



Dear Fellow Companions,

This is my last report to you as Commander General. Needless to say, it has been a singular privilege to serve you in that position. Walking in the footsteps of Admiral George Dewey and many other esteemed Companions of the past is a truly humbling experience. After being in the position of Commander General, I can vouch for the esteem carried by the office, and the many privileges and opportunities it offers the incumbent to meet and associate with national leaders. Conversing with our Distinguished Sea Service Awardees, such as Admiral Fargo and General Pace, as but one example, provided unique opportunity to more deeply understand the breadth and depth of the responsibilities they carried. And finally, the genuine support and teamwork of the Officers, the guidance of the General Council, and the advice of former Commander Generals were both invaluable and inspiring.

When I began my term, I set forth priorities on which I wanted to focus. I referred to them as the three "M's"; Mission, Membership and Money. Looking back I think we have made positive strides in all these areas.

In the Mission area, thanks to the efforts of Captain Kent Siegel, we have nearly completed the project to place an Historic Marker at the Statue of Commodore John Barry in Washington's Franklin Park. The Marker will be dedicated next March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, in commemoration of Commodore Barry's Irish heritage.



Captain Dave Kaiser has completed the development of the Normandy Monument "Honor Book". This book will become our official record and history of the Normandy Monument Project. It contains both a visual and textual accounts of the whole project from beginning to end. The history was magnificently written by our Historian General, Dr. Bill Dudley. The book also contains the names of all the donors to the Monument.

Finally, we have begun the campaign to build a memorial statue to Admiral Chester Nimitz, arguably the greatest U.S. Naval Officer of the 20th century. The Nimitz project will be discussed, and our direction forward further refined at our forthcoming Congress. There is considerable interest in this project from the Nimitz Library and Museum in Fredericksburg, Texas and the Pacific WWII/Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

Regarding Memberships, last year at our Congress it was reported that we

passed the 1800 member threshold, for the first time in over a decade. This progress is due in large part to the great leadership of Don Schuld, our Vice Commander General for Membership. Based on the new member reports I regularly receive from our Registrar General, Frank Green, I am confident that our Membership has increased even further.

Finally, regarding money, our annual appeals have met with modest success. I would simply ask that you do what you can. Also, consider other avenues for giving such as our Benefactor Program. We have the funds to cover the Barry Marker and as our Nimitz Project moves forward, I am confident that we can raise the necessary funds from outside sources such as we did with the Normandy Monument.

As you know, this is an election year for National Officers and a new slate of Officers will be installed at the Annual Congress in Galveston this coming October. I will be relieved by Rear Admiral Doug Moore, USN (Ret). I have known Admiral Moore since the late nineties when I became active in the Naval Order and I pass the torch to him with the utmost respect. Admiral Moore has been actively involved in the leadership team over the years and has regularly demonstrated his dedication and commitment to the Naval Order and its Mission. I am confident he will be a great leader for the Naval Order.

Thanks to you all for your loyalty and support.

Respectfully,

Greg Streeter

The Necessity of U.S. Naval Power

Our maritime forces provide an unmatched advantage.

By Gordon England, James L. Jones, and Vern Clark

All our citizens, and especially our servicemen and women, expect and deserve a thorough review of critical security decisions. After all, decisions today will affect the nation's strategic position for future generations.

The future security environment underscores two broad security trends. First, international political realities and the internationally agreed-to sovereign rights of nations will increasingly limit the sustained involvement of American permanent land-based, heavy forces to the more extreme crises. This will make offshore options for deterrence and power projection ever more paramount in support of our national interests.

Second, the naval dimensions of American power will re-emerge as the primary means for assuring our allies and partners, ensuring prosperity in times of peace, and countering anti-access, area-denial efforts in times of crisis. We do not believe these trends will require the dismantling of land-based forces, as these forces will remain essential reservoirs of power. As the United States has learned time and again, once a crisis becomes a conflict, it is impossible to predict with certainty its depth, duration and cost.

