

USS TED STEVENS (DDG 128)

COMING 2026



LEARN MORE
[USSTEDSTEVENS.ORG](https://usstedstevens.org)



Who Is Ted Stevens?



- Army Air Corps Pilot in WWII in China/India/Burma Theater
- Worked way through college, attended law school on GI Bill
- US Attorney in Fairbanks (1950s)
- Solicitor of Department of the Interior – fought for Statehood
- Alaska State House, 1964 – 1968
- United States Senator for Alaska, 1968 – 2008
- Father of six
- “Nutritional Terrorist”



State Capitol
Portrait



US Capitol Portrait

Sculptor Joan Bugbee Jackson
Cordova, Alaska

Unveiled February 2019

Look for...

- China-India-Burma WWII Patch
- President Pro Tempore Seal
- Magnuson Stevens Act
- Fountain pen



Statue at Ted Stevens
International Airport



What Comes Next...

The Story of Ted Stevens is also your story!



USS TED STEVENS (DDG 128)

Ceremonial Milestones

The life of a Naval Ship

- **Ship Naming – 6 Jan 2019**
- **Keel Laying – 9 Mar 2022**
- **Christening – 19 Aug 2023**
- **Commissioning - May/June 2026**
- **Decommissioning –**





Ship's Sponsors

- Ship was named by the Secretary of the U.S. Navy on 6 Jan 2019
- **USS Ted Stevens Ship's Sponsors** are **Catherine Stevens, Lily Stevens-Becker** and **Susan Covich**
- **Sponsor(s)** play an important role in the life of the ship
- **Sponsor(s)** are the official participants in the ship's ceremonial milestones
- **Tradition states** that the Sponsor imparts her spirit into the Ship and Crew.

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KEEL LAYING CEREMONY - 9 MAR 2022



