



Support America's Away Team: Commissioning USS Cooperstown



History of Ship Commissionings

The commissioning ceremony has been a tradition in the U.S. Navy since December 1775, when the Alfred, the first ship of the Continental Navy, was commissioned at Philadelphia. It is one of the most significant milestones in the life of a ship as it marks her acceptance as a unit of the operating forces of the United States Navy. Brought to life after ship naming, keel laying, christening and launching, time-honored Naval customs and traditions help welcome a warship into the fleet.

USS Cooperstown



USS Cooperstown is the first naval ship named to honor the 70 baseball Hall of Famers who served the United States during wartime in a range of conflicts that spanned the Civil War, World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

Ship Information:

Type of ship: Freedom-class littoral combat ship (LCS). LCS is a fast, agile, mission-focused class of Small Surface Combatants armed with capabilities focused on defeating global challenges and providing joint force access in near-shore environments. LCS can operate independently or in high-threat environments as part of a networked battle force that includes larger, multi-mission surface combatants.

Builder: Lockheed Martin and Fincantieri Marinette Marine

Overall Length: 351 ft

Extreme Beam: 58 ft

Waterline Length: 351 ft

Waterline Beam: 48 ft

Speed: 40+ knots

Crew Complement: Alternating crews of 75 Sailors each include core and mission-specific crews.



Commissioning Ceremony Line-Up Senior Participant:

The Honorable Carlos Del Toro, 78th Secretary of the Navy

Ship Sponsor: Alba Tull

Mrs. Tull is a multi-disciplined fine art gallery and commercial photographer and film director. Her work in film includes serving as an executive producer for the acclaimed baseball documentary, *Fast Ball*. She is also the co-founder of the Tull Family Foundation and serves on the board of directors of Pittsburgh's Carnegie Science Center, The Jackie Robinson Foundation, and the AC Roma Soccer Team. She is an ambassador for the UCLA Division of Digestive Diseases and is a member of Carnegie Mellon University's Highlands Circle.

Honorary Ship Sponsor: Jane Forbes Clark

Jane Forbes Clark is Chairman of the Board of Directors of The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. She has been a member of the board since 1992 and Chairman since 2000. Clark is currently Chairman of Bassett Medical Center and a Director of the Bassett Healthcare Network. She also serves as President of The Farmers' Museum, The Clark Foundation, The Scriven Foundation and The Clara Welch Thanksgiving Home as well as a Trustee of the Fenimore Art Museum. She was a Trustee, Past President and CEO of the United States Equestrian Federation.

Commissioning Committee The New York Council Navy League and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum are leading a community-wide group of volunteers and corporate sponsors.

Commissioning Celebration Batting Order

Thursday, May 4: Captain's Reception

- Location: The New York Yacht Club
- Time: 6:00 P.M.
- Guest Estimate: 100 attendees

Friday, May 5: Sponsors' Luncheon (post ceremony rehearsal)

- Location: TBD
- Time: 12:00 p.m.
- Guest Estimate: 50 attendees

Friday, May 5: Chairman's Dinner

- Location: The Edison Ballroom
- Time: 6:00 P.M.
- Guest Estimate: 300 attendees

Saturday, May 6: Distinguished Visitor Platform Breakfast

- Location: Pier 88
- Time: 8:00 A.M.
- Guest Estimate: 50 attendees

Saturday, May 6: Commissioning Ceremony

- Location: Pier 88
- Time: 10:00 A.M.
- Guest Estimate: 2,500 attendees

Saturday, May 6: Post-Commissioning Reception

- Location: Pier 88
- Time: Immediately after ceremony
- Guest Estimate: Open to all ceremony attendees

We are also planning a potential Yankees or Mets game for crew members and their families on either May 2, 3 or 7.



Join the All-Star Team of Corporate Sponsors



For more information on how you can support USS Cooperstown, contact our Council's Executive Director Jessica Hitchen at jhitchen@nynavyleague.org or by telephone at 212-825-7333, x1.