That said, the U.S. has been shrinking its overseas land-based installations, so the ability to project power globally will make the forward presence of naval forces an even more essential dimension of American influence.

What we do believe is that uniquely responsive Navy-Marine Corps capabilities provide the basis on which our most vital overseas interests are safeguarded. Forward presence and engagement is what allows the U.S. to maintain awareness, to deter aggression, and to quickly respond to threats as they arise. Though we clearly must be prepared for the high-end threats, such preparation should be made in balance with the means necessary to avoid escalation to the high end in the first place.

The versatility of maritime forces provides a truly unmatched advantage. The sea remains a vast space that provides nearly unlimited freedom of maneuver. Command of the sea allows for the presence of our naval forces, supported from a network of shore facilities, to be adjusted and scaled with little external restraint. It permits reliance on proven capabilities such as prepositioned ships.

Maritime capabilities encourage and enable cooperation with other nations to solve common sea-based problems such as piracy, illegal trafficking, proliferation of W.M.D., and a host of other ills, which if unchecked can harm our friends and interests abroad, and our own citizenry at home. The flexibility and responsiveness of naval forces provide our country with a general strategic deterrent in a potentially violent and unstable world. Most importantly, our naval forces project and sustain power at sea and ashore at the time, place, duration, and intensity of our choosing.

Given these enduring qualities, tough choices must clearly be made, especially in light of expected tight defense budgets. The administration and the Congress need to balance the resources allocated to missions such as strategic deterrence, ballistic missile defense, and cyber warfare with the more traditional ones of sea control and power projection. The maritime capability and capacity vital to the flexible projection of U.S. power and influence around the globe must surely be preserved, especially in light of available technology. Capabilities such as the Joint Strike Fighter will provide strategic deterrence, in addition to tactical long-range strike, especially when operating from forward-deployed naval vessels.

Postured to respond quickly, the Navy-Marine Corps team integrates sea, air, and land power into adaptive force packages spanning the entire spectrum of operations, from everyday cooperative security activities to unwelcome—but not impossible—wars between major powers. This is exactly what we will need to meet the challenges of the future.

Mr. England is a former secretary of the Navy. Mr. Jones is a former commandant of the Marine Corps. Mr. Clark is a former chief of naval operations.

Catching Up with the Commanderies

Editor's note: It is certainly important to ensure everyone has your correct contact information. As editor, I must ensure I have it and use it. My apologies to the Newport and San Francisco Commanderies as I catch up on their updates, omitted from the last issue due to an oversight in my one person office. (My fault!). V/R, Tim Cummings

Atlanta

The Commandery continues to add to its membership and in June we achieved the milestone of doubling the number of Companions we had on the roster in January. Membership includes three WWII veterans, a retired Federal judge (we don't mess with him, as he was a Marine Sgt. in Vietnam!), a host of former and fun Navy J.O.s and a retired Army Major General, Ranger type. (Can you say Army-Navy game? We leave him alone too.)

Momentum for our membership drive was delivered when Captains Greg Streeter and Hugh DuBose visited us. CAPT Streeter provided an outstanding presentation of the Naval Order's mission, history and future plans. In addition, the Normandy Monument DVD was viewed - the response was huge.

To help us remember the anniversary of D-Day, we were privileged to have former Army Vietnam pilot and current Professor of Military History, Bill Gibson speak. We could not have asked for a more comprehensive presentation covering the details and planning prior to D-Day. The question and answer period was proof positive that Bill had awakened a part of our school days history lessons and sparked a keen interest in the events surrounding D-Day. A special "Bravo Zulu" to you, Bill. In June, Commander Ron James and his wife and NOUS Companion, Jean, traveled to France and spent some very special time in Normandy visiting the beaches, monuments and the U.S. National Cemetery. On behalf of the NOUS, we thanked many grounds keepers for their outstanding and dedicated work to keep the Cemetery in such beautiful condition. An experience we shall never forget.

