



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PRESS RELEASE

### *APRIL 14 TO FEATURE USS ALABAMA CREWMEN'S REUNION AND MORE*

**Mobile, Alabama, April 14, 2017** – Now Hear This! Battleship Memorial Park is preparing for our annual USS ALABAMA Crewmen's Association Reunion on Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14. It will be all hands on deck as we prepare to welcome these real life heroes back to their ship.

"The USS ALABAMA Crewmen's Reunion weekend is the highlight of our year here at Battleship Memorial Park," stated Janet Cobb, executive director. "We have six living crewmen inbound with their families and friends. Two are coming from Pennsylvania, two from Maryland, one from Illinois and one from Alabama."

"The USS ALABAMA Battleship Commission honors these special men with a luncheon aboard the USS ALABAMA, and then they hold their annual banquet at a hotel downtown," explained Cobb. "We are so fortunate to have this many WWII crewmen back with us to share their wartime stories."

In celebration of our Crewmen's Reunion weekend, a host of events will take place:

The Dixie Division Military Vehicles Show will open on Friday, April 13, 8:00 a.m. and continue through Saturday afternoon, April 14, 4:00 p.m.

The show will be located in the picnic area on the park's grounds and will

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feature antique and vintage military vehicles. A swap meet is included. The show is free of charge with \$4 park entry fee to the grounds.

The Mobile Big Band Society will be performing a concert from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in the Aircraft Pavilion. Come enjoy the swinging sounds of the 1940s as these talented musicians entertain. The concert is included with admission.

The USS ALABAMA Living History Crew will be aboard ship Saturday, April 14 and Sunday, April 15. These dedicated historical reenactors will be dressed in authentic uniforms, including some of the ship's original uniform items. The crew tell stories of our original crewmen, raise the Colors every morning at 8:00 a.m., conduct weaponry demonstrations and emergency drills. On Saturday afternoon at 1:00 p.m., there will be a call to battle stations, complete with the firing of the ship's 20mm and 40mm guns.

The Black Ducks, a group of WWII L-Bird airplanes, will be performing flying demonstrations on Saturday in conjunction with the Living History Crew reenactments. This is the first time that the L-Birds will be at Battleship Memorial Park.

On Sunday, April 15, St. Luke's Episcopal School Band will perform a concert under the big guns on the fantail of the USS ALABAMA at Noon.

Battleship Memorial Park will open at 8:00 a.m. daily. Admission is free for children under 5, \$6 for children 6 to 11, and \$15 for children 12 through adults. There is a \$4 Park Entry Fee per car. For more information visit [www.ussalabama.com](http://www.ussalabama.com). or follow us on facebook at USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park.

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