

U.S.S. John A. Bole (DD-755) Association

John A. Bole Newsletter

Spring 2008

Large Bole Reunion Held in Jacksonville, FL

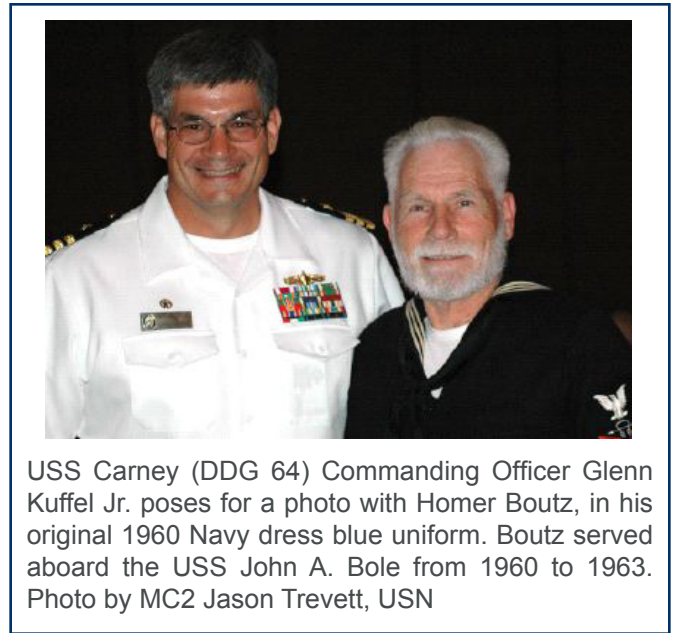
All Bole Shipmates Invited To Attend 2009 Reunion in Seattle WA

The USS John A Bole Association held its 11th national reunion in Jacksonville Florida. The October 2007 reunion was a resounding success with over 250 shipmates and family attending. Our reunion headquarters was the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk hotel. During the reunion we visited a number of tourist venues in the local Jacksonville, St Augustine area. In addition, we also enjoyed a leisurely evening dinner cruise on the Jacksonville's St Johns River.

One of the real highpoints of our Bole reunion was our specially arranged visit to the Mayport Naval Station and the USS Carney (DDG 64). The USS Carney is the Navy's 14th Arleigh Burke Class Destroyer. The Carney was preparing for an extended deployment and we had the rare opportunity to tour this deadly capable ship and observe her professional yet friendly crew. Not many reunion groups get to go aboard a top of the line Navy ship anymore, and we were pleased the Navy granted our association this rare honor.

Our Bole Memorial Services were held at a very nice location on the St. James River, next to our hotel. The reading of the names of passed Bole shipmates was profound as previous reunions. Sailors from the Jacksonville Naval Air and Naval Base along with the VFW assisted us in this memorable occasion.

The reunion dinner banquet and dance was held the final evening of our reunion. Our banquet dinner speaker for the evening was the Commanding Officer of the USS Carney, CDR Glenn Kuffel, Jr. Commander Kuffel spoke about serving on the Carney and how she differs from the Sumner Class Destroyers of old like the John A



USS Carney (DDG 64) Commanding Officer Glenn Kuffel Jr. poses for a photo with Homer Boutz, in his original 1960 Navy dress blue uniform. Boutz served aboard the USS John A. Bole from 1960 to 1963. Photo by MC2 Jason Trevett, USN

Bole. In addition, he discussed the many differences between the Navy life of the present —and of the past (for health reasons, greasy cheeseburgers are no longer served on board ship). During the dinner banquet we also paid tribute to our past Association President Jim Blackburn. Jim sadly passed away in 2007 after a long illness. Tom King presented a commemorative plaque to Jim's wife Mickey, and her son Dan. Dan spoke to the group about his father, and it was very touching moment for all who knew Jim. Another plaque award was presented to Ron Berry, for his work and contributions to the association since he came aboard.

