



CONTACT INFO

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WELCOME ABOARD
USS DENVER (LPD 9)





Commanding Officer
Michael Donnelly
CAPT, USN



Executive Officer
James Bird
LCDR, USN



Command Master Chief
Edwin Purdy
CMDMCM, USN



- Sixth Austin-class amphibous transport dock ship
- Third ship to bear the name USS Denver
- Named after the U.S. city Denver, Colorado
- Propulsion: Two 650-lb Boilers, Two Main Engines, Four Ship's Service Turbogenerators, and Two Ship's Emergency Diesel Generators
- Speed: 21 knots
- Complement: 30 officers, 400 enlisted, 900 Marines



- Well and flight deck capabilities:
 - 1 LCAC or 1 LCU or 24 AAVS
 - 6 CH-46 or 3 CH-53 helicopters
- Launched: January 23, 1965
- Commissioned: October 26, 1968
- Homeported in Sasebo, Japan since 2008



- U.S. Navy's only forward-deployed LPD
- Part of Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 7
- Port visits include:
 - Guam
 - Malaysia
 - Hong Kong
 - Philippines
 - Australia
 - Dili
- Recent activity
 - Fall Patrol 2013
 - Talisman Saber 2013
 - CMAV 3A1 2013
 - Cobra Gold 2014
 - Certex 2014
- Recent Awards
 - Retention Excellence Award 2013

Ship Details

Commanding Officer's Bio

Captain Michael "Buzz" Donnelly is a native of Kent Island, Maryland. In 1989 he graduated with a bachelor of mechanical engineering degree from Villanova University and was commissioned via the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC). He holds a master of arts in national security studies and strategic affairs from the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

A naval flight officer, Donnelly deployed with both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, including tours flying the F-14 with Fighter Squadron THREE THREE (VF-33) "Starfighters" in USS AMERICA (CV 66), VF-103 "Sluggers" in USS SARATOGA (CV 60), and VF-31 "Tomcatters" in USS LINCOLN (CVN 72). Flying the F/A-18F, he served as executive and then commanding officer of Strike Fighter Squadron ONE FIVE FOUR (VFA-154) "Black Knights" in USS STENNIS (CVN 74). He served as executive officer in USS NIMITZ (CVN 68).

Ashore, Donnelly served as an F-14 instructor with VF-101 "Grim Reapers" and as executive officer of VFA-122 "Flying Eagles." Additionally, he served on the International Military Staff at NATO Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium and as Naval Aviation's F/A-18 Requirements Officer on the OPNAV Staff (N88) at the Pentagon.

Captain Donnelly has over 3000 flight hours and over 990 carrier landings in the F-14A, B and D, and F/A-18F. His decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medals, Strike Flight Medals, Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medals.

Captain Donnelly is married to the former Caroline McMillin of Fredricksburg, Virginia. They have four daughters: Elisabeth, Sarah, Mary Logan, and Margaret.