

The Acton-Agua Dulce Amateur Radio Club (AADARC) Visits Battleship Iowa

Local AADARC members and guests recently visited one of the few remaining World War II and Korean War Era Naval ships in San Pedro, CA, as a club event on November 19th 2016. The Battleship Iowa offers a close-up and personal view of what life looked like onboard these vessels when they served our nation seven decades ago. The ship was officially decommissioned in 1990 and placed in reserve status from 1999 until 2005. The ship underwent significant refurbishment effort prior to relocation to her current berth in San Pedro in 2012.

The Battleship Iowa Amateur Radio Association (BIARA) club president, Doug Dowds, hosted a 2 hour tour of the Battleship Iowa culminating in a visit to the ship's communication radio shack. AADARC club members with guests were given a personal tour of the ship's operational and crew's quarters along with the history that made this ship so special. The group was captivated by the size of the ship's armament with its 16 inch guns, the narrative of the onboard stay by President Roosevelt and its command role as the flag ship for Admiral Halsey during World War II. The ship hosted later visits by both President Reagan and George H.W. Bush. During its peak operational role more than 2000 crew members occupied this floating arsenal.

To wrap up the tour, the HAM operators from our group were allowed to use equipment on board and "get on the air" from the "Comm Shack" and spend time talking with other HAM operators in the outside world. What a great treat and a trip down memory lane for those of us that served aboard ships like this as we fought to protect our country and freedom.

For those that wish to take a tour and see this treasure firsthand in San Pedro, go to the attached link to find out details for a visit.

<http://www.pacificbattleship.com/battleship-iowa-app>



AADARC Club Members and Guests in Front of the 16 inch
Forward Mounted Gun Turret 3



AADARC Club Members and Guests “Green Screened” in Front of the 16 inch Forward Mounted Guns Firing

Anyone interested in finding out how to become a member of AADARC or simply interested in how we support the community can contact us at info@disasterplanning.com or find us on facebook at Acton-Agua Dulce Amateur Radio Club. President- Gary Hebdon, Vice President- Terrell Hasker, Treasurer- Brian Basura