

U.S.S. SLATER DE 766
Destroyer Escort Historical Museum
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MEDIA NEWS MEMO

DATE: June 13, 2011
TO: Assignment & Calendar Editors
CONTACT: Rosehn Gipe, Marketing Coordinator
EVENT: Destroyer Escort Day in Albany
DATE & TIME: **Saturday, June 18, 2011, 9:30 a.m.**
PLACE: USS SLATER

SIGNIFICANCE: The third Saturday in June is recognized and celebrated nationwide as Destroyer Escort Day. On this day we pay homage to the Destroyer Escort sailors killed in World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Cold War years and to the ten Destroyer Escort ships lost in action. There will be a ceremony to honor and remember Destroyer Escorts and their sailors at 9:30 a.m. at USS SLATER. Expected to attend are Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings, Rensselaer County Executive Kathy Jimino and New York State Senator Neil Breslin.

Over 150,000 men served in destroyer escorts during World War II and through the Vietnam War. Their numbers are dwindling each year, but several of these veterans will be present to remember their lost shipmates. USS SLATER, now being considered for National Landmark status, is the last DE afloat in America. She is a fitting tribute to so many sailors who gave so much for their country in its time of need.

The first Destroyer Escort Day was held at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City on June 16, 1990. Destroyer Escort Day is celebrated by the Destroyer Escort Historical Museum and all of the Destroyer Escort Sailors Association Chapters nationwide. Each Chapter prepares and conducts its own program to honor the ships and crews. The Albany ceremony is sponsored by the Capital District Chapter of DESA and USS SLATER Volunteers. The event will be commemorated with Taps and a volley from USS SLATER's cannon.

The SLATER is located on the Hudson River in Downtown Albany just south of the Dunn Memorial Bridge. Regular public hours for the ship are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-14.

Call 518-431-1943 for more information or visit our website at www.ussslater.org.

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