

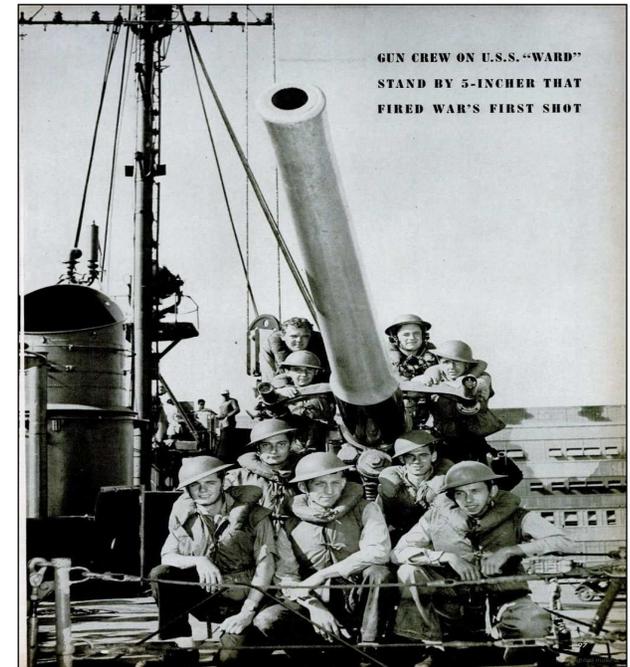
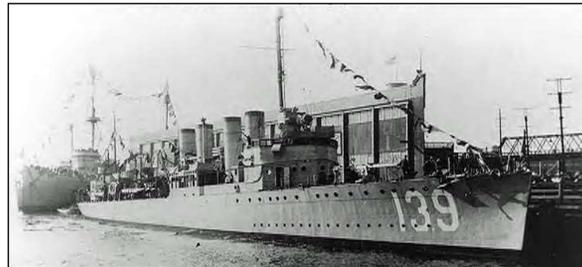
Special Event Station NØW

South East Metro Amateur Radio Club Remembers the Destroyer USS Ward (DD-139)

On May 4, 2020, members of the South East Metro Amateur Radio Club (SEMARC), gathered to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the placement of the USS Ward memorial on the State Capitol Grounds in St. Paul, Minnesota. The memorial honors those Naval Reservists from Minnesota who served on the Ward, including the St. Paul gunnery team responsible for firing the first American shots in World War II. SEMARC was honored to have five of its members, who served in the Navy or Coast Guard, participate in the planning and execution of the special event station, NØW.

The USS Ward was a Wickes-class destroyer originally commissioned during World War I and later commissioned as a high-speed transport during World War II. Early on the morning of December 7, 1941, the Ward was on patrol at the entrance to Pearl Harbor when it encountered, and subsequently sank, a Japanese minisub attempting to follow a commercial ship through the submarine nets at the entrance to the harbor. It took two shots from her 4"- 50 caliber gun to sink the sub. The first shot was off the mark but the second passed through the conning tower of the sub and successfully sunk it. Less than 2 hours after engaging the submarine, Japanese air craft began the assault on Pearl Harbor.

In October 1944, the Ward began her participation in the Leyte invasion. On December 7, 1944, three years after its actions at Pearl Harbor, the Ward was severely damaged by a Japanese air attack, when an enemy aircraft struck her midships necessitating her scuttling. The Ward was sunk by the USS O'Brien, commanded by Captain William Outerbridge, who captained the Ward three years earlier at the entrance to Pearl Harbor.



IMPORTANT CHANGE:

Because of pandemic restrictions, the dates of event were May 4, 8, and 9 of 2020.

Operations were relocated to operators homes rather than the planned site.

Operators were, Dick NØUC, Art NØIQW, Ryc KDØZWM, Dave KEØHAL, John KAØHYR, Dave KDØIRF, and Brian NØBM.



Special Event Location Details
St. Paul 55155 44.951570°
Ramsey County - Minnesota - USA -93.103782°
Grid Square EN34kw Elevation 895 Feet

South East Metro Amateur Radio Club
1655 - 68th Street West
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077-2222

Souvenir
Participation
Certificate