

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Deposit Balance \$ _____

House - bill introduced re National Icebreaker Fund

From Bryant's Marine Blog July 29, 2015

Representative Hunter (R-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 3214) to amend title 14, United States Code, to establish the National Icebreaker Fund to pay the costs of construction, alteration, renovation, lease, or charter of icebreakers for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available.

Boeing's yellow submarine: The new vessel, built in Huntington Beach, can dive down to 20,000 feet

Orange County Register 7-29-15



Boeing photo

Echo Seeker is a fully autonomous unmanned underwater vehicle developed by Boeing's Advanced Technology Program in Huntington Beach. The 32-foot-long vehicle provides ample payload capacity and energy for diving and operating at ocean depths to 20,000 feet. Boeing expects to lease the vessel for oil exploration and government projects. Cost of the vehicle or lease fees were not released.

Latest USPS Postal Bulletin shows no USCG pictorials for U. S. Coast Guard 225th Anniversary

The latest USPS Postal Bulletin dated August 6th shows no pictorials approved thus far for the U S Coast Guard's 225 Anniversary for August 4th. Sad. According to some sources, perhaps the blame lies with the USCG, who according to the USPS, said there would only be one celebration for the Anniversary on Aug. 4, the one held at USCG HQ in Washington DC for the issuance of the USCG forever postage stamp. Sad indeed, since the stamp was issued nationwide on August 4th, and what better way to celebrate for collectors then to have had the ability to get covers done with the pictorial the USPS itself created and even revised. My last ditch effort to try to understand why various attempts across the country

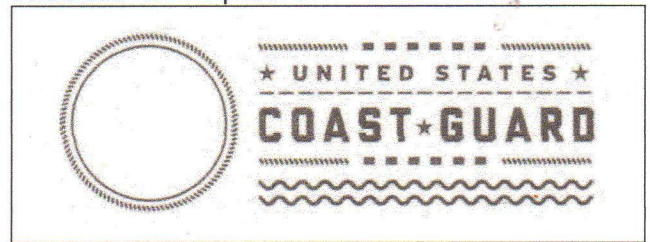
for pictorials was thwarted came down to the USPS using the USCG as the excuse not to officially issue any pictorials on Aug. 4th. Apparently, USCG pictorials are OK on any day but August 4th. Two post offices in Coast Guard designated cities, offered Aug 5th cancels. I turned them down, since the date is one day late!



The above was the preliminary design released by the USPS for their digital color postmark. The revised design replaces the crossed anchors with a star. It is unknown why the crossed anchors were removed. At least not publicly. I am sure the USPS had a reason.

The USPS has offered two postmarks for Washington DC for First Day of Issue covers. One is a color digital design and the other is a standard four line First Day of Issue postmark. Fee for color digital cancels is 50c per cover, and a minimum of 10 covers must be sent.

We may see some cities with official celebrations as the month or months go forward and perhaps the officially approved pictorial may be used for those celebrations. The postmark I refer to is below:



Three New Subs Grounded

Naval Sea Systems Command has restricted three of the newest Virginia-class submarines (SSN-774) due to questionable welding in piping instrumental in connecting the boats' nuclear reactors to its propulsion system. According to a statement provided to USNI News on Wednesday, NAVSEA confirmed USS *Minnesota* (SSN-783), USS *North Dakota* (SSN-784) and USS *John Warner* (SSN-785) are currently being inspected for faulty welding.

Check out the naval items on eBay. Proceeds go to Decatur Chapter. Seller: **CGCOVERGUY**

Information published here is not guaranteed.

Visit the Universal Ship Cancellation Society web site at: www.uscs.org/