

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Deposit Balance \$ _____

Coast Guard names new patrol craft after enlisted heroes

From: Bollinger Shipyard website



Artists rendition of Sentinel-class patrol craft

All Fast Response Cutters delivered as part of the Sentinel-class will be named after enlisted Coast Guard heroes.



From USCG website



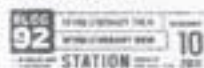
Launch of USCGC William Flores, Bollinger website photo

Additional information about these Coast Guard heroes can be found at <http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/2010/10/coast-guard-heroes/>.

USS Constellation 50th Anniversary pictorial

We have finally solved the mystery of the Brooklyn NY returning a "Building 92" pictorial and not the requested pictorial for the *USS Constellation*. It appears that while the approval

was given for the pictorial cancel, our contact at the main post office in Brooklyn thought it would be a good idea to change the zip to reflect the Pratt Station, the closest Brooklyn post office to the Brooklyn Navy Yard where the aircraft carrier was built. A revised design was provided to the contact at the main post office. Apparently he did not forward any information to Pratt, except to advise me to have covers sent to Pratt and no one placed the order for the postmark.



Brooklyn Navy Yard Center
Station
Postmaster
524 Myrtle Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11205-9997

From USPS Postal Bulletin

In the mean while, another pictorial was submitted to Pratt Station by another organization to note the anniversary of a historic building at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, *Building 92*, dating from 1801. It now houses the Brooklyn Navy Yard Center at Building 92 (a.k.a. BLDG 92) a visitor's center to tour the historic yard. So, covers arriving asking for the *USS Constellation* postmark were canceled with the Building 92 pictorial. They had no knowledge that a *USS Constellation* cancel had been approved, and never checked with anyone. Half of Decatur chapters covers were also done with the Building 92 pictorial. I will come up with a design for these covers when I receive them back since it is the Marine Corps birthday and Bldg 92 was formerly the USMC Commandant's home. But, the *USS Constellation* pictorial is now in place, and you can submit covers to:

Frank T. Schwab
Customer Services, USPS
USS Constellation postmark
1050 Forbell Street
Brooklyn NY 11256

The postmark celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the commissioning of the *USS Constellation CVA-64* on Navy Day Oct. 27, 2011.



50th Anniversary of
Commissioning and
Navy Day
October 27, 2011
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Don't send to the zip in the postmark.

Chapter converting to new envelope paper

The chapter will be changing the paper and fold style of the envelope we currently use. We are switching to a "cougar" paper, a paper that will be digital compatible, in the near future. We will still produce our covers on a Kelsey letterpress, hand printed one at a time. The new envelope will be in place when we exhaust our supply of the current 25% cotton 24# substance envelope. The new envelopes will also not have glue on the flaps. I have tested these on the Kelsey letterpress and on my HP printer, with good results. They have also been tested by the USPS to see if they were compatible with their color digital postmarks, and they passed with flying colors. It will be several months before you see the new envelope.

USS Memphis SSN-691 to be officially decommissioned

While the *USS Memphis* Decommissioning Ceremony (Deactivation) was held at Groton CT on 1 April 2011, the sub then sailed to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth NH, with a small crew, to have her reactor removed. The process is to be completed in January and she will be officially decommissioned. As soon as I know the date, chapter covers will be processed. **Late Note:** Date was 20 January 2012.