We would like to acknowledge one of our newest and "unique" members in retired M.G. Phil Anderson, USA. He comes to NOUS thanks to his father, WWII submariner and USNA graduate, Rear Admiral Roy "Andy" Anderson. General Anderson entered the service in 1970 after graduating from VMI and began his career in the Corps of Engineers. He has been awarded the Army Ranger, Master Parachutist and Air Assault Badges. We welcome General Anderson to our ranks and thank him for his service.

In the future we look forward to presentations from our own retired Admiral Jim Ellis, Jr. and renown naval artist, model maker and historian, Capt. John Ficklen, of Saint George Island, FL.

Monterey Bay

The Monterey Bay Commandery participated in the annual Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony on the Monterey Coast Guard pier on Monday 30 May. The moving ceremony was limited to "pier activities" as the USCG HAWKSBILL was deployed on local operations. Commandery Commander, Lieutenant Mike Smith, along with other military service organizations, made remarks and later a memorial wreath was "placed" in the Monterey Bay harbor.



Monterey High School NJROTC Cadets and Senior Military Science Advisor CDR Paul Tanks. Photo by Javier Chagoza, NPS Navy Photographer

The 69th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway was held at the Naval Postgraduate School on 4 June, and for the seventh year, was coordinated by the Monterey Bay Commandery.

Fellow Companion, VADM Daniel Oliver, President of NPS, was the honoree President of the Mess, Dean of Students, CAPT Alan (Dex) Poindexter was President of the Mess and Companion CAPT Jeff Kline was Mr. Vice. Speakers included Companion ADM Hank Mauz, Ed Deutschman, who flew combat missions with the "Grim Reapers" in the Pacific, and CDR Neck Lednicky, who has flown in the current conflicts.

The evening started with a reception on the Herrmann Hall Quarterdeck, followed by dinner in the Barbara McNitt Ballroom with 250 guests being "piped" from the Quarterdeck to the Ballroom and the presentation of our National Colors by Monterey High School NJROTC cadets. The Del Monte Brass provided background patriotic music throughout the evening.

Newport

On 3 June, the Newport Commandery celebrated the victory at the Battle of Midway and the Allied return to Europe at Normandy. The guest speaker was USNA Professor Emeritus Craig Symonds, who gave the presentation "Three Vignettes of Leadership – Nimitz, Mitscher and (George) Best. Based on his new book, *The Battle of Midway*, (from Oxford University Press and on the shelves in September), Dr. Symonds pointed out to a fascinated audience that Captain (later Vice Admiral) Mark A. Mitscher disobeyed orders during the battle that could have resulted in a reversal of fate and a huge Japanese victory. Craig has been a real supporter of the Newport Commandery, having already given presentations on two of his award-winning books.



Craig Symonds speaking on the leadership.

National Capitol

CAPT Dave Kaiser, the Commandery coordinator with George Mason University's Fall for the Book Week event, has arranged for James Hornfischer to speak about his latest work, "Neptune's Inferno - The U.S. Navy at Guadalcanal" during the event in September. Mr. Hornfischer has been a recipient of the New York Commandery's Samuel Eliot Morrison Award for Naval Literature (see below).

New York City

The New York Commandery announced the winner of the 2011 Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature. Robert Gandt, author of *The Twilight Warriors*, is this year's recipient of the prestigious Samuel Eliot Morison Award for Naval Literature.

The remaining finalists each receive an Honorable Mention, and are highly commended for their books as outstanding contributions to naval literature. They are: Robert Coram for "*Brute: The Life of Victor Krulak, U.S. Marine*", Tim McGrath for "*John Barry: An American Hero*", Kalee Thompson for "*Deadliest Sea*", and Gary Williams for "*Seal of Honor*".