Credit: Luis Solis/ US Navy

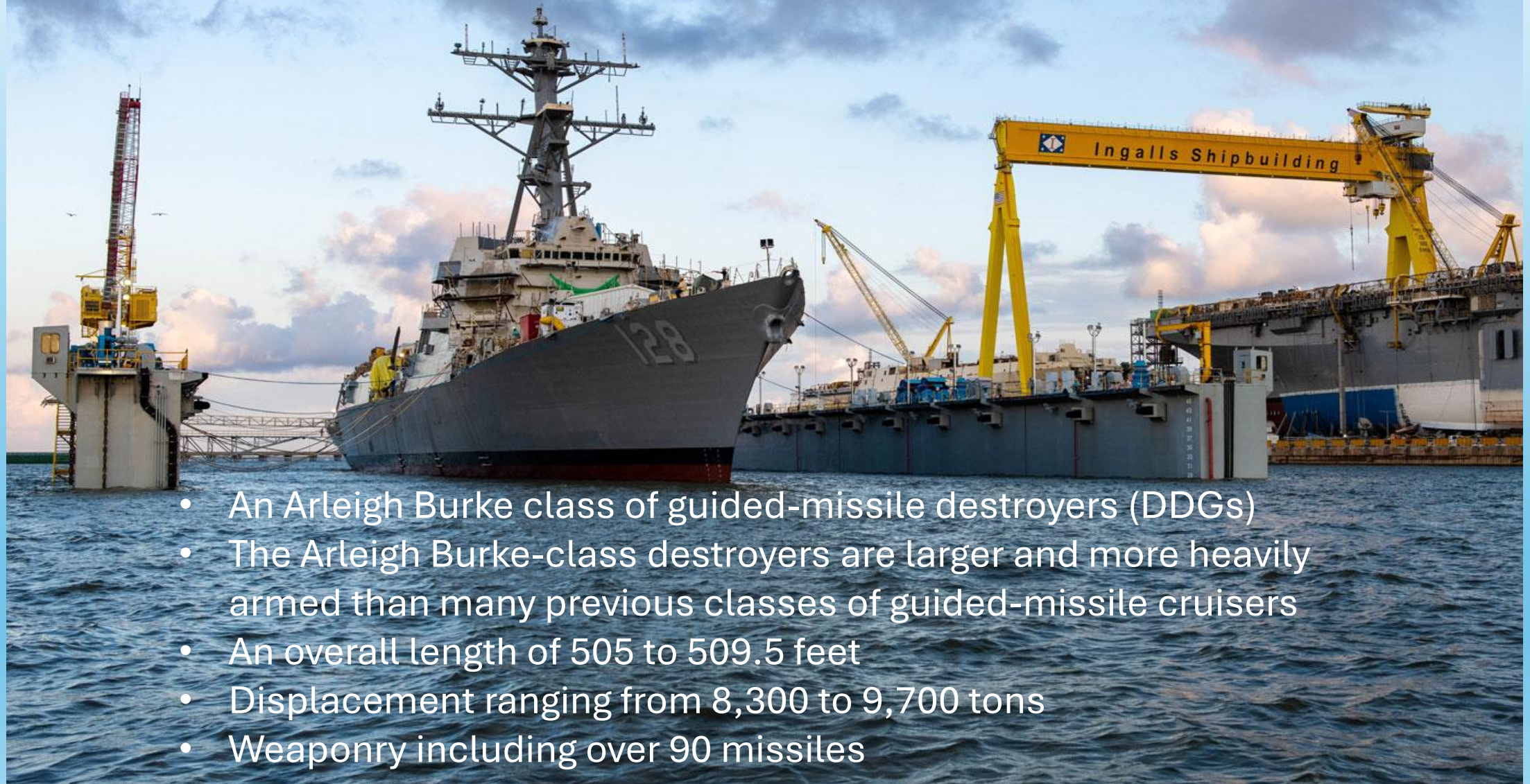
Meet Our PCO

Capt. Mary Katey Hays

- Received her Commission from US Naval Academy 1999
- Modern Standard Arabic – Defense Language Institute 2004
- With distinction Master of Arts in National Security Affairs from Naval Post Graduate School 2005
- Sea Assignments: Damage Control Assistant and Navigator USS Milius, Engineer Officer USS Carey DDG 64, USS Antietam CG54. EO and CO USS Decatur DDG 73 and Deputy Commodore COMDESRON TWO SIX
- LEGION OF MERIT
- BRONZE STAR MEDAL
- MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
- NAVY AND MARINE CORPS COMMENDATION MEDAL
- NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL



“THE MOST POWERFUL WARSHIP IN THE WORLD”



- An Arleigh Burke class of guided-missile destroyers (DDGs)
- The Arleigh Burke-class destroyers are larger and more heavily armed than many previous classes of guided-missile cruisers
- An overall length of 505 to 509.5 feet
- Displacement ranging from 8,300 to 9,700 tons
- Weaponry including over 90 missiles

Where is the USS Ted Stevens (DDG128)?

- **Ship is currently in Pascagoula Mississippi** at the Huntington Ingalls Shipyard– USS Ted Stevens is just under 90% completion.
- **150+ crew members** have been assigned to the ship and are currently working on the ship preparing for completion of the ship and to test all systems.



- **Estimated date** for sea-trials to begin is early 2026.
- **Request for Commissioning plan** to travel from Mississippi to Alaska has been delivered with a tentative approval. PCO states the request for the Commissioning to be held in Whittier with requested stops in other ports in Juneau is currently under final review.

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USS TED STEVENS (DDG 128)

CHRISTENING –
19 AUG 2023



USS Ted Stevens – Christening 19 Aug 2023

Lead With Courage!



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What is a Navy Commissioning?

- A traditional ceremonial milestone in the life of a ship. It represents the formal acceptance of the ship by the United States Navy and her entry into the active fleet.
- The Navy has neither the authorization nor funding to conduct traditional and celebratory events other than the Commissioning ceremony itself.



The United States Ship Ted Stevens Commissioning Committee

USSTSCC – 501(C)3

The **USS Ted Stevens Commissioning Committee(s)** acts as the **Facilitator and Civilian Liaison** between the **U.S. Navy** and the

- Program Executive Office Ships (PEO)
- Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO)
- Ship's Crew
- The Commissioning Community and/or Communities
- Facilitator of All Events except the Commissioning Ceremony



Key Stakeholders

- Ted Stevens Foundation
- Ship's Sponsors
- USS Ted Stevens Commissioning Committee 501(c)(3)
- U.S. Navy - PCO
- Program Executive Office Ships
- Communities involved in the Celebratory Events
- Citizens of Alaska



Key Players / Organizations

PCO, PEO, USSTSCC BOD & Sub-Committees

Strong Communication and Coordination between the key players through all phases of planning and execution is the key to a successful Commissioning.

