

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Dedication Day for USS IOWA BB-61 as a museum ship on July 4th for former crew members



Chapter cover for Dedication Day. \$2.25 plus a #10 SASE

The Pacific Battleship Center held an official Dedication Ceremony and open house for former crew members of the USS IOWA who held a reunion the same week the USS IOWA BB-61 opened to the public. Dedication Day was 4 July 2012, and the ship opened to the public on 7 July 2012.

Thousands visit battleship USS Iowa as museum opens in L.A.

By Dana Feldman | Reuters - Sat, Jul 7, 2012



Decatur Chapter cover for opening day. \$2.25 plus #10 SASE

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Thousands of visitors climbed aboard the USS Iowa - its sides draped in red, white and blue ribbons - as the storied battleship that served during World War Two and the Cold War opened as a museum on Saturday at the port of Los Angeles. A B-25 bomber, a P-40 Warhawk and a P-51 Mustang flew over the ship in a triangle formation to mark the first day of public visits. The 887-foot-long (270-meter) USS Iowa was commissioned in 1943 and decommissioned in 1990. It was mothballed in a Northern California port until it could be towed to Los Angeles this year to serve as a museum. The battleship underwent a \$7 million restoration that included

\$3 million from the state of Iowa.



Photo of IOWA in San Pedro prior to dedication

During World War Two, the Iowa ferried President Franklin D. Roosevelt across the perilous Atlantic waters to a historic meeting with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin. It was known as "The Battleship of Presidents" and also as "The Big Stick" for its actions in combat in the Pacific Ocean. Visitors on Saturday scaled gangplanks to board the ship, where some viewed the specially built bath installed on board for Roosevelt, who was partially paralyzed and could not use a shower. Paul Chiappinelli, 86, served as a Navy radio man during World War Two though not aboard the Iowa. "This is the real thing to me, made me feel good to be here today," he said. "I've been waiting for this day." Joe Nishimura, 78, served aboard the Iowa in 1953 when he was 18 years old and received gunnery training as it sailed in the Atlantic Ocean. He said superiors made life "pretty miserable" with all the requirements placed on him. But on Saturday, working his post as a volunteer aboard the ship, Nishimura admitted to feeling nostalgic. "You forget all the bad things and only remember the good," he said. About 1,500 visitors bought tickets in advance to see the ship before it opened and over 1,000 other guests purchased tickets at the counter on Saturday before getting on the 175-foot-tall (53-meter) ship. Pacific Battleship Center, the group that brought the Iowa to Los Angeles from northern California, had called the ship the last of its kind that had not been sunk, scrapped or turned into a museum. The museum will be open daily, except on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

2013 Anniversary and significant event pictorial cancels

This is always a "work in progress" and does not guarantee that any of these will be issued. They are only in the planning stages as of 25 Oct. 2012. It is being circulated in an effort to bring forward any **errors** or to propose additional pictorials for 2013. So, please use due diligence and report any errors or omissions you may find.

- USS City of Corpus Christi SSN-705 30th Anniv. 1-8-13 Groton
- USS Springfield SSN-761, 20th Anniv. 1-9-13 Groton
- USS Montpelier SSN-765, 20th Anniv. 3-13-13 Norfolk
- USS North Carolina SSN-777 5th Anniv. 5-3-13 Norfolk
- USS Albuquerque SSN-706 30th Anniv. 5-21-13 Groton
- USS Norfolk SSN-714, 30th Anniv. 5-21-13 Norfolk
- USS Florida SSGN-728, 30th Anniv. 6-18-13 Groton
- USS Oklahoma City SSN-723 25th Anniv. 7-9-13 Norfolk
- USS Nebraska SSGN-739, 25th Anniv. 7-10-13 Groton
- USS Columbus SSN-762, 20th Anniv. 7-24-13 Groton
- USS San Juan SSN-751, 25th Anniv. 8-6-13 Groton
- USS New Hampshire SSN-778 5th Anniv. 10-25-13 Groton
- USS Buffalo SSN-715, 30th Anniv. 11-5-13 Groton
- USS Hampton SSN-767 20th Anniv. 11-6-13 Norfolk
- USS Connecticut SSN-22 15th Anniv. 12-11-13 Groton
- USS Tennessee SSBN-734, 25th Anniv. 12-17-13 Groton