Past recipients include RADM Joseph Callo, Edward Beach, Lieutenant General Victor Krulak, Dr. Norman Friedman, James Nelson, James Hornfischer (see National Capitol and

San Francisco Commandery updates for other news of this author), James Scott and former SECNAV John Lehman.

San Francisco

At our March meeting Ms. Heide Burns, Sausalito, CA City Planner, discussed the Sausalito-Marinship project, which is the development of a historic park on the site of a WWII shipyard. Also in March, the annual Naval War College Symposium was held in San Mateo. It is the only road trip of the Naval War College on the west coast, and is organized by Companions CAPT Hugh McLoone, Don Hale, and Bill Schultz and well attended by NOUS members.

In April our speaker was one of our own, CDR Bob Lando, member of the WWII Unit XIII, "The Beach Jumpers". Their mission was to distract and misdirect the enemy, especially during amphibious landings. It was later absorbed by the SEAL program. Bob also related a number of his war time remembrances, which he has only been able to do recently as the program was de-classified.



CDR Bob Lando, former "Beach Jumper"

In May, CAPT Thomas Snyder, San Francisco Companion and Executive Director of the Society for the History of Navy Medicine discussed the hospitals at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and Companion Lorraine Hughey, National Director of the Navy League Sea Cadets related the successes of the Sea Cadet program and performance of their "Training Ship Concord" (ages 10 1/2 to 13), rated first in the nation during the May competition.

The USS SAN FRANCISCO (CA-38) Remembrance-Memorial Services were held on 29 May and well attended. This year's speaker was noted naval author, James Hornfischer (see National Capitol and New York City Commandery updates for more on this author). The USS SAN FRANCISCO Memorial Foundation, headed up by Companion and crewmember Chief Johnny Johnson refurbished the former Land's End park and renamed USS San Francisco Memorial Park.

San Francisco (part 2)

In June Mr. Ted Atlas, author of “Candlestick Park” spoke about the ballpark, and being next to the former naval shipyard and Hunter’s Point, had plenty of Navy involvement with the games held there. Companion John Garvey spoke about his feature segment on the Travel Channel program “Off Limits” and leading a tour of USS IOWA (BB-61), anchored in the “Mothball Fleet” area of Suisun Bay in the California Delta.

Lt Col Roger Dong visited in July and spoke at length about the growing capabilities of the Chinese Peoples Liberation Army and China’s economic, social, and political history. Roger also noted that the San Francisco Vet Rescue Center opens in August in the Veterans Memorial Building.

The Battle of Midway Celebration was held on 4 June and featured Admiral Patrick Walsh, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, whose presence was noteworthy because of being a Naval Aviator. Not only was the Battle of Midway a turning point in the naval aviation, but the first landing of an airplane on a naval vessel took place in San Francisco Bay just over 100 years ago, a fact noted by Admiral Walsh. The Battle of Midway took place 31 years later.

Honored during the dinner were six veterans of the battle and three of them were involved in its aerial combat. They were Lt Col Lloyd Childers, USMC, (Ret), the only enlisted survivor of Torpedo Squadron 3, LT(jg) Oral “Slim” Moore of Bombing Squadron 8, and Aviation Chief Radioman Ed Anderson of Bombing Squadron 6.

Part of this year’s program included the presentation of Combat Action Ribbons (CAR) to the three “black shoe” veterans. Receiving the CAR for battles fought over 65 years ago made for an especially poignant moment. The recipients included CWO2 Frank W. Boo, (ADM Fletcher’s staff), LCDR Forrest Milas, (USS GATO (SS-212)), and MM1 Millard “Tom” Fuller, (USS YORKTOWN (CV-5)). The YORKTOWN, along with Boo’s files, sits on the bottom of the ocean after being torpedoed. The USS GATO went on to earn the Presidential Unit Citation and was present for the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay.

The years that have passed have not dimmed the memories of the veterans. Boo still rues the lost of his smooth-typed report on the Battle of the Coral Sea, and all remember their comrades and shipmates lost in battle.