Association Business Meeting Held

As in the past, our Association business meeting was also held during our Jacksonville reunion. Association President Tom King presided over the business meeting. Steve Ramirez our Association Secretary read the old business meeting minutes for

approval. Association treasurer Ray Hancock passed out the Association financial report and reported our finances were in order. Ray also answered questions from the floor regarding our finances. It was suggested that our association again give a \$500 donation to the Tin Can Sailors organization for their outstanding work. This suggestion was seconded and approved by the membership present. Elections for Association officers for the upcoming year were held. The Association Nominating Committee nominated the following shipmates for office: Steve Ramirez (President), Ray Hancock (Vice President), Ron Berry (Treasurer), and Ron Shipley (Secretary). The officer nominations were seconded and after a brief discussion, all were elected to office. The final issue for discussion was the location for our 2009 reunion. A number of cities were suggested from the floor. After an election runoff—we chose the city of Seattle WA as the location for our 2009 John A Bole Association reunion. The Seattle reunion will take place in mid May 2009.

2009 Seattle Reunion Planning

Planning is progressing for our 2009 reunion in Seattle. This will be our first Bole Association reunion in the Pacific Northwest and we're planning some great Seattle activities. Ray Hancock is coordinating the reunion planning process with local shipmates in the Seattle area. More information regarding the reunion will be mailed, as we get much closer to the reunion. If you live in the Seattle area and also wish help with the reunion, please contact Ray Hancock. We hope everyone plans on attending our Seattle Bole reunion.

Big Thank You For Jacksonville

A number of shipmates and their family helped make our Jacksonville reunion the success it was. Some were very visible in helping out. Others helped behind the scenes. We would like to extend a special thanks to: Ray & Ruth Hancock, Katina Deaton, Jim Barton, Bobby & Earline Findley, Capt C.L. McDaniel, Ron & Sandy Shipley, Ron Berry, Jill Winters, Roger Hohensee, Frank & Margaret Martin, Tom & Beverly King, and Bill Phillips and his delicious California central valley raisins.

New Lifetime Membership Dues

As a Bole shipmate you now have the opportunity to participate in submitting lifetime membership dues. Lifetime dues will be \$125.00 and \$150.00 if including your spouse. This will save on postage costs, time,

avoid missed dues payments and reduce our internal record keeping. We hope that time is on your side and it will amount to a cost savings for you after a number of years. When making your upcoming dues payment, we encourage you to participate as a lifetime member. Thanks! Please send your annual and lifetime dues payments to our Bole Association Treasurer Ron Berry, 1404 Via Encinos Dr., Fallbrook, CA 92028

Passing of Bole Shipmates

We are sad to report the recent passing of three Bole shipmates. They are: Richard Hollenbeck, Carlton P. Buboltz, Raymond E. Hebing Sr.

US Navy Covers Our Reunion

The local Jacksonville TV station and the Mayport Naval Station send news reporters to cover our Jacksonville reunion. The NS Mayport new story can be found on their NS Mayport webpage. To see and read the story, go to the following link:

www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=32804

Bole Association Internet Website

For the latest Bole Association information, go to our Internet website. Steve Ramirez continues to make periodic updates to our Bole Association Internet web site. Our website may be viewed at:

<http://home.PacBell.net/ssa/bole.html> or use one of the search engines such as Google.com and then key in John A. Bole. You will like it.

1950-1951 Cruise Book Donated

In April, Steve Ramirez received an email from Jason Stephens of Lake Forest CA. Jason wondered if we know of anyone who would want a copy of a 1950-51 USS John A Bole cruise book. We responded back and the association now has a donated Bole cruise book in our collection. It will be at our Seattle reunion for everyone to see. A big Bole Association thank you Jason!

Join the Tin Can Sailors

The Tin Can Sailors organization is open to all present and past Destroyermen. They have a great quarterly newspaper and membership is \$15.00 a year. For more information contact: Tin Can Sailors, P.O. Box 100, Somerset, MA 02726 or go to their website at: www.tincansailors

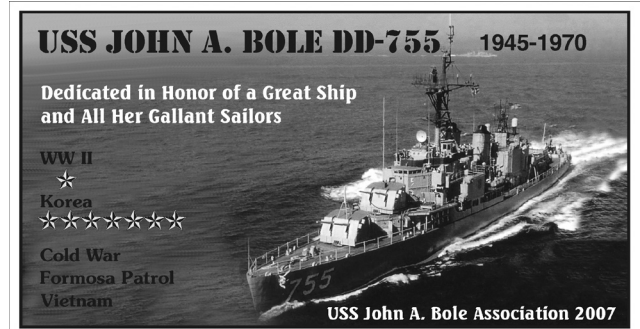
USS JOHN A. BOLE TO GAIN PERMANENT MEMORIAL STATUS

The USS. John A. Bole will become memorialized for eternity in the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, DC on July 2, 2008, with a plaque dedication ceremony, a reception for all shipmates and guests, and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Lone Sailor statue.

