



Editor's Note: As some of you may have noticed, we did not publish a March edition of Scuttlebutt. We regret the hole this may have created in your pandemic-driven routine. But we're back, so grab your glasses and let's get underway!

**We Have a
New Look!**

We've made some changes to Scuttlebutt this month but we think you will find your newsletter easier to read and access. Your email will contain some brief descriptions of the month's content with the full version of your newsletter available by simply clicking the Scuttlebutt's image at the bottom of the page.

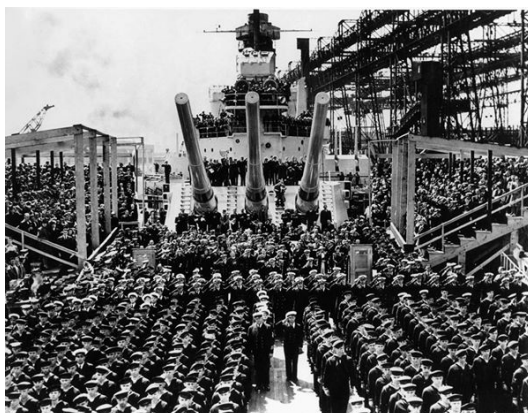
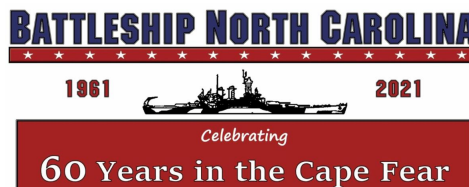
You will need a .pdf reader to view the full version of Scuttlebutt. Most computers and mobile devices already have a reader installed, but if you do not have one, you can download one for free from your Windows, Apple, or Android store.

In the April Scuttlebutt

Friends Kick-off Countdown to 60th

An April 9 press event helped mark the 80th anniversary of the Battleship's commissioning and also kicked off six months of events to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the "Showboat" arriving in Wilmington.

See what the Friends have planned to celebrate the Showboat's "60 Years in the Cape Fear."



USS North Carolina Joins the Fleet - April 9, 1941

USS North Carolina becomes the first of a new breed of battleship - one with superior firepower and still able to keep up with the aircraft carriers.

It also took a special breed of men to serve and operate the massive warship. North Carolina's first Commanding Officer, Captain Olaf Hustvedt, was such a man.

Kingfisher Rescues 10

On April 29, 1944 LT(jg) John Burns pilots one of North Carolina's Kingfishers to the lagoon at Truk Atoll. By the



end of the day, he had rescued 10 airmen and delivered them safely to an awaiting U.S. submarine.

Read LT Burns' first-hand account of that day's action.

Plus:

Talk Like a Sailor, Did you Know, and much, much more

Click the image for your [April Scuttlebutt](#)



What's Happening on the Showboat?

Friends Kick-off Countdown to 60th Anniversary
A recent press conference celebrated the Battleship North Carolina's arrival in the last phase of commemorating a significant event in the ship's history while starting the countdown to a milestone occurring 60th year.

The April 9 press event marked the 80th anniversary of the Battleship's commissioning and kicked off an month of events to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the "Showboat" among other things.

The events, sponsored by the Friends of the Battleship North Carolina, will feature a flag, historic photo gallery, and museum guide, including the history and legacy of the "Showboat." Friends chairman Richard Dale led the ceremony.

Events on top during selected weekends over the coming six months include:

- "Be the Flag"** events invite the public to raise a 6-foot-tall flag, 10x10 feet in size, with their own hand-drawn messages. On these days, guests will have first-hand experience raising their own flag, and the crew of the Battleship North Carolina will be on hand to assist. It's not just a flag, it's a message. They will also hear about the sailors who made up the 2,000 crew members as well as gain insight into the ship's history and the ship's great 60th year.
- "Raise the Flag"** weekends will provide visitors an opportunity to take home an American flag from the Battleship. Flags will be available for a 30-day duration, or visitors can donate their own American flag to be "raised" over the Battleship. Raised by local citizens and local organizations, participants will learn how to properly raise and display the flag and will receive a certificate of authenticity, with the date the flag was flown, signed by retired Navy Captain Terry Hogg, Executive Director of the Battleship.

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