Also honored during the ceremony were Genevieve and Elaine Rouse, widows of CWO2 Charles and QMC Frank Rouse, ship’s company on the USS YORKTOWN.

San Francisco’s Battle of Midway event may not be the biggest in the country, it is the biggest put on by the Naval

San Francisco (part 3)

Order without assistance from any other Navy Active Duty or group. Each year we keep the memory alive for over 200 guests and Midway vets that travel from all over the country to be with us for this evening.

Texas

The annual Midway Luncheon was held on 3 June with the Texas Commandery Historian, Mr. Don Kehn, reviewing the article, “Underappreciated Victory”, by Dr. James Schlesinger, former Secretary of Defense, Director of the CIA, Secretary of Energy, and commissioner on the Hart-Rudman Commission on National Security. Dr. Schlesinger laments the fact that too few of us understand the battle’s significance and questions why the Battle of Midway is not recognized as the crucial battle for the West in World War II, just as Stalingrad is recognized as a crucial battle for the Soviet Union. He feels that the comparative neglect of the Midway battle is a great puzzle and, in a sense, an injustice. He then proceeded to outline the effect the battle had on several events that took place in different parts of the world.



CAPT Carter Conlin, CAPT David Burr, Don Kehn, CAPT Chuck Hewell, MM2 Gil Raynor and CAPT Woe King

Veterans Memorial Park was dedicated to the veterans of World War II in Houston, Texas on 14 August. Past Commander General Captain Carter Conlin was asked to be the speaker representing the U. S. Navy, Major General Jimmie Jaye Wells spoke representing the Army, and Lt Col Mitchell spoke representing the Marine Corps. Captain Conlin’s speech centered on the attack on Pearl Harbor and what happened after the attack to the six battleships that were sunk or seriously damaged, emphasizing that all six were raised, repaired and made battle ready. Five of the repaired battleships participated in the Battle of Surigao Strait in the Philippines on October 24-25, 1944 and helped to achieve a huge victory with the sinking of two Japanese battleships, three cruisers and four destroyers while “capping the tee” of the enemy columns. And the final repaired battleship of these six participated in the shore bombardment on D-Day, June 6, 1944 at Normandy, France. So that rather than being relegated to scrap, these six repaired battleships rose to fight another day and achieve significant victories.



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Great deals and a great opportunity!

Does your Commandery have a "New Member Gift" ? Perhaps all new members could be presented with the latest NOUS Challenge Coin, which is available at a discount to Commandery Commanders. We also have the 2011 Commemoration Coin, minted for the 100th Anniversary of Naval Aviation and the 2011 Battle of Midway Celebration. Make sure you use the new order form at www.navalorder.org. Note that we have had to increase our shipping costs, trying to keep up with USPS increases.

I have been running the Ship's Store since 2005 and it's been great fun but it's time to look for a relief. Thanks everyone.

CAPT Kris Carlock, USN (Ret.)

Companions Visit Site of War of 1812 Relic

On 30 July, 25 National Capitol companions and their guests gathered at the Prince George's Maryland Park Service Visitor's Center at Jackson Landing on the Patuxent River for a journey up river and back in time. Rangers Greg Lewis and Greg Kearns, and Dr. Robert Neyland, Director of the Underwater Archaeology Branch of the Navy History and Heritage Command, took the group on a cruise up the Patuxent River to the underwater archaeological site of the wreck of Commodore Joshua Barney's flagship, the US Gunboat *Scorpion*. Ranger Kearns was the tour's ferryman and guide and provided an outstanding brief about the river, its ecology and wildlife, and a thorough understanding of what the river was like during the War of 1812.

Dr. Neyland provided an excellent pre-cruise brief on the extent of the archaeological survey and excavation. Upon the tour's arrival at the site, he gave an instructive account on the intricacies of underwater archaeology, especially as it pertained to the *Scorpion*. Upon the tour's return, the Commandery provided lunch at the visitors' center.