting efforts.

We need people to help us staff the Friends tent on special days and at special events throughout the year. Volunteers will be paired with a Friends Board member at the tent on these days to talk with people who are interested in joining the Friends. This is a great opportunity to get to know your Board members and learn more about the ship. Times are flexible.

July 4 - Independence Day  
July 13 - Battleship 101  
August 10 - Battleship 101

Back to regular hours 8-5  
September 28 - Battleship Alive!  
October 29 - Batty Battleship



*Members staffing the Friends Tent, guiding tour guests during Hidden Battleship and during the "Need for Speed" event in 2011*



If you are interested, please email us at [battleshipncfriends.org](http://battleshipncfriends.org). Here are the dates.

Ship's hours 8-5

March 29 - Easter Egg Hunt  
April 17 - Crew Reunion Welcoming  
April 19 - Crew Reunion Tour Day  
April 20 - Crew Reunion Memorial and Lunch

Ship's hours change to 8-8 for summer

May 27 - Memorial Day  
June 8 - Battleship 101





signaled her to ask if she was "afire". After action reports indicate that almost all of the batteries were firing simultaneously. Ammunition expenditures were as follows, 841 5", 1067 1.1", 7425 20mm, and 8641 50 cal. in 9 minutes.

On 28Aug42 the following was issued:

From: Rear Admiral Kincaid, Commander TF-16 (aboard *Enterprise*)

To: Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet

...The *North Carolina* was handled skillfully and effectively throughout the action on 24 Aug. This was the first occasion on which a battleship has been present as a part of a carrier task force during attack by enemy aircraft. The presence of the *North Carolina* was a distinct asset. T.C. Kincaid

As part of the ongoing support in the Solomons, the *North Carolina*

side. The *North Carolina* was saved by the quick response of damage control teams and counter flooding. The crew suffered the loss of 5 men and 23 wounded. Services were conducted at Tongatabu before returning to Pearl Harbor for repair. After waiting 10 days for the *South Dakota* to clear drydock the *North Carolina* repairs were begun on 10 Oct 42. She was out in 21 days and refitted with the new more effective 40mm guns. She was back in action by 09 Dec 42.

The book, *Battleship North Carolina*, by Captain Ben Blee is a great source of detailed information regarding the torpedo attack. While it is currently undergoing some modifications, it should be back in stock in the gift shop by mid April.

Next issue we will explore the beginning of the island-hopping campaign as we visit places like Tarawa, Kwajalein, and Majuro Atoll.

For more in-depth information on any of these topics, please feel free to email your request to [curator@battleshipnc.com](mailto:curator@battleshipnc.com). They will be happy to assist you if you would like to research any of these events in the archives at the ship in Wilmington.

Long Range Planning – The focus is going to be on moving forward with emphasis on goals and strategy for the Friends in a 5-year plan. Specifically, after the Capital Campaign. They are currently working on a mission statement and a written charter through comparative research of other non-profits.

Finance – Our required audit is completed and we are happy to say that there were no issues reported during the audit. We have filed our taxes and everything is positive.

Board Recruiting – We are currently looking for someone who would like to volunteer qualified legal services to the Friends. Work on the new Board of Directors Handbook is going well. They are using the Handbook for the NC Center for Nonprofits as a reference.

Most of these committees are staffed by Friends Board members but any Friends member who wants to be involved can certainly contribute on a committee. We are always looking for someone who wants to make a difference. If you are interested, you may email us at [battleshipncfriends.org](mailto:battleshipncfriends.org).

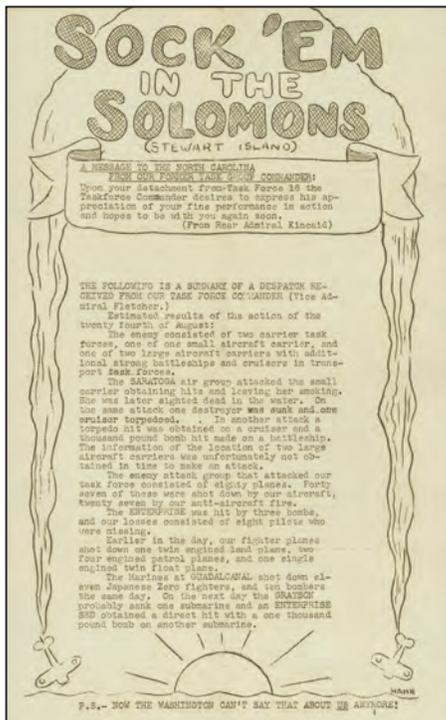
## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Work is proceeding on laying out a new brochure for the Friends that will keep it current and relative to what's happening on the ship now. We are also in the process of developing a new program for small businesses to participate in supporting the ship, similar to Friends memberships. This is just in the initial planning stages. A calendar of events has been distributed that calls for volunteers to help us staff the Friends tent in our efforts to recruit new members. You will find in this issue of *Scuttlebutt* that we have also sent out a list of projects for members who want to become more involved.

## ROLL CALL

Please join in welcoming our newest Friends.

- Gene and Kay Baynor
- Albert and Kayde Brown
- Larry Howell
- Brian Huddle and Kaiden Faircloth
- Tim and Wanda Jarrett
- Bill and Linda Jasper
- Michael Locklear
- Genia Pierre
- Doug Su
- Tammy and Marc Tingle
- John Watts
- Carolyn and Steve Weinzapfel
- Joe Wheeler
- Albert Whitfield
- Michael and Robin Zalob



was part of the task force supporting the deployment of the 7th Marines as reinforcements to Guadalcanal. As a part of the *Hornet* Task Force, 15 Sep 42 she was torpedoed in the port bow by Japanese submarine I-19. The *Wasp* was lost, being struck by three torpedos in her starboard

## FRIENDS PROJECTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*It takes a lot of hard work and commitment to keep a battleship ship shape.*

*We know that many of you love the opportunity to help out so here's exactly what needs to be done on and off the ship.*

*Of course we always have miles of polishing, cleaning, and even painting to do.*

*Thanks for all you do!*

For those Friends members who would like the opportunity to help with various projects on the ship, we again offer such opportunities in this issue of the *Scuttlebutt*. Some of these projects are already ongoing and others are merely ideas at the moment. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome.

