

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Merry Christmas 2011

Deposit Balance \$ _____

What's left for 2011?

Several events are still on the horizon for 2011. Covers are being processed for San Francisco Fleet Week aboard the *USS Carl Vinson* on 7 October, the First "Carrier Classic" basketball game aboard the *USS Carl Vinson* on Veterans Day 11 November and the Change of Command aboard the *USS Carl Vinson* on 2 December. Several other events may show up, currently missing in action in the USPS or the naval postal system.

2011 a great year for sponsoring naval events



Cachet by Rich Hoffner



Cachet by Kay Neuther

Another year comes to a close, and it was a banner year for collectors, covering the U S Navy aircraft carrier Centennial of Naval Aviation (CONA) pictorial postmarks. According to the directions submitted to the Navy mail clerks on the carriers, the postmark is to be used until December 31, 2011.



Cachet by Rich Hoffner

During the period from May 8 to now, many different events were serviced by collectors with the carrier CONA postmarks. If you did a special date or event, please scan your cover to Greg to be uploaded to the Naval Cover Museum for all to enjoy.



Cachet by Rich Hoffner

If you have not covered the carriers for this CONA pictorial postmark, you may be too late, but give it a try anyway. I am sure there will be "late" uses of the CONA pictorial, as there was for the Great White Fleet pictorial used by all ships with postmarks in 2009 (latest use seems to be the LDC of Doyle in 2011). While shipbuilding is on the wane and the DDG contract slowing down as well as submarine construction events, many other events were plentiful, such as submarine anniversaries. The chapter issued approx. 115 event covers in 2011. I expect there will be fewer events to do in 2012.

This is more than we did in 2010. I
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Thank you, one and all



The "hub" of the chapter covers, with some of the chapter covers on the shelving unit.

I thank all of you who assisted with the production of the chapters covers in the past year and look forward to your continued support into 2012. I have prepared a list of possible events for 2012 and will

list the events in the next "Newseyletter".



Outer Banks, NC 2009, Greg C. and yours truly

Thanks to Greg Ciesielski for most of the pictorial cancels issued this year (and last year), Wolfgang Hechler with his computer expertise to provide B&W copies of ships crests, and others who provided guidance and assistance in getting covers properly postmarked (Mike Brock, Tom Armstrong, Dieter Lange, to name a few. Others pitched in with corrections to bad dates and additional events for the 2011 proposed list and I thank you all. We also owe a thank you to the USPS clerks at San Diego, Norfolk and Groton who did the bulk of the hand canceling in the past year.



Where it all happens. New York Fleet Week covers being printed.

"Merry Christmas to all and a
Happy New Year!".....

Rich Hoffner