

Decatur Chapter #4 Newseyletter

Stephen Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS
Richard F. Hoffner, USCS # H-4456, Chapter Cachet Director
415 Moyer Road, Souderton, PA 18964-2319

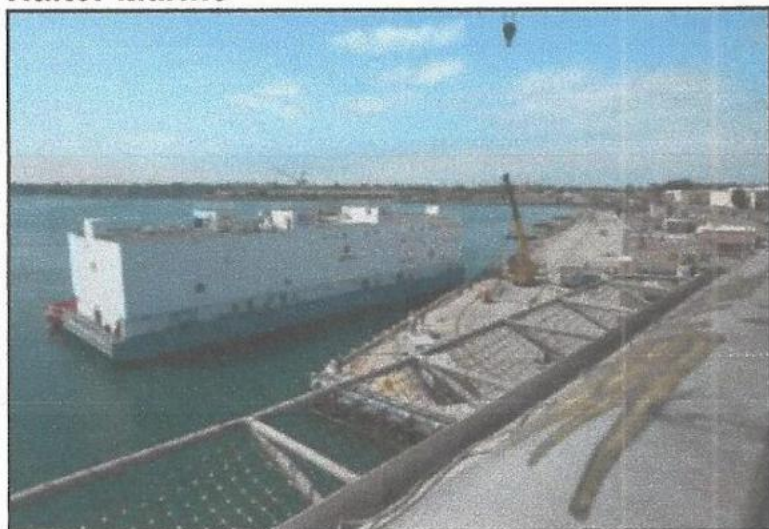
Phone: 215-721-8606 (home) 215-622-0139 (cell)

e-mail: pauscg@gmail.com

Decatur Chapter Meeting Notice

Date: March 16, 2019
Time: 1 PM
Location: Benjamin Wilson Senior Citizens Center
580 Delmont Ave, Warminster PA 18974
Bucks-Mont Stamp Show 9 AM to 4 PM

US Navy orders more barracks ships from VT Halter Marine



The US Naval Sea Systems Command has awarded VT Halter Marine a \$39.8 million contract for the construction of additional units of the new class of barracks ships, the Auxiliary Personnel Lighter – Small (APL(S)). VT Halter Marine received a \$77.9 million contract in September 2018 to design and build the first two units. This contract modification is for the first of four additional craft that will be built. As these craft are similar to accommodation barges used in the commercial oil and gas industry, APL(S) are being acquired as a commercial item.

Fast Frigates – Guided Missile (FFG's) are coming back



Artist's rendering of the Austal USA FFG(X) bid from SNA 2019. Austal USA Image

The U S Navy, while embracing two variants of the LCS for many years, may be conceding that the LCS class of ships are under armed and under armored.

To this end, contracts are about to be let to build ten new FFG class vessels. Our complete fleet of FFG's were decommissioned in the last decade. Some were transferred to foreign navy's but the void was there. Five shipyards are said to be preparing bids on the new FFG's. Huntington Ingalls Industries, Austal USA, Lockheed Martin, Fincantieri Marine and General Dynamics Bath Iron Works were awarded \$15 million each last year to refine their own frigate parent designs.

Recent pictorial postmarks submitted by myself and Wolfgang Hechler to the USPS.



Commissioning Sta.



January 19, 2019
Honolulu, HI 96818



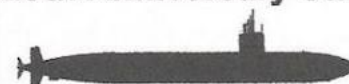
Commissioning Sta.



January 12, 2019
Mayport Naval Station
Jacksonville, FL 32228



25th Anniversary Sta.



Jan 8, 2019
Groton CT 06340

Check out covers on eBay with proceeds going to Decatur Chapter. Seller is cgcoverguy on eBay.