### **Motor Whaleboat Project**

The Maintenance Department is in the process of providing some much needed maintenance on the ship's whaleboat, which is on display on the main deck- port side. The boat is on loan from the Navy and is actually a rare item. This project involves sanding and painting to keep it in good shape. If working on this vintage WWII boat interests you, just let us know and we can provide the details. As



a Friends group project, if we can get enough people together and pick a convenient date(s), I'm sure we could complete this important project pretty quickly.

### **Refurbishing Stainless Steel**

One important project that Friends members could become a part of is an ongoing project being handled by Cecil Ard (ships volunteer). Cecil is refurbishing the stainless fixtures in the mess/galley area on 2<sup>nd</sup> deck using a cleaning and restoration procedure that brings the steel back to life and makes it look new again. Needless to

say, all this bright metal work adds sparkle to the galley and returns it to what it probably looked like when the ship was active. A lot of this work is done on Saturdays but,



according to Cecil, arrangements can be made to work on the project during the week. If working on this project interests you, just let us know and we can provide the details. I'm sure Cecil would gladly appreciate the help.

### **Adopt the 04 Bridge Level**

The concept for this idea is the same as that for "Adopt A Highway". The idea is for an Evaluation Team, made up of Friends members, to routinely evaluate conditions on the 04 Level (A.K.A. The Bridge Level) to determine what cleaning and maintenance need to be done to keep this popular area of the ship in good condition. After each evaluation, the Team's ideas and recommendations will be submitted to the ship's Maintenance Department where they will be determined what we can feasibly do, set a date(s) to do the work, and then invite all Friends members who would like to participate to do the work. The FIRST thing we need to do is establish the Evaluation Team. If being on this Team interests you, just let us know.

### **Volunteers to "Staff the Booth"**

During various ship events, The Friends sponsor a tent (booth) to advertise ourselves and discuss the Friends' goals and objectives with the public with the hopes that they will join. Any Friends member is welcome to help with this activity. We always need to have at least two members taking care of the booth at any one time, but it is nice when there are three or four. A list



of ship's events where the Friends plan to set up is included in this newsletter. This is easy work and a lot of fun. It's an opportunity to present ourselves to the public and meet fellow Friends members. *To draw more attention to our booth, we are in the process of working with the ship's archives to make available various artifacts from the ship that we can let the public see and handle during their visit.*

### **Water Tight Gasket Replacement Project**

This is a new project idea that involves the replacement of original water tight gaskets on water tight doors. The existing gaskets are hard and brittle and no longer effective in keeping doors water tight. Work on this project will be coordinated through the ship's Maintenance Department, who will show us how to remove the old gasket, install the new gasket and what else needs to be done around the edge of the

*continued on Page 5*

door to make a good seal. This is an ongoing project that could take a while to finish considering how many doors on the ship could use such work.

### Navigator's Sea Cabin

Renovation of the Navigator's Sea Cabin on the 04 Level is a project that Friends investigated a couple of years ago. A certain amount of research was done at the time, but for various reasons the project was put on the back burner. Recently, renewed talks about the project with Chris Vargo will hopefully get the project started again. This would make the perfect "Friends members only" project. For Friends members



who may not know, the Navigator's Sea Cabin has never been restored and has never been a part of the public tour. Stay tuned for updates on this one. For those members who signed up for this project back in the beginning, I still have your names.

**If working on any of these projects interests you, just let us know**

**Contact: Mike Wortham**  
*(Friends BOD Membership-Projects Committee)*

mikewortham@gmail.com

*As a Friends member, your ideas and thoughts are just as important as anybody's. If you have an idea for a project or event, just email us and let us know. We are always looking new ideas.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

- The USS *North Carolina* had only one foot of clearance on each side went in went through the Panama Canal.
- The 16" rounds fired by the ship during the war cost over \$2.4 million.



- The four propellers set on edge, tip-to-tip, would be taller than a six story building.
- It took a Kingfisher scout plane 29 minutes to reach an altitude of 10,000 ft.
- The longest combat shots taken by the *North Carolina* were at the Hitachi Industrial complex in Honshu, Japan – 19.88 miles.
- Although Kingfisher scout planes had a maximum speed of 145 mph, their maximum range of 850 miles was attainable at a cruising speed of only 119 mph.

## 2013

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 16 - Power Plant Tour

March 29 - Easter Egg Hunt

April 17-20 - USS *North Carolina* Battleship Association Annual Crew Reunion (Wed. - Sat.)

April 20 - Battleship Alive!

May 18 - Design & Damage Control

May 27 - Annual Memorial Day Observance (Mon.)

June 8 - Battleship 101

July 4 - 17th Annual Battleship Blast (Thurs.)

July 13 - Battleship 101

July 13 - Legacy Series: Under the Sea with Submarine *USS North Carolina*

August 10 - Battleship 101

August 10 - Legacy Series: Blue & Gray North Carolina

September 28 - Battleship Alive!

October 12 - Hidden Battleship

October 29 - Batty Battleship's Halloween Bash (Tues.)

December 7 - Battleship Alive!

*All events take place on Saturday unless otherwise noted.*

*Be sure to check the Battleship website for complete details about all of these events.*