PROTOCOLS

- **PCO – Prospective Commanding Officer** has ultimate influence over the Commissioning Committee and works under recommendations of the Committee as well as selecting the location of the Commissioning.
- **PEO – Program Executive Office Ships** has financial and oversight responsibility for the execution of the Commissioning Ceremony but not the surrounding celebrations, receptions, etc. They report to the Naval Sea Systems Command for execution of in-service support and work closely with the Commissioning BOD and sub-committees.
- **Judge Advocate General (JAG)** - Ensures Standard of Conduct and ethics requirements are met. Provide advice to the PCO and Commissioning Committee regarding gifts to the ship and crew.
- **Navy Security** – Assigned Security Office is responsible for planning and providing security for the ceremony. Provide advice to Commissioning Committee on access, transportation restrictions and parking.
- **Protocol Office** - Responsible for planning and executing the Commissioning Ceremony
- **USSTSCC** – United States Ship Ted Stevens Commissioning Committee

USSTSCC Structure - Board of Directors

Cherie Curry, President

Captain Brian Quin, Chair

Chuck Kopp, Vice President

Lily Stevens Becker, Secretary

Nic Cohen, Treasurer

Greg Chapados, GCI

General Joseph Ralston, Retired USAF

The Honorable Sean O'Keefe, Former Secretary of the Navy

Robin Phillips, Special Assistant, Ted Stevens Foundation



USSTSCC Structure – Executive Committee

Members include the Acting Chair(s) of the following Sub-Committees

- Fundraising
- Finance
- Gifts
- Merchandise*
- Events
- Invitations**
- Public / Media Affairs
- Ship Liaison***
- Security
- Transportation / Logistics
- Cultural
- Endowment

*Merchandise sales are under strict guidelines and must be coordinated with the ship's crew and follow Navy trademarks and merchandising resale guidelines. All items for fundraising and resale developed must be approved by the BOD after approval by the Ship's Sponsors.

**Invitations – this committee will send invitations to local events hosted by the Commissioning Committee. The actual Commissioning Ceremony invitations will be sent by the U.S. Navy and is a by invitation only ceremony.

*** This committee may consist of retired, active and reserve personnel. Current Ship Liaison is Master Chief Eric Zimmerman, Anchorage

SITE SELECTION VISIT 19-23 MAY

2024





Museums



First Class Aurora Car - AKRR

FJORDS & FISHING SEWARD





WHITTIER



WHITTIER

WHITTIER – HUNA TOTEM TERMINAL



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND MUSEUM



USS TED COMMISSIONING WEEK EVENTS



- **Commissioning Committee Reception**

Committee funded / Held onboard the Ship.

- **Ship's Sponsors Luncheon**

Committee funded / arranged by Ship – invitation only

- **President's Reception**

Committee funded-up to 1000 guests with program, gifts, acknowledgements by invitation only

- **Dress Rehearsal / Media Day**

Led by Navy - Private - Committee Members and Media must be invited to attend

- **VIP Ship Tour**

Invitation only for Committee Members, donors and other special guests.

- **VIP Breakfast / Platform Briefing Assembly Breakfast**

Committee funded – 125 guests. Invitation by Navy only.

- **Commissioning Ceremony**

By Naval Invitation Only. Navy controls and manages the invitations to the ceremony. Dictated by size, security, access, seating numbers and other restrictions.

- **Post Commissioning Reception**

Less structured, open to the public. Type of event to be determined.

- **Public Ship Tours**

Schedule to be determined by PCO

USS TED COMMISSIONING WEEK CREW EVENTS



Crew and Family Activities

- Block parties for the Crew
- Dinners for Watch Standers
- Railroad Excursions / Seward
- Fishing / Sightseeing Excursions
- Museum Tours
- Trips to Girdwood / Anchorage

Public Ship Tours

Other Events TBD & as approved

Questions?

USS TED STEVENS
COMMISSIONING
COMMITTEE

joinus@usstedstevens.org