The Navy memorial allows Navy individuals and groups to purchase plaques and other commemorative devices and insignia to be installed permanently on the Memorial Wall inside the Memorial. Many ships, individuals, air wings, and other entities are enshrined there, making an impressive display for future generations of citizens and sailors.

Many of our shipmates are individually enshrined in the Navy log, and all Navy veterans may be enrolled in the Log at no charge. Enrollment can be made on-line or by requesting an application. Go to www.lonesailor.org

On the outside of the Navy Memorial is the Granite Sea, the world's oceans imbedded in the granite deck of the Memorial. There is the statue of the Lone Sailor and the Homecoming, and there are numerous bronze relief sculptures attached to the wall around the Granite Sea, along with many other Navy memorabilia.



The USS John A. Bole Association has paid all costs for this plaque dedication ceremony, and all members of the Association AND THEIR GUESTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. Shipmates are encouraged to invite any former Bole sailors, whether or not they are members of the Association. Please, HELP US SPREAD THE WORD AND INVITE YOUR SHIPMATES AND FAMILY.

While this is not an official reunion of the Bole Association, the officers are encouraging all shipmates to make a special effort to attend. Plank owners will be recognized, and all shipmates attending will be recognized and awarded a commemorative coin struck especially for this momentous occasion. Any coins remaining following the dedication ceremony will be sold to shipmates for \$5.00 at the 2009 Seattle reunion of the USS John A. Bole Association.

In addition, all Bole shipmates are invited to a special promotion ceremony on the following day, Thursday, July 3, at 10 a.m., also at the Navy Memorial, when Commander Daryl R. Hancock, son of Association Vice-President Ray Hancock, will be advanced to Captain, U.S.N., in a formal promotion ceremony.

SCHEDULE FOR THE USS JOHN A BOLE PLAQUE DEDICATION CEREMONY

WHEN: Wednesday, July 2, 2008

WHERE: U. S. Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20004

TIME: 10:00 a.m.
Dedication Ceremony
Recognition of Plank Owners
Presentation of Commemorative Coins by

(Captain Daryl R. Hancock and Admiral Tony Cothron)

11:00 a.m.

Reception in Presidents Room (Shipmates, guests, Memorial staff, and the public invited.)

12:00 Noon

Wreath-Laying Ceremony

SPECIAL INFORMATION

SHIPMATES DINNER: TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2008:

Phillips Flagship Restaurant, 900 Water Street, SW, Washington, D. C. 20024.

This will be a special time for shipmates and family to meet, have dinner, and preview the next day's historic events. Please make plans to attend if possible. Dinner is at your own expense. Notify Ray Hancock in advance if you can attend so we can make advance reservations.

SUGGESTED LODGING / HOTELS:

Lodging, transportation, food, and all other expenses will be the responsibility of each individual shipmate. There are numerous hotels and motels in the D. C. that are available at very diverse prices.

- **Willard Hotel** - 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W. (202-628-9100) A very old and famous hotel downtown close to the Memorial. Ray Hancock is staying here and paying about \$160 per night.
- **Harrington Hotel** - 436 11th St, N. W. (202-628-8140). Some shipmates have already made reservations at this hotel, Also downtown close to the Memorial at \$110.
- **Crystal Gateway Marriott** - 1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, Virginia 22202 (703-920-3230). Near Reagan Airport at about \$220 per night,
- **Channel Inn** - Recommended by the Navy Memorial staff. This is a full-service hotel with a great view and a fine restaurant. Call toll free (800) 368-5668 or 202-554-2400 and ask for Lynn Neff. Tell her June Jaeger at the Navy Memorial recommended her, and you'll get a discount.

We have heard there are some hotels/motels for less than \$100 per night in the areas a few miles from downtown. The Washington Metro/subway is a clean, easy-to-use method of transportation throughout the area. We recommend a downtown hotel for this event so that you can walk, take the metro (subway), or get a quick taxi.

If you will be able to attend any of these events, please contact Ray Hancock so that we can make appropriate accommodations for the ceremonies and the dinner. For additional information contact:

Ray Hancock

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